Flood Awareness & Training Day

22nd October 2016

Supported by Scottish and Southern Energy





In 2012 the River Exe flooded parts of Exeter very quickly because a lot of rain fell and because the river collects most of its water from areas of impervious rock the water runs off it rapidly.

In the Woodford Valley we are lucky, the Avon collects most of its water on chalk areas which can soak up water.



The River Severn frequently floods, in part because it is about 200 miles long and a lot of water can build up in it.

In the Woodford Valley we are lucky as the River Avon only rises about twenty miles north of us.



In 2004 Boscastle was violently flooded in part because: 75mm of rain fell in 2 hours onto impervious rocks and because the three rivers that feed into the town are all steep sided.

In the Woodford Valley we are relatively lucky. We only have one river feeding into the area and the valley itself is wide with water-meadows that don't channel the water into a narrow confine.



So why, if we are so lucky, do we need to worry?

Because of this:



Woodford Valley 2014

and this:



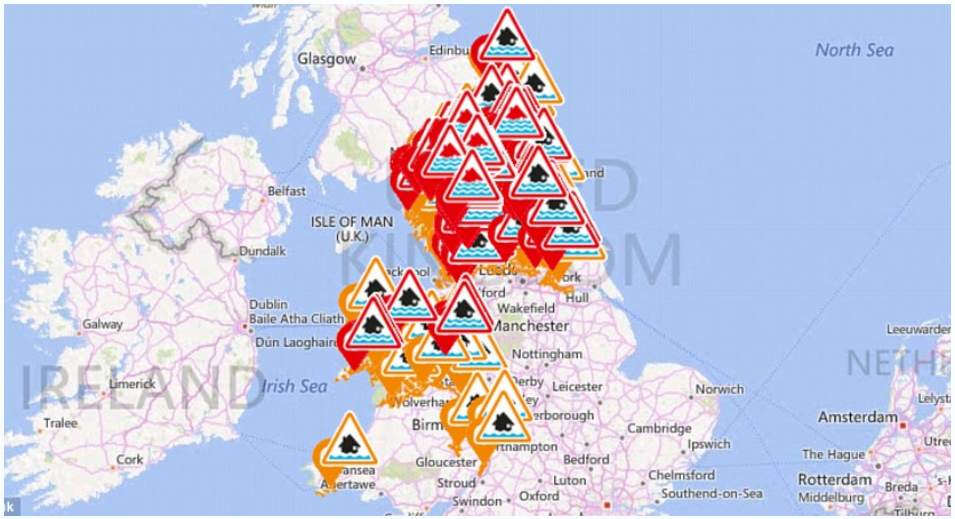
and this.



But we've seen it all before in the Valley. Water goes all over the place but it never comes into my house. So why should I be bothered?

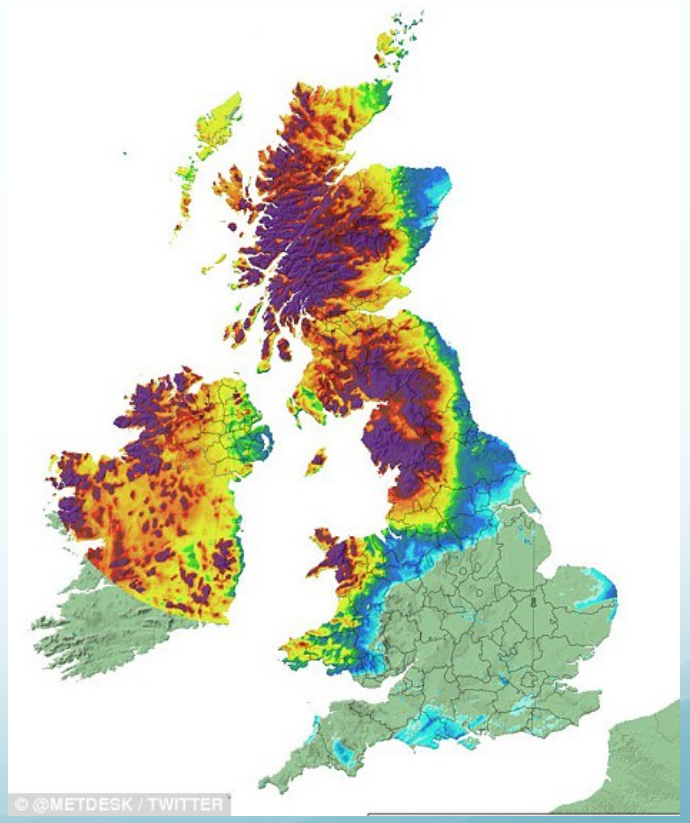
Because of this:

Storm Desmond



In December 2015 the Environment Agency issued 56 severe flood warnings about Storm Desmond.

