

AVON COUNTY ROWING CLUB

FLOOD ACTION PLAN



Rowing Club	Avon County Rowing Club
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Address	Saltford Rowing Centre, Bath Road, Saltford, Bristol, BS31 3JS
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Floodline Quickdial Number	EA Floodline on 0345 988 1188
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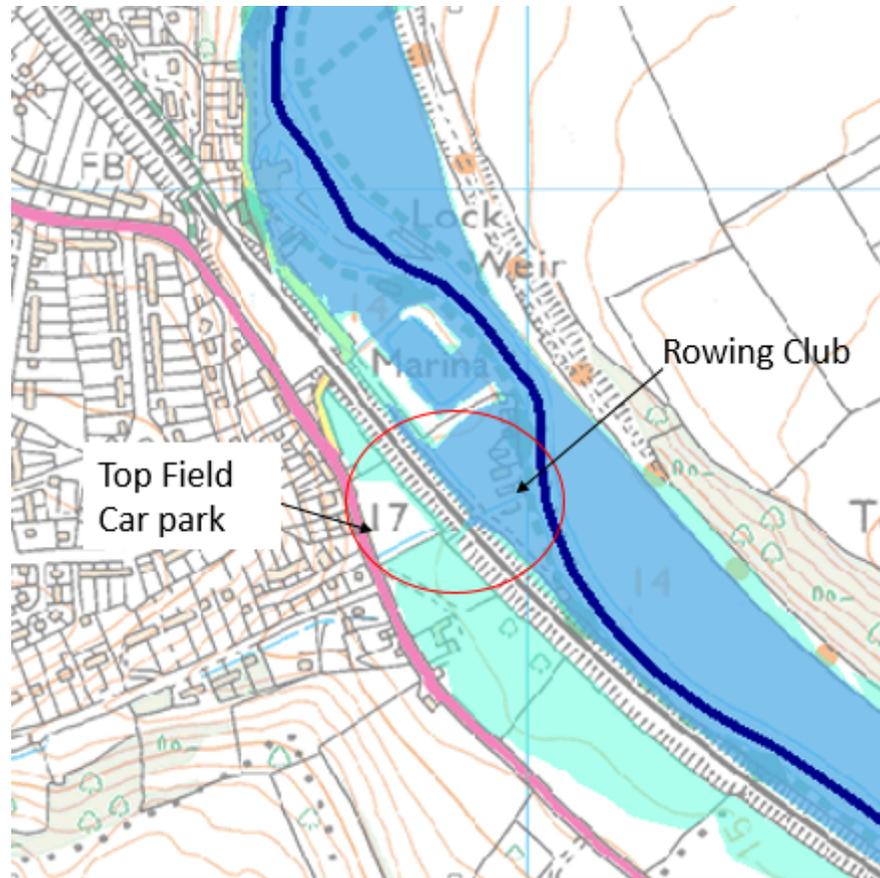
Local flood warning trigger	Environment Agency Flood Alert combined with site observations of river level. River level station no. 3043 at Saltford reading of 1.41m & rising https://check-for-flooding.service.gov.uk/station/3043
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Date	December 2025
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This Flood Action Plan is activated based on receipt of an **AMBER** flood alert from the Met Office and the Flood Forecasting Centre together with an assessment of recent local weather conditions, site observations and discussions between senior club members with flood management responsibilities: Captain, President, Safety Adviser, Squad Co-ordinators. Any of these members can initiate the plan.

Introduction

Avon County Rowing Club is located within the River Avon floodplain and so is naturally affected by flooding when the river rises above its banks.



Above is an extract of the Environment Agency's flood map for the Rowing Club and surrounds.

The **Dark blue** ■ shows the area that would be affected by flooding from a river by a flood that has a 1 per cent (1 in 100) or greater chance of happening each year. The **Light blue** □ shows the additional extent of an extreme flood from rivers. These outlying areas are likely to be affected by a major flood, with up to a 0.1 per cent (1 in 1000) chance of occurring each year.

The Environment Agency website shows the datum for Saltford river levels (in the marina next door to the rowing club) at 12.2m AOD. It also gives the highest recent flood in January 2024 at 2.39m above the datum. This suggests the water rose to 14.59m AOD.

