

Ansty Parish

Community Emergency and Local Flood Action Plan

**Prepared by Ansty Parish Council
in conjunction with
Wiltshire Council's Operational Flood Working Group.**

In association with the Environment Agency, Wessex Water, Scottish & Southern Electric and the Professional Emergency Services.

A summary of preparatory work achieved so far, regarding the drawing up of a Local Flood Action Plan for the parish of Ansty as presented to the parish council and the Ansty village meeting (May 2018)

Amongst all the other recent things coming on-stream via Government or County led directives, we have to set up a 'local flood action plan' for the parish of Ansty. We are one of last parish councils in south Wiltshire to 'get on board' with this initiative. It has proven to be quite tedious but here is a brief summary of where we are with this particular project to 'keep you in the loop' as it were.

Why do we need a Local Flood Plan?

All parish councils with a watercourse through it which are deemed at risk of flooding as identified by the Environmental Agency has to have a local flood plan in place of a potential flooding emergency. A narrow area either side of the Ansty Stream from just north of the Hollow to Ansty Water (and beyond) is identified by the Environmental Agency as a flood zone 3. This has been so for many years.

After the widespread (1 in 250 year event) flooding issues in southern England in the winter of 2013-2014 there was some local flooding in low lying areas of Ansty and several springs spilled out over our lanes – but nothing really serious. The worst affected area was Frogpond Bend and that is not officially identified in the flood zone 3 category but it is recognised as a flash flood zone. Nevertheless the threat of flooding, however remote, is always there: hence the need for a plan.

We all have an obligation to play our part in understanding the main issues to make sure the potential for any flooding is at its lowest.

What are main reasons for having a Flood Action Plan?

To try and avoid such (very unlikely) flood issues arising. This could involve a 'community approach' by riparian owners and others monitoring potential problem areas and taking 'common sense' proactive measures to reduce the likelihood of any kind of flooding event. County Council refers to this as resilience measures.

Should flooding ever occur (as in a worst case scenario) there needs to be a well-rehearsed co-ordinated reactive approach between the local parish council, individual parishioners (who might be affected) and the county civil emergencies procedures.

How far have we got with the drawing up of our flood plan?

For various good reasons Ansty PC was very late in 'getting on board' and formalising our approaches in the drawing up a local flood plan. We are on board now. We should have started back in 2015.

Initially we have identified 6 potential flood problem areas in Ansty and made some notes as to how we might mitigate some of the problems. This detailed analysis does not mean there is a flood problem in Ansty: but there is just an 'outside' worst case '1 in 100' to '1 in 30' potential of flooding in specific areas. 'Low risk' but not 'no risk'! So the government has decreed that we have to 'be prepared'! And we have to roll with it!

We then submitted two or three versions of our local flood emergency plan framework to go with our findings. We were told that our approach was not specific nor detailed enough. However, we were looking for a 'light touch approach' relevant to the fact that any future flooding in Ansty is unlikely to affect more than one property. Only flash flooding caused by an unpredictable massive thunderstorm of some 3 inches of rain or more in an hour is likely to cause more serious issues. Long standing residents may remember the thunder storm of the mid 1980s that damaged Ansty Coombe Lane and a couple of properties. Otherwise an extraordinarily wet autumn and winter with more than 30 inches (about 760 mm) of persistent rain from October to January (say) could cause flooding at most of the areas identified. It is not likely but it could happen!

Where are we now with the Local Flood Plan?

After a meeting with Renate Malton – the County Flood Resilience Officer on 16th May our parish chairman and flood monitor walked with Renate along all the accessible watercourse areas of Ansty. It was accepted by the Renate that we can draw up a 'Parish Emergency Plan' with a local flood plan treated as an annex to this rather than as a 'stand-alone' flood plan document that was initially requested by County Officers.

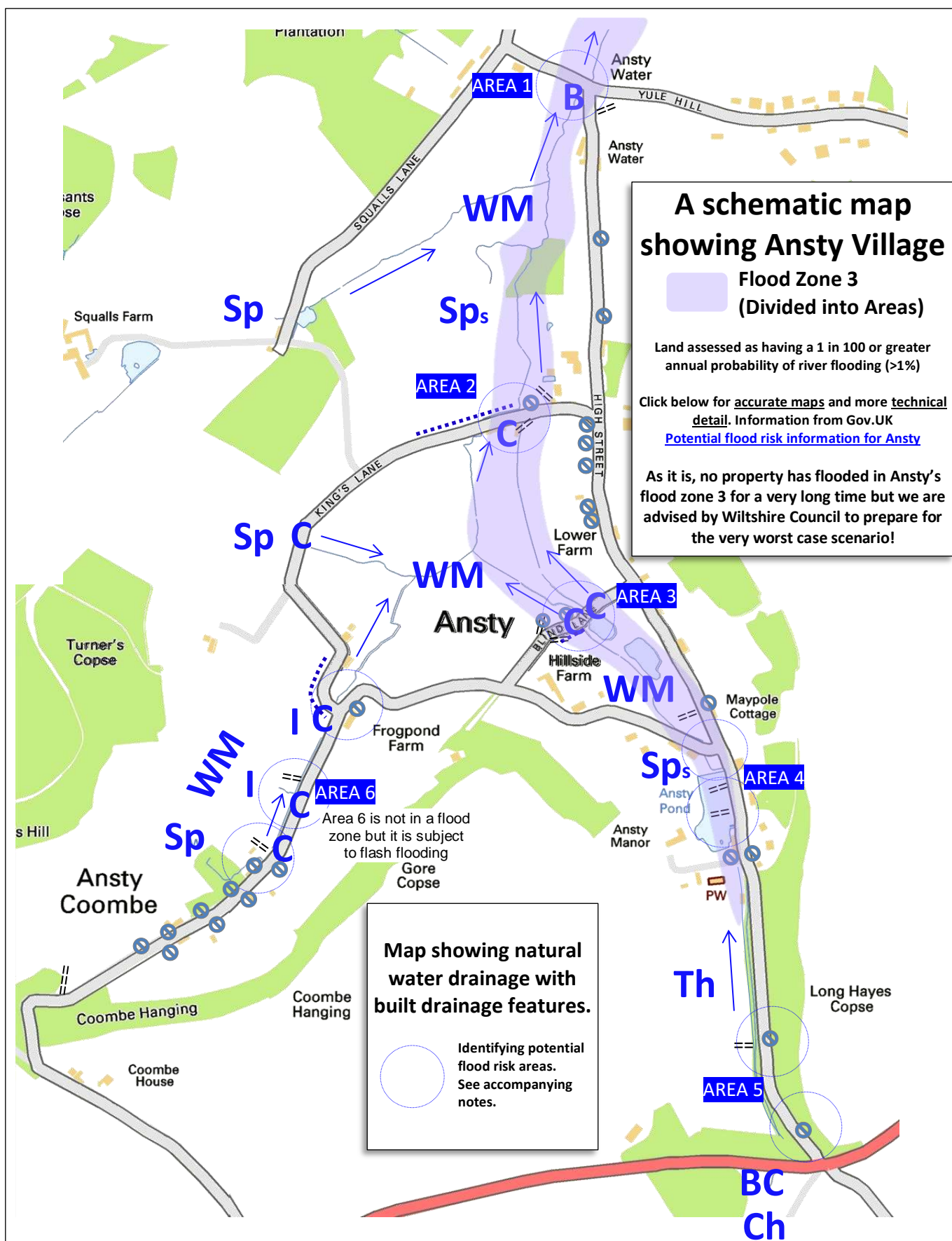
This flood plan annex would be subject to an annual review. The Emergency Plan concept has been amalgamated on to the original Flood Resilience and Local Flood Plan because Wiltshire Council realise and accept that both they and the emergency services do not possess the ability to deal with the thousands of minor incidents arising as a result of widespread Power Cuts; poor or stormy weather; as well as flooding. In other words in some cases we will have to deal with some issues ourselves!

It was the wish of people present at the Ansty Village Meeting (May 23rd 2018) that we put more details about how we identified potential flood areas in Ansty - including a map on to our village website.

We have now drawn up and completed our Emergency Plan framework with a Flood Plan annexed to it and this has been accepted by Wiltshire Council.

The following detailed information has to be examined in the context of only a very worst case scenario could lead to a flooding event in specific areas. It is unlikely to happen but we are required to plan 'just in case'. It does not mean any Ansty property is in any kind of imminent danger in so far as anyone can reasonably predict.

The following pages contain (i) a detailed schematic map showing potential flood points along the main Ansty watercourse; (ii) a detailed assessment of where the potential flood points might occur along the main watercourse; (iii) The outline Ansty Emergency Plan document, including a summary and advice to parishioners; and lastly we include a link that should be of interest to all Ansty landowners who have any kind of a watercourse running through their land – outlining their rights and responsibilities towards looking after and the maintenance of their watercourse and where they might receive help or advice in order to do this.



===	Dug out gully drain	⊙	Road Drain	BC	Bridge/Culvert	WM	Wet Meadow
.....	Verge Ditch	I	Issues	Sp_s	Spring/s	Ch	Channelled Stream
Th	Thicket strip	Map information updated October 2018				→	Direction of Stream flow

Use the **schematic map** to identify (in context) possible risk areas 1 – 5, identified as a 'Flood Zone 3' by the Environmental Agency. Area 6 is not a recognised flood zone as such but does have the potential to flood (by flash flooding as happened in the mid-1980s).

The notes that follow are an honest attempt to help villagers be more aware of the possible potential for flooding even though there has been no flooding in the 'flood zone' for a very long time. This why we have to have some sort of Local Flood Action Plan drawn up just in case such an event, however unlikely, occurs.

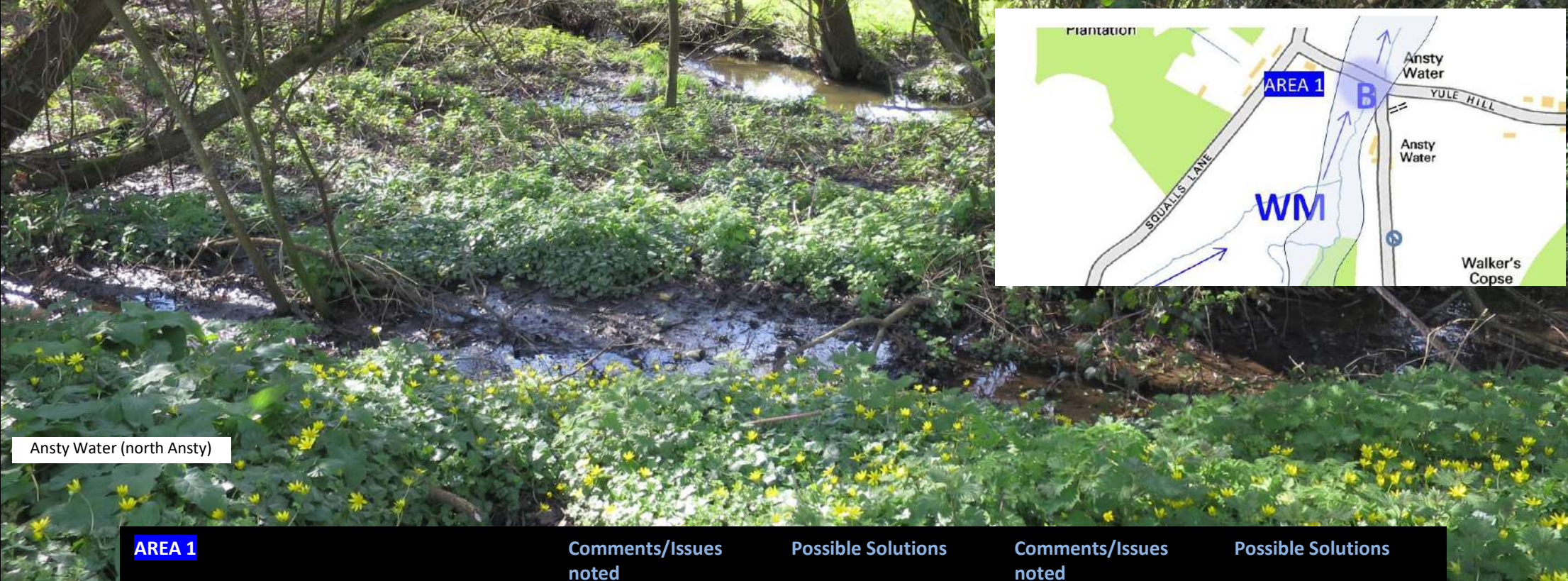
Information Updated October 2018

Analysis of the Possible Flood Risk Areas in the parish of Ansty as identified by the Environmental Agency

Click here to learn more: [Flood Risk Zone in Ansty](#)

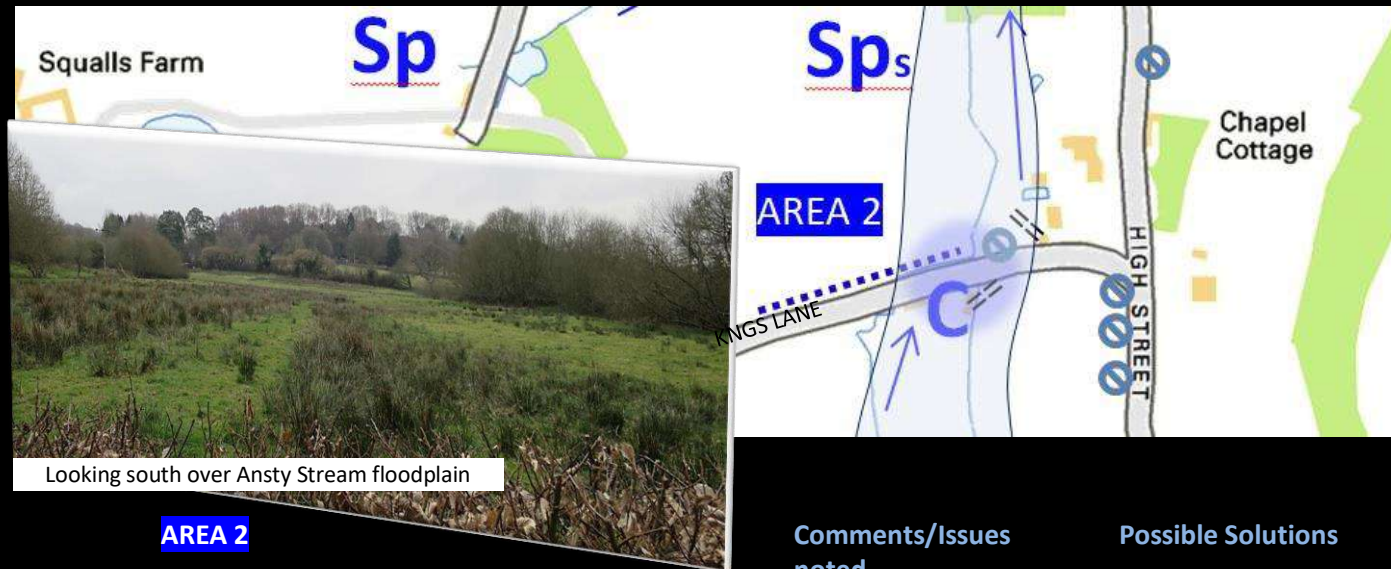


View of the Ansty Valley from Kings Lane



Ansty Water (north Ansty)