The following day 100mm of rainfall fell on areas of Cumbria and Western Scotland.



It caused this:



Kendal

and this:



Carlisle

5,200 people's homes were flooded in Cumbria and Lancashire.

and this.



Damage to electricity supply equipment caused over 60,000 people to lose their supply. Many were without electricity for three consecutive nights.

Storms like Desmond seem to be increasing in frequency, probably due to climate change. They could happen anywhere, including here.

So if it happens can the Fire and Rescue Service help us?

- Salisbury: population about 40,000
- Amesbury: population about 10,000
- Woodford Valley: population about 700.

No doubt they would do their best but their priorities may be elsewhere.

So how can we help

- Following the floods of 2014 a small group set out to write a Community Emergency Plan. We now have the nickname “Woodflood”.
- Community Emergency Plans result from a central government initiative to help local communities maximise their resilience in the event of major emergencies such as flooding, prolonged power cuts, or heavy snowfall etc.
- “Woodflood” have now prepared a Community Emergency Plan for the Woodford Valley. It has been adopted by all three Parish Councils.

The Woodford Valley Community Emergency Plan is in Six Sections

- The Emergency Plan
- Appendix 1 Risks and Responses
- Appendix 2 Communications
- Appendix 3 Volunteers and Resources
- Appendix 4 Community Volunteers' Guide
- Appendix 5 Maps

The Emergency Plan

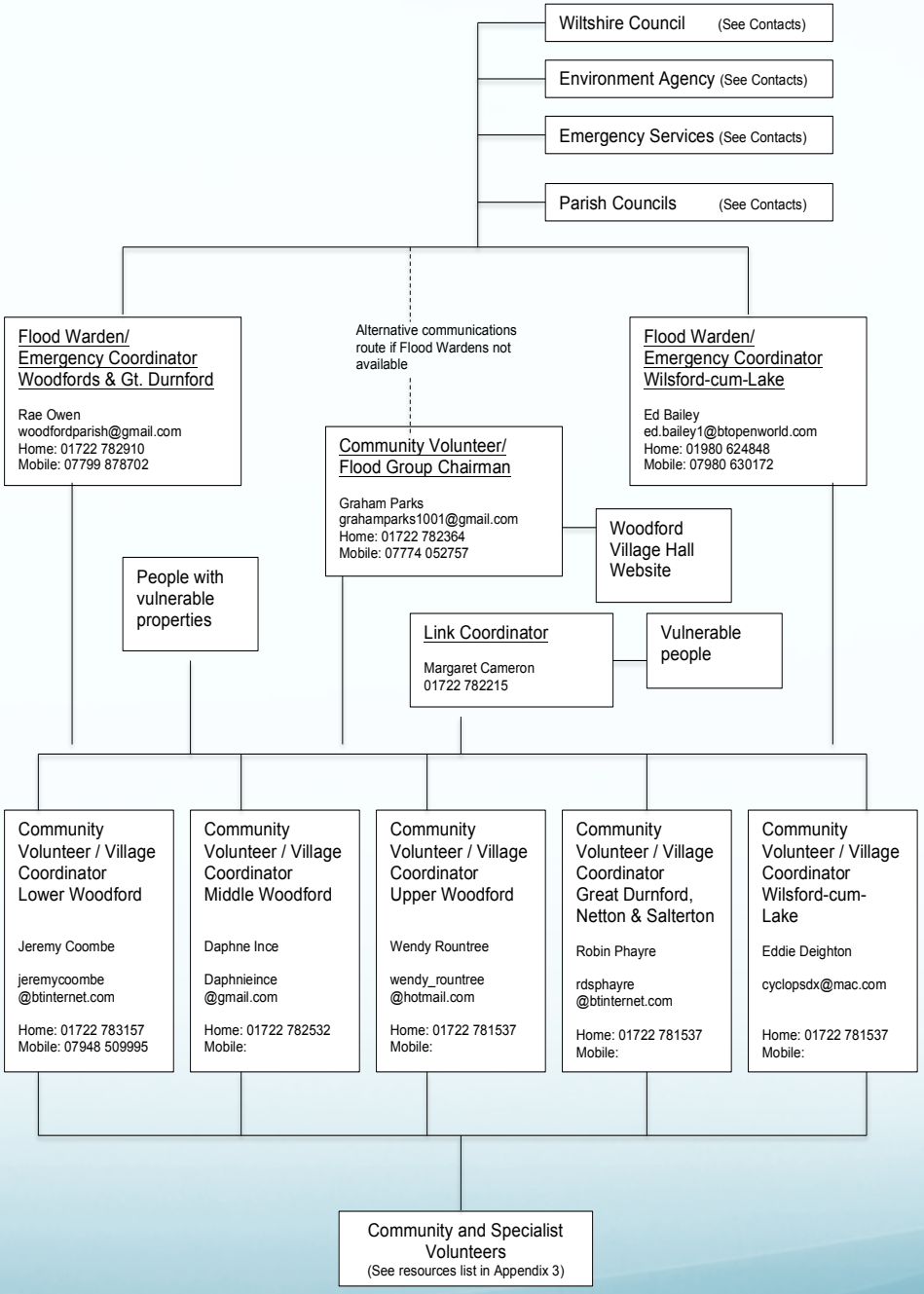
- The first section of the emergency plan sets out its basic objectives:
- Communications and Decisions
- Identifying the Vulnerable
- Training and Information for Volunteers
- Types of Emergency
- Personal Risks
- Insurances

