


PURTON PARISH COUNCIL	EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN EXTREME WEATHER AND FLOODING
APPROVED BY COUNCIL: 15/05/2023 <i>This policy will be reviewed once every 5 years unless there is a significant change in legislation or staffing requirements</i>	
Signed by Clerk: 	Dated: 12.12.23

**PURTON PARISH EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN
EXTREME WEATHER AND FLOODING**

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1. INTRODUCTION

This plan is designed to provide a basic co-ordinated approach to ensure access, emergency response and the safety of those residents who are at risk in the event of Purton being directly or indirectly affected by bad weather. It should be read in conjunction with the emergency plan.

In times of extreme weather conditions, the disruption and risks to the inhabitants are from:

- Hazardous road conditions and restricted access as a result of:
 - o Snow bound, icy roads (all roads)
 - o Steep icy hills
 - o Flooding
 - o Fallen trees (all roads)
 - o Fallen power cables
- Power failures as a result of:
 - o High winds
 - o Snow damage
 - o Fallen Trees

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- Telecoms disruption (Land line & cellular)
 - o Fallen trees
 - o Lightning strikes
- Risk to the frail and elderly as a result of any of the above and/or persistent cold conditions

2. LOCAL RESOURCES

Being a rural community with many local agricultural, forestry and contractor skills, machinery and equipment is well placed to deal with environmentally related emergencies. A list of local residents that have facilities to help has been produced, please refer to the emergency plan for more information.

3. EMERGENCY RESPONSE: Snow and Ice

Wiltshire Councils priority is to keep the main arterial routes: - Restrop Road, High Street, Station Road, B4553 and B4696 open, these have been identified as primary gritting routes. **Annex 1 shows a map of the gritting route.**

Keeping these roads open avoids the use of the other more dangerous hill routes out of the village and gives local traffic the ability to reach more major routes and necessary facilities.

Other secondary routes are Pavenhill to the B4696 will also be cleared as a second priority.


Manor Hill road is a particular hazard in heavy snow and freezing conditions and has been the site of serious accidents. In the event of such conditions the emergency plan committee will contact Wiltshire Highways to discuss closing the road. If agreed appropriate signs will be placed at each end and other roads as necessary, by Wiltshire Council.

Purton Parish Council do not have the resources to clear roads, reference to the emergency plan should be made for volunteers who have offered their services/equipment that may be useful if necessary.

Salt bins provided by Wiltshire Council are located as **per Annex 2**. Previously Wiltshire Council would attempt to fill all the grit bins every year, however this is quite a large task with over 1600 bins in Wiltshire. Therefore, they now use more of a targeted approach to refilling, by collating all requests and carry out a programme of refills prior to winter. Depending on the severity of weather during the winter Wiltshire Council can sometimes carry out further refills, however during harsh winters the resource is directed to keeping the main routes salted.

4 FLOOD PLAN

The Parish Council has a part to play in ensuring the risk of flooding within the Parish is minimised but it has no legal responsibility it can only act as a facilitator between agencies who do have responsibilities.

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4.1 **ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**, who is responsible for what – further information can be obtained from www.nationalfloodforum.org.uk

PROPERTY OWNERS, HOUSEHOLDERS AND BUSINESS OWNERS are responsible for looking after their own property, including reducing the risks of water entering it and of causing damage. Therefore, it is important people are aware of their flood risk and take measures to protect themselves where appropriate.

The drainage pipes located beneath residential houses, gardens or driveways belong to the owner and their responsibility. These stop being their responsibility the moment they reach outside the boundary of the property and/or connect to pipes serving another property.

WATER AND SEWERAGE COMPANIES – THAMES WATER for Purton Parish, are responsible for managing risks of flooding from piped water and foul or combined sewer systems.

HIGHWAY AUTHORITY – WILTSHIRE COUNCIL are responsible for maintaining highway drainage. They have only have a riparian responsibility if we own the adjacent land. Highway ditches are the responsibility of the riparian owner and it is down to them to maintain them, not the council. The owners should identify those ditches that if not maintained would cause internal property flooding or standing water on a high speed road.