<div>AREA 1</div>				
Description	Comments/Issues noted	Possible Solutions	Comments/Issues noted	Possible Solutions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not without good reason is this area known as Ansty Water! Until late medieval times the Ansty stream flowed across the road track as a ford There is a small bridge/culvert here through which the stream joins other small streams running in from Swallowcliffe Further south other springs join the Ansty stream in the wet meadow area. There is some evidence that this area supported a small water meadow system – as is evident throughout the Nadder Valley. This area has a chance of flooding of greater than 3.3% (EA) 	<p>Natural landscape</p> <p>Stream bed and channel appear choked with weed and vegetation including branches.</p> <p>A degree of silt has built up the channel to turn part of the wider valley floor area into a bog.</p> <p>North of the bridge narrow silted up channels might lead to water ‘back up’</p>	<p>Natural Landscape</p> <p>Clear stream channel of major obstacles when necessary</p> <p>Remove silt, debris and vegetation where it might impede drainage</p>	<p>Built infrastructure</p> <p>Dug out gully floods during wet periods</p> <p>The gully also drains under the road but fall is difficult</p> <p>The road gutters through the ‘Narrows’ get caked up with mud and hedge cuttings in winter impeding drainage</p>	<p>Built infrastructure</p> <p>Ensure gullies are free flowing –especially in winter time. Surface water on road during cold spells means ice could be an additional problem near ‘T’ junction.</p> <p>Ensure gutters are proactively swept clean periodically</p>



Looking south over Ansty Stream floodplain

AREA 2

Description

- Kings Lane used to be known as Rings Lane and probably has medieval links. This would most likely have been an outer track connecting the main Ansty Street encircling the wet meadows, once common land of Gasson Mead.
- The main Ansty stream and two major springs link up to flow swiftly via a culvert under the lane close to Shepherd's cottage.
- A well preserved ditch section on the downward descent to the SW of the cottage trickles along more water to the same location
- The road at the lowest point is permanently wet with surface water. Two dug out gullies and a drain partially drain the road surface.
- Nearby fields to the south of the lowest part of the lane are turning into bogs/marsh land. To the north below the saw mill the land and stream course have been maintained appropriately.
- Apart from the gullies/ditches this area has a 0.1% to 1% chance of flooding (this includes road). Any property nearby has been deemed safe. Meadow lands to the north and south have a 3.3% risk of flooding (high risk) EA

Comments/Issues noted

Natural landscape

Stream bed and channel on upstream side (south of the lowest part of Kings Lane) choked with some silt, weed and vegetation.

Main ditch line appears functional

Possible Solutions noted

Natural Landscape

Check and stream channel to remove silt, debris and vegetation where it might impede drainage.

Continue to maintain ditches as appropriate



Ansty stream flows quickly north from the bridge/culvert under Kings Lane



Kings Lane

Comments/Issues noted

Built infrastructure

The drain fails because surface water is not able to flow properly off the road due to incorrect camber

The lower dug out gully only partially works

A build-up of debris/mud along the edges and centre of the road badly impedes drainage at this strategic point*

Possible Solutions noted

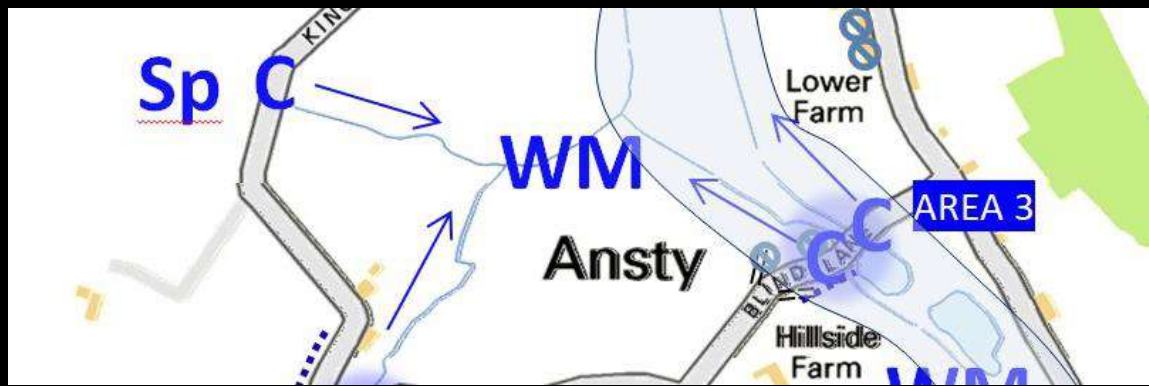
Built infrastructure

Align road camber appropriately

Ensure drains and gullies are free flowing – especially in winter time as during cold spells ice is a major problem.

Remove mud/debris from all parts of the lane carriageway on a proactive basis

This area faces the same dichotomy that hit the Somerset Levels in 2013/14. The channels need to be kept 'clean' to allow unimpeded flow but the meadowland acts as a sponge. When operating in tandem the risk of flooding actually becomes less.



AREA 3

Description

- The sunken Blind Lane may well have its roots back into Saxon times.
- It descends sharply down from either side into the narrow flood plain of the Ansty stream. The stream divides and flows through two culverts.
- The lower lane is riddled with small springs and water issues feeding the stream. Legend has it that women used to bring their babies to one of these springs to bathe their infants' infected eyes. The springs were rich in copper salts which did the trick!
- The lane is flanked on its south east side by natural ponds also fed by springs.
- Ditches, dug gullies and drains are all trying to drain off excess surface water with little fall and a high water table.
- There might well have been sluices operating in the vicinity at one time.
- This area has the potential to flood especially if drainage is impeded.
- One property may be at risk. It hasn't flooded within living memory. But there is a 1 to 3.3% flood risk. EA

Comments/Issues noted

Natural landscape
Residents have maintained various channel/ditch/ or gully draining water away from property.

Immediately upstream and downstream and some way beyond the Blind Lane location the stream channel and its flood plain does not appear to have had maintenance of any kind for a long time. It is evident that banks are overgrown; the stream channels are choked with weed, vegetation, tree branches, and other debris.

Possible Solutions

Natural Landscape
Continue to be vigilant with maintenance in keeping drainage channels free of blockage.

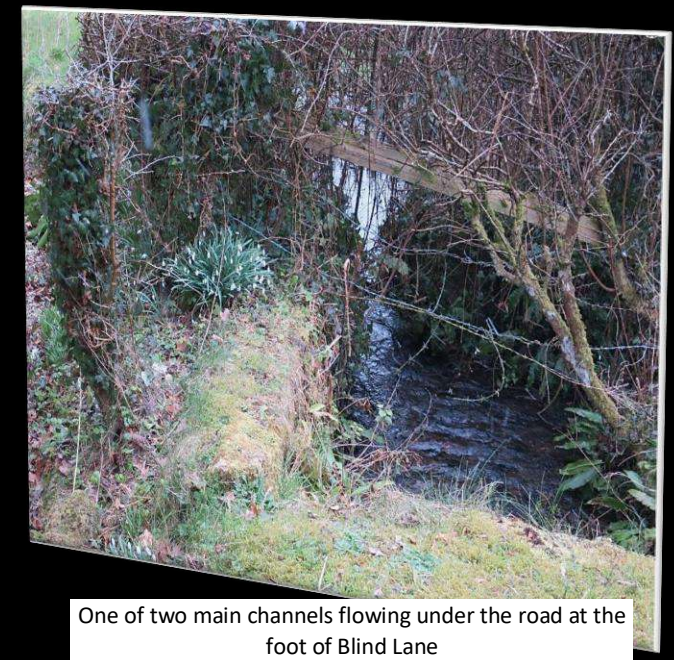
Where possible, clear stream of unwanted vegetation, tree branches, invasive weed and debris to allow channel to flow

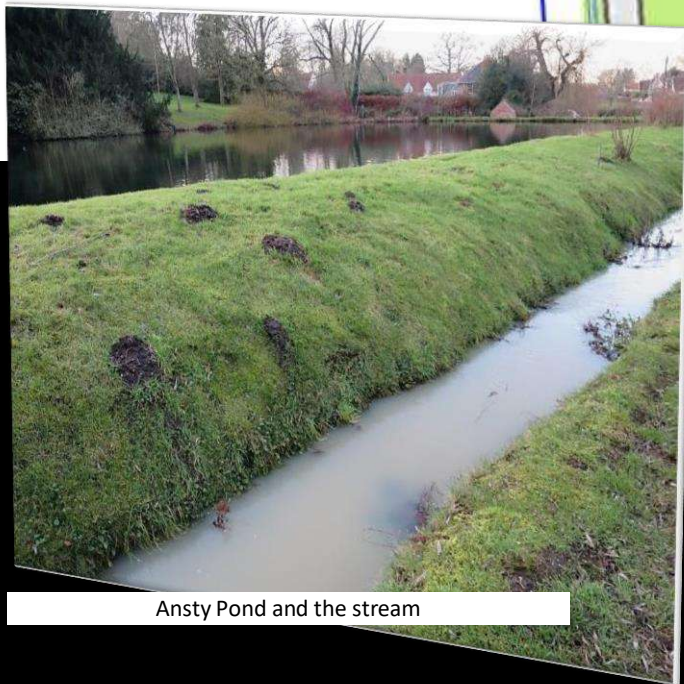
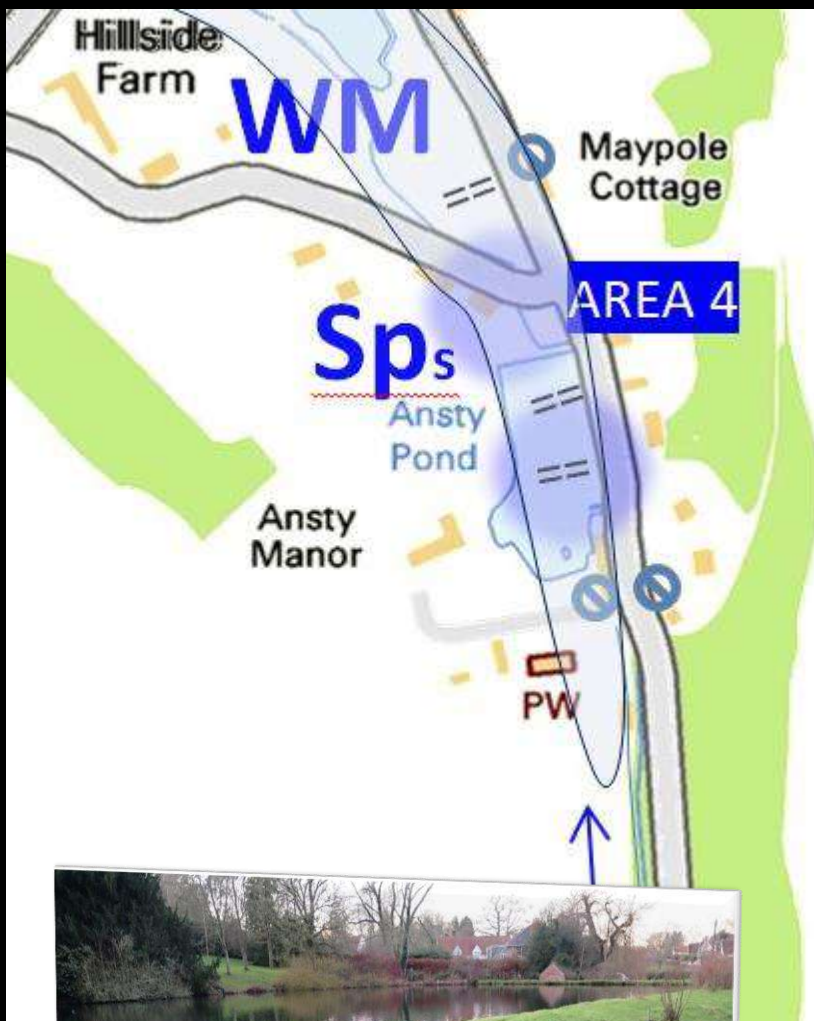
Comments/Issues noted

Built infrastructure
Drains and ditches appeared to be reasonably well maintained

Possible Solutions

Built infrastructure
Ensure roadside ditches and gullies clear of blockages caused by mud, hedge cutting and other debris





Ansty Pond and the stream

AREA 4

Description

This area represents the heart of historical Ansty going back to Saxon and Medieval Times. The early site of the manorial village with its church and maypole was located on or almost on the stream course.

Ansty Pond is a delightful 13th century fish pond built by the medieval Knights Hospitaller. It is fed by several springs (emanating below the manor house). There is an ancient constructed retaining earth bank on the eastern side of the pond. This means the actual pond surface is a few feet higher than the surrounding area, so it needs to retain its integrity. The pond needs to be maintained on a regular basis.

The main Ansty stream also links with the pond as it flows north, bypassing the retaining bank, running along the western edge of the High Street, with all courses running out via a bridge culvert at the end of Ansty Coombe Lane. In early days there was probably a ford here.