Appendix 1.
Risks and Responses

- This section looks at what we would be able to do in the following situations:
- River and Groundwater Flooding
- Surface Water / Flash Flooding
- Storm / Prolonged Snowfall & Power Cuts

Appendix 2. Communications

- This section sets out a basic communication structure so that we are able to communicate with each other and pass on information from Wiltshire Council, the Emergency Service etc.
- This section also has contact details for everyone involved Wiltshire Council, The Environment Agency, The Emergency Services and so on.


Wiltshire Council (See Contacts)
Environment Agency (See Contacts)
Emergency Services (See Contacts)
Parish Councils (See Contacts)
Flood Warden/ Emergency Coordinator Woodfords & Gt. Durnford
Rae Owen
woodfordparish@gmail.com
Home: 01722 782910
Mobile: 07799 878702
Alternative communications route if Flood Wardens not available
Flood Warden/ Emergency Coordinator Wilsford-cum-Lake
Ed Bailey
ed.bailey1@btopenworld.com
Home: 01980 624848
Mobile: 07980 630172
Community Volunteer/ Flood Group Chairman
Graham Parks
grahamparks1001@gmail.com
Home: 01722 782364
Mobile: 07774 052757
Woodford Village Hall Website
People with vulnerable properties
Link Coordinator
Margaret Cameron
01722 782215
Vulnerable people
Community Volunteer / Village Coordinator Lower Woodford
Jeremy Coombe
jeremycoombe @btinternet.com
Home: 01722 783157
Mobile: 07948 509995
Community Volunteer / Village Coordinator Middle Woodford
Daphne Ince
Daphnieince @gmail.com
Home: 01722 782532
Mobile:
Community Volunteer / Village Coordinator Upper Woodford
Wendy Rountree
wendy_rountree @hotmail.com
Home: 01722 781537
Mobile:
Community Volunteer / Village Coordinator Great Durnford, Netton & Salterton
Robin Phayre
rdsphayre @btinternet.com
Home: 01722 781537
Mobile:
Community Volunteer / Village Coordinator Wilsford-cum-Lake
Eddie Deighton
cyclopsdx@mac.com
Home: 01722 781537
Mobile:
Community and Specialist Volunteers
(See resources list in Appendix 3)

Appendix Three. Volunteers and Resources

- This appendix gives contact details for all the volunteers and resources that we have available to us. It includes volunteers with specialist skills and equipment that they have agreed to make available to us.
- We need more volunteers!

Appendix Four. Volunteers Guide

- This appendix sets out the roles of each of the volunteers. It includes information on legal responsibilities and health and safety

Appendix Five
Maps

- The maps included in this appendix show the areas prone to flooding as predicted by The Environment Agency's model. It also shows:
- Locations of houses that we understand have flooded in the past.
- Locations where equipment is stored.
- Critical infrastructure such as drains that need to be maintained in order to be able to cope with flooding.

How can we help?

This is not us!



We are neither equipped nor trained for rescue work

This could be us!



We have sand bags, gel bags, flood signs and other equipment that we are able to let you have so that you can improve your flood defences

We won’t go into deep water because of this:



But we will shortly have more:

- Pumps
- Generators
- Emergency lighting and cabling

Thanks to a generous grant from Scottish and Southern Energy.

But the best person to help you is you. So be prepared by:

- Preparing your own flood plan.
- Signing up to Environment Agency flood warnings
- Letting us know if you feel particularly vulnerable due to the location of your home, or because of your personal circumstances.
- Volunteering to help us.

With any luck we won’t need any of this!

Do you feel lucky?





Woodford Valley 2014