



Dauntsey Parish Council Drainage Board

Flooding Update

Rain, rain, and more rain... but fortunately nothing like as much as Cumbria – they had four times as much as we had in the July '07 flooding. As far as I know, the water stayed out of everyone's homes.

Idover Lane was under water for several days but remained passable, so the ditch clearance done so far has given some improvement. Several of the landowners are cooperating, the levels have been surveyed and more work is planned to improve the drainage. A positive aspect of the amount of rain is that it makes it clear where the problems are. Hopefully the additional ditching will be finished before we get the next heavy rain.

The road just past Corner Farm (Sodom Lane) still floods. The problems here seem to be undersized culverts... and there isn't much chance of getting Wiltshire Council to upgrade them in the near future.

The Environment Agency came along to do some hand maintenance of Dauntsey Brook near the Old Sodom Lane bridge, but went away because the water was too deep!

For those of you with ditches and/or culverts on your land or where you walk, it is worth checking if they need any maintenance. Autumn leaves and branches broken off by the recent high winds can soon cause local problems – I had such a problem in one of my ditches, but it only took a matter of minutes to clear it and restore the normal flow.

Well done to all of those who have been working to maintain our watercourses. While there is more to do, without all your efforts there would have been more problems this winter.

Andrew Chapman

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