Various sources indicate there was once a mill at the northern end of the pond and later a water pump – and sluice gates because of the head of water the pond affords. The Ansty stream can rise quickly and flow as a rapid torrent if the area is already saturated by groundwater and there are spells of heavy prolonged rain.

The surrounding area to the north and east of the pond is low lying and includes part of the High Street and the maypole junction which could potentially flood.

Properties are deemed to be at no risk by the Environmental Agency.

The Ansty stream channel, parts of the High street and Ansty Pond have a 3.3% chance of flooding; elsewhere between 0.1 and 1% (low risk) EA

Comments/Issues noted

Natural landscape

Channel appears to contain evidence of some vegetation and debris that may cause channel flow impediment at some stage.

Pond bank appears to be in satisfactory repair but there seems to be one or two locations where the bank has partially collapsed (locally) allowing water to seep out

Possible Solutions

Natural Landscape

Ensure stream channel flowing alongside Ansty Pond is free of weed and debris

Past evidence suggests that the medieval pond bank needs regular checking and possible maintenance to ensure it retains its integrity.

Comments/Issues noted

Built infrastructure

Not able to assess condition of under road culvert

All drains and small dug out ditch gullies seem to be working properly

Possible Solutions

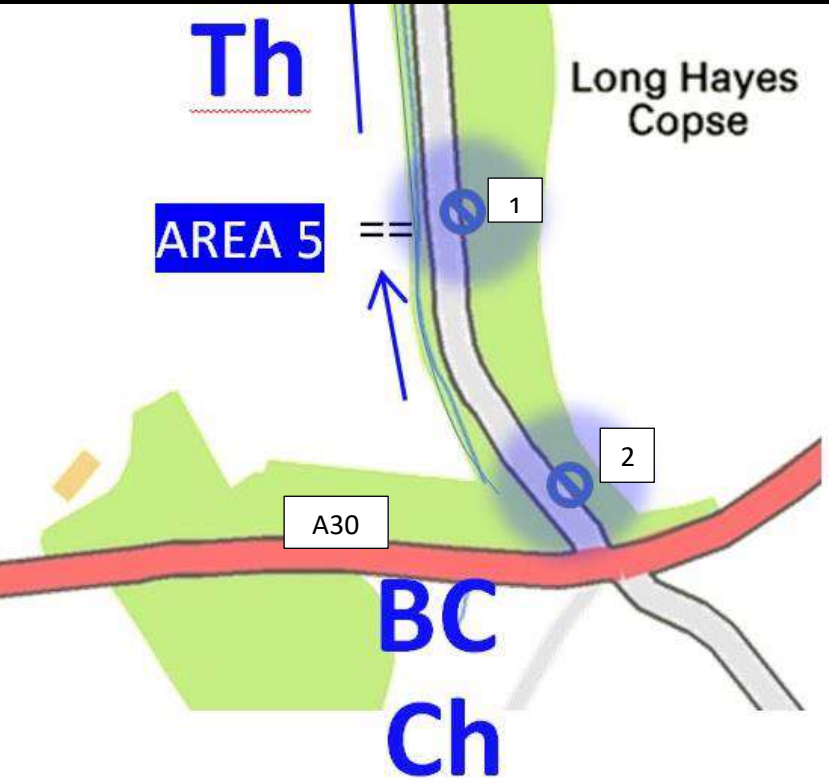
Built infrastructure

Ensure all culvert entrances and exits near Commandery and Ansty Coombe/Maypole junction is clear of any debris likely to impede water flow

Ensure drain gratings and chambers are clear of debris; Ensure gullies are always cleared of general debris



The Ansty stream on its way to the culvert which passes under Ansty Coombe Lane, near the Maypole



AREA 5

Description

- Area 5 is much closer to the source of the Ansty stream. After a very wet winter the stream source might be found as far back along the Denmead Copses valley (past Copse side right back to Shave Lane). After a dry summer the stream source will be almost adjacent to where the church is!
- Here the Ansty High Street rises well above the stream channel and flooding from the stream is unlikely to affect any property or part of the infrastructure.
- What does regularly flood though (and is marked tentatively on the EA map) is the eastern edge of the road around two drains (1 & 2). There is also a dug out gully draining the road surface the opposite side of the road to the more northern drain (1)

Comments/Issues noted

Natural landscape

Some silting and miscellaneous debris evident in stream

Possible Solutions

Natural Landscape

Ensure stream channel is free running

Comments/Issues noted

Built infrastructure

Drains 1 and 2 often blocked by leaves and/or silt blocking the grating and debris sludge in drain chamber below the grating. Drain 1 is especially prone to flooding stretching half way across the road

Possible Solutions

Built infrastructure

Ensure drain grating and chamber below regularly cleared on a proactive basis rather than a reactive one!

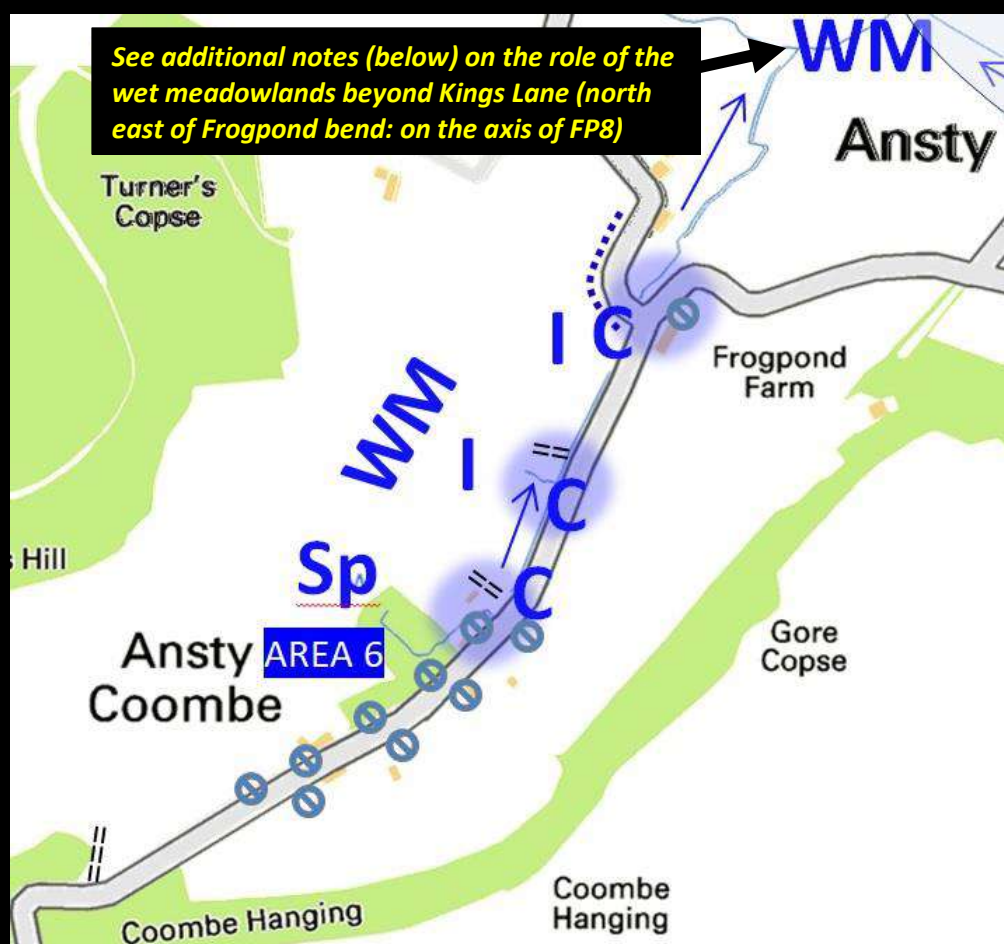


Ansty stream emerges from a culvert near Ansty Hollow



Ansty stream flowing past what was once the heart of medieval Ansty

See additional notes (below) on the role of the wet meadowlands beyond Kings Lane (north east of Frogpond bend: on the axis of FP8)



AREA 6

Description

Ansty Coombe is not in a designated flood zone but nevertheless there is a flooding potential probably greater than any area along Ansty High Street. Indeed it has flooded well within living memory (mid 1980s) and Council highway engineers did install several features to try to alleviate this potential. This included at least 10 chambered drains; reinforcing the stream bank in the lower Coombe; installing many kerb gullies (with inspection chambers) and one large drain along Frogpond Bend. There is stream that rises from at least 5 permanent springs in a copse between properties 'The Hundred' and No 99 Ansty Coombe Lane.

These springs never dry out. This location is where the gently dipping greensand meets the gault clay – hence the spring line. The stream makes its way through the gardens of 2 properties and then becomes a roadside stream passing through a couple of short culverts almost as far as Frogpond (Farm) bend before entering a longer culvert which goes under Kings Lane (near the junction with the Coombe Lane opposite Frogpond Fm. Several short springs (issues) enter the roadside stream. All of this water exits the Kings Lane culvert and flows into a series of small wetland meadow fields eventually joining the Ansty stream. There used to be a pond here at one time.

At the top of the Coombe lane below Coombe Hanging there is a dug out earth ditch. In storms of heavy rain or during wet periods when the ground all around is waterlogged, even light to moderate rain water cascades from the upper lane down into the ditch and dissipates on to the upper coombe wet meadows. If this ditch ever blocks it causes immense surface flood problems all the way down the lane. To compound the problem this upper area is subject to minor landslips washing greensand silt down the lane.

The pretty sunken lane is lined by trees in the upper part and overgrown hedges in the lower lane which leads to considerable leaf fall. Unless cleared the leaves (and silt) finishes up in the stream and blocks drains – all 10 of them. Hedge cuttings via contractors dumped in stream does the same. Tractors and large vehicles sometimes damage the unstable sunken banks on either the side of the road adding to the malaise and causing dangerously slippery conditions on the steep upper sections of the lane especially when wet.

Comments/ Issues noted	Possible Solutions	Comments/Issues noted	Possible Solutions
High banks subject to landslip (upper Coombe lane)	Be aware: mud and debris on road leads to blockage and slippery conditions when wet. Accidents have happened. Ensure signs go up and when possible clear road surface of mud	During Autumn the stream often becomes badly blocked with leaves, branches and vegetation	Trim back decaying bank vegetation and clear stream of debris proactively.
Dug out earth ditch (upper Coombe Lane) easily blocked (below Coombe Hanging)	Clean out regularly throughout autumn and winter	All culvert entrances easily blocked by debris, falling leaves; hedge cuttings etc.	Keep culvert entrances free of blocking debris by hooking out and depositing elsewhere safely
Blocked issues flowing into roadside stream has created a bog thicket and impedes drainage where it matters on Frogpond bend	Some attention needs to be paid to improving drainage back to how it was many years ago.	Kings Lane Culvert needs frequent clearing and 'rodding'. It is no longer fit for purpose and the entrance is a frequent flood point	Keep entrance clear of gathering debris; clear culvert length of debris (very difficult since it is broken and full of silt)
		Frogpond bend kerb gullies are inefficient or blocked; the main drain is frequently blocked with leaves and debris. Constant flooding; freeze thaw etc. has degraded road surface on bend	Hook out silt and debris from kerb cully holes; clear inspection chambers (they are not visible) Ensure main drain chamber is cleaned out. This is a difficult area to drain. It is not called Frog'pond' for nothing!
		All drains easily blocked by leaves; some drain chambers choked up with silt	Keep all gratings free of leaves/debris/silt in chambers. Difficult when road sweeping is no longer an option!
		Road side ditches (such as they are) badly degraded	Clear them out



Landslip, Ansty Coombe Lane



Flood, Frogpond Bend 2014



Blocked culvert Ansty Coombe



Blocked drain on the lane

Additional Notes (AREA 6) (below)

Stream from Ansty Coombe spring enters the wetland meadow landscape (WM) at Frogpond bend. Here it is joined by other small spring fed tributaries and makes its way down to Ansty (seen in the distance) to swell further tributaries flowing north on their way to the Nadder river at Tisbury.

A small flood plain has developed in this field. Over the years a wetter climate trend coupled with limited grazing, poor ditch and stream management has led to the stream bed slowly silting up and the growth of wetland grasses including sedge (soft rush) and fool's water-cress *apium nodiflorum* in and on the stream margins. This has resulted in an increased bog area which has become quite deep and difficult to cross via the local public right of way (FP8).

The good news is that a) this boggy area has now become a natural water flow regulator and in very wet periods may well protect other lower lying areas in Ansty village and beyond from flooding; b) the area is a mecca for native wildlife and c) it forms part of a charming walk that links up the local trails to Old Wardour Castle and beyond – when you can get across! In August 2018 a new footbridge and boardwalk access was installed to improve access.



Wet meadowland NE of Frogpond Bend



Roadside stream kept clear and free running by local parishioner after Wiltshire went unitary.



Bog thicket, Ansty Coombe Lane



Partially blocked/damaged culvert Ansty Coombe Lane



Blocked issues, Ansty Coombe Lane



Another Blocked issue, Ansty Coombe Lane

A decade of wet winters (up to 2016, higher humidity and some wet summers too); a complete neglect of the surrounding private field ditches and hedgerows and a complete lack of road sweeping and common-sense maintenance of the road side stream since 2009 (due to county budgetary cuts and countless changes of operational procedures) has led to several potentially serious flooding issues around Frogpond Bend. The lane surface had deteriorated so badly that it was completely resurfaced in 2014 as far as Frogpond Bend – and an excellent job was done too. However the stream and its culverts has been kept clear and tidy by a local parishioner for over nine years and much debris is shovelled off the a large part of the lane every autumn and winter because nobody else does it.

living on the edge



A guide to your rights
and responsibilities of
riverside ownership

We are the Environment Agency. It's our job to look after your environment and make it a **better place** – for you, and for future generations.

Your environment is the air you breathe, the water you drink and the ground you walk on. Working with business, Government and society as a whole, we are making your environment cleaner and healthier.

The Environment Agency. Out there, making your environment a better place.

Please be aware that the text under the heading Navigation on page 27 of the digital PDF copy of this booklet does not match the hard copy (version 4). The text has been amended and this update will be included within the printed version when the next edition is released.

