

# Be Prepared for Flooding

Not wishing to state the obvious but eventually & probably before very long the thaw will set in and the snow will start to melt. We will then potentially have a further problem, that being the possibility of flooding in lower areas of our parish and run-offs from fields & banking etc.

The people affected previously will need no reminding of the damage and disruption that will cause. Because of the extreme weather conditions I think it highly unlikely that the council and environmental agencies will be able to cover every eventuality.

Therefore may I suggest that we all make our own preparations to protect ourselves and carry out some "damage limitation" measures to try to reduce the likelihood of water damage occurring.

I am no expert but I do know that there are products specifically designed to reduce the risk of flooding to properties. The first point of call could be to the City Council to obtain sand bags so as to have them ready for a quick response prior to the event.

You can phone Street Force Contact Centre on (0114) 273 4567 between 8.00am and 6.00pm - Monday to Friday. At all other times, a recorded message will advise you how to contact their 24 hour emergency standby team. Email via the link below,

<http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/maintenance/contact-street-force>

There are other products available from specialist suppliers such as reusable bags that do not need sand but swell up when wet, to use in a similar manner to sand bags but take up less room when dry. Ecclesfield Parish Council office at High Green (phone 0114 2845 095) have details of one supplier but there are others just type "flood prevention products into a search engine.

There are barriers for fixing to door frames so that a panel is simply dropped into place and specific products to protect air-bricks.

I just think that a little preparation could save a lot of damage if we take ownership of the problem because by the time we can get anybody on site to help it will probably be too late!

Yours faithfully

Howard House

Chairman, Ecclesfield Parish Council

<http://www.ecclesfield-pc.gov.uk/>