

I am extremely concerned that the developers are planning to discharge surface water into the Mill Stream to the East of the site. (FYI, locally we refer to this as the Lavant stream.). See "Updated Flood Risk Assessment Masterplan", Section 4 Drainage Strategy.

When Langstone Technology Park was built by IBM the stream was considerably lower than today. In the 1990s children could paddle in the stream in children's wellington boots. One now has to wear waders to clean up the stream and the water is up to the waist. The stream has become at least 30 cms higher in the last 10 years. The road surface drains feed into the stream and their outlets are below the level of the stream 90% of the year. The stream has no capacity for existing surface water drainage. The stream regularly floods the footpath to the West making it unuseable for large portions of the year.

Portsmouth Water have confirmed that the volume of water from Havant springs has not significantly increased over the last 15 plus years. Southern Water have confirmed that surface water drain outlets should not be below water levels and stated that it is a problem the EA need to resolve.

The issue has been raised by a number of local residents with the Environment Agency for the last 10 years.

I also note that areas of Brookmead Way are at risk of flooding. Given the stronger and heavier downpours expected in the future, expected higher sea levels, the current excessively high level of the stream, I strongly object to any discharge into the stream from Langstone Park. The council should not allow new developments to increase the risk of flooding to local residential properties. The objective of the Council and EA should be to reduce the risk of flooding.

Not only should new discharges be not permitted but also existing discharges should be stopped as they were originally permitted when the stream was substantially lower.

The Council and the EA should require the developers to find alternative drainage options, e.g. pipes direct into the sea.