

Infrastructure – Flooding

What is this about?

Some areas of Mortimer have the potential to flood during heavy rainfall, particularly at the bottom of The Street.

During the storm of 2007 many part of Mortimer were affected.

If not adequately considered, new housing within Mortimer may increase this flood risk.

Background:

Several areas of Mortimer are at significant risk from flooding particularly in the event of major storms as in 2007; some areas are flooded fairly regularly e.g. bottom of The Street near the station.

As the climate changes the risk of flooding will increase. It is vital that new housing developments do not make the current situation worse and ideally the opportunity is taken to improve it. .

What will it mean to me?

The NDP can influence the design and environment of new houses to ensure anti - flooding measures are engineered into the development.

The infrastructure finance gain arising from new developments could be used to pay for additional flood protection to reduce the risk of flooding in the existing at risk areas..

The National Planning Policy Framework and West Berkshire Authority set out the minimum standards for managing flood risk.

The Mortimer NDP is an opportunity to address issues specific to Mortimer.

Specific Considerations:

The 2007 storm caused wide spread flooding in Mortimer. Some of the flooding was recorded in a report by the Parish Council and is logged with West Berkshire Authority. The report provides a basis for West Berkshires assessment of flood risk.

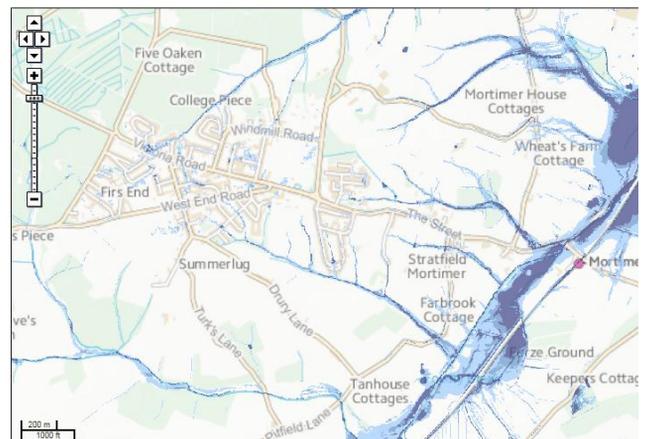
Climate change with the forecast of greater rainfall in short periods will increase the risk of flooding. Any flooding policies should take into account these expected changes.

The anti-flood designs need to be maintained over a number of years. It is important that the designs and maintenance regimes are adequate.

Fig. 1 Environment Agency Surface Water Flood Risk Map

Map of Stratfield Mortimer, West Berkshire at scale 1:15,000

Data see



Map legend	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Risk of Flooding from Surface Water
	High
	Medium
	Low
	Very Low

Options

- ❖ Adopt the National and West Berkshire policies.
 - ❖ Augment the National and West Berkshire policies by adding ones that are specific to Mortimer's situation
- ❖ The anti-flood designs shall achieve a minimum level of protection, not more than 1-in-100 year event level taking into account climate change predictions. The base rainfall conditions for such a measurement might be the storm of 2007.



Suggested policies:

- ❖ New development shall be subject to an assessment to establish the effect of the development on a rise in the water table or any increase in surface water run-off.
- ❖ Practical and effective management regimes for the maintenance of anti-flooding solutions shall be established to ensure that they continue to operate effectively and efficiently.

Pros and Cons

- ❖ Mortimer specific policies would be directly relevant to known problems.
 - ❖ They might increase the cost of the new homes.
- ❖ Anti-flooding designs must protect not only the site, but ensure no increase in downstream risks particularly those areas that are known flood risks identified in the Mortimer Flood Report following the 2007 storm and the Environment Agency maps. To reduce groundwater, surface or river flooding, Modern Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) need to be an integral part of a site's development

Discussion Sessions

Tue 24th Feb 7 – 9pm

Sat 28th Feb 10 – 12am

Please use the post card:

Please use the postcard to express your views on Flooding options and possible policies.