



Wallington Village Community Association
Registered Charity No. 1038479

Flood Emergency Plan



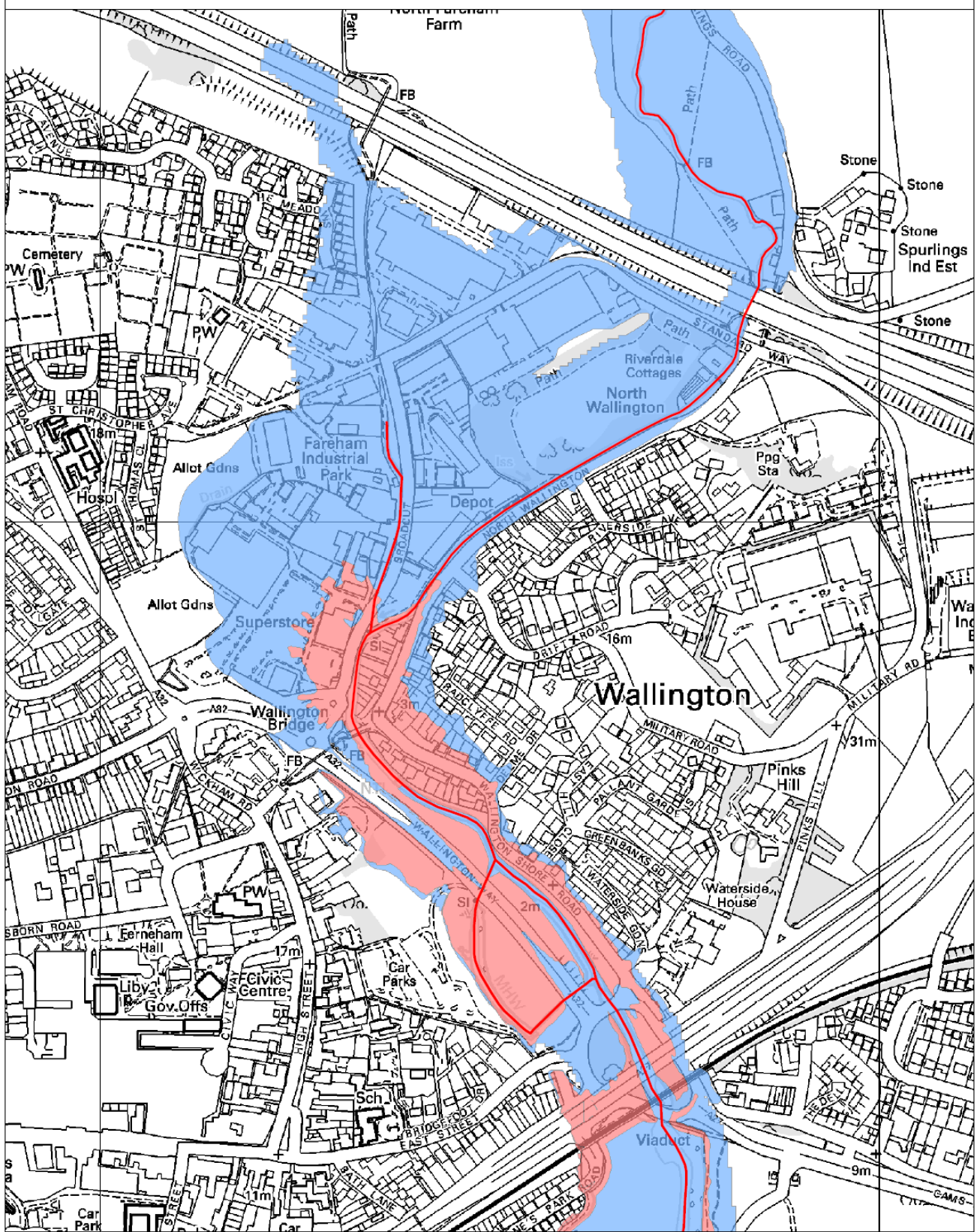
Photo: Bryan Stanley (Dec 2012)

