

Fressingfield Sewerage System  
1648/17

Re planning applications 1432/17 1449/17

Fressingfield has a long history of recurrent problems with the sewerage system causing the egress of raw sewage on to Low road & adjacent gardens. In 1985 our then MP, Michael Lord, wrote to the CEO of Anglian Water Mr. Peter Bray & subsequently the Chief Environmental Health Officer was involved & concluded that the cost benefit to correct the problem was inappropriate. A situation hard to justify today when sewage on the highway would be considered an unacceptable health risk!

However, the problem still recurs on a regular basis. The photographs below were taken in **JULY 2016**. At times of heavy rain fall the man-hole covers elevate & sewage spills into the road. This is often, but not always, associated with flooding of the Beck. Flooding of the Beck is not uncommon as evidenced in the paper previously sent to you by Mr. Norman Reynolds.





There have been problems in the existing Post Mill houses with sewage refluxing into toilets & wash basins & this was attributed to problems with the local pumping station in that housing development.

Fressingfield sits in a natural basin & the soil is impervious so the surface water runs to the low point, which is the Beck, using ditches & roadways (Church Hill & Back Road) as conduits. Some surface water apparently also goes into the foul water sewers. More houses & hard landscaping means more surface water & however it is restricted or temporarily restrained it must eventually flow downhill causing flooding & overload of the Beck & the sewerage system.

Sewage from Fressingfield is pumped to Weybread for treatment via a pump situated at the junction of Harlesden Hill & Low Road. Despite modifications of this pump sewage egress persists as a continuing problem as indicated above. More houses means more raw sewage will be generated & if there is housing in Weybread it will put further strain on the system. Although theoretical calculations may suggest the system can cope in reality it quite obviously cannot.

In summary there have been long standing problems with the sewerage system which is not fit for purpose and these problems will be significantly exacerbated by further housing developments.

Dr. John Castro  
25 September 2017