



December 2016

## *Flood Prevention Funding Approved*

Devon County Council, at its Cabinet meeting on 9th November, approved £540k towards flood prevention improvements in Caen Street.

Councillor Derrick Spear, Chair of Braunton Parish Council says, "After a considerable period of lobbying and concern following the news that the costs of the original pump proposals had escalated well beyond the funding available, we are nevertheless pleased that the amended proposals will give the owners of the businesses in Caen Street a combined package that will provide safety and security".

The amended and developed proposals include the modernisation of the drainage system in Caen Street, taking us into the twenty first century. These drainage improvements will significantly increase the capacity to remove surface water from the highway by replacing the existing 150mm diameter drains with 450mm diameter drains. Providing the area with a standard of protection relating to the 20 year flood event. In addition to the improved gravity drainage system, there will be a backup pumping system to cope with the storm bursts – periods of extreme downpours of episodic rain.

The installation of a sizeable pump arrangement will offer the area a higher standard of protection, relating to a 70 year flood event.



Caen St. flooded in 2012. HRH Prince Wales, visits Braunton post 2012 floods to help local businesses via his Business Emergency Resilience Group (BERG).

Braunton has been given assurances, that the general problem of drainage maintenance will receive more funding to deliver a considerably improved system of drainage through the Parish boundaries of Braunton. Cllr Spear says, "We shall continue to work with parties concerned, not least the Braunton Flood Resilience Team and local volunteers who monitor the state of the drains in our Parish. It is good to see that the Environment Agency and others are now facing up to the overall problem of good land management with reference to the issues of run off – in the whole of the Caen River catchment area. In the long term, this is of utmost importance".



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## *Be Prepared in the event of a Flood*

Winter is approaching with the prospect of rain and an increase in water levels in the River Caen.

If we experience a prolonged period of very heavy rain the River Caen may overtop its banks and flooding will occur. Areas of Braunton in particular risk of flooding are: **Caen Street, Caen Gardens, Chaloners Road, Church Street, Deans Bridge, Gubbins Lane, South Street, Station Road.**

If you are resident within the flood risk zones we urge you to make some preparations as, should it happen, it will do so very quickly.

Remember that it is the responsibility of property occupiers to take appropriate action to protect their property from flooding.

Some tips to help you prepare:

Visit the Environment Agency Flood web site under Flooding and Coastal Change <https://www.gov.uk/topic/environmental-management/flooding-coastal-change>

Are you registered to receive flood

warnings from the Environment Agency? Click on 'Sign up for flood warnings' from the link above.

Have you prepared a Flood Plan? If not, download your Personal flood plan from the link above.

Identify valuable items that you need to take with you if you have to leave your home eg. Money, Bank Cards/Chequebooks, Passports, Personal mementos such as family photographs.

Prepare a "Grab Bag" of other items you may need if you can't return to your home soon.

Identify important items of furniture, electrics/electronics that you could move upstairs. Decide where you will put them and how you will store them.



Do you have a supply of sandbags and plastic sheeting? Sandbags for filling are available from Braunton Parish Council.

More useful pages to look at on the Environment Agency website:

[Flooding: what to do before, during and after a flood.](#)

[Prepare your property for flooding.](#)

[Sandbags: how to use them to prepare for a flood.](#)

## Braunton Early Warning System

As part of the Braunton Community Emergency Plan, the Rotary Club of Braunton Caen operate a system to warn residents in vulnerable areas of imminent flooding as a back-up to the Environment Agency (EA) "Flood Warnings Direct" system.

Upon receipt of an Environment Agency "Flood Warning" (*Flooding is expected. Immediate action is required*), the Community Emergency Response Team will activate the Early Warning System and members of Braunton Caen Rotary Club will visit all properties in the areas listed above to ensure that occupiers are aware of the warning.

In order to practice their role, there will be an exercise on Friday 2nd December from 6.30pm when they will visit properties to speak to occupiers and hand out leaflets providing advice on flood resilience.

### Who to contact if you experience flooding:

**Devon County Council Highways** 0345 155 1004 Mon—Fri 8am – 8pm & Sat 9am to 1pm (outside of these hours contact 01392 383329). To report flooding of the highway and blocked drains.

**South West Water** 0844 346 2020 (24 hours service). To report flooding from sewers and water pipes.

**Environment Agency's Floodline** 0345 988 1188 (24 hours service). For advice and enquiries about flood warnings.

## Braunton Parish Council



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Phone: 01271 812131

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Web: [www.brauntonparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.brauntonparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Facebook.com/BrauntonParishCouncil

Twitter: @brauntonparish

Hours: 9am -12 noon, Monday to Friday

Tracey Lovell, Clerk to the Council  
Angela Corner, Senior Council Officer  
Jane Fewings, Admin Assistant

## Meetings Calendar 2016/17

Full Council Meetings are held in the Council Chamber at the Parish Hall on the second Monday of each month and additional meetings, to primarily consider planning applications, are held on the fourth Monday of each month.

7pm 12 December 2016

7pm 9 January 2017

7pm 23 January 2017