



Chesham & Villages Community Board minutes

Minutes of the meeting of the Chesham & Villages Community Board held on Thursday 13 July 2023 in Via MS Teams - Virtual, commencing at 6.00 pm and concluding at 7.00 pm.

BC Councillors present

E Culverhouse (Chairman), J MacBean (Vice-Chairman), M Fayyaz, M Stannard, G Williams, A Hussain and R Matthews

Town/Parish Councils and other organisations present

D Bridge
B Ingram (Cholesbury-cum-St Leonards)
T Machutadze
I Mortimer
M Walker
C Williams

Others in attendance

A Jenner (Buckinghamshire Council) and R Tackley

Agenda Item

1 Chairman's Welcome

2 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest

3 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Joseph Baum
Cllr Patricia Birchley
Cllr Colin Sully
Cllr Michael Smith
Anisa Sheik
Sophie Thomas
Mary Mobbs-Beal
Stuart Grosse
Phil Harrison
Andy Garnett

4 Minutes of the last meeting - 26 January 2023

Minutes were agreed

5 Priorities for the Community Board

The Chairman highlighted the priorities for the Board which are now in line with the priorities of Opportunity Bucks and the Chesham Regeneration strategy.

6 Project Groundwater

Caitlin from Project Groundwater gave an introductory presentation about the scheme which aims to transform how communities prepare and respond to groundwater flooding. Chesham has been chosen as one of the pilot communities. The project is led by Buckinghamshire Council although out-of-area communities are also included in the pilot.

Please see presentation for more information.

7 Mama Bee Update on Pop-Up Youth Cafe

Amber from Mama Bee announced that there will be a pop-up youth café in Lowndes Park where young people can access complimentary toasties and smoothies.

There will also be partnership work which is being led by Monica Bergh and also Chesham Youth Council.

The project starts on 24th July where they will reconnect with the young people through outreach work to work out what they would like with regards to times of day.

There are 26 sessions costed rather than works so that the project can adapt accordingly i.e. more than 1 session per week where needed.

Isabelle from the Youth Centre said that with some additional funding the youth centre will be open over the summer months (Weds 7-8.30pm).

Mama Bee will not open on a Weds and are looking at Mon.

8 Community Board Updates

Community Board Manager explained that the Community Board has refreshed their way of working and will no longer give out grants to organisations without being involved in the project. Therefore, the Board will look to work with its stakeholders to deliver meaningful projects to the community.

The Community Board Manager gave an update about the Homes for Ukraine scheme in the board area. There was an emphasis on looking for re-match Sponsors for families that need to move on from their current accommodation. As of June 2023, Bucks had welcomed 1,673 guests. The Board Manager also extended thanks to the two community groups (Hilltop Ukrainian Support Community and Chiltern Sunflower Support) that support the Ukrainians in the Board area. An additional thanks was given to the Chesham Area Lead in the Ukraine team, Ryan Robinson,

who is returning to his usual role after a 12-month secondment.

9 Community Matters

There were no consultations, public questions or petitions on the Chesham and Villages Board area.

Update from Cllr Rachael Matthews on Chesham Town Council. The regeneration strategy document is going through a governance process within Bucks Council and is due to be released soon.

Cllr Jane MacBean gave an update on the project with Chesham Museum and the Board to improve the alleyway in Chesham High St by Waitrose. The second project is working with TFL to placing a new 'Welcome to Chesham' board at Chesham Train Station. There is also an appetite for the Board to support projects that improve the public realm.

Cllr Rachael Matthews gave an update on Love Lowndes group looking at renovating the park equipment in the park. The Community Board funded the Masterplan which will look at the vision for the park over the next few years. The Love Lowndes group are looking for fundraising after having secured £35,000 from Chesham Town Council, though the ambition is to raise c. £150,000.

10 Board Discussion

Cllr Emily Culverhouse promoted the following events in Chesham: Hats Off! Chesham, the For You festival from Theatre Shed (Ley Hill), Quiz run by Chiltern Chamber at Ley Hill Memorial Hall.