RIPARIAN OWNERS – landowners who own land or property next to a river, stream or ditch, have responsibilities to maintain the waterway and ditches to ensure they are free flowing at all times.

PURTON PARISH COUNCIL - There is no statutory responsibility for Parish Councils to plan for, or respond to, emergencies caused by flooding in the locality. What we can do is facilitate communication between those responsible for flood risk to reduce that risk, and report flooding issues to the relevant authorities when identified. **Appendix 5** contains flood coordinator actions.

4.2 **ROADSIDE GULLIES AND DRAINS**


Purton Parish Council are not responsible for checking these, but if advised by members of the community of a possible blockage or damage we can report it to the relevant authority for action. However, we always encourage residents to report concerns directly to Wiltshire Council, as this will minimise delay and more importantly, you will be given an individual reference number that can be followed until resolved.

4.3 **WATER LEAKS OR BLOCKED SEWAGE PIPES**

In all instances these should be reported directly to Thames Water for resolution.

4.4. **BLOCKED DITCHES**

If a ditch or watercourse is blocked and no longer functioning as an efficient drain, then the Parish Council can write to the landowner if known, requesting the ditch/watercourse be cleared. In the event a landowner does not carry out the request from the Parish Council then the information is passed to

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Wiltshire Council for further action. The Parish Council has no legal jurisdiction to take further action, we can only make the initial request. We do not check ditches or watercourses in the Parish so rely solely on resident communication.

4.5 KNOWN LOCAL FLOODING

Local Areas known to be affected in Purton, causing significant disruption.

- Restrop Road, culvert gets blocked, land owners responsibility
- Manor Hill (lower part) culvert gets blocked, land owners responsibility
- The Hyde, drain gets blocked, WC to unblock it when reported
- Church End, river banks prone to collapse, culverts get blocked, land owners responsibility
- Ringsbury, drain gets blocked, WC to unblock it when reported

Appendix 3 and 4 shows ground and surface water data, which is used to determine those areas at risk of flooding.


5 FALLEN TREES

Every attempt to contact the owner of the land where any fallen trees are located will be made by Wiltshire Council and suitable arrangements made to make safe/remove the obstruction safely. Once notified of a fallen tree on Purton Parish Council, Purton War Memorial and Village Centre Charity, Purton Institute and Village Hall Charity or The Play Close Charity land an appropriately qualified and experienced person will be contacted to assess the hazards and to clear the obstruction as necessary. In the event of a fallen tree being complicated with power or telecom lines the appropriate supplier will be contacted by Wiltshire Council to ensure any risk is managed before the tree is cleared. Where the tree is blocking the road or is on a highways verge the Wiltshire Council Highways department will be contacted.

6 RISK TO VULNERABLE


Purton has a population of elderly people who often live both within the village centre and beyond in the more remote hamlets. These groups will be particularly sensitive and at risk during prolonged or extreme weather conditions. In the past Purton has relied on the closeness of the local community and neighbours to ensure these people are supported during extreme weather conditions. This will continue with the added support of communication, contact details and reminders through the Purton Parish Council Website, Purton News monthly magazine.

Purton Age Concern will also be contacted with regards to their contacts within Purton to ensure the elderly are priority.

