# Drains – Responding and preparing for climate events

## Overview

We cannot just try to reduce our carbon footprint or focus on cutting our environmental impact. We need to be prepared for the more extreme weather that will be occurring over the coming years. One thing that the village is susceptible to is flooding down the hills through the village, this is exacerbated by poor drain maintenance and possibly drains that are no longer suitable.

## Thoughts

Drains and flooding are a constant complaint from residents in the village and are something that as a parish (and the district council) seem only to respond to when we have an emergency. Otherwise, it is just shrugged off as, not our responsibility or that the problem is too large for us to fix.

## Information requirements

1. Drainage map of the village
2. Understand who owns, what, where and who is responsible for each drain
3. Climate/Rain/weather forecast for the next few years (1-25 years?)
4. Any existing plans from authorities and drain owners (i.e. Teignbridge, SWWater etc.)
5. Any other information?

## One idea

We can then put together a task force to pull all this data together and based on this make recommendations about what we need to do. These would be evidence based and provide us with a clear understanding of what is going on and what we will be able to cope with and where the system will fail.

With this we should then work with partners to come up with a plan and ultimately financing to actually work on this.

A short-term solution might be to look at the costs of paying (as a parish) for the drains & culverts to be cleaned out more frequently and to ensure that they are not left to fill with leaves etc.

In addition, anything we produce here will be helpful in discussions over planning and where to site new developments and possibly to get developer contributions towards sorting out the entire drainage picture not just a small part.

## Update

I have met with 2 interesting companies (at a trade show) that deal with water and flooding, the first is EBP building products and the second is SDS water infrastructure Systems. I chatted to both companies about the village and what we were facing and they have both offered to do a free design, solution consultation.

**EBP** - <https://ebpbuilding.com>

EBP focuses mainly on drains and covers and have a variety of solutions to help drain the water away.

**SDS Water infrastructure Systems** - <https://www.sdslimited.com/products/sds-geolight/>

This is a significantly larger company and one that had several interesting solutions to the flooding that occurs. Their solution would be to take the water away from the system during heavy rain and store it for a day or so and then release it into the existing network or to pipe it to ponds and reuse within the village.

These are obviously large infrastructure investments, and we have no idea of cost or where we can fund these (I have a thought...) from. However, with the information below, they are happy to help us design and provide a cost estimate a solution to the village flooding and drainage issue.

The core information we need is, who owns what pipes and drains and where are they located. This information will take a little research to find but we can get most of it from SWwater.

## Useful Links

Who owns what pipe?

<https://www.ofwat.gov.uk/nonhouseholds/supply-and-standards/responsibility-supply-pipes/>

Detailed map of my area

<https://www.land-search-online.co.uk/information/water-sewer-and-drainage-map-report/#report-and-maps>

Averages in the Teignmouth area

<https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/research/climate/maps-and-data/uk-climate-averages/gbvx83wwx>

South West Waters climate change document

<https://www.southwestwater.co.uk/siteassets/document-repository/environment/sww-2011-cc-adaptation-reporting-power-doc.pdf>

Teignbridge council drainage information

<https://www.teignbridge.gov.uk/community-and-people/drainage-and-flooding/drainage/land-drainage/>

Devon county council

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/floodriskmanagement/>