The boat house plans show:

The facilities block floor at 14.25m AOD (river level = 2.05m) and

ACRC's boathouse at 14.34m AOD (river level = 2.14m)

UBBC boathouse floor is lower, at 13.9m AOD (river level = 1.70m).

In practice we have observed that flooding into these respective buildings happens at recorded river levels approx. 10cm lower than this – ie we should expect flooding at the following river levels.

UBBC floods at 1.60m, West Wing floods at 1.69m, Facilities Block floods at 1.95m & ACRC / Monkton Boathouse floods at 2.04m.

Note also that the railway tunnel and the central area between the boathouses starts to be underwater at approx. 1.55m

The flood risk assessment prepared by specialists when the boathouse was constructed in 2013 predicts heights of water in different risk levels:

1/10 year 14.07m AOD (1.87m)

1/100 + climate change 15.55m AOD (3.35m)

Clearly the higher figure is an extreme compared to what we have experienced to date, but we should consider the implications of a water level of 1.4m in the facilities block & 1.3m in the boathouse.

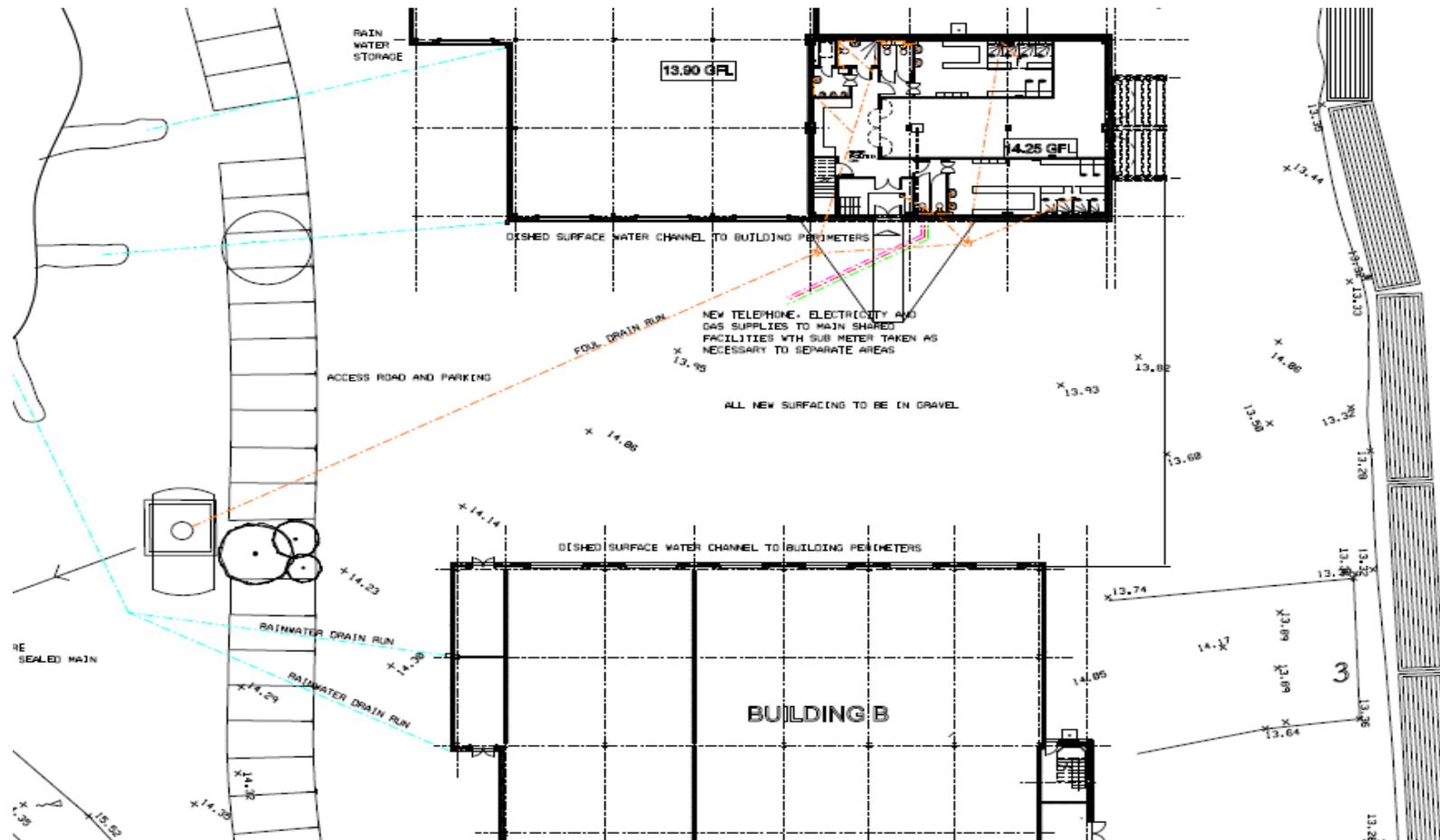
GUIDE TO SALTFOORD RIVER LEVELS			
LOCATION	RIVER LEVEL FROM OS DATUM (mAOD)	RIVER LEVEL FROM EA (m)	NOTE
Saltford River Avon Gauge	12.2	0	Normal level 0.7 – 1.0m
Just over concrete edge	13.2	1.0	Rowing with caution
Top of concrete slope	13.5	1.3	Rowing not permitted
EA AMBER WARNING	13.61	1.41	Flood Plan Trigger
Water in UB boathouse	13.8	1.6	Need wellies to get through tunnel and across to Facilities block
Water in West Wing	13.89	1.69	
Water in Facilities Block	14.15	1.95	
Water in AVN & MNK boathouses	14.24	2.04	