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Fareham Borough Council***

Contents

Flood risk in Wallington (Map)	3
Introduction	4
Flood Warnings	6
Levels of Response	7
Statutory & Non-Statutory Responsibilities	8
Roles and Responsibilities	9
Householder's Self Support Network/Sandbags	13
What Wallington Residents can do	14
Just before, during and after a flooding event	15
General Health and Safety	16
Exercises and lessons learned	18
Household Level Flood Protection Measures	19
Appendix Contact Telephone Numbers	20

Flood Risk in Wallington




Legend

 Main Rivers

 Fluvial Flood Risk

- 1 in 1000 chance of flooding, any given year

 Combined Fluvial and Coastal Flood Risk

- 1 in 1000 chance of flooding, any given year

0 0.1 0.2

Kilometers



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INTRODUCTION

Aim:

The Aim of the Wallington Village Flooding Emergency Plan is to enable the WVCA to assist statutory authorities and property owners in the locality of Wallington in the mitigation of the threat and effects of all forms of flooding in Wallington Village.

Definition of the Locality:

For the purpose of this plan, Wallington Village is the locality which lies on the west-facing slopes of the extreme south west spur of Ports Down and on the east side of the Wallington River. The northern limit of the locality is represented by the M27 motorway and the southern limit by the Delme Roundabout alongside the estuary of the River Wallington.

The Risk:

The source of flooding in Wallington can be either tidal, fluvial or from surface water and sewers. The risk posed by these types of flooding affects mainly its two through roads: **Wallington Shore Road** and **North Wallington**. In December 2012, a significant number of properties on each side of these highways were at risk from flooding or experienced flooding.

Tidal:

Normally associated with the incidence of high spring tides, this form can be of regular occurrence usually affecting the southern half of Wallington Shore Road. In the event of very high spring tides, flooding may extend for short periods into the northern half of the road and is manifest principally in the area of the Delme Drive junction. In the event of a tidal surge resulting from heavy weather at sea in the western English Channel or the SW Approaches, tidal flooding can extend the length of Wallington Shore Road and around the time of high water, Portsmouth. In twenty-five years' experience, this form of flooding has been restricted to this road and has not affected North Wallington.

Surface Water/Flash

Surface Water Flooding (pluvial) which occurs when heavy rainfall overwhelms the drainage capacity of the local area. It is difficult to predict and pinpoint much more so than river or coastal flooding. HCC Economy, Transport and Environment Dept (Highways) will co-ordinate the response to highways and surface water flooding issues. Area Highways Offices record flooding incidents and co-ordinate the HCC / AMEY response.

Fluvial:

In the main, substantial Wallington River drainage involves the runoff from clays upstream in conditions of spate following heavy and prolonged precipitation. Resulting spates are a common condition of the river but flood defences along the riverside have made the incidence of fluvial flooding most rare.

Sewer Flooding

This occurs when sewers are overwhelmed by heavy rainfall or when they become blocked. The likelihood of flooding depends on the capacity of the local sewerage system. Land and property can be flooded with water contaminated with raw sewage as a result. Rivers can also become polluted by sewer outflows.

The severity of the flooding threat in terms of property in Wallington relates primarily to a combination of surface water/ flash/ sewerage consequences. Those of tidal effects and that of excessive volume of run-off water in the river from the Wallington River drainage upstream are of relatively minor significance.

Serious flooding in recent years: A combination of circumstances involving a particularly high spring tide; a significant tidal surge of perhaps half a metre; heavy rainfall in the locality and the river in the heaviest of spate conditions has not been recorded in Wallington in some twenty-five years of experience. The flooding alert of December 2012 was intensified by the risk of the flood defence wall being breached.

