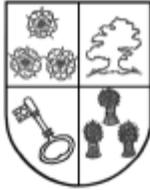


Barton-under-Needwood Parish Council

<p>Clerk to the Council <u>Mrs Siobhan Rumsby</u></p> <p>Tel: 01283 716059 (24 hour answerphone)</p> <p>Email: bartonpc@btinternet.com www.bartonparishcouncil.org.uk</p> <p>  @barton_pc</p>	 <p><u>Parish Council Office hours –</u></p> <p>Monday 10.00am – 12.00pm (except Bank Holidays) Wednesday 1pm –3pm Thursday 1pm-3pm</p>	<p>Village Hall Crowberry Lane Barton-under-Needwood Burton on Trent Staffordshire DE13 8AF</p>
--	--	---

[Further Information for Anybody Affected by the Flooding on 16-02-2020](#)

Barton Parish Council had a meeting on 04-03-2020 with the Environment Agency, Severn Trent Water and the Staffordshire Flood Risk Officer to discuss the recent effects of the weather event on 16th February. Please note these are the agencies that have responsibility for such events, not the Parish Council, but we will work proactively with them on your behalf.

General points that came out of this meeting are:

- 1) You should apply for the grants available to affected properties under the Flood Recovery Framework via ESBC:
<http://www.eaststaffsbc.gov.uk/emergency-planning/flooding/flooding-recovery-support>
as you may receive: £500, 3 months council tax rebate and up to £5000 for works to protect your property against future flood events to cover things like higher plug sockets, better flooring etc.
- 2) The agencies have agreed to a public open meeting where you can ask questions. This should take place before the end of April.
- 3) If you are flooded from a brook, you should contact the Environment Agency incident hotline on 0800 80 70 60. This is a 24-hour service. If you do not contact them, they will not be aware of your problem.
- 4) If you are flooded with sewage with water coming out of manhole covers or gullies, you must immediately contact Severn Trent Water on 0800 783 4444. If you do not contact them, they will not be aware of your problem and can't help you.
- 5) There are things that you, as residents, can also do. If you live next to the watercourse, please can keep it free from any fencing, rubbish, debris and cut back vegetation that can restrict flow. Details on your responsibility can be found here <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/owning-a-watercourse>. The Parish Council will also look at setting up a working party to help residents who are less able and to keep an eye on areas that don't have properties backing onto them.

For properties flooded by the Barton Brook (Brookside Road, Wales Lane, Collinson Road, Church Lane, Efflinch Lane and Meadow Rise)

At the meeting, we were advised of the following:

Overnight on the 15th/16th February, we experienced high rainfall from storm Dennis and in a short period of time circa 1.55"/40mm fell on ground already sodden by storm Ciara. This generated some 145,000 tons of water on farmland upstream of the Barton Brook with nowhere to go and caused a water surge to rush through the village following a fairly straight path rather than the natural twist and turns of the Barton Brook. Detailed maps of what we believe happened are available on the Parish Council website.

Following the flooding event in 1987, the Environment Agency looked at various options to reduce the flood risk from the Barton Brook to a manageable level which included technical solutions which were all extremely costly through to more practical natural solutions. The most viable solution is a natural flood management scheme upstream on the farmland above the village, but any solution must be sustainable from a capital and maintenance perspective. Whilst

this scheme is revisited regularly and was last considered in November 2018, it continues to be deemed not viable for economic reasons. To put this all into monetary terms, such a scheme would cost £1.5m and whilst £500K is available through grants, there is still a gap of £1m. The scheme will, of course, be assessed again considering this recent event and the Parish Council will continue to work with the Environment Agency and Staffordshire County Council on this matter to see if the solution could be delivered more cost effectively.

You may have seen sewage in the flood waters, this will have come from your own property and was mostly caused by the flood water from the brook getting into the sewer system through gullies etc.

For properties flooded by the Full Brook (Efflinch Lane, Mill Crescent and Mill Lane)

The Staffordshire Flood Risk Officer will write to:

- 1) The several properties that back onto the stream who have items blocking the flow. They will be given 21 days to clear the items or further action will be taken.
- 2) The Canal and River Trust to ask them to look at the culvert under the canal and make sure it is in good condition and flowing.

The Staffordshire Flood Risk Officer and the Parish Council met in January on site to look at the flooding problems and will continue to work together to:

- 1) Develop improvements to the watercourse located to the rear of the Mill Lane/Mill Crescent development.
- 2) Develop plans to replace the existing pipe culverts on the Full Brook with larger ones to improve flow.
- 3) Finalise plans for improvements to the Full Brook downstream of the Efflinch Lane/Mill Lane junction that was started in January. Solutions have been identified and funding is available so both parties will pursue these works.

For properties affected by Sewage Flooding from Underground Drains

Whilst the sewerage works was overwhelmed by surface water getting into sewers as well as its usual function, it did keep working and indeed there was no flooding from the works themselves.

Flood water from roads, hard surfaces (e.g. driveways) and some watercourses entered the foul water sewers causing overloading and flooding.

Severn Trent have initiated several investigations and actions.

- 1) If they have received a complaint, they will look at sealing manholes and providing reverse air bricks so sewage cannot enter properties.
- 2) The drains in Mill Crescent are very shallow. They are also not mapped. They will be properly mapped, and inspected internally by remote camera to confirm if repairs are required
- 3) The computer model of the drainage system in this area will be updated to improve understanding of risk of flooding.
- 4) The annual sewerage cleansing is being extended to include the whole of this area.
- 5) STW will investigate the system being used on the Bellways estate to ensure it is working correctly and not overwhelming the system at times of severe pressure.
- 6) The outages when the pumps at the sewage treatment works have stopped working have been identified and will be reviewed with residents to see if these outages coincide with sewage flooding issues.

Siobhan Rumsby
Parish Clerk
10/3/2020