



By Megan Hodson reporter for The Steel Speaker. Dated: Oct 27, 2023

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The Ecological Owlthorpe project aims to promote the preservation and conservation of the Sheffield areas. Michael Meredith says he has “been associated with the area for 65 years, we all want answers, and we will continue to investigate.”

Read more here: <https://jusmedia.co.uk/.../1500-sheffield-residents-sign.../>

1,500 Sheffield residents sign petition to stop building amid fears of flooding.

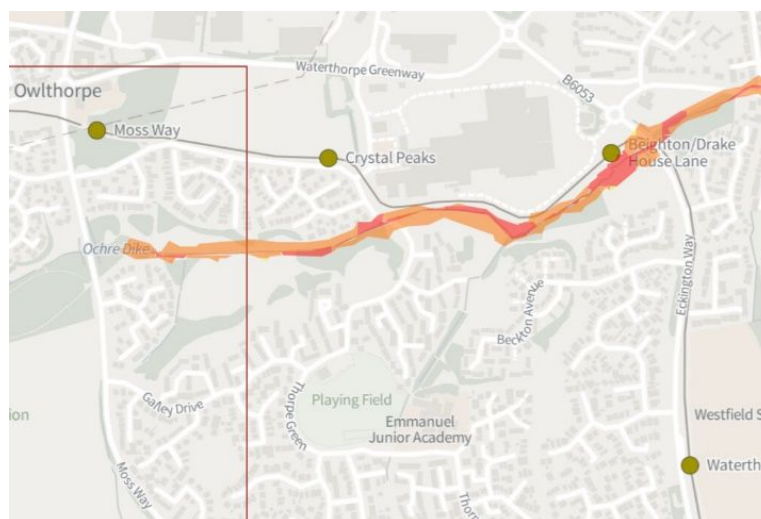


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With the recent Storm Babet, Sheffield has seen disruption due to flooding with roads closing, transport being cancelled and houses overflowing with water.

The grassland grazing project currently acts as a flood plain and absorbs water that has cascaded across Moor Valley from Birley. It releases the water gently into the Ochre Dyke and prevents downstream flooding.



Meredith warns that building more properties in Owlthorpe as set out in Sheffield council's draft local plan, will increase the risk of flooding downstream into Waterthorpe, Beighton and beyond with catastrophic results for residents.

Jack Rhodes, a supporter of the project, said:

“This site is a sanctuary for wildlife, a place of beauty where the local community go for walks. It is also where friendships are made while dog walking. I know this because I have witnessed it. ”

Planning permission on the land was originally refused due to ecological preservation, however plans have been reintroduced for the 22 acres of land.

The land is part plot F of the Owlthorpe Grassland Grazing Project, which was split into four plots. One of which has also had applications for planning permission submitted and the other two are assigned green spaces

After the floods, The Ecological Owlthorpe project put out a statement on their <https://chnng.it/6vXHqcGG4S> page. In it, they said:

“The grasslands, hedgerows, and trees of Owlthorpe hold millions of gallons of water helping to prevent downstream flooding. We need to discourage Sheffield (LPA) from building more properties in Owlthorpe. We do not want to increase the flood risk downstream in Waterthorpe, Beighton and beyond”

At the time of this article, the petition has 1,574 signatures and a goal of 2,500.

Learn more about the project at: <https://www.ecological-owlthorpe.org/directionsmaps.htm>

Please Submit your Comments in The Steel Speaker, we need to let decision makers know how we feel about protecting Owlthorpe Heritage & Nature Trail as an upstream nature-based solution stopping downstream flooding.

Thank You for your attention

Kind Regards

Michael Meredith