Major Preventative measures and developments in recent years:

- Summer 2006 New footbridge opposite *White Horse* PH completed – higher soffits.
- October 2010 - Following the public consultation exercise on the North Solent Shoreline Management Plan (addressing tidal flood risk) confirmation given that Wallington was now included, and 'Hold the Line' policy Recommended.
- Spring 2011 - Defra grant-aided household level flood protection and resilience measures installed to 49 of the most vulnerable properties. This included removeable door/window barriers, non-return wastepipe valves, closable airbricks etc.
- 2011 – The 'Bund on the Bend' work started. Local effort moved 30 tons of soil.
- March 2013 Opening up of the blocked arch of the Old Bridge.
- 2013 – reinforcement of the flood defence wall in North Wallington.
- July 2015 - Road hump by *Lowlands* put in place.
- 2016 to date – Environment Agency consultation exercise led to a recommendation to raise the flood walls, embankments and roads to provide a 1 in 5-year level of protection against flooding from the river and a 1 in 200-year level of protection against flooding from the sea. Partnership funded reinforcements and repairs made to existing floodwalls behind the properties on Wallington Shore Rd, raising them where necessary and WVCA funded the purchase of an automatic submersible pump installed in a sump of one of the gardens helping to drain water from adjacent properties. A major section of walling adjacent to Wallington Bridge was rebuilt. Gabion Replacement work adjacent to 'Lowlands'.

Flood Warnings

There are four flood-warning messages (three represented by graphical icons) that may be issued by EA. These are:



Flood Alert

Flooding is possible, be prepared



Flood Warning-

Flooding is expected. Immediate action required

ACTION – DEPLOY FLOOD BARRIERS IF FITTED! CHECK PORTABLE PUMPS IF HELD!



Severe Flood Warning

Severe Flooding, Danger to Life.

Warning no Longer in Force No further flooding is currently expected in your area.

By telephone: You can ring **FLOODLINE 0345 988 1188** at any time to receive automated up-to-date information on flooding. There are six service options offered of which the most important ones are Options 1 to 4:

Option 1 gives you information on the latest flooding situation.

The quick dial number you require for Fluvial (river) flooding in Wallington is 316090.

The quick dial number you require for Coastal flooding in the warning area

Fareham to Portchester is 316010.

Option 2 provides pre-recorded advice on what to do before during and after flooding.

Option 3 allows you to check if you are eligible for free flood warnings.

Option 4 allows you to report flooding, for general enquiries and to be put through to the operator.

By Internet: www.environment-agency.gov.uk

Specifically go to: <https://www.gov.uk/check-flood-risk>

Click on [current flood warnings](#) to check current warnings in force and click on [river and sea levels](#) and enter the post code.

Choose 'Wallington' in 'river Name Box' to show the latest river levels at Denmead or the Weir at North Fareham Farm.

Note: The Environment Agency supplies various information packs to help in instances of flooding e.g. Booklet: *What to do before during and after a flood*

LEVELS OF RESPONSE

The level of response from statutory authorities to flooding incidents will depend upon what is flooded or is at risk of being flooded. There are five priority categories:

Priority 1	People	Action to protect life.
Priority 2	Houses	Action to protect life and property.
Priority 3	Roads	Action to protect life and property.
Priority 4	Commercial Property	Possible action to protect property.
Priority 5	Agricultural Land and Gardens	No action intended

Other factors that may influence the level of response involve a priority given to those who are old or infirm when assisting people and the action necessary to combat the risk of any environmental pollution.

Statutory Responsibilities

The watercourse of the Wallington River through Wallington Village along with the spur through the Industrial Estate westwards is defined as 'Main River' and, as such, falls within the statutory responsibility of the Environment Agency (EA) for its maintenance, flood management and flood prevention measures. The Environment Agency has permissive powers to maintain and undertake improvements on the main river.

Riparian owners also have a responsibility to maintain the river banks. In addition, the EA does maintain the floodwall and floodgates.

Hampshire County Council (HCC), as the statutory Highways Authority is accountable for the condition and maintenance of the roadways and the means to remove surface water from them.

Southern Water and Portsmouth Water are the statutory water authorities for the supply and waste water services and hence, the maintenance of storm water sewers (if adopted) and sewerage drains in the locality.

Fareham Borough Council (FBC) is accountable for other measures to deal with civil emergency including the formulation and revision of appropriate planning of the means to deal with flooding.

