Britford Parish Council Sandbag Policy

- Neither the Parish Council nor Wiltshire Council has a duty to provide Sandbags or other temporary flood defences to residential and business properties although we will try to help where we can subject to supply and demand. It should be noted it is the property owner's responsibility to protect their property from flooding.
- If you know your property is at risk of flooding it is strongly recommended that you make your own arrangements for sandbags or other defences as part of a pre-emptive flood defence plan and sign up for the Environment Agencies Floodline warning system.
- Sandbags the Parish Council have stored will be distributed on a 'needs' basis to properties at imminent risk of flooding or used to divert water away from them. We will not supply sandbags to defend gardens, sheds, outbuildings or other such structures. We do not accept responsibility for the placing of flood defences although we will do our best to help property owners although manpower is prioritised to the elderly and disabled.
- We will not supply sandbags or other temporary defences in advance based on forecasts.
- Once issued sandbags become the property of the property owner and it is the owner's responsibility to dispose of them responsibly. Wiltshire Council can provide details of disposal sites.
- The Parish Council only has limited supplies of sandbags which we would prioritise to the elderly, disabled, and those with young families before offering to other householders and businesses. We will provide only 10 sandbags per property (This is generally enough for 1 doorway)
- Whilst we appreciate flooding events are stressful and traumatic the Parish Council will stop the distribution of sandbags if their volunteers are verbally or physically threatened
- Useful Links:

Flood Line: 0345 988 1188 or <u>www.environment-agency.gov.uk</u> Wiltshire Council: 0300 456 0100 (in and out of hours) <u>Civil</u> <u>emergencies - Who to contact - Wiltshire Council</u>