

[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]@groundwater.plus.com>  
**Sent:** 06 September 2010 10:45  
**To:** [REDACTED]; Tibbetts, Rebecca (NE); 'Paul ST.Pierre'; SWSmith@oxford.gov.uk; [REDACTED], [REDACTED]@oxford.gov.uk  
**Subject:** RE: Ditching work on Port Meadow  
**Categories:** Blue Category

All

I agree with [REDACTED]. Water level readings from our EA funded monitoring (ceased the end of 2009) show that the Line Ditch water levels at the bridge by the Trap Ground allotments entrance are generally slightly higher than the bridge over the ditch at the entrance to Burgess Field where flow can often be seen running into the 'Port Meadow Lake' (from the Line Ditch) when it is wet here. Clearly if the proposed ditch clearance goes ahead without clearing the Line Ditch down to its outfall at the Thames just south of Walton Well Road bridge this will probably raise Port Meadow water levels rather than lower them. Continuation of monitoring would be a good idea.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Groundwater Monitoring and Drilling Ltd  
1 Adeane Road  
Chalgrove  
Oxford OX44 7TQ

[REDACTED]  
Fax:01865 891896

[REDACTED]@groundwater.plus.com

-----Original Message-----

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 24 August 2010 11:18  
**To:** [REDACTED]; Tibbetts, Rebecca (NE); Paul ST.Pierre; [SWSmith@oxford.gov.uk](mailto:SWSmith@oxford.gov.uk); [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Ditching work on Port Meadow

Dear Everyone,

I have read the correspondence you sent me with great interest and remember the ditching work carried out in 1992. There is another aspect of this work which I believe needs to be addressed. I understand that Shiplake ditch empties into the Line Ditch running southwards adjacent to the railway line. One of the problems in 1992 was that the Line Ditch had only been cleared partway along the stretch between Hook Meadow and Walton Well Road bridge so that there was little or no outflow from Shiplake ditch. Another problem was the small amount of fall in the Line ditch below Walton Well Road bridge. I wonder if any of you (or [REDACTED] whose email address I do not have) have records of this and if either of these problems have been addressed in the intervening years?

De-silting Shiplake Ditch without ensuring sufficient outflow would not, in my view, be cost effective.

With best wishes,