Non-Statutory Responsibilities

Property Owners in Wallington: Property owners who reside within a flood plain are responsible entirely for the protection of their property.

Wallington Village Community Association (WVCA):

The WVCA is a civic amenity association, having charitable status and a household membership of around 430 – i.e. about 90% of local households.

The Association has no statutory status or powers and can therefore exercise no authority in civic matters (in this case for floodwater management and response). The Association has no legal requirement to liaise or to co-operate with any other organisation, but with respect to assisting in the practical relief of distress to residents caused by flooding in the locality of Wallington Village, then the WVCA can be expected to liaise and co-operate fully.

The value of this local community planning cannot be underestimated. Liaison with nominated members of the local community (the Flood Emergency Co-ordinators – see P20) before, during and after an emergency can be extremely valuable to the local authority and emergency services when trying to identify particularly vulnerable residents and communicate information about the emergency.

Roles and Responsibilities

The following organisations may be involved in direct specific action during a flooding event. Property owners are included in the list as it is their responsibility to protect their own property from flooding.

- **Hampshire Police**
- **Environment Agency**
- **Hampshire County Council**
- **Fareham Borough Council**
- **Wallington Village Community Association**
- **Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service**
- **Southern Water & Portsmouth Water**
- **Electricity, Gas and Telecommunications Providers**
- **Property Owners**

HAMPSHIRE POLICE

- Overall co-ordination of the multi agency response
- Work with Hampshire Highways to co-ordinate traffic diversions and road closures
- Direct evacuees safely to designated assembly points
- Assist in identifying vulnerable residents
- Save life in co-operation with the other emergency services
- Co-ordinate media and public information
- Provide security (as far as is reasonably practical) to evacuated properties
- Assist with recovery activities

HAMPSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

- Responsible primarily for saving life, rescue and recovery.
- Undertake damage control operations – which may include pumping out flooded homes (where resources allow) and critical infrastructures such as electricity substations.

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

- Assess fluvial and coastal flood risk
- Issue flood warnings
- Receive and record details of significant flooding incidents
- Monitor the situation and advise other responding agencies
- Deal with emergency repairs and blockages on main rivers and EA assets (e.g. culverts)
- Respond to pollution incidents
- Advise on waste disposal issues

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

- Co-ordinate Local Authority services for flood incidents and support the evacuation of residents from their homes where necessary
- Maintain safe conditions on the roads
- Put flood warning signs on the highways
- Organise road closures and traffic diversions
- Clear blockages on highway drainage systems
- Take action to protect property from flooding by water from the highway where there is a failure of the highway drainage system
- Identify any vulnerable residents and deploy available trained officers to assist with door knocking / evacuation
- Provide emergency sheltering and catering to support evacuees

FAREHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

- Co-ordinate Fareham Borough Council resources in managing any flood emergency
- Environmental Health Issues - Pollution
- Provide assistance with emergency accommodation for residents unable to re-occupy their homes

WATER COMPANIES (Southern Water and Portsmouth Water Company)

- Emergency over pumping or tankering at pumping stations
- Clearing blockages in public sewers and outfall / inlet grills
- Repair burst sewage and water pumping mains
- May take action to protect property from flooding by water from the public water mains or discharges from the public sewerage systems
- Provision of portable toilets where appropriate
- Provision of bottled water where appropriate

ELECTRICITY, GAS AND TELECOMMUNICATION COMPANIES

- Attend to emergencies involving their services to any properties that may be at risk from flooding
- Attend to flooding emergencies affecting their own assets
- Carry out checks on installations to properties affected by flooding prior to reconnection

PROPERTY OWNERS

- Move to a safe area if life is at risk
- Try and prevent water from entering the property if possible
- Switch off electricity and gas supply at the mains
- Move valuable possessions above floor areas likely to flood
- Deploy flood protection devices, sandbags, flood barriers etc
- Look after your neighbours – especially those more vulnerable
- Prepare in advance by having a householder emergency plan available

