

Braybrooke Parish Council Flood Policy and Procedure

Purpose

The primary purpose of this flood policy is to manage and mitigate the risks associated with flooding within Braybrooke Parish. This policy aims to protect the community, properties, and the environment from the adverse effects of flood events. A key goal is to minimise harm to residents and ensure the safety of all individuals travelling through the parish during such events. By implementing proactive measures and effective response strategies, the Parish Council seeks to reduce the likelihood and impact of flooding, thereby safeguarding public health and community well-being.

Scope

This policy applies to the entire area of Braybrooke Parish. It is designed to guide the actions and procedures of Braybrooke Parish Council in managing flood risks and responding to flood events within the parish's boundaries. It is important to note that this policy does not supersede any policies established by North Northamptonshire Council. All actions and interventions proposed and implemented under this policy will be carried out with the assumption of consent by and in coordination with higher authorities, ensuring compliance with broader regional and national guidelines.

Roles and Responsibilities

Braybrooke Parish Council:

- Develop and maintain the flood risk management plan.
- Coordinate with North Northamptonshire Council and other relevant agencies.
- Communicate flood risks and safety procedures to the community.
- Organize flood response drills and monitor policy effectiveness.

Flood Warden:

- Represent the flood warden team.
- Facilitate communication and coordination of flood response efforts.

Residents and Businesses:

- Participate in awareness programs and comply with evacuation instructions.
- Maintain personal and property safety measures.

Risk Identification

The River Jordan catchment area, including Braybrooke Parish, has a history of flooding events. Using Environment Agency flood zone classifications:

- Flood Zone 1: Low probability (<0.1% annual chance).
- Flood Zone 2: Medium probability (0.1%-1%).
- Flood Zone 3: High probability (>1%).

Particular attention is given to areas adjacent to the River Jordan, including Newland Street, designated as Flood Zone 3.

Risk Assessment

Evaluate flood risks based on severity and likelihood, prioritising:

- Vulnerable populations in high-risk zones.
- Critical infrastructure in Flood Zone 3 areas.

Regular updates and assessments ensure responsiveness to new data.

Risk Management Strategies

Key strategies include:

- Infrastructure improvements coordinated with the Environment Agency, NNC Highways, and local landowners.
- Regulatory measures to promote flood-resistant building practices.
- Environmental conservation to mitigate flood risks naturally.

Communication Plan

Information is disseminated through:

- WhatsApp groups and village emails for rapid alerts.
- The bi-monthly publication 'The Gossip' for broader community awareness.
- Annual parish meetings where residents can raise concerns.

Stakeholder Engagement

Flood issues are discussed regularly at Parish Council meetings and documented in the minutes. Efforts are coordinated with Little Bowden to address shared concerns about the River Jordan.

Monitoring and Review

This policy is reviewed annually to ensure its relevance and effectiveness. Updates are based on community feedback, new flood data, and the success of implemented strategies.

Appendices

Appendix A: Flood Zone Map of Braybrooke and Surrounding Areas

This map shows the flood zones for the River Jordan in Braybrooke and surrounding areas, as classified by the Environment Agency. Areas marked in darker shades indicate higher flood risk (Flood Zone 3), while lighter shades represent lower-risk zones.

Source: Environment Agency Flood Risk Map, accessed at <https://check-for-flooding.service.gov.uk/target-area/055FWFUWEL03>.