If the river is expected to rise quickly overnight then it is reasonable to initiate a flood warning & call out at lower river levels so that members can reasonably attend the site.

When attending the site in response to a flood warning call out then all members should park in the top field and walk to the club wearing wellies as far as possible.

Remember to wash your hands after exposure to river flood water which may be contaminated.

Extract of Architects site plan showing levels

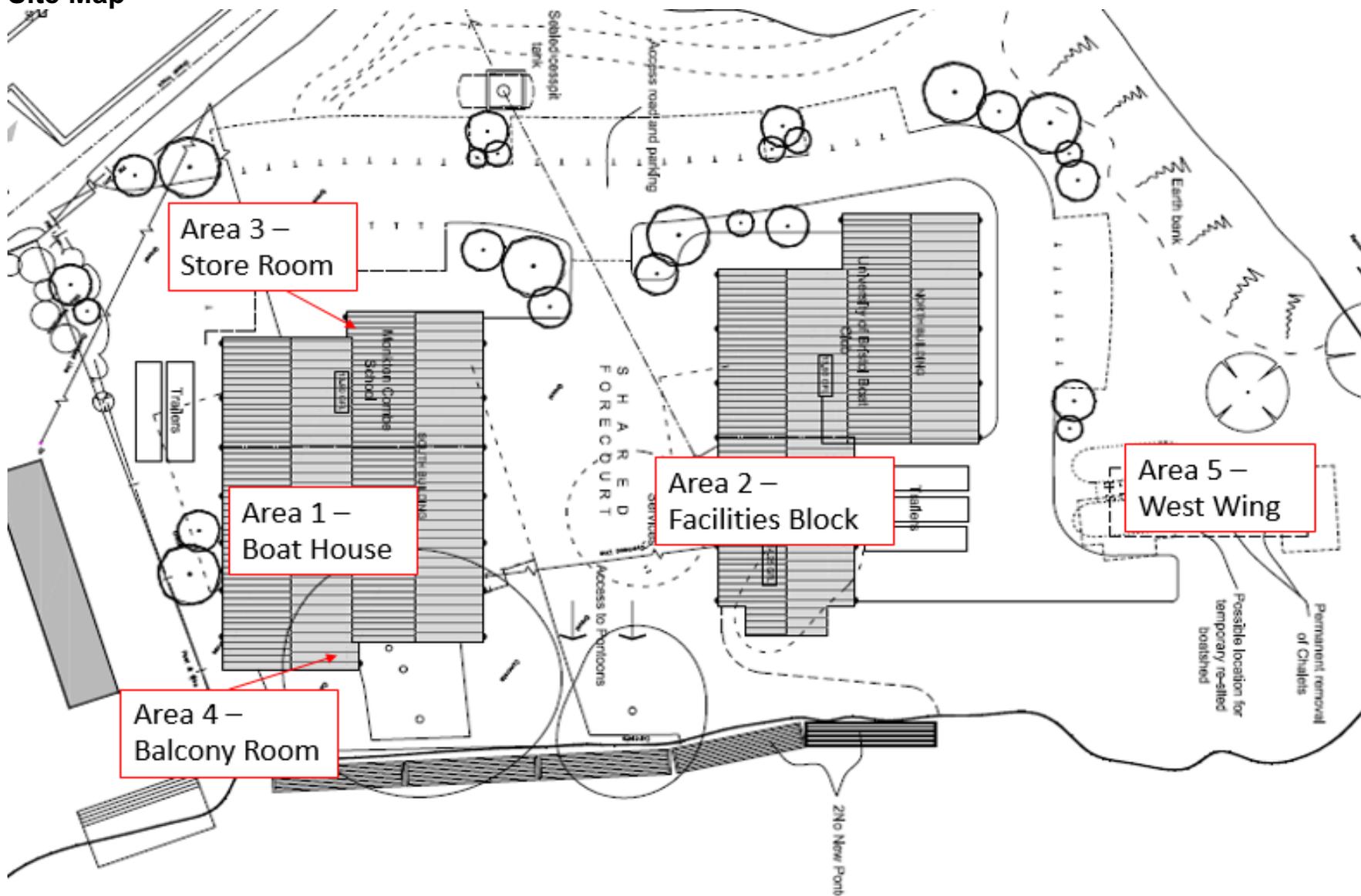


Actions to be taken in response to a flood warning – on site

This needs a team of minimum 8 people to do efficiently so this is the first action to assemble the team using WhatsApp groups and phone calls

Area number	Location at risk	Action	Relocation Area	Notes
Area 1	Boat House	Move the Explore Boats to higher ground beside the pond & tether to secure posts / trees Move lowest boats (on trolleys or first racks) up to a higher rack or onto trestles. Use trailers for space if necessary not forgetting to tie boats on. Clear floor of objects that can float. Remove cox boxes and other valuables from cabinet.	Small valuable items to go upstairs in Facilities Block. Non valuable items can be loaded into the Eton Launch	Oars are fine left in situ. Boats on trolleys can be pulled into the aisles
Area 2	Facilities Block	Erect entrance door flood barrier Take Ergs, portable gym equipment, floor mats and computers upstairs. Place all bins on tables. Ensure front window shutters in place. Check cleaning cupboard in men's changing room for perishable items (toilet rolls etc.) Empty understairs cupboard to upstairs Lift entrance mat & put on a table Check disabled toilet. Check changing rooms. Disable alarms as rising water will trigger them.	Upstairs for all valuable items. Table tops for other.	Key box code is 1135E. Electrics cupboard is designed to withstand max. 0.6m depth of water.