For a more comprehensive list of roles and responsibilities of all agencies involved in flood response, please refer to the most up to date version of the *Hampshire and Isle of Wight Local Resilience Forum Multi Agency Flood Plan*

If a copy is required, please email HIOWLRF@hants.gov.uk

WALLINGTON VILLAGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

The Wallington local contingency plan seeks to assist any resident(s) in traumatic situations. It will cover actions to be taken in the event of flooding and will cover multiple households likely to be affected in the village of Wallington. It describes:

- Actions to make residents aware of certain information
- What can be done before such an event
- What can be done during the event
- What can be done after the event

This plan is intended to run from when the flood warnings are in force to 48 hours after the event. WVCA will also assist with:

- Flood Warning Dissemination (By local agreement with EA)
- Distribution of any additional FLOODSAX
- Liaison with Fareham BC, Hampshire County Council and the Environment Agency to ensure that any locally planned response for Wallington is adequate and safe.

WVCA FLOOD CO-ORDINATORS (See numbers on back page)

When an incident occurs Co-ordinators will seek to take the following action:

1. Make contact with one another to ensure that each member is aware of a flood situation and share relevant information.
2. Check that the Village Hall manager is aware of the event and standing by to open the Hall should it be required to provide emergency shelter, toilet and washing facilities for affected residents. **Note:** at least one of the Flood Co-ordinators should hold a Hall key.
3. Will attempt to ensure that vulnerable neighbours are safe and fully aware of the existing/developing situation and of arrangements put in place.
4. Liaise with FBC/HCC contacts to facilitate co-ordinated assistance.
5. Make themselves known to any attending members of the Emergency Services.

HOUSEHOLDERS' SELF SUPPORT NETWORK

- Householders are strongly encouraged to **register** with the Environment Agency to receive flood warnings on their private telephone numbers by using the Floodline number - **0345 988 1188**
- It is recommended that close neighbours exchange their telephone numbers for use in any flood emergency.
- 'Buddying' arrangements are encouraged for mutual assistance - for example when deploying household flood barriers. This may be especially needed for the support of elderly or infirm neighbours.
- Householders are encouraged to have their own personal emergency plan containing important contact numbers, documents and details of any medication.

SANDBAG PROVISION

Householders are responsible for the provision of sandbags or other appropriate flood defences.

In 2009 a limited number of *Niton Floodsax* were issued to 'at risk' dwellings by Fareham BC in case of immediate and unforeseen flooding events. Periodic reviews of householders' ready-use *Floodsax* are carried out through Buddying checks and a small stock is held at the Village Hall. There is also an emergency stock of the *Niton Floodsax* at the *Cob and Pen* barn.

Unfilled sandbags and a supply of sand can be purchased from some DIY stores and Builders Merchants such as Wicks, Home Base and B & Q.

Sandbags are a very temporary measure and where applicable other more permanent methods of property damage limitation should be explored.

As alternatives to sandbags refuse sacks, plastic bags, pillowcases etc. can be partly filled with garden soil. (Remember they can get heavy quickly, so do not overfill or fill too far away from the required location).

What Wallington Residents can do.....

BE AWARE OF CERTAIN INFORMATION:

- Ensure that you have adequate home insurance and take photos of valuable items.
- Ensure that you know where to turn off the gas, electricity and water supplies
- Keep a list of useful telephone numbers including your family, insurance company (email address and fax number), local council (F.236100), the emergency services and the EA FLOODLINE **0345 988 1188**
- You can ring FLOODLINE **0345 988 1188** at any time to receive automated up-to-date information on flooding alerts. The Environment Agency also supplies various information packs for guidance in the event of flooding.