Cllr Gareth Williams promoted the upcoming Buckinghamshire Job Fair taking place on Sat 23rd September at the Elgiva in Chesham.

Updates were then given from the Parishes in the Community Board including Cholebury, Chartridge and Chenies.

11 Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting is Wednesday 11th October at 6pm online.

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Project Groundwater

Are you flood resilient?

Project Groundwater – Overview

hello@projectgroundwater.co.uk

www.projectgroundwater.co.uk

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Environment
Agency



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

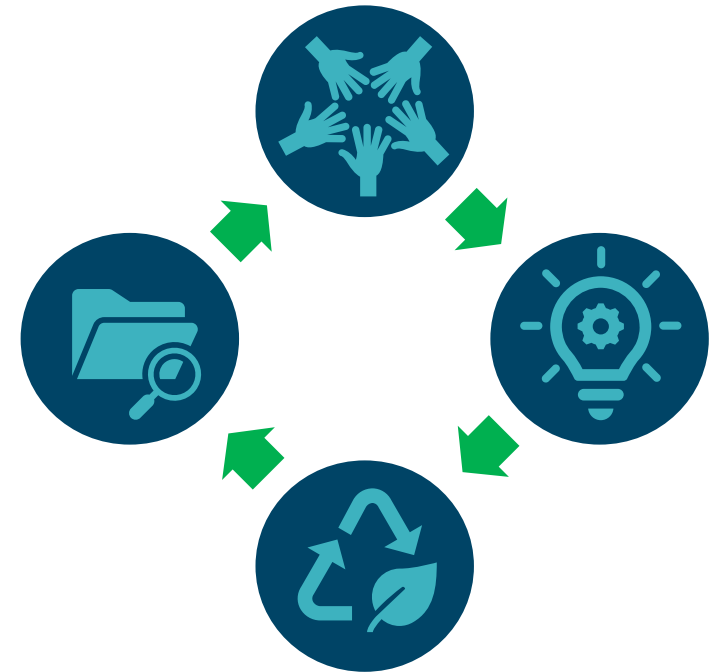
Minute Item 6



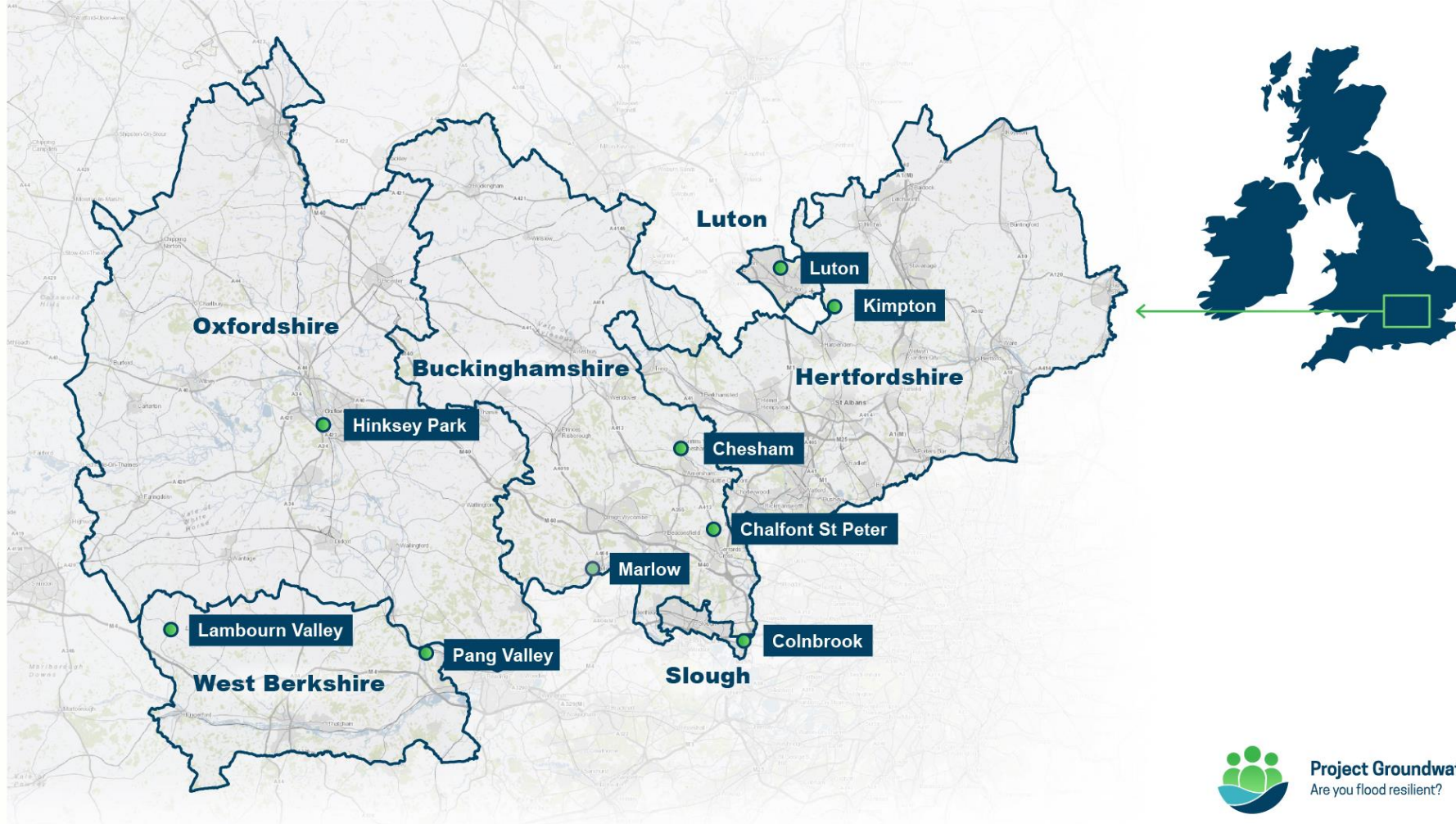
Our vision

Project Groundwater will forever transform how communities prepare and respond to groundwater flooding

