

Gustone Farm, Walberton

Emergency Flood Risk Management and Rescue Plan

Background

This property is situated in an area liable to flooding during and following extreme rainfall. The flooding is most likely to arise from overtopping of the banks of either or both watercourses that are situated on the east and west sides of the property. There may also be standing water in low areas that is unable to drain to the watercourses or into the soil and this will result in areas of deeper water in places. It should be noted that in order to reduce the risk of flooding occurring on your property, it is imperative that you maintain any watercourses, culverts etc. for which you are responsible.

Preparation

Occupiers are advised to prepare for a flooding event by being:

- 1) Aware of when and how the flooding might occur
- 2) Equipped to deal with the threat if remaining in the property
- 3) Familiar with this plan and the action to take

Completing a Personal flood Plan and registering this with the Environment Agency will be of assistance. See the following link for further information and guidance

<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/homeandleisure/floods/38329.aspx>

Awareness

There are various sources of information on possible flooding events. The Environment Agency in conjunction with the Met Office issues warnings. Local radio and television stations will also broadcast information and warnings as well as the police and local volunteer organisations. The occupants are advised to register for warnings from the Environment Agency on their Flood warnings Direct services Tel 0845 988 1188.

If you are advised to evacuate then do so as soon as possible. Ignoring such a warning could put the safety of your family or those who come to your rescue in danger. Only call the Emergency Services if it is absolutely vital to do so, as they will be busy.

Occupants should familiarise themselves with the location of the watercourses and the evacuation route highlighted on the drawing attached to this Emergency Plan. Should flooding occur then the watercourses and other hazards may not be easily visible.

Equipment

Occupants are advised to make themselves aware of the location of the emergency box that is available within the property. It will contain the following items (where appropriate):

- Insurance and other important documents
- Torch with batteries (not rechargeable)

- Portable radio (wind-up preferable)
- First aid kit with essential prescription medication/repeat prescription form
- Bottled water (check use by date)
- Non-perishable food items (including energy or cereal bars)
- Wash kit and essential toiletries (including toilet paper and wet wipes)
- Children's essentials (milk, baby food, sterilised bottles & spoons, nappies, wipes, nappy bags, clothing, comforter, teddy or favourite toy)
- Food and accommodation (cages) for pets
- Laminated copy of the emergency card in this plan
- Spare keys to the property, vehicles and any gates and sheds etc

It will also be useful to keep a walking stick by the front or rear door to the property.

Familiarisation

Occupants should be familiar and comfortable with this plan and its contents and should consider practicing your evacuation, the way you might practice leaving the house in case of fire.

Become familiar with the safest route from the property to high ground and to any local Evacuation Centre that may have been allocated, such as a village hall. This is likely to be in Barnham to the south, as land to the north may also be flooded at the time. Higher ground is available close by at 'The Meads' which lies immediately to the west of the property. Fields to the east are also higher but access here may not be so easily available.

Get to know your neighbours and any local volunteer Emergency Co-ordinator if one has been appointed.

During a Flood

IF YOU RECEIVE A WARNING

- Stay Calm - tune in to BBC Radio Sussex (95.3 or 104.5 or 104.8 FM or DAB)
- Check at what time the flooding is expected and keep in touch with latest forecasts of the areas of flooding predicted and likely seriousness of the situation.
- Tell your neighbours (especially if they are elderly or may be vulnerable)
- Fasten your outer doors and fix any flood protection devices that you may have
- Fill the bath and buckets with water in case mains supply is shut off. Drinking water should be stored in clean containers
- Switch off gas and electricity if it is likely that the property will be flooded. Do not touch any electrical appliances if they are already wet.
- Try to move valuable objects to a place of safety or protect them by placing in sealed plastic bags and placing them at high level.
- If advised to do so, move to your local Evacuation Centre or other safe place (friends, relatives, etc) after locking the doors/ windows and leaving the property as safe as you can.
- Take your complete Emergency Box with you if possible but if not, then extract important documents, your spare keys and a mobile phone with charger if available.
- Remember any pets (food, litter tray and cage)

REMEMBER

Avoid walking through flowing water – currents can be deceptive, and shallow, fast moving water can knock you off your feet. If you have to walk in standing water, use a pole or stick to ensure that you do not step into deep water, open manholes or ditches etc.

Avoid contact with flood water – It may be contaminated with sewage, oil, chemicals or other substances!