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Watercourses enhance our lives in so many ways and yet they can also pose a threat when in flood. They need to be respected, protected and improved for our benefit and for future generations. That is why there is a significant amount of legal safeguards that we all need to comply with.



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1 Introduction

If you own land or property next to a river, stream or ditch you are a 'riparian landowner' and this guide is for you. It has been updated with new information on who to contact for guidance on watercourses.

Your rights as a riparian landowner have been established in common law for many years, but they may be affected by other laws. You may need permission for some activities from a third party, such as your local authority (unitary, county or district council), Internal Drainage Board or the Environment Agency. These organisations are known as risk management authorities, and their role is described in Appendices 1 and 2.



This guide explains:

- your rights and responsibilities as a riparian landowner. It also explains the roles of your risk management authority and other organisations you may need to work with.
- who is responsible for flood risk management and flood defences, and what that means in practice.
- how you can work with your risk management authority and other organisations to protect and improve the natural environment of our rivers and streams.

Your risk management authority has powers and responsibilities to manage flood risk and work with others to improve the river environment in England and Wales.

A watercourse is any natural or artificial channel above or below ground through which water flows, such as a river, brook, beck, ditch, mill stream or culvert.

Your risk management authority can give you advice and guidance on managing your watercourse. However, depending on the situation, they will not approve or consent to work that would harm the environment or increase flood risk, even if the works are structurally sound. They will discourage culverting, diverting or channelling watercourses and building into watercourses, known as encroachment. They will promote 'soft engineering' methods to control erosion (see section 12).

If you are not sure who to contact please visit the Environment Agency website: www.environment-agency.gov.uk or call 03708 506 506.

For help and information during a flood call Floodline on 0845 988 1188.

2 Your rights and responsibilities

If you own land adjoining, above or with a watercourse running through it, you have certain rights and responsibilities. In legal terms you are a 'riparian owner'. If you rent the land, you should agree with the owner who will manage these rights and responsibilities.





Your rights

- If your land boundary is next to a watercourse it is assumed you own the land up to the centre of the watercourse, unless it is owned by someone else.
 - If a watercourse runs alongside your garden wall or hedge you should check your property deeds to see if the wall or hedge marks your boundary. If the watercourse marks the boundary, it is assumed you own the land up to the centre of the watercourse.
 - If you own land with a watercourse running through or underneath it, it is assumed you own the stretch of watercourse that runs through your land.
 - Occasionally a watercourse, especially an artificial one, will be the responsibility of a third party. This should be noted in your deeds.
 - Water should flow onto or under your land in its natural quantity and quality. This means that water should not be taken out of a watercourse if it could lead to a lack of water for those who need it downstream. It also means that a person cannot carry out activities that could lead to pollution of the water and therefore reduce the natural water quality within a watercourse. More information on the permissions required to abstract water from a watercourse (section 7) and what to do if you spot pollution in your local watercourse is included in this booklet.
 - You have the right to protect your property from flooding, and your land from erosion. However, you must get your plans agreed with the risk management authority before you start work (see section 5).
 - You usually have the right to fish in your watercourse using a legal method. Anyone aged 12 or over must have a valid Environment Agency rod licence. It is important to check what your rights are, because fishing rights can be sold or leased.
- These rights are affected by your duty to other riparian landowners, the community and the environment.

Your responsibilities

- You must let water flow through your land without any obstruction, pollution or diversion which affects the rights of others. Others also have the right to receive water in its natural quantity and quality as explained in the Your Rights Section. You should be aware that all riparian owners have the same rights and responsibilities.
- You must accept flood flows through your land, even if these are caused by inadequate capacity downstream. A landowner has no duty in common law to improve the drainage capacity of a watercourse he/she owns.
- You should keep the banks clear of anything that could cause an obstruction and increase flood risk, either on your land or downstream if it is washed away. You are responsible for maintaining the bed and banks of the watercourse and the trees and shrubs growing on the banks. You should also clear any litter and animal carcasses from the channel and banks, even if they did not come from your land. You may need your risk management authority's consent for these works (see section 5). Your local authority can advise you on the removal of animal carcasses.
- You should always leave a development-free edge on the banks next to a watercourse. This allows for easy access to the watercourse in case any maintenance or inspection is required. In some areas local byelaws exist which explain what you can and cannot do within certain distances of a watercourse. For more information on works near watercourses you should contact your risk management authority.
- You must keep any structures, such as culverts, trash screens, weirs and mill gates, clear of debris. Discuss the maintenance of flood defences, such as walls and embankments, on your property with your risk management authority. They may be vital for flood protection.
- You should not cause obstructions, temporary or permanent, that would stop fish passing through.
- You have a legal obligation to notify the Environment Agency and the relevant risk management authority if you would like to build or alter a structure that acts as an obstruction to a watercourse. Under the Eel Regulations in some cases it may be an offence if you do not notify the Environment Agency of the above.

- Please help to protect water quality. Do not use riverbanks to dispose of garden or other waste, where it could be washed into the river. This includes grass cuttings, which pollute the water.
- You are responsible for protecting your property from water that seeps through natural or artificial banks. Where this damages a flood defence, your risk management authority may require you to pay for repairs.
- You must control invasive alien species such as Japanese knotweed. Your local risk management authority can advise you on how to manage and control these species.
- Make sure any work you do on a watercourse fits with the natural river system. Work must not damage wildlife and wherever possible you should try and improve the habitat. Speak to the relevant risk management authority about wildlife and nature conservation.

If you are not sure what you have to do and/or are new to living near a watercourse, ask your risk management authority for advice.

Your property may include a watercourse that runs in a culvert. You have the same responsibilities for the upkeep of the culvert as if it was an open watercourse.

If you do not carry out your responsibilities, you could face legal action.

If you see any activity that could damage the environment or increase flood risk, please report it to your risk management authority as soon as possible. Water and land pollution or blockages which increase the risk of flooding should be reported to the Environment Agency [incident hotline](#) on **0800 80 70 60** (Freephone*, 24 hour service). Do not report incidents by email as this could delay the response.

*Calls from mobile phones are charged at your network operator's rates.

3 Flood risk management

As a riparian owner you also have a responsibility to manage your own flood risk.

More than two million properties in England and Wales are at risk from flooding from rivers and the sea. Changes in our climate, resulting in fiercer storms and wetter winters, will increase that risk. It will never be possible to prevent flooding but we can all manage flood risk to reduce the likelihood of flooding and its impact.

The term 'flood risk management' is used to describe the work of risk management authorities such as the Environment Agency, local authorities and Internal Drainage Boards. They aim to reduce the likelihood of flooding by:

- managing flood risk from all sources including river and coastal systems, surface runoff and ground water;

- constructing and managing defences, where appropriate;
- maintaining watercourses and flood defences, where appropriate.

They work together to reduce the impact of floods through:

- influencing land use planning, what is built and where;
- regulating works carried out in rivers;
- better flood warning;
- faster emergency responses.

There is more information about what the Environment Agency, local authorities and Internal Drainage Boards do in Appendices 1 and 2.



IMPORTANT NOTE

Your risk management authority can designate a feature on your land as a flood risk management asset. Features and structures such as garden walls that were not designed to manage flood risk can still help to do that job.

They will give you at least 28 days notice if they decide to do this. They will also give you details of the feature and explain why they want to designate it. You have a right to challenge any designation if you do not agree with what is proposed.

Features and structures that have been designated as an asset cannot be altered, removed or replaced without the consent of the responsible authority.

For further information and guidance please contact your risk management authority.

Flood and coastal erosion risk management plans look at flood risk on a large scale. This allows risk management authorities to examine whether reducing risk in one area might change, or even increase, the risk elsewhere.

During a flood, your local authority provides emergency aid to householders, which may include supplying sandbags. Please contact your local authority for further information on its role during a flood.



4 Understanding flood risk



Floodwater can come from overland flow, groundwater, rivers and the sea. Land and property near watercourses and the sea could be at risk from flooding. The Environment Agency can tell you about that risk, how flood warnings are issued, and what to do when there is a flood.

The Environment Agency's maps show the extent of flooding from rivers and the sea in England and Wales. They are available from Environment Agency local offices or online at www.environment-agency.gov.uk/maps. The maps also show flood defences and the areas they protect.

the Environment Agency website at www.environment-agency.gov.uk/homeandleisure/floods. Your risk management authority and the National Flood Forum (floodforum.org.uk) are also good sources of information and help.

You should also telephone the Environment Agency's Floodline on 0845 988 1188 for local flood risk information and to find out if you can receive free flood warnings. For further information on flooding and advice on how to prepare for a flood, how to reduce the impact of flooding and what to do when it floods, visit

RIVERS CAN BE DANGEROUS

Water may look harmless, but it can hide strong flows. Water can be deep and powerful, especially near weirs and sluices. Always be aware of the risk of possible injury or even death when around water.

5 Flood defence/ ordinary watercourse consents

You should discuss your plans to work on or near a watercourse with your risk management authority as early as possible. Submit your plans both to the risk management authority and to your local planning authority. The risk management authority will tell you whether you need its consent before doing the works. It takes many environmental factors into account before authorising work. These include flood risk, wildlife conservation, fisheries, tidal limits and the reshaping of the river and landscape.



Flood defence/ordinary watercourse consents

Some sites are important for conservation or have archaeological value. If your work would affect one of these sites, you may need other permissions from the relevant English or Welsh authorities (see section 14 The role of other organisations).

The type of consent you need will depend on the type of watercourse you want to work in.

1. Flood Defence Consents for works on main rivers

The Water Resources Act 1991 and associated byelaws require you to contact your local Environment Agency office to apply for formal consent for works in, over, under or adjacent to main rivers. Main rivers are defined in section 15 below

The current application fee is £50 per structure.

2. Flood Defence (in England) / Ordinary Watercourse (in Wales) Consents for works on ordinary watercourses

Under the Land Drainage Act 1991, you need your local authority or Internal Drainage Board to approve

any works that will create or alter a mill dam, weir or other similar obstruction to the flow of an ordinary watercourse, including any proposals to install culverts or alter them in a manner that would be likely to affect the flow of water. Ordinary watercourses are defined in section 15 below.

The current application fee is £50 per structure.

Risk management authorities discourage culverts in watercourses (see section 9).

Contact your risk management authority as soon as possible to discuss your plans. It will need to see detailed proposals for the work and receive your consent application, including the fee, at least two months before you intend to start work.

When applying for consent, you may need to complete a Water Framework Directive compliance assessment. This is to ensure your proposal does not harm the environment and helps to deliver the actions set out in your local River Basin Management Plan. Water Framework Directive compliance assessments can be time consuming. Please contact your risk management authority at an early stage to find out if they need an

assessment, and agree its scope. This avoids delays and wasted effort. Once preliminary details have been agreed, you can complete the application form and return it to the authority with the appropriate fee.

The risk management authority will decide whether or not they agree to the works within two months. You can appeal against the decision if you think consent has been refused unreasonably. You will be told more about the appeals procedure if the authority decides to refuse consent. An independent arbitrator will hear the appeal.

You must not do any work without consent. If you do, it could be expensive. The risk management authority can reclaim from you the cost of whatever action they decide is necessary to remove or alter your work. They can also require you to put things right. If you fail to comply with a notice to rectify problems you may face criminal charges.

A consent only covers the impact of the structure on flood risk and the environment:

The risk management authority does not assess or approve the design of a structure or check whether your plan complies with other legislation, such

as health and safety. It does not allow you to carry out works on land or rivers that you do not own. You must have the landowner's permission as well as the consent.

If you are a landowner affected by flooding, you may benefit from an environmental stewardship scheme that focuses on the coast or floodplain, or the equivalent scheme in Wales, which is known as Glastir. The relevant authority can give you advice; Natural England (www.naturalengland.org.uk) or, in Wales the Welsh Government (<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/environmentcountryside/farmingandcountryside/farming/glastirhome/?lang=en>).

You may also be able to apply to a conservation scheme for the restoration of, or creation of, features in a watercourse or on the floodplain. You will still require consent for any works and may have to show this consent before a conservation scheme can be agreed. Contact the funding organisation and the risk management authority's local office before you make a funding application to avoid delays.

6 Planning permission

Works on a watercourse may require planning permission, as well as flood defence or ordinary watercourse consent. Your local planning authority can advise whether your proposed works will require planning permission, and possibly a flood risk/flood consequence assessment to support your application.

Your local planning authority may require you to provide an Environmental Statement if your proposed works on a watercourse or lake could have a significant environmental impact. Contact your local planning authority for more information.

The Environment Agency is a statutory consultee on planning applications that relate to the environmental matters they are responsible for, including protecting floodplains from inappropriate development. Local Environment Agency staff can advise you on development issues in the floodplain. The Environment Agency comments on planning policies and applications to local planning authorities. But it is the local planning authority that makes these policies and approves these applications.

For details of government policy on development and flood risk, see:

- The National Planning Policy Framework and associated technical guide. This sets out the Government's requirements for the Town and Country planning system in England.
- Technical Advice Note 15, published by the Welsh Government in Wales.

These publications and other information are available for England from the Department of Communities and Local Government website <http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/nppf> and for Wales at the Welsh Government website <http://wales.gov.uk/topics/planning/policy/tans/tan15/?lang=en>.

7 Other consents and licences



You may need the Environment Agency's permission for other activities which affect the water environment.

Water resources

You may need a licence from the Environment Agency to abstract water from or impound water on a watercourse. They will ensure that:

- your proposals will not harm the environment;
- existing abstraction rights are protected;
- water resources are managed in the best interests of the environment and other lawful users.

You will almost certainly need an abstraction licence if you want to:

- remove or abstract water from a surface source such as a river, stream or canal; and
- take more than 20 cubic metres (approximately 4,400 gallons) a day.

Contact your local Environment Agency office if you want to abstract water. The Environment Agency guide

Abstracting water - a guide to getting your licence is available at: <http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/topics/water/32020.aspx>

Hydropower (or hydroelectric power) schemes harness the energy from flowing water to generate electricity, using a turbine or other device. There are various permissions required if you would like to set up a hydropower scheme. For more information please call the Environment Agency or visit their website at <http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/topics/water/32022.aspx>.

