

Dear Gavin,

**Subject:**

*Action required – blocked surface water drains – Kembhill Park foot path on river side of estate which runs between No 5 and No 87.*

Further to your attendance at the KPFG Committee meeting on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2016, I am writing to formally notify you concerning blocked surface water drains on the ash felt foot path which surrounds Kembhill Park from number 5 Kembhill park all the way round to number 87.

The grills for many of these drains are over grown with grass and covered with other debris. Residents also report that the path floods during heavy rain due to the drains being unable to clear accumulated surface water.

Please see the attached map which shows in red highlights the position of all of the drains that I have been able to identify. Also attached are photos of three drains which are currently visible – there may be others which are completely covered by the earth/grass which is gradually over growing the path due to lack of ongoing maintenance.

Please can these surface water drains be maintained routinely (debris and vegetation cleared) as necessary to return them to full operational status.

I am also concerned that these drains might be classed as field drains with the water from them being routed to the river. Please confirm if this is the case.

If it is the situation then I would be concerned that river water might flow back through the drain system at times of high river state (river level above the path level as was the case in the January 2016 flood). Many of these drains are on the dry side of the existing flood bund so might provide a breach in the effectiveness of that bund in such conditions.

As you know discussions are underway with the Council about the possibility of deploying a temporary flood defence to close the existing gap make the existing bund more effective as a flood defence. If the exhaust route for these surface water drains is indeed to the river there may be the possibility that when the river level is above the path level that water might flow back through the drains onto the paths behind the bund and temporary barrier rendering the proposed temporary barrier ineffective. Do you know if any design measures such as non-return valves are fitted to these drains to prevent this happening?

I look forward to hearing from you about this matter.

Best Regards,

Jim Buchan – Secretary of the KPFG

## Supporting Resources

Photos of visible drains (taken on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2016 by Jim Buchan)

Photo 1 – adjacent to No 23



Photo 2 Adjacent No 31



Photo 3 adjacent to 75



Shows the vegetation over growing over the path.





Show where the overgrown vegetation has been removed back to the path edge



## Map showing position of visible drains.

Shows Currently visible Drains on ash felt path  
visual survey on 26th November 2016 - by Jim Buchan  
Number of adjacent house used to identify approx position

shows position  
of visible drain