Our values



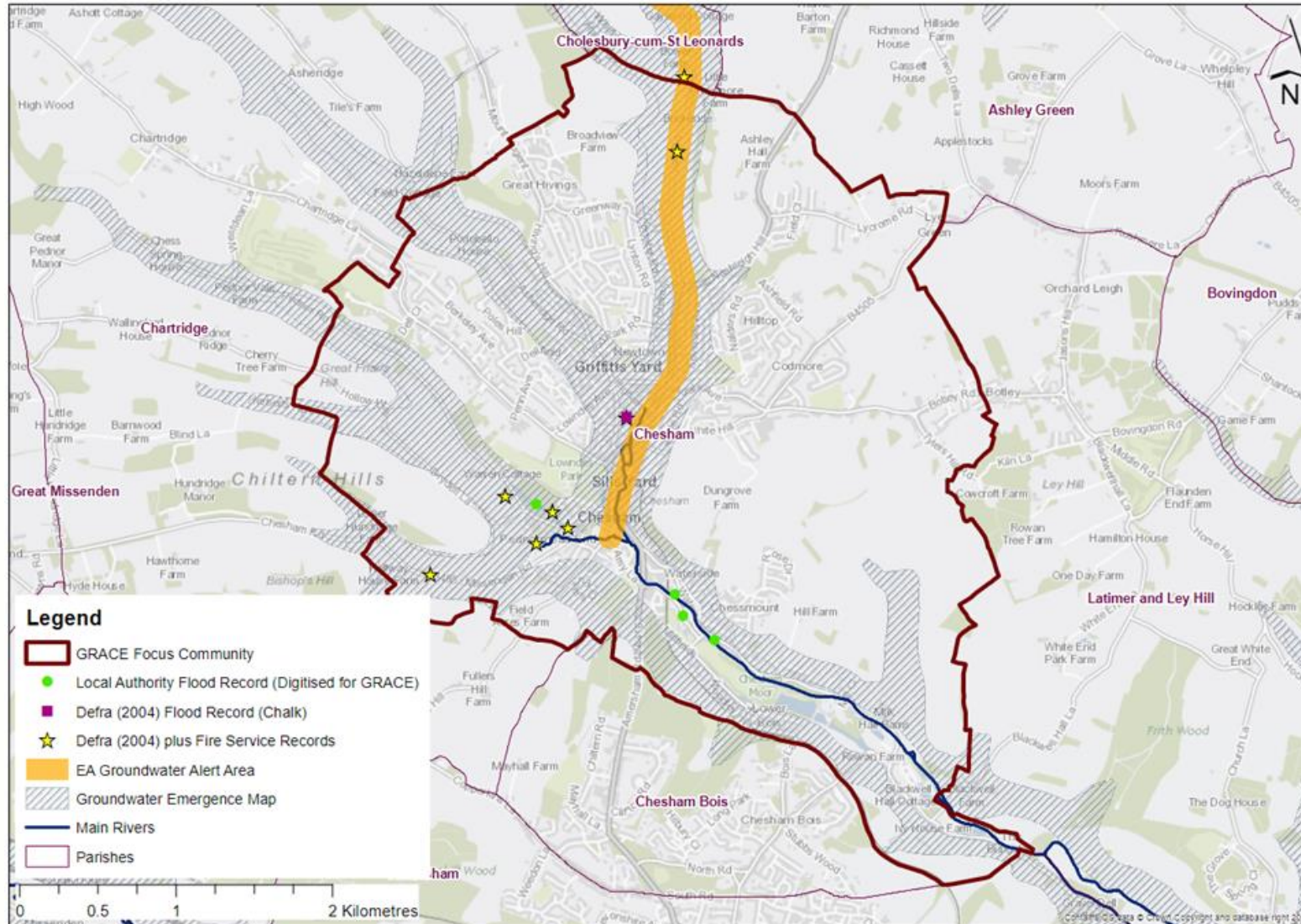
Our Pilot Communities



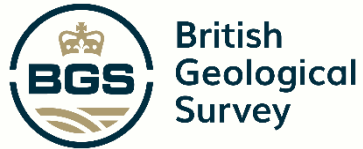
Our Pilot Communities - Criteria

Focus Community	LLFA	Geology	Community setting	Records of past groundwater flooding	Prediction of groundwater flooding (GEMs)	EA Flood Alert Area	Existing Flood Group
Lambourn	West Berkshire	Chalk	Larger rural	Moderate	High	Yes	Yes
Pang	West Berkshire	Chalk	Larger rural	High	High	Yes	Yes
New Hinksey	Oxfordshire	PSD	Smaller urban	Moderate	Low	No	Not known
Marlow	Buckinghamshire	Chalk/PSD	Medium urban	Moderate	High	No	Not known
Chesham	Buckinghamshire	Chalk	Medium urban	High	High	Yes	Yes
Chalfont St Peter	Buckinghamshire	Chalk	Smaller urban	Moderate	Moderate	No	Not known
Colnbrook with Poyle	Slough	PSD	Smaller urban	Moderate	High	No	Yes
Kimpton	Hertfordshire	Chalk	Larger rural	Moderate	High	Yes	Not known
Luton	Luton	Chalk/PSD	Larger urban	Moderate	Moderate	No	Not known

