

Newton St Cyres Parish Council

Risk Assessment – Flood Network

Task	Hazard	Risk	Level of risk	Control measure
Monitoring water levels in streams/ rivers and reporting flooding of particular sites.	Poor weather, limited visibility, high wind	Possible risk of drowning or accidents due to falling trees/branches.	Severe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not go outside unless visibility is good and there are no high winds. Do not go into flood water. Use WhatsApp or the walkie-talkies to keep in contact with other members of the group. Wear the high vis jacket provided.
Deploying road signs warning of flooding.	<p>Poor weather, limited visibility, high wind</p> <p>Encounters with motorists/pedestrians</p>	<p>Possible risk of drowning or accidents due to falling trees/branches.</p> <p>Irate motorists, vehicles stuck in flood water. Collision between volunteer and vehicle</p>	<p>Severe</p> <p>Moderate – severe</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not go outside unless visibility is good and there are no high winds. Do not go into flood water. Use WhatsApp or the walkie-talkies to keep in contact with other members of the group. Wear the high vis jacket provided. Avoid discussions with members of the public. It is their decision to risk going through a flood. Wear high vis jackets to indicate you are a flood warden. Do not work on A377.

	Moving heavy road signs	Damage to back	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not attempt to move a vehicle stuck in flood water. Do not go into flood water to rescue someone. Call the emergency services. If two flood wardens are present. You may use the grab ropes to assist a rescue, but only if the trapped person is capable of using the grab rope. Lift the heavy road signs using bent knees and straight back.
Alleviating flooding by clearing drains/gullies.	Deep water and moving heavy objects	<p>Risk of Drowning</p> <p>Coming across hidden objects underwater and sustaining injury from these.</p> <p>Damage to back</p>	Moderate – severe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not go into deep water. If you can attempt to alleviate a blockage, discuss the plan with the coordinator before attempting the task and keep in contact using WhatsApp. If possible, do not work alone. Wear suitable waterproof clothing and use appropriate equipment. If in doubt, do not attempt to clear the blockage
	Contaminated water	Risk of infection	Moderate - severe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On returning home, take a shower, taking particular care over cuts. If you start to feel unwell, consult a doctor immediately.

Supervising evacuation of residents should extreme flooding occur.	Encounters with residents.	Arguments with residents, being asked to move heavy objects.	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If evacuation of homes is deemed necessary, you can inform residents but it is up to them to comply. • Do not move heavy objects at the request of a resident. • Follow the rules in the evacuation centres for monitoring residents and providing support.
Preventative work to minimise risk of flooding, inspection of Shuttern Brook	<p>Deep water</p> <p>Moving heavy objects</p>	<p>Drowning, encountering submerged objects</p> <p>Damage to back.</p>	Moderate to severe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only work on water courses when water levels are low. Do not go into deep water. • Do not work alone. • Use appropriate equipment for the task. • Most repair/remedial work should be carried out by the landowner, not by the flood network.

Reviewed Jun 2025