

South Petherton Community Flood Group Progress Report No 15 – April 2026

This report provides councillors (and residents) with the status of the efforts of the Community Flood Group since the last report to the councillors in March and gives a look ahead to the planned actions of the group and flood related agencies.

Progress Update

Somerset Council Bridges have modified the bridge parapet in Silver Street. This work will increase the drainage capacity of the downstream drain. With some effort from flood wardens using sandbags, it's hoped to direct more runoff water downstream of the bridge, currently the water flows into the brook upstream of the bridge adding to the flood risk.

Whilst the modifications are not what was originally discussed, shown in the photo below.



The final solution of three large holes drilled through the wall (see below) should offer some increased capacity as will the repairs to the collapsed footpath.



Residents and members of the flood group attended the Flood Café on Wednesday 1st April held as usual in the village library. Whilst attendance was down on previous sessions (in part due to Easter holidays) it was agreed that the sessions should continue since residents, particularly those who suffered flooding found the sessions useful.

Somerset Prepared have asked for clarification on a few points in the flood groups grant application. These were minor points and it's hoped that the grant will be approved in the next few weeks. If approved the flood group will purchase equipment to properly kit out the volunteer flood wardens.

A few residents have raised concerns to the flood group about a proposed property development off Compton Road. The developer presented the proposal at Blake Hall on Tuesday 24th March. The site of the proposed development is in the corner of land from which rainwater runoff can be significant depending on conditions (crop cover, ground conditions, type of rainfall). The area and point of runoff are shown in the screenshot below. Members of the group attended the presentation to discuss the concerns and ask that flood from runoff be considered in the planning process. The initial proposal shows underground storage for runoff from roofs and roads. An attenuation pond to slow land runoff and a boundary cover of grasses and hedges. If these proposals are