Water abstraction is a cross compliance standard. Cross Compliance is the set of conditions which have to be met by farmers who claim payments under the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) (such as the Single Payment Scheme). These

Other consents and licences

conditions cover public, animal and plant health, animal welfare, the environment and landscape features. If you are a farmer and do not meet these rules it may result in reductions to your Single Farm Payment or other scheme payments. See section 13 for further information on Cross Compliance Standards and the Single Payment Scheme.

Water discharge activities/ groundwater activities

You may require an environmental permit or exemption or a consent from your Internal Drainage Board (definition in section 15) if you want to release or discharge any water or trade or sewage effluent to 'controlled waters'. Controlled waters include main rivers, ordinary watercourses, some lakes and ponds, canals, reservoirs and underground sources.

If the water is clean surface runoff, for example, from a roof, road, pathway or clean hard standing area, you do not need a permit or exemption. You just need to make sure your discharge stays clean and uncontaminated.

You may also need separate flood defence or ordinary watercourse consent from your local risk

management authority if you are building a structure such as a headwall for discharges. The Environment Agency uses the consents system to protect water quality and its environmental value. They set water quality objectives and make sure discharges comply with European Directive standards.

For more information on environmental permits visit the Environment Agency website at <http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/topics/water>.

Fisheries

The Environment Agency has a duty to maintain, improve and develop fisheries. It assesses stock, improves habitat and restocks rivers. It grants and regulates licences to introduce and remove fish, as well as issuing rod licences and commercial eel and salmon licences. The Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act 1975, the Salmon Act 1986, and various byelaws cover this work.

The Environment Agency regulates structures, sluices and dams that stop freshwater fish, salmon, trout and eels moving along the river.

If you want to build a new structure or alter or refurbish an existing one on a river on your land, you may need to install a fish pass or screen in accordance with the Salmon and Fresh Water Fisheries Act 1975, or an eel pass or screen in accordance with the Eels (England and Wales) Regulations 2009 Statutory Instrument No. 3344.

Over the coming years, the Environment Agency will be informing land owners if they will need to install an eel pass or screen on their existing structures. If you intend to build, modify or maintain an existing structure you are legally obliged to inform the Environment Agency. Contact the fisheries and biodiversity team at your local Environment Agency office for more information.

You must have an Environment Agency rod licence if you are fishing for salmon, trout, freshwater fish or eels in:

- England (except the River Tweed);
- Wales;
- the Border Esk and its tributaries in Scotland.

Money from licence sales funds fisheries management. If you fish without a licence, you could be fined up to £2,500.

Recreation and navigation

The Environment Agency has a duty to encourage the appropriate recreational use of watercourses.

On some rivers they are also responsible for navigation. In this role the Environment Agency may require special licensing or place restrictions on plans for the bed or banks of a river. These requirements may affect proposals for mooring and landing facilities and you may also need a boat licence.

Right of entry

Your risk management authority may need to come onto your land to carry out flood risk management work. Risk management authorities try to make sure that they always have access to riverbanks, so that they can carry out essential maintenance and other work quickly and safely.

They have statutory powers of entry so that they can do their job properly and without delay. Whenever possible they will co-operate with you, but they can obtain a warrant from the courts if you refuse them entry to your land. All risk management authority staff carry identity cards.

8 Water Framework Directive



Like riparian land owners, all risk management authorities must consider the Water Framework Directive when they plan works on a watercourse.

The Water Framework Directive is a European law, which provides a framework for the protection of the water environment (including rivers, lakes, estuaries and other watercourses). It aims to:

- protect and enhance our water environment;
- promote sustainable water consumption;
- reduce water pollution;
- lessen the effects of floods and droughts.

The Water Framework Directive is being applied in England and Wales using River Basin Management Plans. When the Environment Agency does flood risk management works, it assesses whether its proposals could damage the river. If this is the case,

it must complete a Water Framework Directive compliance assessment.

It must make sure that the proposal does not cause environmental harm, and helps to deliver the actions set out in the local River Basin Management Plan. This also applies to any person who would like to carry out works affecting a watercourse.

Under the Water Framework Directive, a riparian owner who harms a watercourse may be required to put it right.

For more information on how the Water Framework Directive affects you, please visit the Environment Agency website www.environment-agency.gov.uk/wfd.

9 Culverts

A culvert is a watercourse that has been enclosed in a structure such as a pipe.

This is usually done so that the land above the watercourse can be used for other things, for example a driveway or school playground. Culverts do not include sewers. The legal definition of a culvert is set out in the explanation of terms in section 15.

Risk management authorities discourage the construction of new culverts because they increase flood risk and damage the environment. They are likely to only allow a culvert to be built if there is no alternative. If you want to build a new culvert or alter an existing one, your local risk management authority must consent to the works. Please contact them for more information.

If there is a culvert on your land, you generally own it from where it enters to the point it leaves your land. You are responsible for maintaining culverts on your land. Culverts can

CULVERTS CAN BE DANGEROUS

You risk injury, drowning or becoming trapped by going into a culvert. Culverts are confined spaces that can contain noxious gases. Only trained, properly equipped people should go inside them.

collapse and cause the ground above to subside if they are not maintained properly. Water cannot flow through blocked culverts, and may back up and cause flooding above ground.

It is not always easy to find culverts, especially if they were built a long time ago. Maps and records may not be accurate or could have been lost or never made in the first place. If you think you have a culvert on your land, but do not know where it is or are worried about its condition, you should arrange for a professional company to do a survey. Your risk management authority also has some information on culverts.

It is your responsibility to let water flow through your land without obstruction, pollution or diversion affecting the rights of others. This means you must clear a blocked culvert on your land or under your property.

10 Mills and weirs



A river control structure affects river levels and flow, for example a mill dam or weir. If you own one you are legally obliged to maintain and operate the structure properly.

You must also fulfil your land drainage byelaw obligations which are explained in Appendices 1 and 2. If anyone suffers loss or damage because you have changed or neglected your structure they can take civil action against you. You must:

- keep gates and screens clear of obstructions so that they work properly.
- obtain an abstraction licence if you intend to take water from the river. See section 7 for more details.
- contact your risk management authority if you want to build a weir, sluice gate or other control structure, or if you would like to modify an existing structure. You may need their consent, and possibly an impounding licence from the Environment Agency. Impoundment licenses are needed when you want to dam a watercourse or build a weir. Risk management authorities

discourage these obstructions being built because of their environmental impacts.

You may also be required to include a fish pass or screen when a river control structure is built, rebuilt or refurbished to any extent.

You can discuss the maintenance and operation of river control structures with your risk management authority. If you are buying a property with a river control structure, contact them to introduce yourself. If your structure is on a main river your risk management authority will be the Environment Agency and if your structure is on an ordinary watercourse it will be either your local authority or Internal Drainage Board. More information on these risk management authorities is available in appendices 1 and 2. You can find out what you need to know, how you can work with them and what problems may arise.

11 Tidal watercourses

The tide can affect rivers that flow into the sea for large distances inland.

If the watercourse on your land is affected by the tide, your land is downstream of the tidal limit. In this case, you may require a marine licence from the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) in England and the Marine Consent Unit (MCU) in the Welsh Government before doing some types of work. This licence is in addition to the flood defence consent described in section 5.

The Environment Agency can waive a flood defence consent if satisfied that a marine licence adequately addresses flood risk management issues. Please contact the Environment Agency and MMO or MCU to discuss this further.

Please contact your risk management authority and the MMO or MCU as soon as possible if you are planning works in a tidal watercourse. They will tell you which licences you need.

For further information on marine licensing in England visit the MMO website
www.marinemanagement.org.uk.

For further information on marine licensing in Wales visit the Welsh Government website
<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/environmentcountryside/consmanagement/marinefisheries/licencing/?lang=en>

12 Erosion of river banks

Moving water naturally wears away riverbanks causing erosion. Narrowing the river channel, reinforcing the banks in the wrong place and overgrazing the banks can cause more erosion.

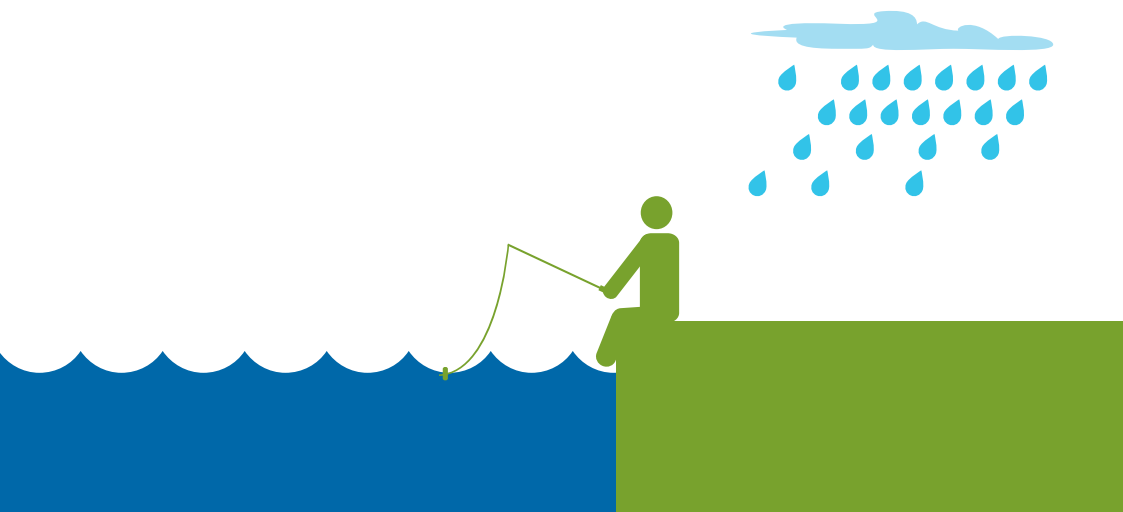
The landowner is usually responsible for work to reduce bank erosion. Risk management authorities usually only get involved where natural erosion threatens a flood defence. The local risk management authority will probably need to agree to any bank protection work. They will encourage you to use soft engineering techniques, where possible. This means using natural materials such as woven willow spiling or planting to limit erosion, rather than blockstone or steel sheet piles.



13 Land management

Farmers should use techniques to prevent rainwater from carrying off topsoil into the watercourse and leading to a potential pollution incident. This runoff damages the land and the ecology, quality and capacity of the river channel. Allowing runoff may constitute a criminal offence. If you are a farmer, this could threaten your Single Farm Payment.

Soil protection is a cross compliance standard and all claimants are required to complete and retain on farm a Soil Protection Review (SPR) 2010, which is defined in section 15.



Land management

You can find information about preventing soil erosion and runoff in the following publications:

- The Environment Agency booklet, Best farming practice: profiting from a good environment (2003); Soil Protection Review 2010 at www.rpa.defra.gov.uk/crosscompliance/farmerguidance;
- the Defra booklet Single Payment Scheme. Cross Compliance. Guidance for Soil Management (2010): www.rpa.defra.gov.uk/crosscompliance/farmerguidance
- Think Soils Publication, which gives soil assessment guidance with the aim of avoiding runoff and erosion: <http://adlib.eversite.co.uk/adlib/defra/content.aspx?doc=263232&id=263233>
- Welsh Government cross compliance self assessment guidance: <http://wales.gov.uk/topics/environmentcountryside/farmingconnect/farmadvisoryservice/crosscomplianceselfassessment/ccselfassessmentguidance/?lang=en>

If you live in England you could receive money under the Environmental Stewardship scheme to help improve your management practices. Visit the Environment Agency web site <http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/sectors/32763.aspx> for more information.

If you live in Wales you could receive money under Glastir which pays for the delivery of specific environmental goods and services aimed at combating climate change, improving water management and maintaining and enhancing biodiversity. Visit the Welsh Government website for more information

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/environmentcountryside/farmingandcountryside/farming/glastirhome/?lang=en>

For more information on pollution prevention, please see the Environment Agency's pollution prevention guidance advice, which is available on their website or from their local office.

Cross compliance and Single Payment Scheme

If you claim the Single Payment Scheme or certain Rural Development Scheme payments, such as Environmental Stewardship, then cross compliance rules will apply to you. Cross compliance includes a set of specific European legal requirements, known as Statutory Management Requirements (SMRs) and standards, based on a legal Framework, which require you to keep your land in Good Agricultural and Environmental Condition (GAEC). Several of these SMRs and GAECs are directly applicable to protecting watercourses and also cover the land around watercourses.

The Guide to Cross Compliance in England 2012 edition outlines the rules you must follow and you should read this carefully if you claim, or intend to claim, any of these payments. If you fail to meet these rules then the Rural Payments Agency (RPA) may reduce your payments. Information on cross compliance, including all guidance documents, can be found on the RPA website at www.rpa.defra.gov.uk/crosscompliance.

If you need technical advice or assistance about cross compliance, please phone the Farming Advice Service on 0845 345 1302 (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm) or visit their website at www.defra.gov.uk/farming-advice.

The Welsh Assembly Government has published A Farmer's guide to cross compliance which outlines the regulatory requirement that farmers have to meet in order to receive the Single Payment Scheme and Rural Development area based scheme payments. Failure to meet any of the cross compliance standards could result in a financial penalty being imposed on your Single Farm Payment and Rural Development area based schemes.

Further information on cross compliance for farmers in Wales is available on the Welsh Government website at: <http://wales.gov.uk/topics/environmentcountryside/farmingandcountryside/farming/crosscompliance/?lang=en>

14 The role of other organisations

Archaeology

Your local authority is responsible for making sure that areas of archaeological importance are protected from damage that could be caused by works in or near watercourses. If your proposed works may affect archaeological remains, or if you discover archaeological remains on your land during the works, you should contact your local authority. The local archaeological officer will be able to advise you further.

Nature conservation

You will need permission for works in or near a watercourse from a conservation body as well as the risk management authority if your proposed works:

- are on or may affect a site protected by law, such as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) or Special Area of Conservation; or
- are on a site which supports a legally protected species, such as otters or water voles.

