

Item 1c

Chairman's Announcement Flooding Consultation

The new flooding legislation means that Wiltshire Council has the responsibility for putting in place local strategies for managing flood risk.

To this end Wiltshire Council has set up two operational flood working groups one in the north and the other in the south of the County. As part of the work of these groups they have been collating information on flooding and drainage issues from highways and drainage teams around the county which are currently being loaded onto our GIS system.

The operational flood working groups are concerned that Parish & Town Councils may have additional information of which they have little or no knowledge of and are hoping that the town and parish councils will assist with gathering this information. They would welcome information on ALL types of flooding within their areas highway, agricultural and residential both inside and out.

The Area Board would like to invite each town and parish council to identify areas which flood or have previously flooded and any documentary evidence (preferably photographic) to support this.

You are invited to collect the packs of information this evening and return them to the Community Area Manager at the 10 May 2010 meeting.

County Flood Fairs

The first 'Flood Fair' for town and parish councils will be held in the North of the county at the Olympiad Leisure Centre, Chippenham on 14th April, 10.00am to 2.00pm. Refreshments and a buffet lunch will be provided. Parish and town councils from the South are welcome to attend this, but please let Renate Malton know if you wish to attend – renate.malton@wiltshire.gov.uk.

The purpose of the flood fair is to raise awareness of flooding and drainage issues and to encourage local communities to consider how flooding would affect them and what steps they could take to mitigate the effects of flooding.

Speakers from the Environment Agency, Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service, National Flood Forum, the Met Office and Wiltshire Council Emergency Planning Team will be undertaking presentations. The event will also include displays of flooding related equipment used by the various agencies to deal with drainage and flooding, Wessex Water PLC & 365 (Drainage Company) will also be in attendance.

Invitations will be sent shortly to all town and parish councils.