

Report from Flood Action Group, 1st February 2021

Current Situation

The Groundwater (GW) levels are fluctuating at this time, with the general trend being downward. The readings for this year compared to 2020 are significantly lower.

28/01/20	BHD 55.110 AOD	Whitedale	53.008 AOD
28/01/21	BHD 50.790 AOD	Whitedale	47.500 AOD

We are in the middle stages of the flood season, and continue to monitor the indicators and reports from a number of sources, survey the ditches at the top end of East Street, and the outflow down to Hook Vinney. However, at present there have been flood warnings for our area from the EA, in spite of the deltas between this year and last year in the groundwater readings. Those people in the village subscribed to the Flood Line information will be aware of the EA concerns, and given the high GW levels in March and April last year, we must remain guarded and prepared.

Environment Agency (EA)

Current advice from the EA (Charlotte Creswell); “the met office monthly outlook suggests the current trend of wetter and then colder weather could continue, with the possibility of it being wetter than average in the South in the second half of February. I would therefore suggest it is too early to tell, and that it would be better to remain prepared for the possibility of cellar flooding this winter season.”

Ditches and the Headwall

There have been no maintenance activities carried out at the headwall catchment basin, or the ditch down to Hook Vinney since the January report, and it is noted there are no major restrictions in the ditch or culverts at this time. There remains a build-up of silt and detritus reducing the capacity of the Big Pipe, which is still an issue to be addressed given the potential for heavy weather conditions.

The Members of the FAG will continue to watch the situation, and report any adverse conditions in our flood defences or risks to property.

Respectfully Submitted by,
Jan Jarvie
Chairman, Flood Action Group