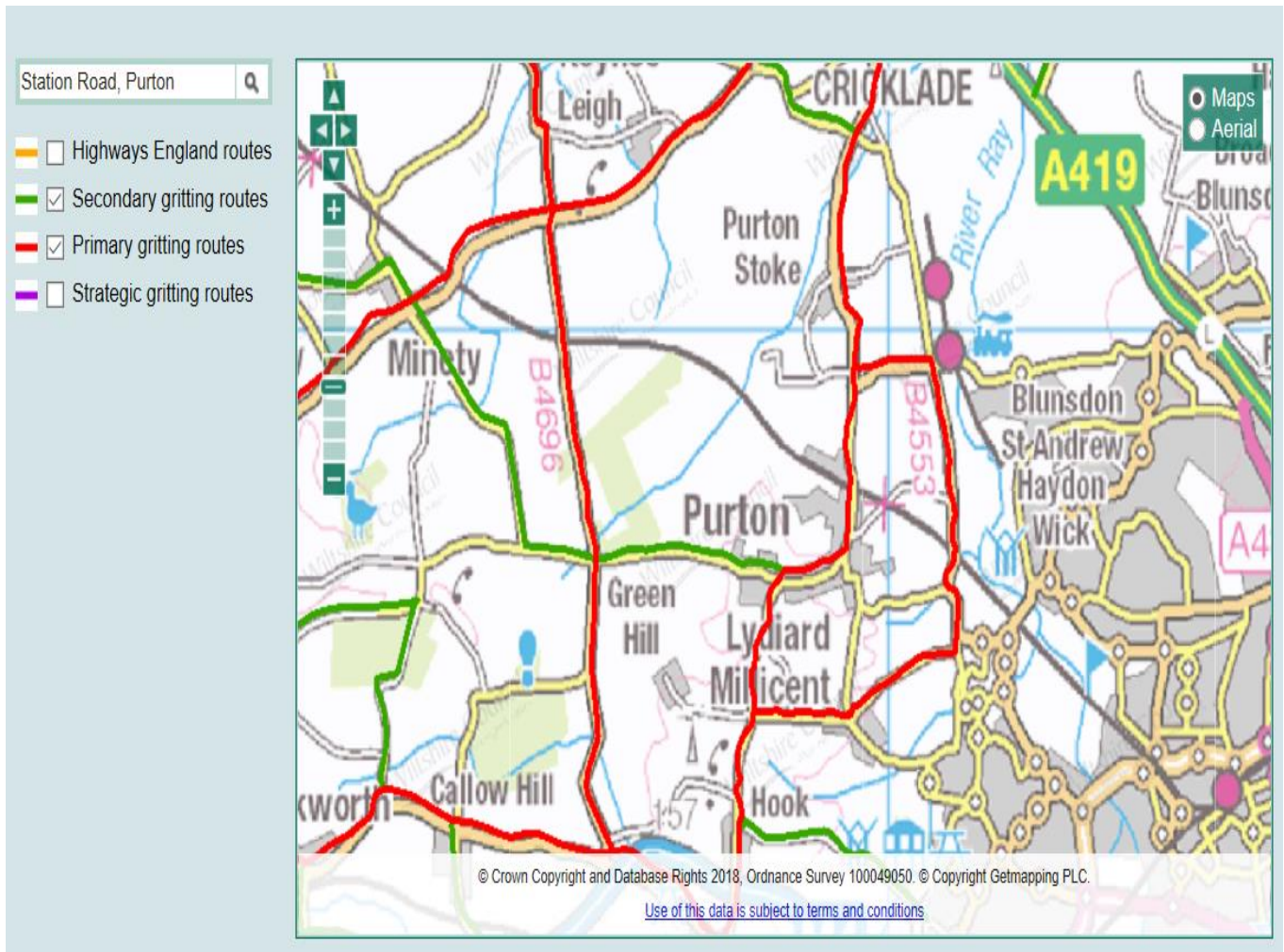
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7 CONTACT DETAILS