See also the Environment Agency web page:

<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/homeandleisure/floods/31632.aspx>

After a Flood

Safely throw away food which has been in contact with flood water - it could be contaminated - contact your local authority Environmental Health department for advice where necessary

Open doors and windows to ventilate your home.

Call your insurance company's (24 hour) Emergency Helpline as soon as possible. They will be able to provide information on dealing with your claim, and assist in getting things back to normal and check with them if you have to move into alternative accommodation, as the cost may be covered under a household policy - make sure they know where to contact you if you have to move out of your home.

Keep a record of the flood damage (especially photographs or video footage), make notes of all phone calls to insurers and what was said, and retain correspondence with insurers after the flood.

Commission emergency pumping/repair work as necessary, to protect your property from further damage. Check with your insurance company beforehand that you can do this without further approval (remember to keep receipts for all expenditure).

Get advice where detailed, lengthy repairs are needed. Your insurer or loss adjuster can give advice on reputable contractors / tradesmen. Beware of bogus tradesmen and always check references

Contact Phone Numbers

Environment Agency Flood Line 0845 988 1188

Sussex Police 0845 6070 999

Arun District Council: 01903 737500

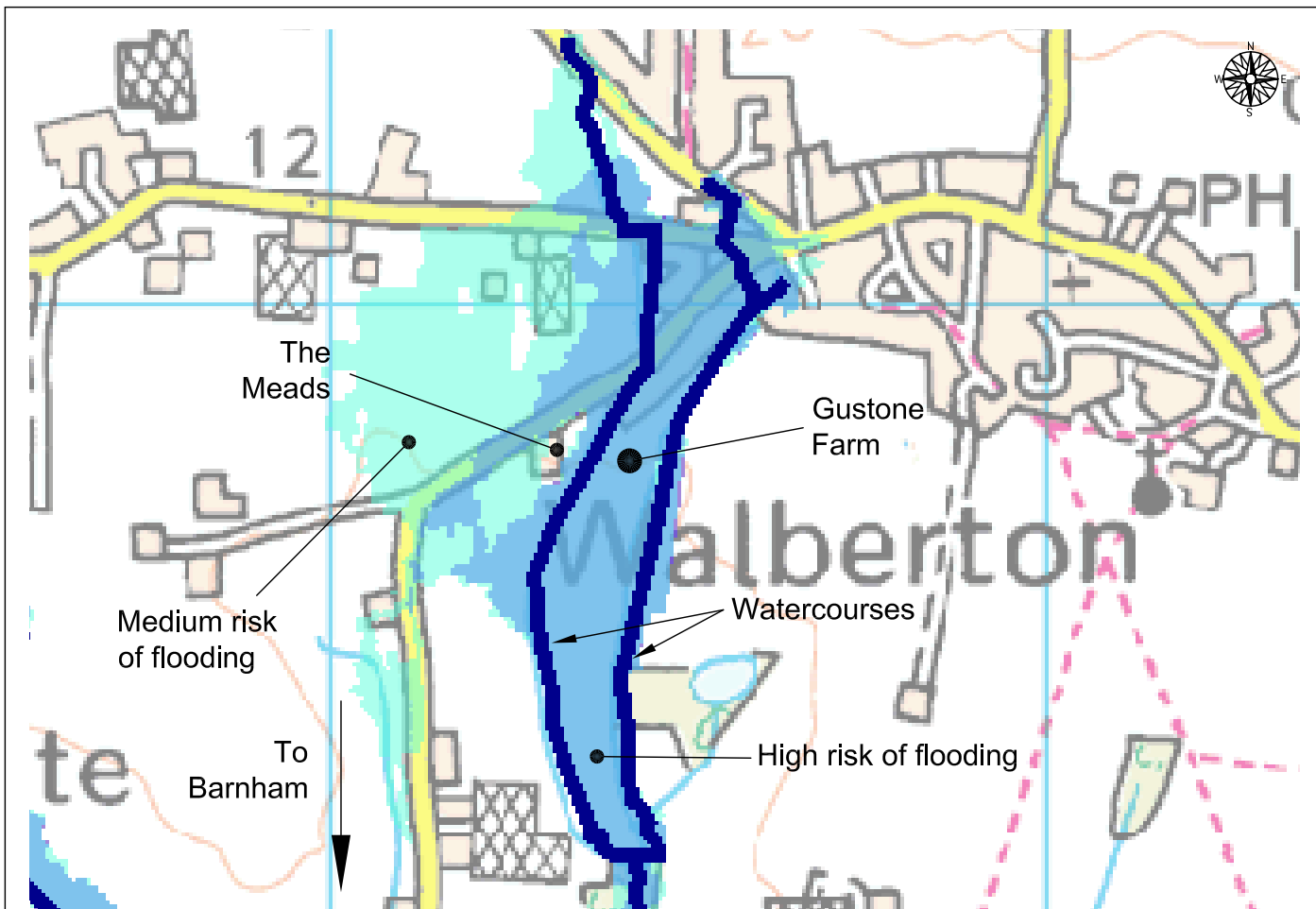
Southern Water Services Ltd: 0845 278 0845

