

BUILDING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE TO FLOOD EVENTS: ILMINSTER 2021

A brief overview of useful resources for the ITC Resources Committee Meeting 16 Nov 2021

Introduction

Members are reminded that following recent flood events, especially of 2017, the Town Council was tasked with leading a community flood plan. Following the recent flooding of 21 October 2021 it is suggested that the Town Council additionally provide a list of useful sources of information for residents. These may need to be printed and held centrally (library or town council office) for those who do not have easy access to the internet.

Gov.Uk has a template for community flood plans that can be downloaded and completed; a copy is herewith.

Sources of relevant information for Ilminster (this is not an exhaustive list)

The main sources of up-to-date information are:

- GOV.UK
- The Environment Agency (go to GOV.UK)
- Southsomerset.gov.uk
- Somersetprepared.org.uk (Somerset Prepared is an annual event held in September, resources are posted online and include community engagement events)
- Funding Support for Community Groups: Contact SPARK Somerset
- Thesomersetroversauthority.org.uk
- The RE Insurance policies (go to GOV.UK)

In addition, Flood Resilience Consultants whose website provides useful resources free to download are:

- Marydhonau.com

Her website has 3 essential guides that can be downloaded:

- The Homeowners Guide to Flood Resilience
- The Homeowners Guide to Flood Recovery
- The Business Guide to Flood Resilience

These resources include advice about planning for a flood event, suitable types of flood defences, finding insurance, dealing with unscrupulous companies who may have fitted flood prevention defences (etc) that fail to operate as they should, etc.

Other Worthwhile Things to do in Preparation

Sign up for flood alerts from the Environment Agency or MET Office

Move your vehicles in advance

Pack emergency bags for family members