NAME	PHONE NUMBER/EMAIL CONTACTS
Kevin Law –	Emergency Plan Co-ordinator 07768456989
Neil Hooper	01793 976643 / 07970889425
Deborah Lawrence	01793 771066 / 07812346936
Wiltshire County Council	Emergency Planning in event of an incident 01225 713159 Emergency housing needs - 0300 456 0100 Emergency highway faults - 0300 456 0100 Building control emergencies (dangerous structures) out of hours 0300 456 0100, during office hours 0300 456 0113
Wiltshire Council out of hours answering service	0300 777 1045
Great Western Hospital	Accident and Emergency - Open 24 hours a day 01793 604020
Local GP Surgery	Purton Surgery, Willis Way - 01793 770207
St Marys Church	Church Street, Purton Rev Ian Tweedie Smith - 01793 770077 Rev Judith Wells 01793 770627
Fire /Police and Rescue Services	Non-emergency - 101 Emergency - 999
Environment Agency	0345 988 1188 Incident line 0800 80 70 60 floodline 03459 881188
Dorset & Wiltshire F & R	0306 799 0019 Emergency 999
Wiltshire Police	101 Emergency 999
South West Ambulance	111 Emergency 999
British Transport Police	0800 40 50 40 Emergency 999
Network Rail	03457 11 41 41
Gas (Wales & West)	0800 912 2999/0800 111 999
Water (Wessex)	0345 600 4600
Electricity (SSEPD)	0800 048 3516 105
National Flood Forum	012499 403 055

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Appendix 1 – Map of Primary Gritting Routes within Purton



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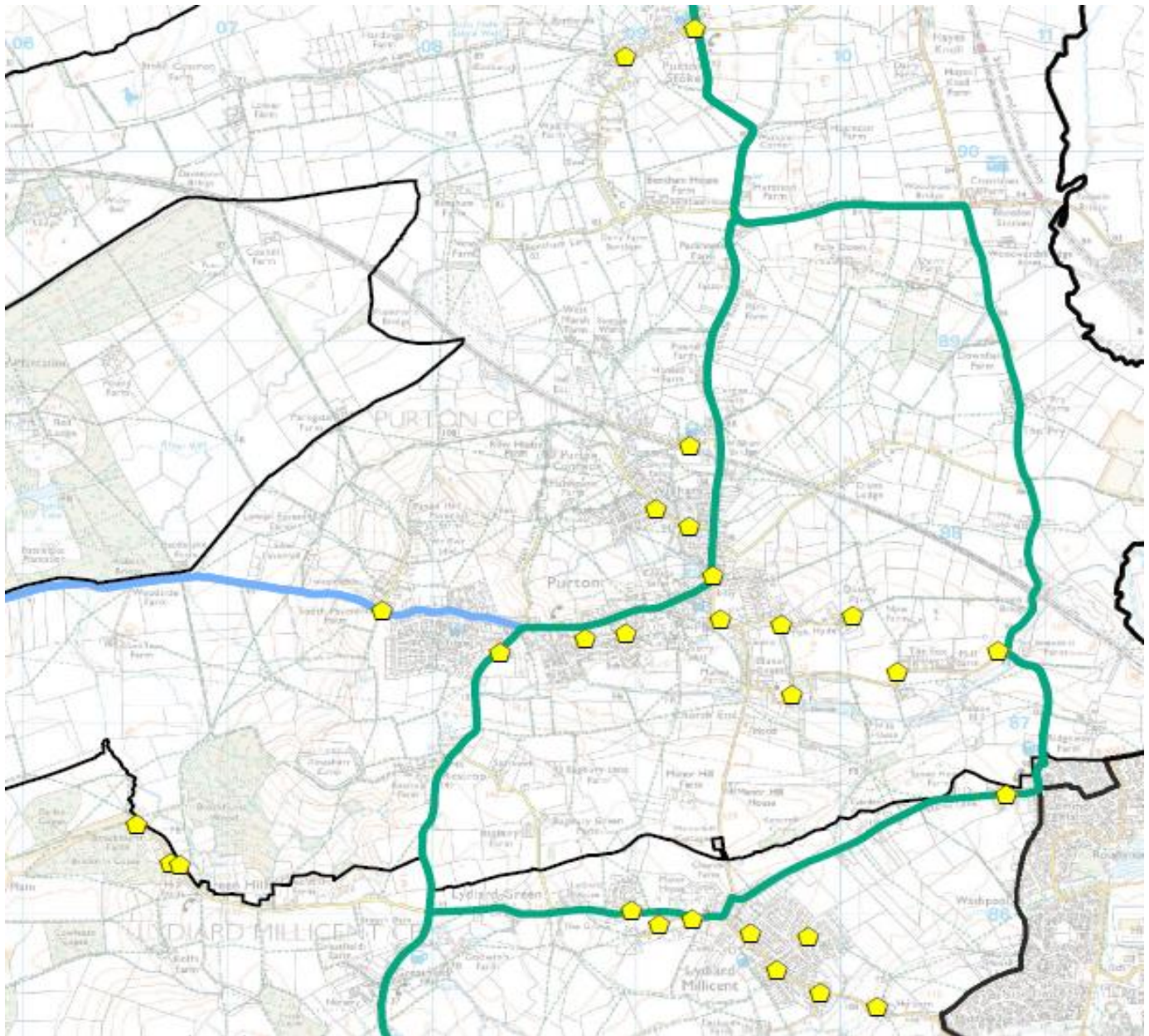


