Information Sheet

March 2026

Background

The Long Compton Flood Action Group was established following the floods of December 2024. Members of the group include representatives of the Warwickshire County Council, Parish Council, SAFAG, and some of the farmer landowners within the catchment. The Group is targeted to find long term permanent solutions to flooding within the village and is responsible to the Parish Council.

It is estimated that over thirty dwellings are vulnerable to flooding. Others suffer flooding to drives, garages and gardens. Acorns primary school, the Chapel and some business premises are also affected. Both the A3400 and Barton Road become impassable.

Long Compton lies at the bottom of a large catchment bowl. The main watercourses are the Nethercote Brook which eventually runs into the Stour, and the Shawn Brook that runs alongside the main road from Old Hill, to the south, through several long undersized culverts, some under buildings, and joins the Nethercote Brook near Crawbridge where it crosses the A3400 above the church. Flooding arises from these watercourses and their tributaries, and in some cases from surface water runoff. We can expect the problems to increase in severity and regularity with changing weather patterns and climate change.

Flood Strategy:

The Flood Action Group have approved the following strategy:

- **Natural Flood Management** - Promote the construction of additional NFM features that will slow or attenuate flood water.
- **Maintenance -** Seek to ensure that all NFM features are properly maintained and serviceable, together with the maintenance of gulleys, watercourses, ditches, culverts and drains such as would be beneficial to reduce the risk of flooding.
- **Hydrology Modelling -** To obtain a base line hydrology model and survey for the Long Compton catchment, to properly plan the mitigation scenarios that are considered worthy.
- **Working Scenarios –** These should have regard to the following:
    - Reduce the volume of water entering village channels – eg. bypasses
    - Reduce the rate of water entry - by attenuation upstream on multiple sites
    - Focus on flooding that affects residential properties and the school.
    - Accept that Barton Road will flood, (with road signage.)
    - All measures must not exacerbate flooding effect for downstream properties/settlements – potentially with downstream attenuation.
- **Flood Resilience -** To set up and assist a separate Flood Resilience Group.

Possible Solutions:

Holding water upstream – much has already been done in Natural Flood Management including the provision of attenuation ponds where water is allowed to collect during a flood, and with leaky dams, which slow the water flow in ditches and watercourses. More work of this nature is planned.

Bypass for the Shawn Brook – An alternative route for the flood water from this watercourse around the outside of the village to the west is being considered.

Increase channel and culvert capacity and the speed by which water leaves the village, this will include channel clearance to the west side.

Funding

We are anticipating attracting funds for major capital projects from Warwickshire County Council who in turn are allocated monies from the Environment Agency. Other sources of funding are possible including from the Severn Rivers Trust as well as Parish Council however these will likely be for smaller Natural Flood Management works and maintenance only.

Hydrology Modelling

Finance for major projects is hard to come by and applications are treated competitively. In order to demonstrate the effectiveness of proposed solutions, and to ensure that the work does not increase the risk of flooding elsewhere, a detailed channel survey of all the watercourses and hydrology baseline modelling needs to be carried out. This is expensive but a necessary first step in our view. If Warwickshire County Council are not able to undertake this work then fund raising will need to come at least partly from private donations – please contact us if you are able to help.

Flood Resilience Group

In parallel with the Flood Action Group a separate collective has been established of those volunteering to take action during a future flood event. An emergency plan has been written and approved by the Parish Council. Further volunteers will be welcome.

Contact:

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