

Report of the Environment Working Group – May 2024

Submitted to Councillors

Matters of Interest:

Incidents – On 20 March 2024, a car collided with two trucks on the A342 between Coombe Cottages and Wilsford dryer, closing the road for a day, but causing no lasting environmental impact.

Damage to roadside and hedges caused by a truck and road roller on the night of 8/9 December 2023 has been attended to with replanting of affected hedgerows.

Flooding – The flooding of winter 2023/24 continued through December 2023 to April 2024 and has caused access roads to flood in Wilsford (west and east, but not central) and at the west end of Charlton's main street, thereby preventing use by road traffic.

Warning signage was deployed by Wilsford Flood Wardens, East and West. The access road from Hilcott is cut when the River Avon overflows. It is understood that remedial action may be planned in so much as ditches on Manor Farm may be improved; allowing water to flow freely from Marden Farm through Wilsford to Cuttenham, Farm. The low ground at Cuttenham will continue to flood during periods of heavy rain, affecting the water meadows of Charlton Manor Farm.

Hemlock – Poison Hemlock is again infesting the line of the River Avon through both Parishes and in ditch lines and Stick Lane; representing a serious health risk to unwary public.

Hedges – Plastic spirals have been removed by Plant for Our Lives group through this spring, from the hedges planted between Charlton St. Peter and Rushall. Removed spirals will be recycled.

For the **Environmental Working Group**
Parish Council of Charlton St. Peter & Wilsford