In these circumstances you must contact the relevant conservation body:

- Natural England. Visit www.naturalengland.org.uk;
- Countryside Council for Wales. Visit www.ccw.gov.uk.

Ask your risk management authority for advice if you are not sure who to contact.





Navigation

The tidal reaches of many rivers, where the sea flows in and out of the mouth of the river, have public rights of navigation. Harbour authorities may have some control in these reaches. The Environment Agency has control over navigation for some waterways only, and will not become involved in disputes or give legal advice about navigating any other waterways. Find out which waterways we control. <http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/homeandleisure/recreation/129916.aspx>

Marine Management Organisation (MMO) and Marine Consent Unit (MCU)

If the watercourse running through or alongside your land is affected by the tide, you may require a marine licence

from the MMO in England or MCU in Wales as well as a flood defence or ordinary watercourse consent before doing works. (see section 11) The MMO and MCU are interested in works on tidal watercourses because they affect the marine environment.

Rural Payments Agency/ Rural Payments Wales

The Rural Payments Agency in England and Rural Payments Wales are the paying agencies for Common Agricultural Policy schemes such as the Single Payment Scheme. They are also Competent Control Authorities for cross compliance and carry out inspections to check if claimants are adhering to the cross compliance rules, including those which protect watercourses.

15 Explanation of terms

Main rivers

Main rivers are usually larger streams and rivers, but some of them are smaller watercourses of local significance. In England Defra decides which watercourses are the main rivers, and the Welsh Government does this in Wales.

Main rivers are marked on an official document called the main river map. Environment Agency local offices have copies of these maps.

Main rivers can include any structure that controls or regulates the flow of water in, into or out of the channel.

Ordinary watercourse

An ordinary watercourse is every river, stream, ditch, drain, cut, dyke, sluice, sewer (other than a public sewer) and passage through which water flows, but which does not form part of a main river. The local authority or Internal Drainage Board has powers

on ordinary watercourses similar to the Environment Agency's powers on main rivers.

Lead local flood authority

In England this means—

(a) the unitary authority for the area, or

(b) if there is no unitary authority, the county council for the area.

In Wales this means—

(a) the county council for the area;

(b) the county borough council for the area.

Internal Drainage Board

Internal Drainage Boards (IDBs) are established in areas of special drainage known as drainage districts. Their functions include the supervision of land drainage, water level management and flood risk management works and regulation on ordinary watercourses.



Culvert

A covered channel or pipe designed to prevent the obstruction of a watercourse or drainage path by an artificial construction.

Flood defence

Some legislation still uses the terms 'flood defence' or 'land drainage'. We now refer to these activities as 'flood risk management', but may use the other terms for legal purposes.

Floodplain

A floodplain is an area of land over which river or sea water flows or is stored during a flood. Floodplains usually extend beyond the land immediately next to a watercourse. There is often pressure to build on them. However, buildings or other artificial objects can obstruct floodplains, block the flow of water and make flooding worse.

Groundwater

Groundwater is all water which is below the surface of the ground and in direct contact with the ground or subsoil.

Surface water runoff

Surface water runoff is rainwater, including snow. It is water on the surface of the ground, whether or not it is moving, which has not entered a watercourse, drainage system or public sewer.

Risk management authority

The following risk management authorities have powers over and responsibilities for watercourse management:

- the Environment Agency;
- Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFAs);
- Internal Drainage Boards (IDBs).

Explanation of terms

Water discharge activity

A water discharge activity is the discharge or entry to surface waters which are controlled waters (but not to groundwater) of any poisonous, noxious or polluting matter, waste matter, trade effluent or sewage effluent. It also includes activities that cause deposits to be carried away in water (except for those that relate to land drainage, flood prevention or navigation). Examples are the removal of accumulated deposits from the bottom of a channel caused by a dam holding back waters or, in some cases, cutting or uprooting a substantial amount of vegetation in or near inland freshwaters if the debris falls into the water.

Groundwater Activity

A groundwater activity is the discharge of a pollutant that results in, or might lead to, a direct or indirect input to groundwater. It also covers:

- any other discharge that might lead to a direct or indirect input of a pollutant to groundwater;
- an activity in respect of which a notice under Schedule 22 of the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2010 has taken effect; or
- an activity that might lead to a discharge, as already mentioned, where that activity is carried on as part of the operation of a regulated facility of another class.

Soil Protection Review (SPR) 2010

This document requires farmers to complete a risk assessment for all the fields on their farm and select measures to address any soil issues.

For help and information
during a flood call Floodline
on 0845 988 1188.



1 The role of the Environment Agency

The Environment Agency is one of the risk management authorities as defined by the Flood and Water Management Act 2010. Protecting the river environment and managing flood risk is part of its job. This means that some of its duties and powers affect riparian owners.

The Environment Agency is the risk management authority you need to contact if you would like more information on main rivers and matters relating to flooding from main rivers and the sea.

Powers

The Environment Agency has powers to work on main rivers (defined in section 15) and the sea to manage flood risk

These powers allow it to do work. However, it does not have to maintain or construct new works on main rivers or the sea. It is unlikely to maintain a watercourse to improve the amenity of the river or to stop erosion that does not increase flood risk.

Flood risk management works can include:

- constructing and maintaining flood risk management assets, for example flood banks, and works on main rivers to manage water levels and make sure flood water can flow freely.
- operating flood risk management assets during a flood.
- dredging the river. The Environment Agency can dispose of the material on land within reach of the dredging machine's boom.
- issuing flood warnings.

It can also do work to prevent environmental damage to watercourses, or to restore conditions where damage has already been done.

The Environment Agency has the power to make byelaws. Your local Environment Agency office can provide you with the relevant byelaws for where you live.

The Environment Agency can serve notice on you if you have not maintained a watercourse on your land that is causing problems, such as increasing flood risk.

Duties

The Environment Agency has strategic roles for all sources of flooding and coastal erosion in England and Wales. It has produced with Defra a national strategy for flood and coastal erosion risk management in England and worked with the Welsh Government on a national strategy for Wales. These strategies show how communities, the public sector and other organisations can work together to manage the risk. This includes the development of local flood risk management strategies by lead local flood authorities such as county and unitary councils.

A summary of the National Strategy for England can be found at <http://publications.environment-agency.gov.uk/dispatch.php?name=GEHO0711BTZE-E-E>

Information on the National Strategy for Wales can be found at <http://wales.gov.uk/topics/environmentcountryside/epq/waterflooding/flooding/nationalstrategy/?lang=en>

The Environment Agency also has a duty to promote the conservation of the water environment, the natural beauty of rivers and wetlands, and the wildlife that lives there. It assesses the impacts of any proposal on the whole environment. For riparian owners, this means that the Environment Agency will assess the environmental impacts of proposals for any works in or adjacent to rivers. It will discuss how and when the work might be done to protect the environment.

2 The Role of your local authority (LA) and Internal Drainage Board (IDB)

Certain local authorities (LAs) as well as Internal Drainage Boards (IDBs) are risk management authorities. They have powers to manage flood risk from ordinary watercourses. In their flood risk management role LAs are known as Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFA) (see explanation of terms in section 15) and IDBs are known as risk management authorities as explained earlier. Not all local authorities are risk management authorities and therefore LLFAs. The definition of an LLFA in section 15 outlines the types of local authority in both England and Wales that act as risk management authorities.

If you live in an area with a two tier local authority it is the county council who will act as the Lead Local Flood Authority. However, you should contact your local authority to confirm who your contact should be.

In areas known as internal drainage districts the risk management authority is the Internal Drainage Board for the area and they have

powers on ordinary watercourses instead of the LA.

IDBs are local public bodies established in areas of special drainage need in England and Wales to manage flood risk and water levels on behalf of their community. For more information on Internal Drainage Boards please visit the Association of Drainage Authorities website <http://www.ada.org.uk/>

IDBs are generally located in the Broads, Fens, East Anglia, Lincolnshire, Somerset Levels and Yorkshire. To determine whether your property lies within an internal drainage district please contact the Association of Drainage Engineers on 020 8399 7350 or visit their website <http://www.ada.org.uk/showmembers.php?fs=&type=idbs>

LLFAs and IDBs have an important role in managing local flood risk, which covers flooding from surface water, ground water and ordinary watercourses.

You need permission from your LA or IDB to do certain types of works in an ordinary watercourse. These permissions are called Flood Defence Consents in England and Ordinary Watercourse Consents in Wales. The activities that require consent are described in section 5.

We recommend that you contact your risk management authority as soon as possible if you are planning works in an ordinary watercourse.

Powers

Under the Land Drainage Act 1991 and recent changes in the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, LAs and IDBs have powers to manage flood risk from ordinary watercourses, surface water runoff, and groundwater.

Their powers allow them to:

- carry out works to manage flood risk from these sources and that will contribute to the local flood risk management strategy.
- serve notice on you if you have not maintained a watercourse on your land, and the proper flow of water is not possible or it is increasing flood risk.

Works to manage flood risk can include:

- maintaining existing works, including buildings and structures. This includes repairing and

generally maintaining the efficiency of an existing watercourse or drainage work: improving existing works: altering or removing works and reducing or increasing the level of water in a place.

- operating existing structures (such as sluice gates or pumps).
- building or repairing new works, including buildings, structures, watercourses, drainage works and machinery.

These powers allow them to do work. However, they do not have to maintain or construct new works on ordinary watercourses. LAs and IDBs may also have additional regulations and bylaws, which will affect what you can and cannot do on an ordinary watercourse.

Duties

All LLFAs in England and Wales must develop, maintain, apply and monitor a local flood risk management strategy for their area. The strategy must deal with the three sources of flood risk outlined above and interactions between these sources and other types of flood risk. Please contact your LLFA for more information on your local flood risk management strategy.

LLFAs also keep a register of structures that have a significant effect on flood management in their area. The list includes who owns the structure and what state of repair it is in.

Would you like to find out more about us,
or about your environment?

Then call us on

03708 506 506 (Mon-Fri 8-6)

Calls to 03 numbers cost the same as calls to standard geographic numbers
(i.e. numbers beginning with 01 or 02).

email

enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk

or visit our website

www.environment-agency.gov.uk

incident hotline **0800 80 70 60** (24hrs)

floodline **0845 988 1188**



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if possible.

Ansty Parish Community Emergency Plan

Village Website and Wiltshire Council Copy

**Prepared by Ansty Parish Council
in conjunction with
Wiltshire Council's Operational Flood Working Group.**

In association with the Environment Agency, Wessex Water, Scottish & Southern Electric and the professional emergency services.

- This Emergency Plan relies entirely upon willing volunteers for its execution. Therefore the contents of this Plan are a guide for the volunteers and Parish Council members as to what preparations and actions might be taken. This document does not constitute an undertaking by the volunteers or Parish Council to carry out the actions described.**
- Neither Ansty Parish Council nor the Volunteers accept any liability for any loss or damage arising directly or indirectly from this Emergency Plan.**

If individuals or family groups do not wish to make use of the information, advice or support offered by this plan then that is their entitlement.

Updated: October 2018

Introduction

Central Government's aim is to reduce the risk from emergencies so that people can go about their lives freely and with confidence. Conceived back in 2010/11 this aim, locally endorsed by Wiltshire Council has now filtered down to us at parish level! It is about self-resilience and common sense that is (and was) probably always there in Ansty!

For Ansty it is all about:

- identifying and assessing risks from natural hazards (floods, storms, fallen trees, snow, landslips etc. even pandemic flu)
- identifying and assessing risks caused by the built environment (loss of utilities - water or electricity)
- implementing measures to improve our standards of resilience
- ensuring continuity and community input measures
- information sharing
- understanding interdependencies

Community Resilience

Community resilience is about communities using local resources and knowledge to help themselves during an emergency in a way that complements the local emergency services.

Answers to the following 3 questions can help us assess how prepared our community is and what we can do:

- In Ansty are we aware of the risks that you and our community might face, e.g. flooding?
- How best can we help ourselves and those around us during an emergency?
- What can we do to become involved in emergency planning in our community?

1. The Ansty Parish Community Emergency Plan

If you are in immediate danger call 999

- Planning for emergencies is an important job for the professional organisations who respond to incidents but it is also important for local communities like Ansty to think about how we may be able to assist the emergency services and other responders.
- The main way of doing this is to create a 'community emergency plan'. This can be as simple as a contact list for key people within the community, or a more comprehensive plan which covers the emergencies which are most likely to occur in your area (rather than just the absolute worst-case scenarios) and how our community might respond to them. Our local knowledge is also very important to the professional organisations who will be responding to the situation.
- Information such as where floods are likely to happen most often, what roads could be made inaccessible by snow, how badly a power cut would affect our community and where the nearest places of safety are (village/community hall etc.) can greatly help the emergency services, Wiltshire Council and other groups.
- Ansty has a watercourse running through it which is deemed at risk of flooding and is identified by the Environmental Agency as a 'Flood Zone 3'. Therefore Ansty has to have a separate local flood plan in place for dealing with a potential flooding emergency. This parish flood plan is similar to the parish community emergency plan and is included as item 2 in this document.
- Having recorded our details beforehand could potentially save a lot of time if the information is needed when responding to any emergency.

Ansty Parish Community Emergency Group Volunteers. Emergency Contact List (Generic)

If you would like to volunteer to offer any kind of assistance in the unlikely event of an emergency affecting our Ansty community, we would love to hear from you. Please contact our parish clerk: email: anstyclerk@gmail.com

Ansty Parish Council retains a list of names, contact details and assigned volunteer roles as well as other useful contacts. Subject to change and revision.

