

Uplyme Parish Council flood report for February 2013

Further heavy rain again flooded the playing fields and tennis court and children's playground last weekend, and the culverts were again surcharged. The culvert at Venlake needs its channel downstream clearing. There was considerable run-off along the Lyme Road down into Cathole Lane and Limekiln Lane, Springhead Road and other parts of the parish but no property is known to have been flooded this time.

With regard to a general flood scheme a meeting was held in the village with all the authorities involved, including the Environment Agency, DCC and EDDC; attended by the UPC councillors, Mrs Searle, the Clerk, County Councillor Jim Knight, District Councillor Ian Thomas and our MP Neil Parish. It was agreed that the EDDC Senior Engineer Keith Steel would investigate the possibilities of having a new survey and design work is carried out by Consultants, based on a brief by Richard Rainbow of the DCC flood unit. Since that meeting, Mr Rainbow has made further inspections of the village, accompanied by members of the flood working party. This is the first necessary step in any flood protection scheme to get an agreed design and hence be able to apply for proper funding. Our MP also proposed writing to BT regarding the contentious green box at the Village Hall and its duct crossing the drainage channel.

This is the biggest positive forward step since last July's floods but will obviously not provide immediate alleviation of the problems. The Environment Agency is to hold workshops on flood warnings for Uplyme and Lyme Regis in March and has appointed a Community Engagement Officer, Kate Taylor from its Flood Resilience Unit to develop a community flood plan for Uplyme, to help residents and businesses plan and decide what actions they can take before and during a flash flood, to minimise the risks to people and property

Peter Whiting
Chairman, UPC Flooding Working Party
12th Feb 2012