BEFORE A FLOOD EVENT:

- Read the Wallington Village Flood Emergency plan.
- Make a family flood plan using the information in the above booklets and a flood kit which will contain key personal documents, torch, mobile phone, battery or wind-up radio, rubber gloves, Wellington boots, waterproof clothing, spare medication, first aid kit, blankets and Thermos. Keep upstairs.
- Maintain your flood defences (if fitted). Make your household supply of Floodsax ready. Know where standby supplies are available (TBA by Coordinators).
- Know where you can move your car, pets, valuables to and list and prioritise items to be moved upstairs.
- Have copies of list available for volunteers if you require help.
- If possible, board the loft to store items and keep important items there all the time (e.g. photos). Note - We have a volunteer who can assist with materials for boarding the loft. If you need help with this, please contact the Coordinators.
- Know who the Coordinators are.
- If you require help, contact any of the Coordinators.
- Have a big bag ready to carry flood kit, essential papers in case of evacuation.
- See the insert Flood line list of 'Flood Protection Products & Services'.

JUST BEFORE AND DURING SUCH AN EVENT

- Be aware of the latest situation using FLOODLINE **0345 988 1188**
- Contact Wallington Local Contingency Plan Coordinators for assistance.
- Turn off gas and electricity before the water arrives, do not switch off after flooded.
- Move family, pets, vehicles, food and valuables to safety.
- Move items upstairs.
- Put in door defences and block airbricks where possible.
- Do the above in daylight.
- Take photos if possible before (this can be at any time and keep safe), during and after the event.

If flood strikes and you need to evacuate:

- Secure your property as an empty property can be vulnerable.
- Go wherever directed to by the emergency services. Shelter and refreshments will be provided if necessary.

DURING / AFTER THE EVENT

- WVCA hall can be available if unaffected by flooding for 48 hours as required for
- Refreshments – accommodation – storage - telephone calls - discussions with insurance company representatives – email - meeting point for family, friends, visitors.
- Volunteers will be available as agreed to assist wherever necessary and should always be coordinated by the WVCA and FBC.
- Contact your insurance company, request early inspection and interim payments for any temporary accommodation. One of our deputies will be doing a collective email to inform insurance companies of the problem to help residents initially. He/she will be available to liaise with residents.
- Contact gas, electricity and water companies.
- Ventilate your property, unblock airbricks, but still remember security of property.

- Consider de-humidifiers. Do not sleep in your property when the de-humidifiers are operating as they will dehydrate you.
- Run taps for a few minutes before using water.
- Ensure you obtain quotes for any remedial work and do not carry out any work without the insurance company's agreement. Beware of tradesmen who say they can sort out your problems quickly and for cash.
- You may be entitled to hotel accommodation under your insurance but check with them first.

GENERAL HEALTH AND SAFETY ADVICE:

- Keep yourself and any children and older people warm and dry.
- Put spare clothes in a safe, dry place.
- Put medicines in a safe dry, accessible place.
- Flood water may contain faecal matter.
- Flood water may conceal open chambers.

Food Safety

- Move all food including cans, into high cupboards or even upstairs.
- Wash all fresh food with safe water before eating.
- Do not eat any food that has come into contact with flood water.
- Only make up food for babies with boiled or bottled water.
- Do not refreeze foods that have thawed out.

Sanitation and Hygiene

Always wash hands with soap and water:

- Before Preparing or eating food.
- After toilet use.
- After cleaning up flood water.
- After handling anything contaminated by flood or sewage.

Do not allow children to play in floodwater areas or with contaminated toys.

Cleaning Up

- Wear rubber boots and gloves during the clean-up.
- Open doors and windows to ventilate your home.
- Watch out for broken glass or nails.
- Walls floors and most surfaces should be cleaned with mild disinfectant. One cup bleach to 5 gallons (22 Litres) of water.
- Remove and destroy all contaminated material that cannot be cleaned.
- Steam clean carpets.
- Clean any areas where children play.
- Wash taps and run for a few minutes before use.
- Contact gas, electricity and water companies to check supplies before turning back on.
- Make sure electrical items have dried out before use.

Check references; get recommendations or insurance company advice before employing traders.

Refer to Hampshire County Council’s Trading Standards “Buy With Confidence” page using the link below or by calling 01962 841841 and requesting “Trading Standards”

www.hampshire.gov.uk/tradingstandards/bwc

Exercising and lessons learned

In September 2011, as part of the Defra grant-funded household level flood protection project in which 49 of the most vulnerable properties in the village were fitted with portable barriers a 'buddying' scheme was promoted. This was followed by an exercise to test the robustness of the Flood Emergency Plan from a dummy flood warning through to deployment of the flood protection devices, the intention being to check that residents were confident with the equipment and that 'buddying' arrangements worked satisfactorily.

