

Bleasby Parish Council

Flooding and Emergency Planning

1. Since its last meeting, FAG (Flood Action Group) has reviewed the Bleasby Parish Local Flood Plan and has updated the list, capabilities and contact details of local volunteers.
2. Many of the roles offered by these volunteers are entirely compatible with other village emergencies and it is hoped that within the Parish Plan such arrangements can be formalised.
3. The recent establishment of an effective defibrillator provision in the parish provides yet another facet to our emergency contingencies provision and is itself galvanising the support and involvement of the community.
4. A prolonged period of overcast, damp and wet weather conditions has led to the ground becoming saturated, thereby raising the risk of pluvial flooding.
5. The steady and prolonged rain during Friday 11th and Saturday 12th December led to much surface water run-off and the opening up of roadside grips (to allow water to flow into drains and ditches) proved necessary, as did the realignment of damaged verges which had completely altered the direction of water flow. Vigilance and regular maintenance is required here.
6. Whilst flooding is probably the greatest risk facing the parish, we do need still to be prepared for the consequences of heavy snowfall and prolonged icy conditions.
7. An incident connected with the railway – and especially the level crossing – is certainly the highest non-weather risk in the parish and the future addition of full barrier provision will lower this risk even further than the already improved arrangements.
8. We need to ensure that residents remain flood aware and to seek additional volunteers from the parish to train as wardens and assistants.

P Cast, December 2015