SECTION X - Tisbury Emergency Plans

- Section X.1 Flooding
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TISBURY COMMUNITY FLOOD PLAN

Would you know what to do in a flood?





Visit check-for-flooding.service.gov.uk/plan-ahead-for-flooding

#PrepareActSurvive

Introduction

The aim of this Flood Plan, compiled by Tisbury Parish Council, is to provide guidance for those residents affected by flooding, or worried that they may be affected in the future.

The plan provides information from the Environment Agency website and also the Wiltshire Council website; such information is only ever current at the time of downloading and will be updated periodically as events occur and shape the future. This plan was adopted at the Parish Council meeting on 6th September 2022.

The Flood Plan is also used by the Emergency Team Officers at Wiltshire Council to ensure that they hold current information about Tisbury, i.e., the location of any equipment that could be useful, key personnel with access to buildings or storage; also information about flooding events in the past.

Tisbury Parish Council has struggled over the past few years to appoint a volunteer Flood Warden and so took the decision to encompass the duties within the role of the Village Warden; this has been successful to date and will be continued to provide continuity of service to the community and also liaison with Wiltshire Council Officers, The Environment Agency and Emergency Services, especially in the event of significant flooding, as occurred twice in Tisbury during October 2021.

SECTION A - Overview and Key Points

The aim of the Flood Warden is:

- To enable Tisbury Parish Council to provide an initial contact point with those residents in homes and businesses at risk from flooding and encourage 'signing up' to the Environment Agency Floodline Warning scheme.
- To inspect the known areas of flooding, from all types of flood water, from time to time and report on situations that might increase the flood risk; for example, overgrown vegetation or fallen trees in and around the River Nadder, drainage for agricultural run-off etc.
- To liaise with the Environment Agency and Wiltshire Council proactively to report on scale, type and locations of properties affected by each flooding event.
- To ensure basic information on websites and advice lines is available on the Tisbury website and available as hard copy on request.

The role of the Flood Warden is to:

- Sign up to the Environment Agency's Floodline Warning Scheme.
- Be knowledgeable of the watercourses that run through the local area.
- Routinely check the catchment area for risk of flooding.
- Assess situations, identifying vulnerable residents/properties.
- Ensure drains/culverts/rivers are kept clear reporting any blockages if found to the relevant authorities for corrective action.
- Encourage residents to report any incidents of flooding.
- Be on hand to give advice to local residents, e.g. encouraging residents to keep a personal flood kit.
- Provide information/local knowledge on flooding to the Environment Agency.
- Encourage residents to sign up to the Floodline Warnings Service.
- Encourage residents to acquire sandbags, gel-sacs and other barriers from commercial sources and promote awareness of the stock of emergency sandbags held within the community.
- To check on the maintenance of the preventative measures.

The types of flooding event referred to in this plan are:

- Surface water
- Groundwater
- Structural failure or overtopping of an artificial dam

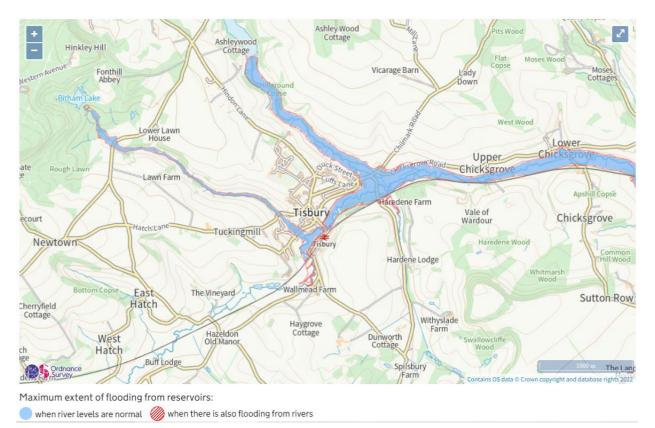


Extent and severity of risk of flooding from the River Nadder



Extent and severity of risk of flooding from surface water

🛑 <u>High</u> 🛑 <u>Medium</u> 🛑 <u>Low</u> () <u>Very low</u>



Extent of risk of flooding from the failure of Reservoirs

It is sometimes difficult to distinguish between sources of flooding, e.g. groundwater and surface water flooding can often appear to be similar.