One of the WVCA Flood Co-ordinators had set up a portable pump in his kitchen and offered demonstrations of how to expose and check that the impeller was running freely and how to prime the pump before use. In almost all cases the newly-provided pumps were found to have a problem with stiffness and needed initial turning over by hand.

In general, the exercise was a valuable one and it revealed quite a few shortcomings and potential problems. The first of which was that the Jubilee clips issued with the portable pump hoses were not the right size (possibly they also need to be of a type which does not require a screwdriver). Other common problems found included bolts with plastic heads being slightly too short to engage easily with their sockets so that offering up the barriers was awkward and barriers which used the threaded rod type of fixing into brickwork were sometimes tricky. This was because the rods could not comfortably be screwed in by hand. A pair of locked nuts would be the engineer's solution but not plausible for an anxious householder in darkness! It may seem an obvious thing to people used to DIY work but tightening up any bolt before the others were properly aligned could be a problem for some. There was also occasional lack of understanding about the need to flip up the manual waste pipe valves in a flood situation – and what was the 'open' or 'closed' position.

Our overall assessment of the exercise was that it was very useful in that it threw up a number of fixable problems. Not everyone joined the exercise and consequently it is not possible to guarantee that all the householders know whether they can actually deploy the protection measures if they need to and if their devices have snags in them or not.

Household level flood protection measures

By late spring 2011 the DEFRA grant-aided household level flood protection and resilience measures had been installed to the 49 most vulnerable properties in the village. These included non-return valves in waste pipes and outlets, water resistant external doors and so on. Because of economies gained in using a single product supplier it was possible to extend the scheme to ten more properties than funds originally allowed.

For households currently without protection measures:

Other products are available on the market and the link to the National Flood Forum Blue Pages Directory below will assist with this.

The Environment Agency supports the Kitemark scheme and lists products awarded the kitemark as they have been independently tested and proved fit for purpose. The agency does not however endorse any individual product or manufacturer. It is the responsibility of the purchaser to ensure that the products are appropriate for their property and correctly fitted.

Advice on flood protection products is available via the **National Flood Forum “Blue Pages Directory”**. This is an independent directory of flood protection products and services. It has been put together to advise and inform people about what’s available to help you protect your home or business against flooding. Whilst the National Flood Forum cannot endorse any of these products, they are happy to provide this resource to help you make informed decisions.

www.nationalfloodforum.org.uk

www.bluepages.org.uk

One word of caution: where there is a risk of flooding to a depth of more than 0.9m, keeping water out can sometimes do more harm than good. The pressure of water against your property may cause structural damage to the building itself.

APPENDIX

QUICK REFERENCE - EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

HAMPSHIRE CONSTABULARY 101

HAMPSHIRE FIRE & RESCUE 999

HAMPSHIRE AMBULANCE 999

PUBLIC UTILITIES

Transco (Gas Pipelines)	0800 111999	(24 Hr)
Southern Electricity	0800 072 7282	(24 Hr)
Portsmouth Water Company	02392 477 999	(24 Hr)
Southern Water Plc	0330 303 0368	(24 Hr)

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

Emergency	0800 80 70 60	(24Hr)
Floodline	0345 988 1188	(24Hr)
General Enquiries	03708 506 506	Office hours

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL 01962 841841 (switchboard)

Emergency Planning Unit 01962 846846 (office hours)
Answer phone has a Duty Officer number out of hours

FAREHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL 01329 236100
Out of Hours 0800 374485

WALLINGTON VILLAGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

WVCA Flood Emergency Responders

(Lead) Alan Humphrey: 07807101838 or 01329504100

Neil Clayton: 07850926761 Tony Everton: 07803372025
Lee Havey: 07742371624 Corky May: 01329 510139.

Hall Manager Geoff Knipe 07826 309186