Name	Volunteer Roles	Assigned Task(s) Any Emergency	
Initial Contacts: For any emergency: Tim Martin, Chairman, Ansty Parish Council anneandtimmartin@gmail.com Flood emergency: Rob Wilkinson, Councillor, Ansty Parish Council rgwilk1@outlook.com	1 Voluntary Overall Emergency Coordinating Officer	Main link with assistants. Based in Ansty High St. The Overall Emergency Officer is responsible for contacting appropriate authorities if need be	Within Ansty, we have a small voluntary team already assembled, ready and able to assist where possible in dealing with any emergency situation that might arise in the parish of Ansty.
	2 Assistant emergency volunteer coordinator	Volunteer coordinator operating as a backup if Overall Emergency Officer is unavailable. Based in High St.	We have 9 volunteer contacts within the parish of Ansty; 7 have access to small tractors, chain saws and other useful tools
	3 Assistant emergency volunteer coordinator	Assistant emergency volunteer (based in the Ansty Coombe Lane area) who reports to and assists the other coordinators if necessary and is also responsible for Ansty website updates if needed	
	4 Assistant emergency standby volunteer	Volunteer prepared to communicate with the villagers via phones/mobiles/emails if up and running or by personal interaction if not.	
	5 Assistant emergency standby volunteer	Volunteer prepared to communicate with the villagers via phones/mobiles/emails if up and running or by personal interaction if not	
We have an assembled team ready, willing and able to offer assistance should any emergency arise within the parish of Ansty. September 2018	6 Emergency standby volunteer	There are a number of emergency volunteers on standby with access to machinery (such as tractors, chainsaws, tools) should they be needed We are in the process of trying to recruit one or two first aiders (possibly for training). We are hoping to acquire a defibrillator from funds and locate it within St James's church: our 'identified place of safety' (since we have no other public building or storage facilities). We need to identify how we might access signage/sandbags/etc. should the need arise	
	7 Emergency standby volunteer		*We are also looking for two or three more standby volunteers from within the Ansty Parish.
	8 Emergency standby volunteer		*We are currently trying to recruit a couple of First Aiders. Training may be arranged. If you are interested in any of these 'voluntary posts' please contact: anstyclerk@gmail.com
	9 Emergency standby volunteer		
	10 Emergency standby volunteer		
	Typical Emergency: FLOOD; SNOW&ICE; STORM DAMAGE; UTILITIES FAILURE; LOCAL PANDEMIC		

- Volunteers must not put their own lives at risk.
- Volunteers must avoid working alone where working in pairs or a bigger group is the safe thing to do.
- Volunteers must wear appropriate clothing and use appropriate tools (with adequate training)
- A property owner is responsible for their property and whilst the Flood/Emergency Coordinator and other volunteers can assist, they have no authority over the property owner

Date for next revision: September 2019

Local Risk Assessment

Risks	Impact on Ansty	What can the Ansty Community Emergency Group do to prepare?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stream through Ansty village might flood (Flood Zone 3 as identified by the Environmental Agency) Blocked drains/culverts/ditches etc. <p>SEE 2. LOCAL FLOOD EMERGENCY PLAN</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possibility of property flooding Localised flooding on High Street Flash flooding along Ansty Coombe Lane and Frogpond 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure Environmental Agency flood alerts posted on village website Encourage property and watercourse owners to maintain watercourses and home flood defences. Notify Highways Dept. in autumn of gullies that are blocked
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snow and Ice Storms: fallen trees; debris on roads/lanes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify local access issues Heating of some local residents Identify location of fallen trees and debris 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gritting bins located on Kings Lane and Alvediston Hill Check Wiltshire Council have filled grit bins Check safety of vulnerable residents If possible, identified volunteer removes fallen tree Where safe to do so volunteers remove debris from quiet lanes. Inform Wilts. Council if the High Street needs clearing. Identify local farmers with snowploughs/gritting equipment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilities failure: Prolonged Power Cuts Widespread Water Supply/Leak Problems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residents can't get heat, light or hot water Residents unable to cook food Fridges/Freezers defrost 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify volunteers to check safety and needs of vulnerable residents
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible local pandemic (flu) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some residents not able to get to pharmacy for medication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify volunteers who can collect and deliver medicines for people who are vulnerable / live alone.

Local Skills and Resources: Useful Contacts

Ansty Parish Council retains a list of names, contact details and assigned volunteer roles as well as other useful contacts.

Skill/Resource	Who:	Contact Details	Location	Availability?
Trained First Aider		We have a small voluntary team assembled, ready and able to assist where possible in dealing with any emergency situation that might arise in the parish of Ansty.		
4x4 owner/driver				
Small tractor driver				
Power tools		We have 9 volunteer contacts within the parish of Ansty who have access to relevant vehicles and other useful tools		
Flood Coordinators				
		*We are looking for a Voluntary Overall Emergency Officer who will be responsible for contacting other volunteers and contacting appropriate authorities if need be.		
		*We are also looking for two or three more standby volunteers from within the Ansty Parish.		
		*We are currently trying to recruit a couple of First Aiders. Training may be arranged. If you are interested in any of these 'voluntary posts' please contact: anstyclerk@gmail.com		

Key locations identified with emergency services for use as a place of safety

Building	Location	Potential use in an emergency	Contact details of key holder
St James' Church, Ansty	South Ansty High St, near Ansty Pond	Local Muster Point/Shelter First Aid Box	Church Warden

List of Ansty community organisations that may be useful in an emergency

Ansty Parish Council retains a list of names, contact details and assigned volunteer roles as well as other useful contacts.
Subject to change and revision.

Organisation	Name and role of local contact	Phone Number/email address
St James' Church, Ansty	Church Warden:	
Tisbury & District Link Scheme		Email: tisburylink@gmail.com 01747 870194

Ansty Community Emergency Group first meeting agenda

		Brief Comments	Check
Date:			
Time:			
Attendees:			
1. Current Situation			
Location of Emergency: Is it near:			
A vulnerable area?			
A main access route?			
Type of Emergency?			
Threat to life?			
Have the utilities been affected?			
Are there any elderly involved?			
Are there any families with children involved?			
2. Resources needed			
Food?			
Off Road Vehicles?			
Blankets?			
Shelter?			
3. Have we:			
Established contact with Emergency Services?			
How can we best support the Emergency Services?			
What actions can be safely taken?			
Who is taking the lead for agreed actions?			
Any other issues?			

Emergency Coordinating Officer(s) checklist and debriefing notes

After an Emergency: Local Contractors

Company Name	Business	Location	Contact	Website
We have several suggested local contractors that could be used in the event of an emergency				

Other Local Contractors may be suggested. Please contact: anstyclerk@gmail.com

After an Emergency: Ansty Parish Council Review on Emergency Procedures:

Did our emergency risk reduction/resilience measures work effectively?

Did our planned procedures during an emergency offer the right support to where it was needed?

Were there any intangibles?

How might we improve our parish emergency plan?

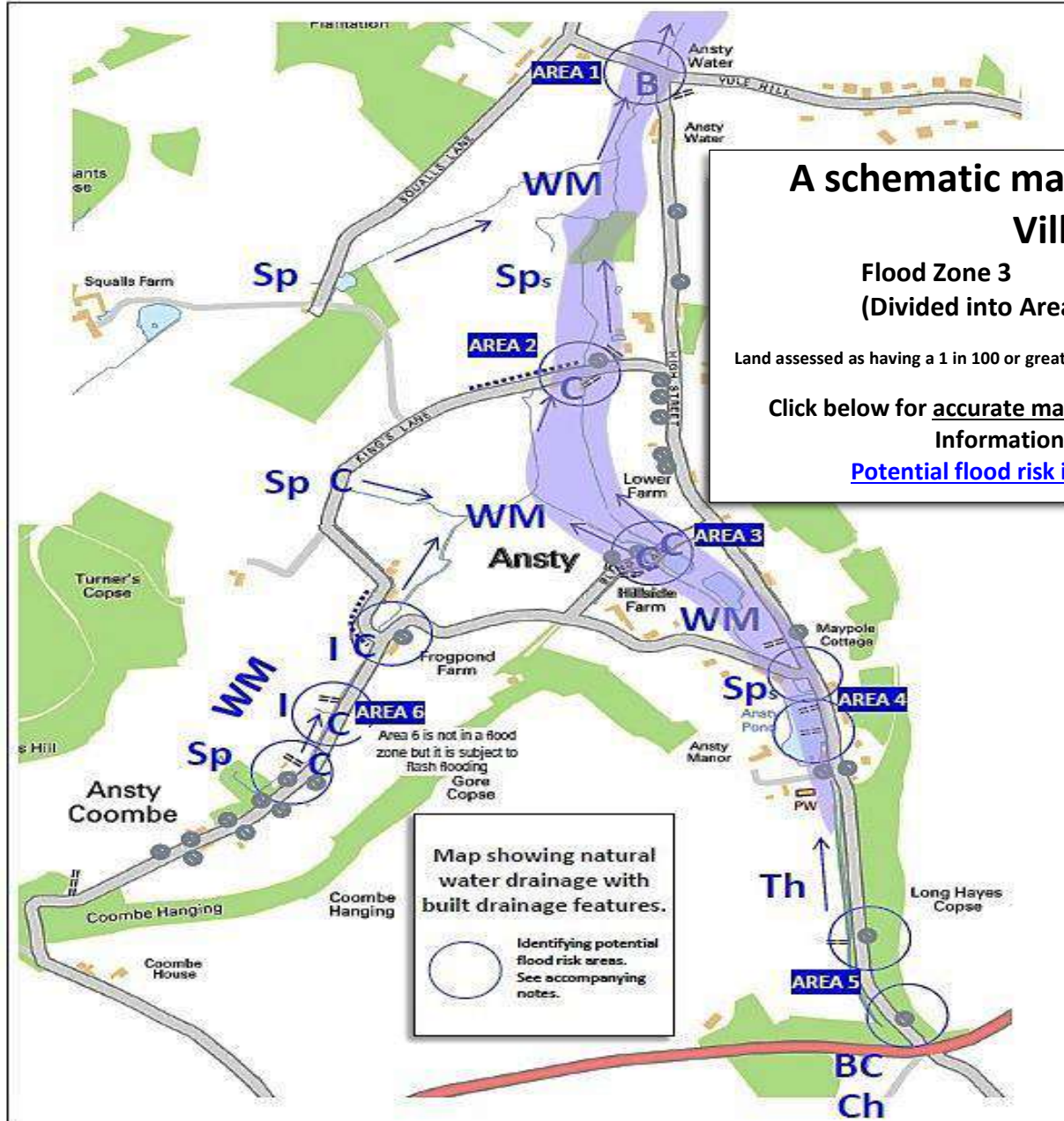
Some Important 'Out of parish' Contacts for any Emergency including Flooding

Organisation	Telephone (office hours)	Telephone (out of hours)	Website Links
Ansty Parish Council			http://www.anstywiltspc.org.uk/
Floodline	0845 988 1188		
Environmental Agency Flood Information			https://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/warnings?location=Wiltshire+
Ansty Parish Council			http://www.anstywiltspc.org.uk/
Wiltshire Council		0300 456 0100 (only emergencies)	http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/ http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/civil-emergencies
Dorset & Wilts Fire Service	999	999	https://www.dwfire.org.uk/
Police	999	999	https://www.wiltshire.police.uk/
Ambulance Service	999	999	
Wiltshire Environment/Health			http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/env-health-protection
Wessex water	0345 600 4 600	0345 600 4 600	http://www.wessexwater.co.uk/emergencies/
SSE Electricity	0800 072 7282	0800 072 7282	https://sse.co.uk/help/emergency-phone-numbers#item1
Local Septic Tank Operator	01747 871464		http://www.robbeale.co.uk/contact/
Adjacent Parish Councils: Tisbury Swallowcliffe			http://www.tisbury-wiltshire-pc.gov.uk/ http://www.southwilts.com/site/swallowcliffe-parish-council-news/
Owning a Watercourse			https://www.gov.uk/guidance/owning-a-watercourse

2. The Ansty Parish Local Flood Emergency Plan

Ansty Parish Council retains a list of names, contact details and assigned volunteer roles as well as other useful contacts.
Subject to change and revision.

- All parish councils with a watercourse through it which are deemed at risk of flooding as identified by the Environmental Agency has to have a local flood plan in place for a potential flooding emergency.
- A narrow area either side of the Ansty Stream from just north of the Hollow to Ansty Water (and beyond) is identified by the Environmental Agency as a flood zone 3. There has always been a small potential flooding risk in this zone and this is likely to increase if the current climate change trend continues.
- To try and avoid such unlikely flood issues arising. This could involve a 'community approach' by riparian (watercourse/stream) owners and others monitoring potential problem areas and taking 'common sense' proactive maintenance measures to reduce the likelihood of any kind of flooding event. Wiltshire Council refers to this as resilience measures.
- Riparian owners in Ansty are responsible for maintaining the stream bed and banks within their section of the watercourse. Click here for more details: [Owning a watercourse](#)
- Property Owners in Ansty (as anywhere else) are responsible for looking after their own property, including reducing the risks of water entering it and of causing damage. Therefore, it is important that people are aware of their flood risk and take measures to better protect themselves, where appropriate. Click here for more details: [Flooding: who is responsible for what](#)
- Should flooding ever occur there needs to be a well-rehearsed coordinated reactive approach between the Ansty parish council, individual parishioners (who might be affected) and Wiltshire's civil emergencies procedures.



A schematic map showing Ansty Village

Flood Zone 3 (Divided into Areas)

Land assessed as having a 1 in 100 or greater annual probability of river flooding (>1%)

Click below for [accurate maps](#) and more [technical detail](#).
Information from Gov.UK
[Potential flood risk information for Ansty](#)

The map shows Ansty's main water courses and identifies six areas where flooding might occur.

Areas 1 – 4 have been identified by the Environment Agency as being in a Flood Zone 3 and Areas 5 & 6 are based on local knowledge only.

The map also shows some of the drainage infrastructure associated with these six Areas.

The map is not to scale and is for information purposes

===	Dug out gully drain	●	Road Drain	BC	Bridge/Culvert	WM	Wet Meadow
.....	Verge Ditch	I	Issues	Sp _s	Spring/s	Ch	Channelled Stream
Th	Thicket strip					→	Direction of Stream flow

Before a flood event our Internal Emergency Flood Plan indicates:

- Simple Flood Risk Mitigation Measures or Flood Resilience Measures
- A list of riparian (watercourse/stream) owners in Ansty
- A list of local volunteers/flood coordinators in the unlikely event of a flood/emergency event.
This list is subject to periodic change.
- The Role of a Flood/Emergency Coordinator
- The Role of a Flood Emergency Volunteer

During an Flood Event our Emergency Plan will identify:

- Actions to be taken in the unlikely event of a flood
- A List of people who may need assistance during a flood event
- Available Resources to aid actions during a Flood
- Important Contacts for any Flooding

After an Emergency Flood Event our Flood Plan we hope to establish:

- A list of current local Contractors. This may change!
- The need for a review of how successful our Flood Plan was

Before a possible Flood Event. Flood Risk Mitigation Measures or Flood Resilience Measures.