Area 3	Store Room	Raise lawnmower above waist height or remove Check that valuable / perishable items are stored above waist level.		Trestles OK to float.
Area 4	Balcony Room	Move items from floor in lobby	Balcony/ Stairs/ Tables	
Area 5	West Wing	Make sure all boats are the right way up and moved off lowest racks. Tether our viruses as they will float. Warn Dragons to move their trailers.		
Other	Site General	Trailers to be moved to the top field. Check the securing chains for the pontoons if safe to do so. Recover any launches on the river if safe to do, put on secure but lose ropes otherwise. Check all cars are removed from site.		

Site Map



Actions to be taken in response to a flood warning – communication:

The captain or safety adviser or member of the committee in the absence of the captain or safety adviser should attempt to contact:

ACRC Captain – Jane Day 07767 222739 captain@avoncountyrowingclub.org.uk

ACRC Safety Adviser – Kath Finucane 07775 903130

Monkton Director of Rowing – Nick Baker 07915 091505 bakern@monkton.org.uk

UBBC Captain & Director of Rowing –, Ed Bloomfield Edward.bloomfield@bristol.ac.uk

Canoe Avon Chair – Emma Askew chair@canoeavon.co.uk, emma@nailwell.com

Dragons Chair – tbc

Ensure that all club members stay off site until the water is below 1.7m. except in an emergency.

No one should go nearer to the river bank than the end of the facilities block until the river is below 1.41m

Actions following a flood:

This totally depends on the extent of the flood and damage done. Experience suggests that with precautions taken there is minimal damage and clean up takes a team of 20 – 30 people about a day to clear out the mud & water.