Chesham Project Boundary Map



Partner Organisations



How we can work together



Sharing understanding of groundwater flood risk for modelling and mapping

Sharing enhanced monitoring data including gulley sensor trials

Helping us design and build a new groundwater flood alert system

Potentially trialling new Property Flood Resilience (PFR) measures

Trialling Natural Flood Management (NFM) techniques

Working with our academic partner's research programme



Community Readiness Survey Results

22 Respondents

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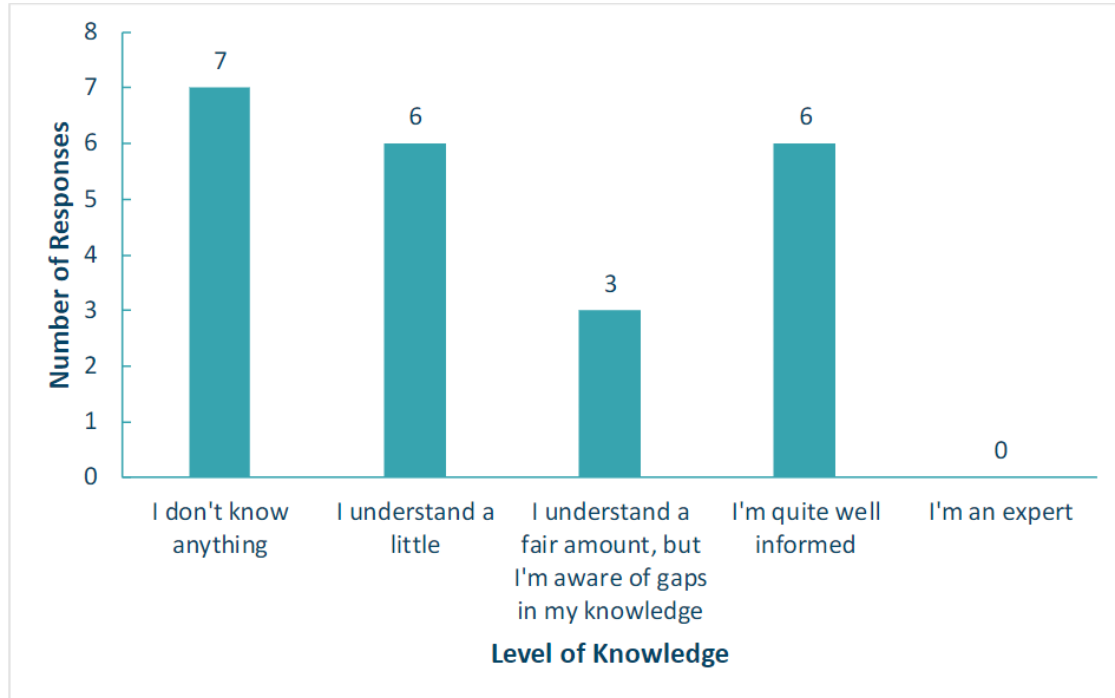


Fig. 1 - Perceived level of knowledge by respondents from Chesham about local flood mechanisms and risk