Possible Flood risk area	Trigger level	Actions to reduce risk before possible flood event	Likely source of flooding	Direction of flooding
1 Ansty Water	Water backing up against road culvert at T Junction; road flooding	Land owners to keep stream to south and north of bridge clear of debris, vegetation and excessive silt. Keep bridge/culvert free of silt/debris Wilts Council ensure adjacent road gullies are kept clear.	Ansty water stream channel partially blocked; blocked drains and gulleys	Water flows from south to north
2 Lower Kings Lane	Drain doesn't sump; Road starts flooding at lowest point. Very unlikely chance of property flooding	Land owners to keep stream to south and north of culvert clear. Wilts Council ensure adjacent road gullies are kept clear. Endeavour to get Wiltshire Council to improve road camber	Ansty stream; Blocked drains, ditches and gulleys; saturated flood plain upstream	Water flows from south to north
3 Lower Blind Lane	Nearby pond rises; ditches full; stream channel bank full; one property in likely danger of flooding	Land owners to keep all stream channels to south and to north beyond the property clear & free running. Wilts Council ensure adjacent road culverts, gullies and connecting pipes are kept clear.	Ansty stream; Blocked drains, ditches and gulleys; saturated flood plain upstream	Water flows from south to north
4 Ansty Pond & Maypole area	Stream becomes bank full; roads flood in vicinity of Maypole and along High St. Ansty Pond bank subject to seepage	Land owners keep stream run-off from Pond Zone and side of pond clear of debris and vegetation. Ensure Ansty Pond bank retains its integrity. Keep stream channel to south and north of lower Ansty Coombe lane culvert clear. Wilts Council ensure adjacent drains, road gullies and culverts are kept clear.	Ansty stream; Blocked drains, ditches and gulleys; debris blocking roadside stream flow causing water to backup. Unlikely possibility of part of medieval Ansty Pond bank slipping away adding to possible risk	Water flows from south to north
5 Long Hayes (not in Flood Zone)	Blocked drains cause road to flood	Wilts Council ensure adjacent drains, road gullies and culverts are kept clear.	Blocked drains causing fast road near a main A road junction to flood	No watercourse save natural 'road drainage'
6 Ansty Coombe & Frogpond (not in Flood Zone)	Saturated land; water cascading down road Stream source between The Hundred and 99 becomes a torrent in times of exceptional rain or long wet period. Properties have been affected by flash flooding in the immediate past (mid 1980s)	Stream watercourse must be kept cleared and free running from source to entrance into water meadow beyond Frogpond Bend/Kings Lane junction. Top of lane earth 'soak off' gully must be kept dug out. Wilts Council to ensure all drains on lane are cleared and remain cleared to take up excess water. Frogpond culvert not fit for purpose.	Saturated land and heavy sustained rainfall of an inch or more over a short space of time will lead to flash flooding by roadside stream Blocked culverts, drains, ditches and gulleys.	Rapid water flow from south west to north east in times of flash flooding.

List of riparian (watercourse/stream) properties in Ansty

Ansty Parish Council retains a list of watercourse properties in Ansty. Subject to change and revision.

[illegible]

A list of local flood coordinators/standby volunteers in the unlikely event of a flood event. This list is subject to periodic change.

Name	Address	Telephone	Mobile	Responsibility	Checking on vulnerable residents, properties, and	Known place of safety
<p>We have a small voluntary team assembled, ready and able to assist where possible in dealing with any emergency situation that might arise in the parish of Ansty. This includes:</p> <p>1. A volunteer Flood coordinator operating in the main Flood Zone 3 area: that is the High Street and immediate feeder lanes.</p> <p>2. A volunteer Flood coordinator (operating in the Ansty Coombe Lane area) who reports to and assists the main Flood coordinator 1 and is also responsible for Ansty website updates if needed</p> <p>4. Two assistant volunteers prepared to communicate with the village via phones/mobiles/emails if up and running or by personal interaction if not.</p> <p>There are a number of volunteers on standby with machinery (such as chain saws, tractors, tools) should they be needed</p> <p>5. Several 'standby' volunteers</p> <p>We are in the process of trying to recruit one or two first aiders (possibly for training). We are hoping to acquire a defibrillator from funds and locate it within the church: our 'identified place of safety' (since we have no other public building nor storage facilities). We need to identify how we might access signage/sandbags/etc. should the need arise</p>						

- Volunteers must not put their own lives at risk.**
- Avoid working alone where working in pairs or a bigger group is the safe thing to do**
- A property owner is responsible for their property and whilst the Flood Warden and volunteers can assist, they have no authority over the property owner**

Role of a Flood Coordinator:

- A Flood Coordinator will keep an eye on the current situation as indicated by the Environmental Agency Flood Risk map or 'Floodline Warnings Direct' as well as on the ground.
- In the event of a possible flooding event a Flood Coordinator will alert the overall coordinating officer and then check on residents who may need assistance and properties in their locations. If necessary volunteers will ensure that any resident is escorted to a place of safety. Flood Coordinator and volunteers must debrief at the end of a flooding event.
- The Flood Coordinator will also keep the Flood Risk Mitigation Measures under review and report back to the Parish Council on a periodic basis, say twice yearly, but more frequently if the situation requires it. The Parish Council will countenance the correct measures to deal with possible problems.
- The Flood Coordinator is not required to undertake the Flood Risk Mitigation Measures themselves, but to work with the Parish Council in an effort to get the required maintenance and renewal undertaken.

Role of a standby volunteer:

- Standby volunteers will take their directions from the overall volunteer Emergency Coordinating Officer in conjunction with the volunteer flood coordinators and be ready to go to their chosen location to check on residents who may need assistance, their properties and assess other courses of action. If necessary, vulnerable neighbours should be escorted to a known place of safety. They must report their actions via telephone/mobile/word of mouth to the overall volunteer coordinating officer.

These same people may also perform a similar role in other emergencies such as storm damage; power cuts etc.

Actions to be taken in the event of a flood

Possible Flood risk area	Trigger level	Local Action	Equipment that may be required	Location for equipment?
		Flood Coordinator alert volunteers to check on their designated area		
1 Ansty Water	Water backing up against road culvert at T Junction; road flooding	Assess. Check on neighbours at Ansty Water. Decide whether to evacuate to a known place of safety. Erect warning signs if possible and prevent avoidable damage (by providing sandbags) Report to Flood Coordinator on current situation and engage emergency services if needed.	Rope, Torch; High Viz Jacket. Possible access to road flood signage; water pump, Sandbags, Access to Defibrillator, Big brooms, Shovels, Wheelbarrows	
2 Lower Kings Lane	Drain doesn't sump; Road starts flooding at lowest point. Very unlikely chance of property flooding	Assess. Check on neighbours at Ansty Water. Decide whether to evacuate to a known place of safety. Erect warning signs if possible and prevent avoidable damage (by providing sandbags) Report to Flood Coordinator on current situation and engage emergency services if needed..	Rope, Torch; High Viz Jacket. Possible access to road flood signage; water pump, Sandbags, Access to Defibrillator, Big brooms, Shovels Wheelbarrows	
3 Lower Blind Lane	Nearby pond rises; ditches full; property in likely danger of flooding	Assess. Check on neighbours at Ansty Water. Decide whether to evacuate to a known place of safety. Erect warning signs if possible and prevent avoidable damage (by providing sandbags) Report to Flood Coordinator on current situation and engage emergency services if needed.	Rope, Torch; High Viz Jacket. Possible access to road flood signage; water pump, Sandbags, Defibrillator, Big brooms, Shovels Wheelbarrows	
4 Ansty Pond & Maypole area	Stream becomes bank full; roads flood in vicinity of Maypole and along High St. Ansty Pond bank subject to seepage	Assess and report to Flood Coordinator on current situation.	Rope, Torch; High Viz Jacket. Possible access to road flood signage; water pump, Sandbags, Access to Defibrillator, Big brooms, Shovels Wheelbarrows	
5 Long Hayes (not in Flood Zone)	Blocked drains cause road to flood	Assess.	Install road signage. Try to unblock drain (futile I know). Shovel, Broom; High Viz jacket	
6 Ansty Coombe & Frogpond (not in Flood Zone)	Saturated land; water cascading down road Stream source between The Hundred and 99 becomes a torrent in times of exceptional rain or long wet period. Properties have been affected by flash flooding in the immediate past (mid 1980s)	Assess. Check on neighbours and their properties in Ansty Coombe. Possibly two vulnerable properties. Report to Flood Coordinator on current situation and engage emergency services if needed.	Rope, Torch; High Viz Jacket. Possible access to road flood signage; water pump, Sandbags, Access to Defibrillator, Big brooms, Shovels Wheelbarrows	

List of properties that may need assistance during any emergency (such as storm damage, prolonged power cuts etc.) including a flood emergency

Name	Address	Telephone	Mobile	Assistance required
	Only one property in Ansty is deemed at risk from flooding from a watercourse within the Flood Zone 3 zone. This property already has its own Home Plan.			

Ansty Parish Council retains a list of watercourse properties in Ansty.

Available Resources to aid actions during a Flood or an Emergency

Organisation	Resource	Contact	Location	Notes

We are still working out how we might best access materials/resources/funds in the unlikely event of a flood or an emergency

e.g. salt, sandbags, flooding signage, barriers, high viz jackets (which volunteers could store at home)

We need a defibrillator that we could store alongside a first aid kit (in our named place of safety (i.e. St James' Church))

We have no storage facilities in Ansty and we have no 'trained' first aiders.

We do have access to the use of our own tools and vehicles

Some Important Contacts for any Emergency including Flooding

Organisation	Telephone (office hours)	Telephone (out of hours)	Website Links
Ansty Parish Council			http://www.anstywiltspc.org.uk/
Floodline	0845 988 1188		
Environmental Agency Flood Information			https://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/warnings?location=Wiltshire+
Wiltshire Council		0300 456 0100 (only emergencies)	http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/ http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/civil-emergencies
Dorset & Wilts Fire Service	999	999	https://www.dwfire.org.uk/
Police	999	999	https://www.wiltshire.police.uk/
Ambulance Service	999	999	
Wiltshire Environment/Health			http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/env-health-protection
Wessex water	0345 600 4 600	0345 600 4 600	http://www.wessexwater.co.uk/emergencies/
SSE Electricity	0800 072 7282	0800 072 7282	https://sse.co.uk/help/emergency-phone-numbers#item1
Local Septic Tank Operator	01747 871464		http://www.robbeale.co.uk/contact/
Adjacent Parish Councils: Tisbury Swallowcliffe			http://www.tisbury-wiltshire-pc.gov.uk/ http://www.southwilts.com/site/swallowcliffe-parish-council-news/
Owning a Watercourse			https://www.gov.uk/guidance/owning-a-watercourse

After a Flood: Reputable Contractors

Company Name	Business	Location	Contact	Website
We have several suggested local contractors that could be used in the event of an emergency				

After a Flood: Ansty Parish Council Review of our local Flood Plan procedures.

Did our risk flood risk reduction/resilience measures work effectively?

Did our planned procedures during a flood offer the right support to where it was needed?

Were there any intangibles?

How might we improve our parish flood plan?

Ansty Parish Council Community Emergency Plan (Summary)

- Our Emergency Plan relies entirely upon willing volunteers for its execution. Therefore the contents of this Plan are a guide for the volunteers and Parish Council members as to what preparations and actions might be taken. This document does not constitute an undertaking by the volunteers or Parish Council members to carry out the actions described.
- Neither Ansty Parish Council members nor the Volunteers accept any liability for any loss or damage arising directly or indirectly from this Emergency Plan.
- If individuals or family groups do not wish to make use of information, advice or support offered by this plan then that is their entitlement.

(A) Advice to parishioners about what they can do in the event of an extreme emergency. Floods, Storms, Fallen Trees, Snow, Landslips, Loss of Utilities or even a Pandemic

1. In the (unlikely) event of an emergency in Ansty parish (caused by Floods, Storms, Fallen Trees, Snow, Landslips, Loss of utilities or even a Pandemic) and you are in immediate danger, call 999.

2. If your home is under threat or you think it might be and you are able to do so, vacate the premises and make your way to St James' Church (a designated place of safety)) or a neighbour's house – away from danger.

3. If you are not in immediate danger but require assistance, then call:

(i) landline 01747 870972

(ii) mobile 07765 405027 (if you can get a signal)

(iii) landline 01747 870888

Give your name, address, phone number and brief outline of the problem and what assistance may be required. Hopefully, standby volunteers will be contacted to help and assist where they can.

4. If you don't require assistance but would like to report a problem that is related to our list of emergency events (e.g. local flooding; fallen tree or other storm damage; snow; landslip(s); loss of utilities or a pandemic), please contact our parish clerk: anstyclerk@gmail.com

(B) How watercourse owners might help prevent the possibility of serious flooding in Ansty

- The Environment Agency has designated the watercourse area from the just south of the Maypole though to Tisbury Row and beyond as a Flood Zone 3. That is, land along this watercourse is assessed as having a 1 in 100 or greater annual probability of river flooding (>1%). In some areas the estimated chance of flooding increases to 3 in 100. These statistics are relatively low but the possibility of flooding is always there.
- We do have a Flood Officer whose responsibility is to monitor the state of the watercourses in the parish. If you are a riparian owner (i.e. you have a watercourse running across your land) you have certain obligations in keeping the watercourse maintained. It needs to be kept clear of obstructions, such as fallen trees, branches, weed and debris accumulations so that the stream flows unimpeded.
- If you think there might be a problem with a watercourse on your land please let the parish Flood Officer know via the Ansty Parish Clerk. We may be able to help.