The following terms are commonly used and are explained in more detail below:

FLUVIAL or river flooding; PLUVIAL or rainwater flooding; SURFACE or flooding from roads, ditches and fields; GROUNDWATER resulting from a high-water table.

Fluvial floods (river floods)

A fluvial, or river flood, occurs when the water level in a river, lake or stream rises and overflows onto the neighbouring land. The water level rise of the river could be due to excessive rain or snowmelt.

The damage from a river flood can be widespread as the overflow affects smaller rivers downstream, which can cause dams and dikes to break and swamp nearby areas.

To determine the probability of river flooding, models consider past precipitation, forecasted precipitation, current river levels, as well as soil and terrain conditions.

The severity of a river flood is determined by the terrain profile and the duration and intensity (volume) of rainfall in the river's catchment area. Other factors include soil water saturation and climate change effects on rainfall duration and intensity. In flat areas, floodwater tends to rise more slowly and be shallower, but it can often remain for days. In hilly or mountainous areas, floods can occur within minutes after a heavy rain, drain very quickly and cause damage due to debris flow.

Pluvial floods (flash floods and surface water)

A pluvial flood occurs when an extreme rainfall event creates a flood independent of an overflowing water body. A common misconception about flood is that you must be located near a body of water to be at risk. Yet pluvial flooding can happen in any location, urban or rural, even in areas with no nearby bodies of water.

There are two common types of pluvial flooding:

- Surface water floods occur when an urban drainage system is overwhelmed and water flows out into streets and nearby structures. It occurs gradually, which provides people time to move to safe locations, and the level of water is usually shallow (rarely more than 1 meter deep). It creates no immediate threat to lives but may cause significant economic damage.
- Flash floods are characterized by an intense, high velocity torrent of water triggered by torrential rain falling within a short amount of time within the vicinity or on nearby elevated terrain. They can also occur via a sudden release of water from an upstream levee or a dam. <u>Flash floods</u> are very dangerous and destructive not only because of the force of the water, but also the debris that is often swept up in the surging water.

Structural failure or over-topping of a reservoir / dam

As mentioned above, flooding may also happen when the structure of a dam is compromised by a lack of monitoring and/or maintenance, but also when torrential rain over a short period of time increases the risk of structural failure or overtopping. This leads to a much-increased volume of water flow downstream of the dam that may also carry significant amounts of debris, causing additional physical damage.

Although flooding from reservoirs is extremely unlikely, over-topping from both the Fonthill and Bitham lakes would impact on Tisbury residents.

SECTION B - THE PRACTICALITIES

<u>Maintenance of Preventative Measures Taken to Reduce the Likelihood of</u> <u>a Flooding Event, or to Reduce the Severity of Impact</u>

Once any necessary preventative measures such as grips and lateral drains are in place to reduce the likelihood of further flooding it is important to ensure their timely maintenance – action: report to Wiltshire Council any indication of potential problems in previously flooded areas i.e., 3 Arch Bridge, Station Road, Quarry Lane and Tisbury Row.

In addition, the maintenance of the river and its banks is key in ensuring excess water can flow without restriction – action: report to the Environment Agency where action is thought necessary to contact riparian owners.

It is the responsibility of the Flood Warden to monitor the known problem areas in Tisbury and highlight via the Parish Council to either Wiltshire Council Officers or the Environment Agency as appropriate.

Flood Plan Triggers

TISBURY is covered by the *River Nadder and Tributaries* and the *River Nadder* – *Tisbury to West Harnham* Flood Alert Areas.

The receipt of a flood alert from the Environment Agency's Flood Warning Scheme means that residents should consider taking the actions detailed below according to the level of warning issued.

Flood Warnings – Alert, Warning and Severe Warning Explained

Flood Alert

What it means

Flooding is possible. Be prepared.

When it's used

Two hours to two days in advance of flooding.

What to do

- Be prepared to act on your flood plan.
- Prepare a flood kit of essential items.
- Monitor local water levels and any flood forecasts on the Environment Agency's website.

Specific Actions for the Flood Warden and Tisbury Residents

- Check roads and low-lying areas around the River Nadder.
- Phone Floodline on 0345 988 1188 for more information (24 hours).
- Check surface water drainage systems at 3-Arch Bridge, Tisbury Row and Quarry Lane.
- Report obstructions in the River Nadder to the Environment Agency's Incident Hotline 0800 80 70 60.



Flood Warning

What it means

Flooding is expected. Immediate action required.

When it's used

FLOOD WARNING

Half an hour to one day in advance of flooding.

What to do

- Move family, pets and valuables to a safe place.
- Turn off gas, electricity and water supplies if safe to do so.
- Put flood protection equipment in place.

Specific Actions for Flood Wardens and Tisbury Residents

- Flood Warden to contact Councillors, activating the flood plan.
- Check road drainage and low-lying areas throughout the village; especially along the River Nadder.
- Monitor river level at gauging station (record level and time).
- Phone Floodline on 0345 988 1188 for more information.
- Check surface water drainage systems at 3-Arch Bridge, Tisbury Row and Quarry Lane.
- Report Obstructions to the Environment Agency's Incident Hotline 0800 80 70 60.

Severe Flood Warning

What it means

Severe flooding. Danger to life.

When it's used

When flooding poses a significant threat to life.

What to do

- Stay in a safe place with a means of escape.
- Be ready should you need to be evacuated from your home.
- Co-operate with the emergency services.
- Call 999 if you are in immediate danger.



Specific Actions for Flood Wardens and Tisbury Residents

- Flood Warden to contact Councillors, activating the flood plan.
- Check road drainage and low-lying areas throughout the village; especially along the River Nadder.
- Monitor river level at gauging station (record level and time).
- Phone Floodline 0345 988 1188 for more information.
- Check surface water drainage systems at 3-Arch Bridge, Tisbury Row and Quarry Lane.
- Report Obstructions to the Environment Agency's Incident Hotline 0800 80 70 60,

Places at risk	Action
All properties specifically identified from previous flooding events – see page ?	Prepare and initiate evacuation to the Victoria Hall or other places of safety as agreed – see page ? of the overall TISBURY EMERGENCY PLANS document.

Warnings no longer in force

What it means

No further flooding is currently expected in your area.

When it's used

When river conditions begin to return to normal.

What to do

- Be careful. Flood water may still be around for several days.
- If you've been flooded, ring your insurance company as soon as possible to arrange for a survey of the damage to property and/or contents.
- Check all is safe to return.
- Seek advice from the Environment Agency if unsure.

Flood Risk Areas - Properties

Area number	Place at risk	Source of flooding
1	Church Mead SP3 6BF	River Nadder
2	Station Road SP3 6JT	River Nadder
3	Station Road SP3 6JR	River Nadder
4	Stubbles SP3 6NH	River Nadder
5	Church Street SP3 6NH	River Nadder
6	Tisbury Row SP3 6LT	River Nadder
7	Tisbury Row SP3 6RZ	Agricultural run-off Inadequate drainage system Road Wash
8	Chicksgrove Lane SP3 6LU	River Nadder tributary
9	Quarry Lane, Chicksgrove SP3 6LY	Agricultural run-off Inadequate drainage system

Emergency Equipment held by Tisbury Parish Council	Location
Generator - 1	Cricket Pavilion
Short wave radio handsets - 8	Reading Room
Rechargeable multi-beam torches - 6	Reading Room
Megaphone – 1	Reading Room
Megaphone - 1	Cricket Pavilion
Silver thermal wraps – 500	Public Toilet storeroom
Light sticks – 500	Public Toilet storeroom
Gel-sacs – limited supply	Reading Room
Hessian sacks (no sand) - limited supply	Car Park garage
Road Closed / Flooding signs	Car Park garage

Level of Response

The level of response from the authorities to a flooding incident will depend on what is flooded or is at risk of being flooded. There are five priority categories:

Priority	Flooding affecting	Response
1	People	Action to protect life
2	Houses	Action to protect life and property
3	Roads	Action to protect life and property
4	Commercial property	Possible action to protect property
5	Gardens/Agricultural land	No action

There are other factors which may influence the level of a response. Priority is likely to be given to the old or infirm when assisting people, and to occupied property when protecting property. The classification of roads may be used in prioritising responses to road flooding and the protection of commercial property may depend on the risk of environmental pollution from stored chemicals etc.

Tisbury is fortunate that there are no major commercial properties that could pose a threat to the environment, but the presence of agricultural fertiliser and chemicals in areas at risk of flooding should be noted by the property owners and appropriate plans made for protecting these supplies.

Tisbury Parish Council will provide help with information and contact details to property owners or occupiers in flood risk areas where there is persistent flooding and are fully aware of the situation. In such cases the **owners or occupiers are made aware that they must make their own arrangements to protect their**

property from flooding and this policy is endorsed and reiterated in this Plan.

It is the responsibility of individual land and property owners to take appropriate action to protect their assets *well before* the threat of a flood occurs. As a minimum those who live in floodable areas should invest in flood doors and hold stocks of sandbags sufficient for their requirement – stocks of the latter held by the Parish Council and Wiltshire Council are intended for use in emergencies only for the benefit of the wider community (e.g. to prevent flooding of roads), rather than to protect individual buildings.

Authorities Involved

The following organisations may be involved in direct specific action during a flooding event. Property owners are responsible to protect their own property from flooding:

- Environment Agency
- Wiltshire Council
- Tisbury Parish Council
- Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service
- Wessex Water especially problems with foul water
- Electricity, Gas Telecommunications Companies
- Property Owners

Action Lists

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

The principal actions of the Environment Agency are:-

- Issue flood warnings
- Receive and record details of all flooding incidents
- Monitor the situation and advise other organisations
- Deal with emergency repairs and blockages on main rivers and own structures
- Respond to pollution incidents
- Advise on waste disposal issues
- Advice on how to prepare your property to minimise the impact of flooding can be found on https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/personal-flood-plan

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL

The principal actions of the Unitary Council are:-

- Co-ordinate emergency arrangements
- Maintain safe conditions on the roads
- Put flood warning signs on the highway

- Organise road closures and traffic diversions
- Clear blockages on highway drainage systems
- May take action to protect property from flooding by water from the highway where there is a failure of the highway drainage system
- Adopt a co-ordinating role for their area
- Flood warning dissemination (by agreement with Environment Agency)
- Emergency assistance (s138 LGA 1972) provide sandbags
- Clear blocked watercourses etc. (powers under Land Drainage Act)
- Environmental health issues pollution
- Emergency planning support groups

TISBURY PARISH COUNCIL

The principal actions of Tisbury Parish Council are:

- Flood warning dissemination (by local agreement with Environment Agency)
- Distribute sandbags / gel sacs from Wiltshire Council stockpiles, for use in emergencies.

WILTSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

The principal actions of the Fire and Rescue Service are:

- Rescue
- Respond to all emergency incidents as required
- Assist the populace where a need is identified and the use of fire service personnel and equipment is relevant
- Fire tenders will *not* pump out properties unless water remains after flooding subsides

WESSEX WATER

The principal actions of Water Companies are:

- Emergency over pumping to ameliorate water build up.
- Clearing blockages in public sewers and outfall grills
- Repairing burst sewage and water pumping mains
- May take action to protect property from flooding by water from the public water mains or discharges from the public sewerage systems
- Provision of portable toilets in some cases

ELECTRICITY and TELECOMMUNICATION COMPANIES

The principal actions of the electricity and telecommunication companies are:-

- Attend to emergencies relating to their service at properties putting life at risk as a result of flooding
- Attend to flooding emergencies at their own service installation

PROPERTY OWNERS

The principal actions of owners of property at risk of flooding, or which is flooded, are:

- Move to a safe area if life is at risk
- Prevent water from entering property if possible
- Switch off electricity and gas supplies at mains
- Move valuable possessions above floor areas liable to be flooded
- Maintain a 'grab bag' that can be accessed quickly and easily should evacuation need to take place; with items such as:
 - > Warm clothing, and possibly bedding
 - > A torch and a supply of batteries
 - Food (tinned or dry)
 - > Drink
 - Medication
 - Children's toys and books

Preventative Measures

It is the responsibility of all local residents to make adequate and timely provision for flood control measures to protect their property, using supplies obtained from commercial sources.

These include:

- Sandbags Hessian bags should be stored in a dry location, so that they do not rot, and should only be filled with sand immediately prior to use. Polypropylene sacks are less liable to degrade over time. Stocks of sharp sand to fill these sacks should be stored under cover.
- Gel-sacs Easy to store, and do not require a stockpile of sand, but they are relatively expensive (c. £4.00 each), can only be used once, and take some time to expand to full size
- Door barriers wooden panels tailored to the size of the aperture and provided with effective seals
- Covers for Air Bricks
- Bricks and blocks to raise ground floor furniture above water level
- Improvised seals to prevent water incursion through sinks, toilets, etc

In an emergency, a limited number of hessian sacks (not sand) or gel-sacs may be provided by Tisbury Parish Council – Contact the Flood Warden on **07511 180522** or any Parish Councillor.

Liaison Arrangements

Organisation	Agreed arrangement
Tisbury Parish Council	Office space for inter-agency discussions would be available at: The Reading Room, High Street Tisbury, SP3 6LD

Follow up Actions

The following actions by the Flood Wardens and Parish Council are advised during and after a flooding incident:-

- Keep local residents informed of what is going on and implement media plan if appropriate
- Provide information to local authority emergency planning support groups to enable them to assist and advise affected property owners
- Maintain action and financial records
- Investigate flooding and record information, including flood levels
- Supply details of properties flooded, the extent of flooding and flood levels to the environment agency
- Inform riparian owners of remedial measures needed to watercourses
- Identify schemes to alleviate serious flooding of property (if applicable)

Appendix A - Contact Telephone Numbers (Updated August 2022)

Organisation	Phone(office hours)	Phone(alternative)
Environment Agency Floodline	0345 988 1188 (24hrs) Flood Warning status	0800 807060 to report an incident
Environment Agency	03708 506506 (24hrs)	
Wiltshire Council	0800 232323 (Office hrs) Renate Moulton 07827 954856	01722 413834 (24hrs)
Wiltshire Fire & Rescue	01380 723601	01722 439300
Police	101 (Non-Emergency)	999 (Emergency Only)
Ambulance Service	999 (Emergency only)	
Wessex Water	0845 850 5959 Sewage Floodline	0845 600 4 600 (General Emergencies)
Scottish & Southern Electricity	0800 072 7282	
British Telecom	0871 050 5318	0800 800 151 (Land-line) 0330 123 4151 (Mobile)

Appendix B - Wiltshire Council - Sandbag Policy

If your property is in imminent danger of flooding please telephone 0300 4560105.

Please note sandbags will only be provided in response to emergency situations. You cannot collect sandbags from any of our depots.

If you require sandbags as a precautionary measure you will need to make your own arrangements to purchase them from local suppliers.

Wiltshire Council has in place an Emergency Management Plan and will respond to flooding events. We do not have a statutory duty to provide sandbags, but experience shows that the community expects the council to help if flooding is imminent. It is important that we handle enquiries sympathetically but in accordance with the following principles:

- We will maintain a stock of sandbags at depots across Wiltshire with a minimum of 500 bags at each storage location.
- We will supply sandbags free of charge on a "needs" basis in response to flooding emergencies.
- We will not supply sandbags in advance based on forecasts.
- If requests for supply or delivery are received during an emergency situation, we will consider them sympathetically on a case-by-case basis according to apparent vulnerability.
- We will encourage property owners in known flood areas to adopt a "self help" approach and prepare in advance and respond to forecasts or flood warnings. We will encourage people making enquiries for sandbags at these stages to look to local suppliers such as builders merchants where they can purchase them or possibly have them delivered. This will help to preserve our stocks for emergency response.
- The Environment Agency promotes self-help schemes and we will refer people to their website.
- Once issued to householders the disposal of contaminated sandbags following a flooding event will not be the responsibility of Wiltshire Council. Information can be provided on the most appropriate method of disposal but once issued the sandbags become the property of the occupier or organisation.

Notes:

- 1. We have limited supplies of sandbags and these can disappear quite quickly if we supply too soon.
- 2. We try and time it right but flooding is notoriously difficult to predict with any degree of accuracy.
- 3. Builders Merchants / sandbag supplier details for the various areas see Builders Merchants in yellow pages or carry out a search on the internet.
- 4. Visit National Flood Forum for helpful advice <u>www.floodforum.org.uk</u> and supplier information from <u>www.blupages.org.uk</u>
- 5. The Environment Agency website is <u>www.environment-agency.gov.uk</u>
- 6. Wiltshire Council Flooding Website www.wiltshire.gov.uk/communityandliving/civilemergencies/floodinganddrainage.htm