Dated: 12.12.23

Appendix 2 - Road salt grit bin locations



Purton Parish
Primary (Green) and Secondary (Blue) Salting Routes
with WC Owned Salt Bins (Yellow), Parish (Blue)



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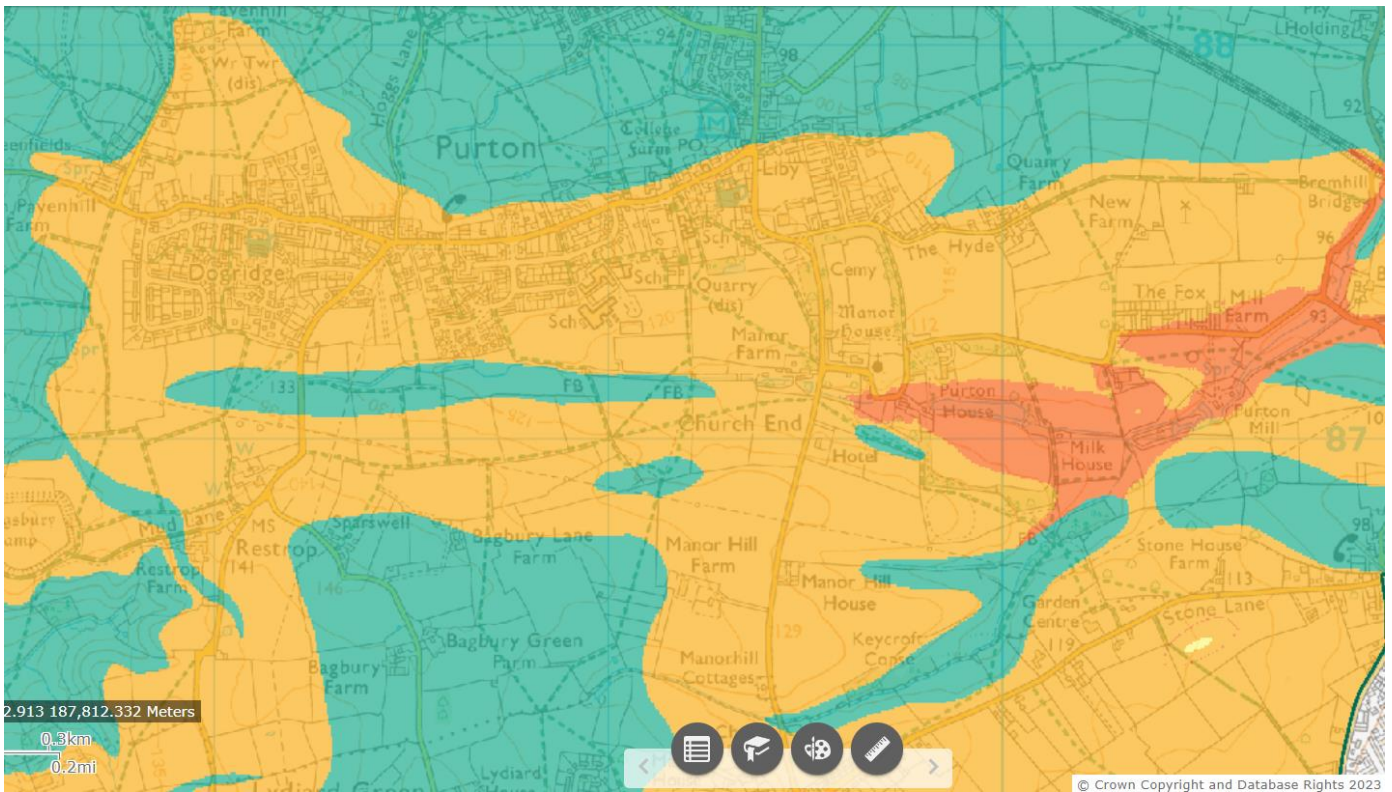
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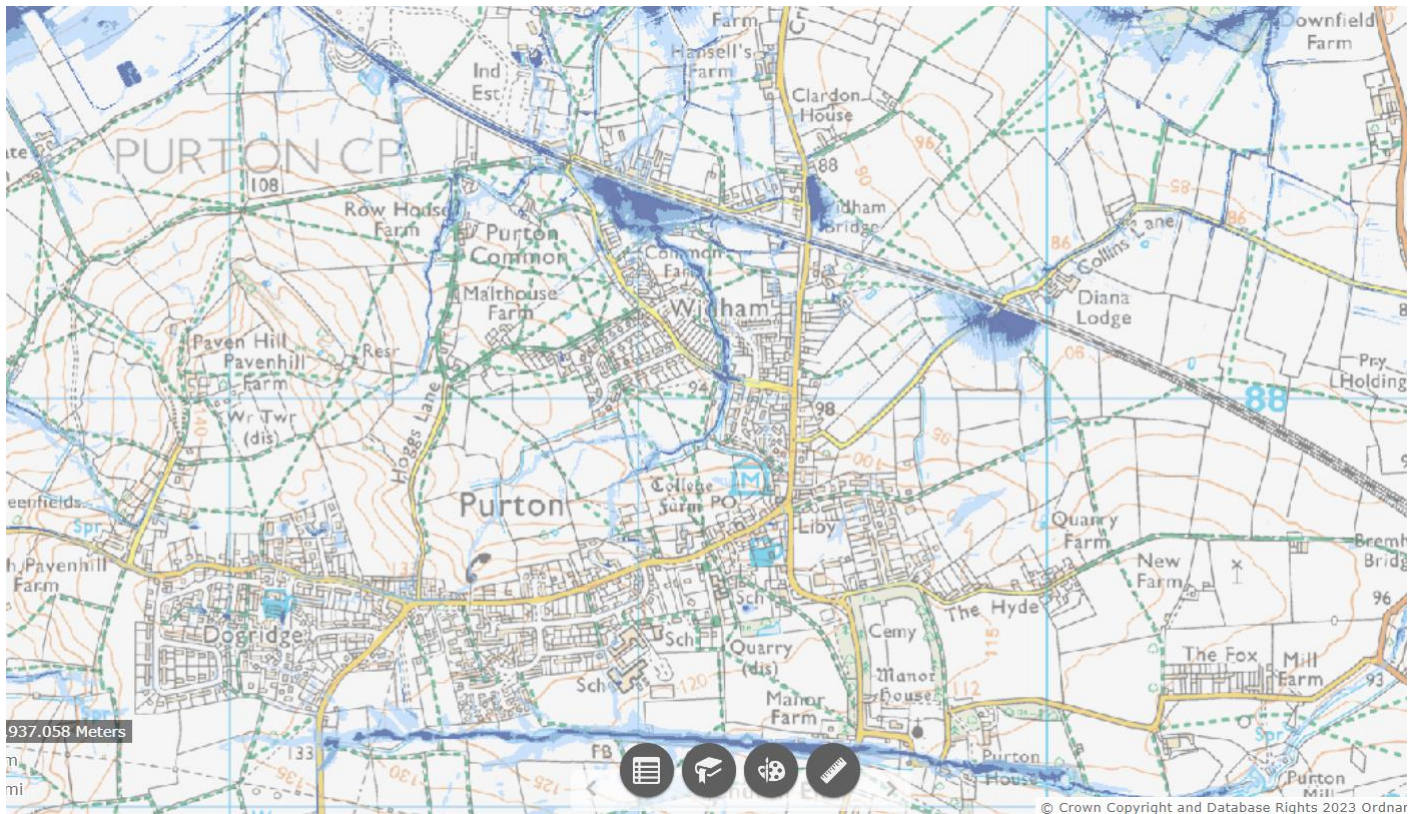
Appendix 3 - Groundwater flood risk Purton




