

## **RESPONSE FROM YORKSHIRE WATER**

I am writing following the Parish Council meeting with my colleagues on 10 September 2018. Following that meeting we took away several points of issue that the Parish required information on. I have outlined our response to those points below.

### **How old is the sewer network in the village and its capacity**

We have checked our records and we are unable to confirm the age of the sewer(s). This is normal, as we inherited the network when the water industry was privatised so not all the dates of when they were installed were available to us.

All sewers are built to capacity to cope with a 1 in 30 year average storm event. This is standard practice for the water industry.

### **New developments in the area**

We are presently only aware of one development in the vicinity of Melbourne; which consists of twenty-two dwellings. As a consultee on developments we have no concerns that this proposal will have any negative impact on the network.

### **Survey of the village**

Since the parish council meeting we have undertaken a camera survey of the sewer on Main Street. We found that there were large amounts of silt that had built up. This has all been cleared, which will make a huge difference in ensuring the sewer works properly.

Going forward, we will be attending on an annual basis to camera survey the sewer, ensuring that no build-up of silt occurs in the future.

The camera survey we undertook also confirmed that the sewer is structurally fine and no roots have been found.

### **Reinstatement work**

We have reviewed the reinstatement work on repairs from December 2017 that members of the Parish have concerns about. **We want to advise that the reinstatement is permanent and we will not be making any alterations to it.**

### **Rising main bursts**

Our records show that there have been two rising main repairs this year, relating to bursts or blockages. Our network catchment manager is working with contractors to assess the overall condition of the rising main and then they will determine any follow action that may be required. (The rising main is a separate system to the sewer referenced above that was camera surveyed). We will keep you updated on our progress with this.

Pumping stations in the surrounding area and Pumping station telemetry Pinfold's Gardens and St Monica's Close pumping station are all in the Tadcaster catchment; St Michael's Church pump station is in the York catchment. **These are all working as they should be and have no operational issues to report.**

There is no telemetry on St Michael's pump station, but we are working with contractors to see if we can install this. This kind of work requires funding approval as well, so any decision would be made in the medium to long term. We can update you on any movement when it's made.

### Dosing system

We aim to have the nutriox dosing system up and running in January 2019. We are very much aware of the urgency of this and we will keep you updated on progress.

### Legal responsibility

The Parish wanted to know our legal responsibility in respect of the sewers and their maintenance. Under S94 of the Water Industry Act 1991 we have a general duty to provide a sewerage system. S94 states:

94 General duty to provide sewerage system

(1)It shall be the duty of every sewerage undertaker-

(a)to provide, improve and extend such a system of public sewers (whether inside its area or elsewhere) and so to cleanse and maintain those sewers [F1

<<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1991/56/section/94>>and any lateral drains which belong to or vest in the undertaker] as to ensure that that area is and continues to be effectually drained; and

(b)to make provision for the emptying of those sewers and such further provision (whether inside its area or elsewhere) as is necessary from time to time for effectually dealing, by means of sewage disposal works or otherwise, with the contents of those sewers.

(2)It shall be the duty of a sewerage undertaker in performing its duty under subsection (1) above to have regard-

(a)to its existing and likely future obligations to allow for the discharge of trade effluent into its public sewers; and

(b)to the need to provide for the disposal of trade effluent which is so discharged.

(3)The duty of a sewerage undertaker under subsection (1) above shall be enforceable under section 18 above-

(a)by the Secretary of State; or

(b)with the consent of or in accordance with a general authorization given by the Secretary of State, by the Director.

(4)The obligations imposed on a sewerage undertaker by the following Chapters of this Part, and the remedies available in respect of contraventions of those obligations, shall be in addition to any duty imposed or remedy available by virtue of any provision of this section or section 95 below and shall not be in any way qualified by any such provision.

(5)In this section "trade effluent" has the same meaning as in Chapter III of this Part.

**In general, any future operational issues with the network (blockages, floods etc.) need to be reported via our helpline number on 0345 1242424.**

I hope this information is useful for the Parish' records. I will call you no later than 23 November 2018 to discuss the above.

Peter Brufell,Customer Care Manager, Yorkshire Water

