

## **Surface Water Investigation in Brandeston by Anglian Water**

The Brandeston Annual Parish Meeting held on 17 May 2011 was addressed by Mr Pete Holland of Anglian Water (AW). He explained that AW was anxious to resolve difficulties with pumping of very dilute sewage into the Deben at Kettleburgh.

Mr Holland advised that the sewage system was built to accommodate foul flows only but that some properties and systems have over the years connected their surface water into this system. As a result some inundation of the system occurs after heavy rainfall (but not recently!!) and consequent overflows causing flooding to properties.

This is clearly unacceptable and AW has been working with the Environment Agency (EA) and Brandeston and Kettleburgh Parish Councils to resolve the situation. Some significant improvements have been made but AW sought permission for a Storm Overflow Consent from the EA to allow this very dilute flow to be discharged into the Deben in storm conditions due to composition being largely surface water, which should be going into the watercourse anyway. This consent request was refused.

Accordingly, AW is looking at alternative solutions. They are intending to carry out a trial in Brandeston in Mutton Lane and Low Street to clear ditch systems and liaise with residents to ensure that they are connected in the correct way. AW will be writing to ALL residents in Brandeston to explain these details and to seek cooperation.

Mr Holland advised that they will be employing a contractor to discuss with householders the clearing of existing ditches and changes to the surface water collection system within relevant properties and that changes agreed with householders will be made free of charge. He emphasised that AW will be doing everything possible to ensure that this remains a collaborative project and they will be working with residents through liaison staff. Any views from residents regarding the problems of blocked ditches etc. in Brandeston will be welcomed.

Mark Hounsell  
Parish Clerk and RFO  
Brandeston Parish Council  
19 May 2011