Fig. 2 - Respondents' level of concern relating to flooding locally in Chesham

Community Readiness Survey Results Continued

22 Respondents

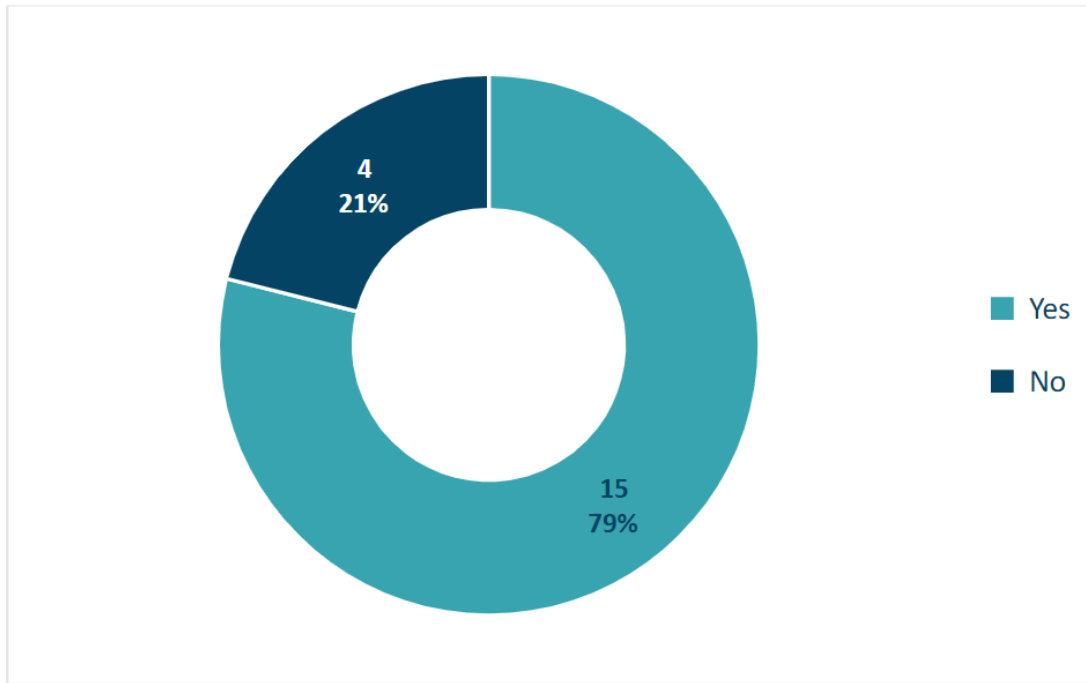


Fig. 3 – Respondents' opinion as to whether additional actions or initiatives are needed to reduce, manage or adapt to flooding in Chesham

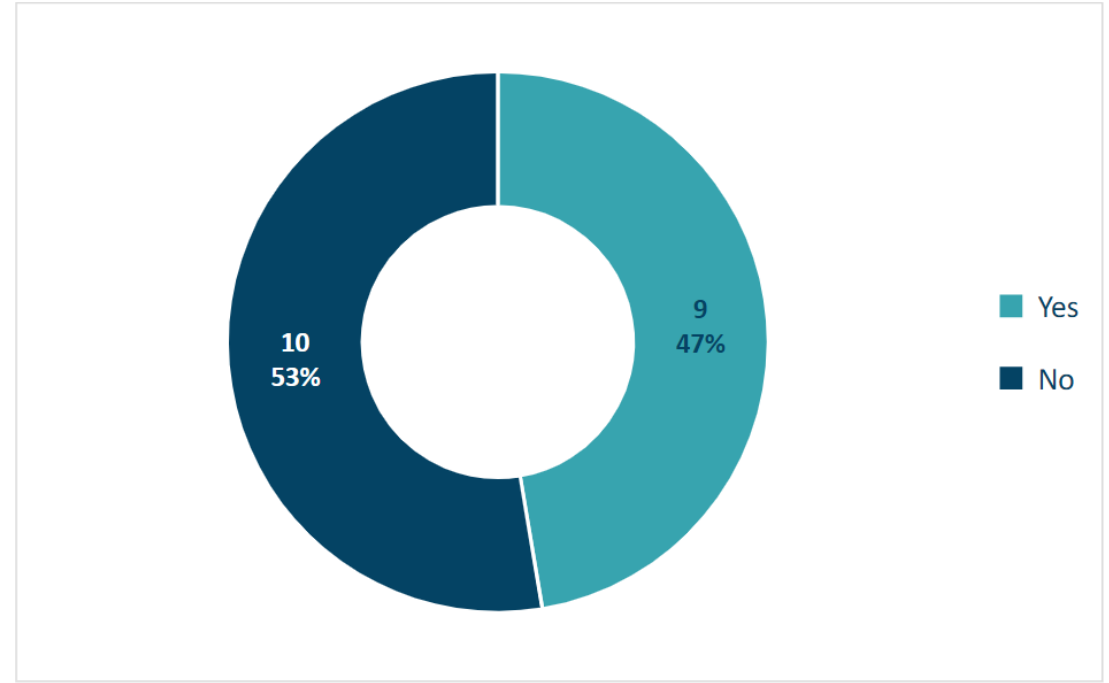


Fig. 4 - Respondents' interest in receiving information and/or working together to understand, manage and mitigate groundwater flooding in Chesham

Engagement Update

- Engagement Plans Developed
- Feedback on Community Maps being collected

Next Steps:

- Continue engagement

Ideas and support - please contact hello@projectgroundwater.co.uk