- No risk.
- Groundwater levels are at least 5m below the ground surface.
- Groundwater levels are between 0.5m and 5m below the ground surface.
- Groundwater levels are between 0.025m and 0.5m below the ground surface.
- Groundwater levels are either at or very near (within 0.025m of) the ground surface.

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Appendix 4 - Surface water flood risk




- Risk of Surface Water Flooding 1 in 30 (EA) ...
 (Tick and zoom in to activate)
- Risk_of_Flooding_from_Surface_Water_Ext...
 nt_3_3_percent_annual_chance
- uFMFSW 1 in 30 flood extent
- Risk of Surface Water Flooding 1 in 100 (EA) ...
 (Tick and zoom in to activate)
- Risk_of_Flooding_from_Surface_Water_Ext...
 nt_1_percent_annual_chance
- uFMFSW 1 in 100 flood extent
- Risk of Surface Water Flooding 1 in 1000 (EA) ...
 (Tick and zoom in to activate)
- Risk_of_Flooding_from_Surface_Water_Ext...
 nt_0_1_percent_annual_chance
- uFMFSW 1 in 1000 flood extent

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Appendix 5 – Flood Coordinator Card

	Flood Coordinator Action Card
Role of the coordinator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead the implementation of the flood plan • Work with the Clerk to deliver the appropriate messages to the public • To act as the contact point with the Environment Agency, Wiltshire Council, and other statutory agencies who may be involved
Period of wet weather	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor weather warnings • Monitor Environment Agency website for river and groundwater levels. • Check flood plan
Flood Alert 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform Clerk of status. • Activate flood plan based on advice from WC and EA.
Flood Warning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request residents take photographs/record information if safe to do so. • Liaise with Environment Agency re severity and feedback information if relevant. • Liaise with Wiltshire Council re severity and relevant information. • Continue to monitor Environment Agency website
Severe Flood warning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flood coordinator may request to pull back whilst situation reassessed to ensure no one in danger. • Liaise with Wiltshire Council re flooding situation. • Continue to monitor EA website. • Discuss with Clerk re administrative support • Liaise with EA & Wilts council staff to determine next course of action
Warnings no longer in force	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flood co-ordinator/residents to gather information collected and to feed this back to the relevant authority

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Appendix 6 - Wiltshire Council - Useful Information, Guidance, Links and Reporting for Flood Plans, Wardens and Volunteers

Environment Agency


- Flood Warnings & Alerts www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings
 - Make sure you and residents sign up for warnings and alerts
 - If your community is in an area at risk of groundwater flooding, everyone should also ask to be signed up to the groundwater flood warning service.
- FORT – Flood Reporting system <https://swim.geowessex.com/somerset/Report/Splash>
- Checking for flood information guidance e.g. current alerts & warnings and 5 day flood risk. <https://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/warning>
- Checking the flood risk in your community <https://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/long-term-flood-risk/map>
 Checking river, sea and groundwater levels in your community <https://flood-warnings-information.service.gov.uk/river-and-sea-levels>

