

**Lead Local Flood Authority**  
**Section 19 (Flood and Water Management Act**  
**2010)**  
**Flood Investigation Report**

**Report Title:**

**Old Homes Road, Thorpeness, Aldringham cum Thorpe**

**Report Reference(s):**

**FW2019-1073**

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Lead Officer:</b>	Jason Skilton	
<b>Created by:</b>	Jason Skilton	10 <sup>th</sup> October 2019
<b>Checked by:</b>	Simon Curl	7 <sup>TH</sup> January 2020
<b>RMA Review:</b>	N/A	8 <sup>th</sup> January 2020
<b>Approved by:</b>	Matt Hullis	11 <sup>th</sup> February 2020
<b>Date Published:</b>		22 <sup>nd</sup> February 2021 (updated version)
<b>Amendment:</b>	Jason Skilton/Simon Curl	12 <sup>th</sup> August 2020 17 <sup>th</sup> February 2021

**1.0** Suffolk County Council as a Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) has determined that in accordance with criteria, it considered it necessary or appropriate to carry out an investigation into this flood event in accordance with Section 19 (1) of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, and in accordance with Section 19 (2) of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, to publish the results and notify the relevant risk management authorities (RMAs).

**2.0 Reference/s:** FW2019-1072

**2.1 Location:** Old Homes Road, Thorpeness, Aldringham cum Thorpe

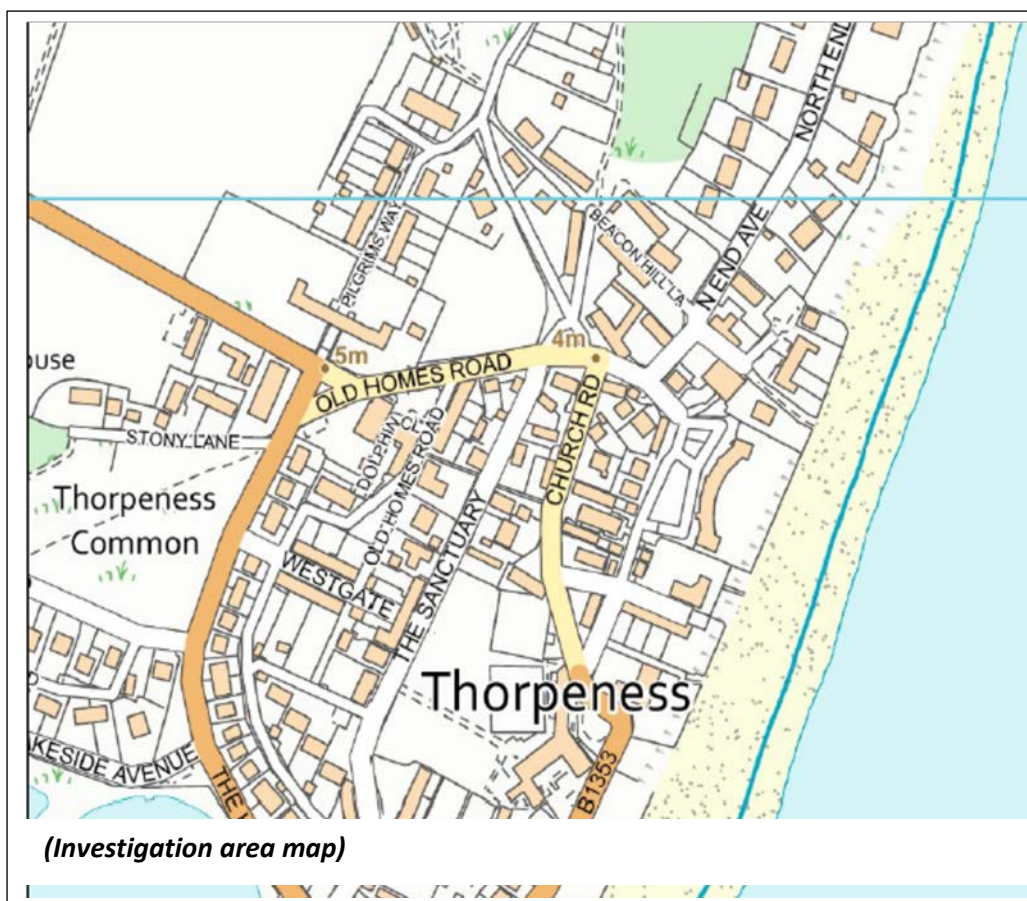
**2.2 Flood Event Date:** 6<sup>th</sup> October 2019

