

Fotherby Parish Council Fotherby Flood Plan & Reporting Process

Fotherby Flood Plan and Reporting Process

Purpose

Following guidance issued by Local Authorities, parish councils are encouraged to prepare a simple flood plan. The flood plan is a published document, available to residents and is created to help manage and mitigate the risks of flooding caused by excessive surface water runoff and sewerage system surcharge. It should identify high-risk areas, identify potential mitigation measures where possible and raise awareness in the community of a flood risk strategy and to promote self-help.

Contents

Key elements of Fotherby parish council's surface water & sewerage flood plan include:

- To provide the community with relevant contact details and guidance for reporting surface/sewage water flooding.
- To create and maintain a Fotherby flood record that documents the flooding experience in the village to support measures to mitigate flood risk and to inform flood risk agencies to help target more informed decision making. The flood record should identify high risk areas most susceptible to flooding during extreme weather events. The flood record should be regularly reviewed and updated annually including events that are material to managing flood risk.
- The Fotherby flood record shall be made available proactively to all flooding agencies and shared with nearby villages to encourage wider community involvement in flood risk management. Flood risk is managed via a collaborative approach of many flood agencies supported by self-help in the community.
- To encourage a coordinated approach to self-help including the deployment of the parish supply of sandbags during storm conditions where properties may be at risk. Sandbags are held centrally to the village in a small store behind the Old Sunday School building in Church Lane and managed by Fotherby Parish Council

Funding sources

Whilst Fotherby PC funds are limited by the small precept, many other potential funding options are available from local council sources including from grants and local council budgets. Where necessary, Fotherby Parish Council shall apply for grants.

Relevant agencies

Managing flood risk requires constructive collaboration. Agencies include the ELDC Drainage Officer, local Environment Agency, Anglian Water, drainage authorities, and Lincolnshire County Council (the Local Lead Flooding Authority (LLFA)) to coordinate efforts and access expertise including Section 19 reporting for those affected by internal flooding in the home or business.

Key flood risk areas within Fotherby

Based on recent experience from 2024 onwards, there are several known areas in Fotherby that have surface/sewage water flooding issues including:

Allenby Crescent (low spot at road corner outside numbers 10 & 11)

Allenby Crescent (number 3, sewage from manhole in driveway)

Louth Road (Manna farm)

Louth Road (side Cliftonville)

Louth Road (outside front Fotherby house)

Church lane (lower Church Lane near the Old Hall)

Louth Road at The Dock/Peppin lane junction

Peppin Lane at corner beyond the railway crossing

Monitoring performance of drainage systems

Through regular dialogue with residents, landowners and the highway authority, gathering and reporting on condition and effectiveness of existing drains/gullies/culverts/ditches/dykes and reports of any service loss in the foul sewer system (owned and operated by Anglian Water), this can identify any potential blockages or bottlenecks so planned maintenance or improvements can be made to prevent escalation of flooding impact.

Land use planning

In consideration of planning applications, collaborating with the ELDC Planning Officer to ensure new developments take account of Fotherby's Flood Plan and Flood Record in the decision making where additional properties are added to the catchment. This must include the incorporation of best practice in surface water management including, where applicable, the use of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems SUDS by developers to keep surface water within the new development area and lessen the impact of surface water off site.

Community engagement

Through regular parish council meetings, the parish council website and articles in the village magazine published quarterly, raise awareness about surface/sewage water flood risks in the village. Supporting residents with options for self-help to reduce flood risk around their homes & businesses and reporting procedures surface/sewage flooding events. Raise awareness of sandbag resources located locally in Church Lane and how to access this.

Community Volunteers

Where there are known flooding hotspots during storm conditions, several designated community volunteers have been recruited to monitor, photograph and report flooding to the relevant agencies. These volunteers can also initiate the deployment of sandbags from the village sandbag store if these can help residents in reducing flood risk to individual properties.

Reporting to Flooding Agencies

Residents are encouraged to report incidents of flooding that are likely to place property at risk or to cause material access issues for pedestrians and vehicles. **A report form** is available for residents on the Fotherby Parish Council website to give guidance including telephone numbers and e-mail addresses for key flood risk agencies. A report from residents may include:

Date and time of flooding (ideally with a photograph)
Anglian Water's reference number (if applicable)
LCC lead flood authority's reference number (if applicable)
"Fix my street" reference number (if applicable)

There are two principal agencies included in the report form:

1. Lincolnshire County Council - Local Lead Flood Authority (LLFA) - for surface water flooding
2. Anglian Water - for escape of sewage from sewerage network

Residents are encouraged to make their reports and copy their reports to Fotherby Parish Council to support the Parish Council in onward reporting to a wider range of agencies.

Other agencies are available to support depending on the severity and circumstances of the flooding within Fotherby. These agencies will be contacted via the Parish Council to provide a more strategic input on flood risk management following any significant flood event. Reports received from residents are vital to improve and update the Fotherby Flood Record and to support strategic decisions by the lead agencies.

Document Control

All flooding documents owned by Fotherby Parish Council shall be reviewed annually. Any minor changes notified during the year shall be collected ready for the annual review. If any material changes to reporting addresses occur, only these will be updated as soon as possible following notification – example key e mail addressees.