Met Office

- Met office weather warnings
 Download app from Apple Store or Google Play, follow on Twitter or subscribe by email <https://metoffice.gov.uk/weather/warnings-and-advice>
- Check for local Met Office weather observation stations at: <https://wow.metoffice.gov.uk>

Wiltshire Council

- **MyWiltshire** to report flooding & weather emergencies <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/mywilts-online-reporting>
PEAS (Parish emergency assistance scheme)
 Gel sacs, florescent tabards, road flooded warning signs and grit. Email: weatherteam@wiltshire.gov.uk
 - **Flood/emergency plans**
 Advice or assistance, changes to contact details, flood wardens & volunteers
 Email: drainage@wiltshire.gov.uk
 - **Discretionary gully tanker services** (via your parish/town clerk)
 Email: Wiltshiresewers@wiltshire.gov.uk
- Operational Flood Working Group**
 Held bi-monthly in the north and south of the county to meet with stakeholder representatives, Wiltshire council, town and parish councils to discuss issues pertaining to drainage and flooding.
 For details and dates Email drainage@wiltshire.gov.uk
- **Ditches**
 Letters and advice for town and parishes concerned that lack of maintenance of ditches and local watercourses could cause properties within their community to flood. (at the bottom of the page)

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Your parish clerk should also have details on how to do this. [Operational flood working groups - Wiltshire Council](#)

- **Watercourse Consent**

Anyone wanting to do works on or within 8 metres of an ordinary watercourse, ditch, culverted watercourse or river (not main) must apply for Land Drainage Consent. [Land drainage and ordinary watercourse - Wiltshire Council](#)


- **Flood Re**

Affordable insurance for any-one who has flooded or is at risk of flooding and are unable to insure their house or the quote is very expensive. The property must have been built prior to 2009. <https://www.floodre.co.uk/>

- **Drainage & Flooding**

A flood or community resilience plan should contain the following information particularly if there is a high flood risk to the community:-

- A map/information about what the flood risk to the community is e.g. river, surface water, groundwater, other or combination of one or all of the above
- Identify the areas most at risk and any indicators e.g. when river reaches the top of the smallest arch flooding will occur. A photograph of the indicator is always useful in the flood plan.
- Which properties/persons are at risk.
- Know where to go for borehole, river levels and surface water rainfall gauge information which will indicate when levels are rising. (see above)
- Identify those gullies that if blocked would cause internal property flooding or standing water on high speed road, should be in the plan and the area highway engineer notified of this. A map or directions will suffice.
- Reminder to the clerk to use the discretionary gully tanker on those not requiring traffic control e.g. high speed road.
- The parish steward can be tasked with clearing drainage assets in periods of wet weather.
- Remind the residents to report blocked gullies via the MyWilts App.
- When any internal property flooding occurs you must let the drainage team know.
- Wiltshire Council may need to carry out a Section 19 investigation to determine the contributory factors leading to the flooding. The council will require names and addresses of said properties in order to do this.
- When flooding occurs photographs/videos should be taken with dates/times and details and forwarded to drainage@wiltshire.gov.uk
- If WC don't know about flooding in your community we can't do anything to help – always advise the drainage team when flooding occurs, particularly when properties are flooded internally.

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- **Homeowners**

- It is the home-owners responsibility to protect their property from flooding not the local authority.
- To check if a property is at risk of flooding go to:- <https://www.gov.uk/check-long-term-flood-risk>

Useful email addresses regarding flood protection, advice & information

Property Flood Resilience <https://floodmary.com/>
National flood forum <https://nationalfloodforum.org.uk/>
National flood forum blue pages, business involved in property protection <https://bluepages.org.uk/>
Property Care <https://www.property-care.org/homeowners>

Review Date	Review Detail
12.12.23	WC review and suggested amendments made