Internet Information Sources

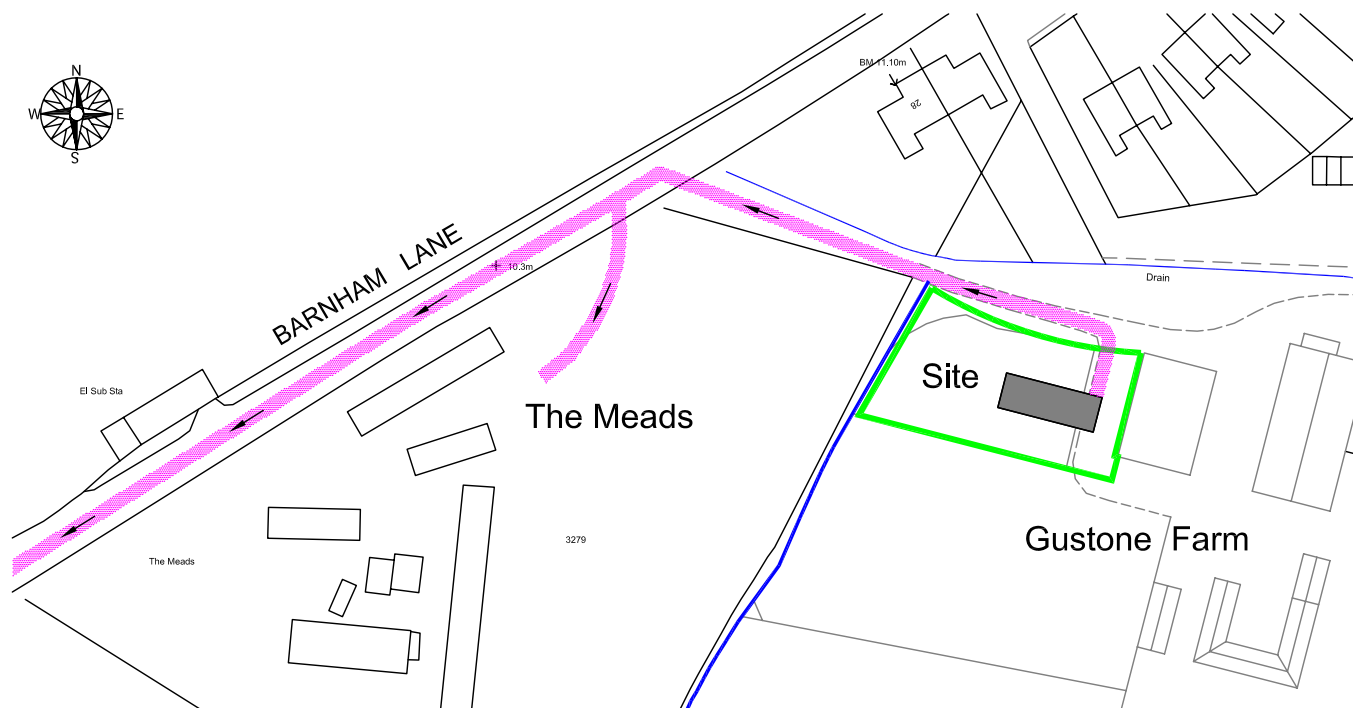
http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/uk/se/se_forecast_weather.html

<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/homeandleisure/floods/31618.aspx>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/england/sussex>



Environment Agency Flood Map - scale 1:10,000



Emergency Escape Route - scale 1:1,250

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Client		Mrs L. Brundle			
Project		Gustone Farm, Walberton			
			PC MY	RTFC	1.4.11
Rev.	Description	App.	Chk.	Drn.	Date
-	Original	PTC			

Title					Emergency Escape Route				
Scale		As shown		At original		A4		© Robert Clark Associates Ltd	
Drawing Number		1381/3.1						Revision	
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