

SALGA Shop Drainage Report**Parish Vision Compliance:**

Priorities: Provide a high standard of services and facilities, protect and improve our environment

1.0 Recommendation

1.1 To APPROVE the recommendation as outlined in point 5.

2.0 Introduction

2.1 This report addresses a request from the Swindon Allotments and Leisure Gardeners Association (SALGA) shop, located at the Pickard's Field Allotment site. The SALGA shop has been operating at this location for many years, selling various items essential for allotment upkeep. The shop, housed in several converted containers, has been facing recurring flooding issues. Despite the installation of a drainage system approx. five years ago, the problem has resurfaced. SALGA is now seeking assistance from the Council to investigate and resolve this issue.

3.0 Detail**3.1 Background****1. Location and History:**

- The SALGA shop is situated at Pickard's Field Allotment site and has served the Allotment community for a considerable amount of time.
- The shop's primary structure comprises converted containers that have been adapted for retail purposes.
- The site is known to be prone to flooding, a problem that was temporarily mitigated five years ago with the installation of a drainage system funded by SALGA and CSNPC.
- The works comprised of digging a T shaped trench to a depth of 700mm and 33m long. Instating a membrane and backfilling with type 1. The existing manhole was also drilled in to for constant drainage. Cost to undertake at the time was £2980.23

2. Current Issue:

- Despite the previously installed drainage system, the site has recently experienced renewed flooding, impacting the shop's operations and by hindering access.
- SALGA has approached the council, seeking support in investigating and addressing the underlying cause of the persistent flooding.

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3. Evaluation:

1. Identify Potential Causes of Flooding:

- Changes in the local water table or surrounding land use may have contributed to the recurrence of flooding.
- Possible blockages or damages within the drainage system, such as sediment build-up, root intrusion, or structural failures.
- Inadequate capacity of the existing drainage infrastructure to handle heavy rainfall events.

2. Assessment of Current Drainage System:

- A thorough evaluation of the existing drainage system by a professional drainage expert or civil engineer is necessary to determine its current effectiveness and identify any potential failures or areas requiring maintenance.

4. Parish Council Options:

1. Investigation and Assessment:

- Commission an inspection of the current drainage system by a qualified engineer or drainage specialist.
- Consider the need for a hydrological survey to understand the broader water management issues affecting the site.

2. Short-term Mitigation Measures:

- Implement temporary solutions such as sandbagging or temporary ramps.

3. Long-term Solutions:

- Develop a drainage improvement plan based on the findings of the investigation, potentially involving the redesign or expansion of the current system.
- Explore funding options or grants to support the implementation of long-term drainage solutions through external funding bodies.

Impact on SALGA Shop:

- Continuous flooding poses a significant risk to the SALGA shop's operations, potentially leading to financial losses and disruption of services to the local community.
- The integrity of the shop's structures and the safety of its staff and customers may be compromised by persistent water damage.

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5. Action:

1. Commission a detailed assessment of the drainage system at Pickard's Field Allotment site by a qualified engineer or drainage specialist.
2. Allocate a budget for the initial investigation from the Allotment budget.
3. Obtain the findings, recommendation and costs.
4. Present the findings and recommendations to a future council meeting for further discussion and approval of necessary actions and funding.

Photo:

