



KINGS SOMBORNE FLOODING INFORMATION

Introduction

As we all know Kings Somborne has the potential to flood due to excessive levels ground water which manifests itself in increased flow into the Bourne commencing above new farm. When this flow is excessive the village is subject to both fluvial flooding from the borne overspill and groundwater flooding as the ground water level exceeds the natural surface level. Additional springs occur due to increased groundwater pressure.

Flood Prone Areas

Flood prone areas are centred on those adjacent to the Bourne. These are shown on the maps provided by the Environment Agency.

To find if your property is in flood risk zone go to the government web site:-

<https://flood-map-for-planning.service.gov.uk/> and enter your post code in the appropriate box.

If you are in a flood prone area the EA advise to sign up for free flood warning alerts these can be received by phone, email or text message.

To sign up Visit - www.gov.uk/flood or Call Floodline on 0345 988 1188

Current Status

The EA have advised that ground water levels are high at present. Excessive ground water levels have the potential to cause flooding. Whilst currently high 31.860mm AOD as of the 22nd of December they are below last December's high of 32.491 AOD (some 630mm lower). The Met Office have advised however that there is a high probability that the next 3 months will be wet. Residents at potential risk of flooding are therefore advised to look at the following government website:-

<https://sites.google.com/view/groundwatergraphs>

Here you can find flood alert information and the borehole level for Kings Somborne (select boreholes on LHS and scroll down. Keeping an eye on the Bourne level will give a good indication of potential flooding but monitoring the groundwater level will give earlier warning.

Flood Protection

The Environment Agency have devised a flood resilience plan which includes flood defence barriers along vicarage lane and the provision of sandbags at strategic locations for the installation by residents.

The EA have made it clear that whilst they will adopt these measures resources permitting at the time it is incumbent upon individual householders to protect their own property. To that end it is worth looking at the National Flood Forum website below and their blue pages

<https://nationalfloodforum.org.uk/about-flooding/reducing-your-risk/property-protection-advisor/>

This contains useful information on measures you can adopt.

As a word of caution whilst simple measure such as barriers and airbrick covers may have the effect of preventing water ingress from surface water they will not prevent water rising beneath suspended floors where a pumping solution would need to be adopted.

Preventative Works

The Parish Council has been working with the EA and landowners during the summer with an effort to improve the flow of the Bourne and desilt balancing ponds. Clearance of blockages has taken place in the autumn and some desilting has taken place of ponds.

The work is not complete, and more effort will be expended in the next few months to formulate an overall plan.

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