

GUIDANCE NOTE – FLOODING

Flooding can come **from several sources**: rivers / streams / ditches, surface water, groundwater and drainage systems (**e.g.** drains / inspection chambers / highway drains & gullies & grips / sewers / manholes / culverts / balancing ponds) which **could effect your property**.

In 2007 some areas of the Parish **were effected by flooding** (Southend – Billington Way – Grindle Close – Cold Ash Hill – Fishers Lane – Bucklebury Alley – The Ridge - Ashmore Green – Stoney Lane & Manor Park).

REMEMBER

YOU are **responsible** for **protecting your property** from **flooding**.
(**No agency** has **that responsibility**)

If you are **living** in a **flood risk area** you should always **put in place** ways to **protect your home**).

- If your **home** is **prone to flooding** you may need to **buy flood protection** equipment. There are a **variety of products** that can be **purchased**. A comprehensive **list** can be found in '**The Blue Pages**' directory on the National Flood Forum's website. **www.bluepages.org.uk**
- Additionally, further **comprehensive** and **detailed information** can be found in the Thatcham Flood Forum's 20 page booklet '**RESIDENT'S GUIDE TO FLOODING**'.

Copies can be obtained from the Parish Council's Office, Hermitage Road, Cold Ash.

SPECIFIC PREPARATIONS

- **Check** your buildings and contents **insurance policy** covers flooding.
- **Know** how to **turn off your gas, electricity and water supplies**.
(**Labels** on valves, switches, taps you **need to turn off** makes it **easier** to remember and **quicker** to do).
- **Think about** what you will do with **cars, furniture, electrical equipment, garden furniture** and **pets** should you be affected by flooding.

RESPONDING DURING A FLOOD

- Fill **receptacles** with **drinking water**.
- **Collect food, blankets, first aid kit, personal & pet medications and important documents**.
- Move **items** to **higher** levels / upstairs with personnel and pets.
- **Switch off utilities** – **disconnect** equipment that **uses water**.
- **Stay out of flood water** - Evacuate when told.