**2.3 Reported to SCC Date:** 7<sup>th</sup> October 2019

**2.4 Investigation Commencement Date:** 7<sup>th</sup> October 2019

**2.5 Criteria for investigation:**

<b>Criteria for an investigation (as per Appendix D of the Suffolk Flood Risk Management Strategy):</b>	<b>✓/X</b>
There was a risk to life as a result of flooding?	X
<b>Internal flooding of one property (domestic or business) has been experienced on more than one occasion?</b>	✓
Internal flooding of five properties has been experienced during one single flood incident	X
Where a major transport route was closed for more than 10 hours as a result of flooding	X
Critical infrastructure was affected by flooding	X
<b>There is ambiguity surrounding the source or responsibility of a flood incident</b>	✓



- 2.6 OS Grid Reference:** 647,138 259,900
- 2.7 Extent of flooding:** Internal flooding of two properties, car submerged by surface water. Public highway flooded for approx. 50m length to an approx. depth 500mm+
- 2.8 Effect of flooding:** Domestic property affected and road closed.
- 2.9 History:** Road flooding recorded in pre-2010, 2010, 2015, 2017 & 2018 at this location
- 2.10 Flooding Source:** Surface water
- 2.11 Causes:**
- Possible exceedance of design capacity of highway surface water drainage system
  - Possible exceedance of design capacity Development of land north of Old Homes Road
  - Unattenuated surface water flows from higher land.

## **2.12 Additional Information:**

- Significant rainfall (51mm in 4.5hrs which equates to a 1:40yr storm recorded)
- Area is predicted to be affected by surface water flooding – Environment Agency Flood Risk mapping.
- ‘Suffolk Highways undertook surface water drainage improvements works to Old Homes Road during October 2019 which included increasing system storage capacity by 6.69m<sup>3</sup>. These works were not complete at the time of the flood event. It is understood from Suffolk Highways that a temporary stopper was inserted in the system between the highway drainage system and the private drainage system during the course of these works’, this was then replaced with a non-return valve orifice.
- Unbound private tracks allow unattenuated surface water flows and granular material to be washed into highway drains potentially leading to clogging.

## **3.0 Risk Management Authority with Relevant Flood Risk Function**

- Suffolk County Council – Highway Authority
- East Suffolk District Council – Planning Authority

### **3.1.1 Functions:**

- Suffolk County Council (Public highway maintenance & asset owner)
- East Suffolk District Council (Local Planning Authority)

## **4.0 Recommendations:**

- East Suffolk District Council shall review the granting and discharge of planning conditions relating to surface water drainage for planning application ref DC/05/0668. This is to determine whether the planning permission and the discharge of the condition were approved in accordance with the Town and Country Planning Act and approved documents.
- Suffolk County Council, Highway Authority to investigate possible mitigation measures with owner or owners of unbound private tracks to reduce the amount of surface water and granular material entering highway surface water drainage system.

#### 4.1 Recommended Actions:

Action	Responsible Authority	Timescale for response	Latest Progress Update for Actions – 02-2021
Review granting and discharge of conditions of planning application ref DC/05/0668	East Suffolk District Council	3 months	ESC confirmation that condition was not discharged.
Undertake a topographical/CCTV survey of the developed site (Oaks Court) in order to verify the built system against the approved surface water drainage design drawings.	East Suffolk District Council, Developer and Suffolk County Council - Highway Authority	6 months	Suffolk Highways have surveyed the location and completed works noted in 2.12 to fit a non-return valve and increase storage capacity. The site is very constrained and there are no further possibilities to increase the drainage capacity which is reliant on local soakaways.
Investigate possible mitigation measures with owner or owners of unbound private tracks to reduce the amount of surface water and granular material entering the surface water drainage system along Old Homes Road	Suffolk County Council - Highway Authority	9 months	This work has not been progressed. There would be limited impact beyond the reduced need for regular cleaning of the gullies.