

## Responsibilities for Flood Risk Management

Flood risk management may be extremely complicated with many organisations involved, the principals and their outline responsibilities are listed below.

1. **Devon County Council.** DCC is the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) and are now tasked by Central Government to improve the way they manage risk in our region. They are responsible for managing local flood risk in Devon from surface water, groundwater and consenting and enforcement on Ordinary Watercourses. Also, most importantly, they are also responsible for maintaining and repairing highway surface water drainage systems and planning for, and responding, to flood emergencies. They are funding the production of our Community Emergency Plan.

2. **Mid Devon District Council.** MDDC have an inspection and maintenance remit and inspects the condition for all water courses and culverts other than main rivers. Their planning department is also responsible to ensure that development is not approved on areas at risk of Flooding.

3. **Environment Agency.** Is responsible for main rivers and in our Parish this means the River Creedy. Also responsible for our new early warning system.

4. **Landowners.** If you own land or property next to a river, stream or ditch you are a "riparian" landowner with defined rights and responsibilities, including a duty of care towards your neighbours, accepting their upstream flow and transferring it downstream without obstruction, preventing avoidable run off from your property onto a neighbour's etc. We have identified three principal landowners who kindly agreed to work with us on this project, but there are also many householders whose property location means they also assume the "riparian" role!

5. **South West Water:** is responsible for drinking water and the Majority of Public Sewers

6. **Community** Newton St Cyres Parish Council has assumed a proactive role as follows:-

- a. To continue to support the work of the NSC Flood Group
- b. To monitor performance and hold to account individuals and organisations involved in the project.
- c. To raise community awareness of the project by acting as a single point of contact to receive information and to promptly share and publish relevant information.
- d. To assist the community to set up and implement a Community Emergency Plan
- e. To best represent the interests of concerned householders and the community as a whole.
- f. To ensure that any budget and funds accruing towards Flood Risk Management in the village are spent wisely to benefit of the community as a whole.

7. **Householders** Have a responsibility to keep themselves informed and it is your responsibility (with help from all) to look after your property, including protecting it from flooding. Whilst in some circumstances, other organisations or property owners may be liable, there will be many occasions when flooding occurs, despite all parties meeting their responsibilities. Consequently, it is important that householders and businesses, whose properties are at risk of flooding, take steps to ensure that their home is protected.