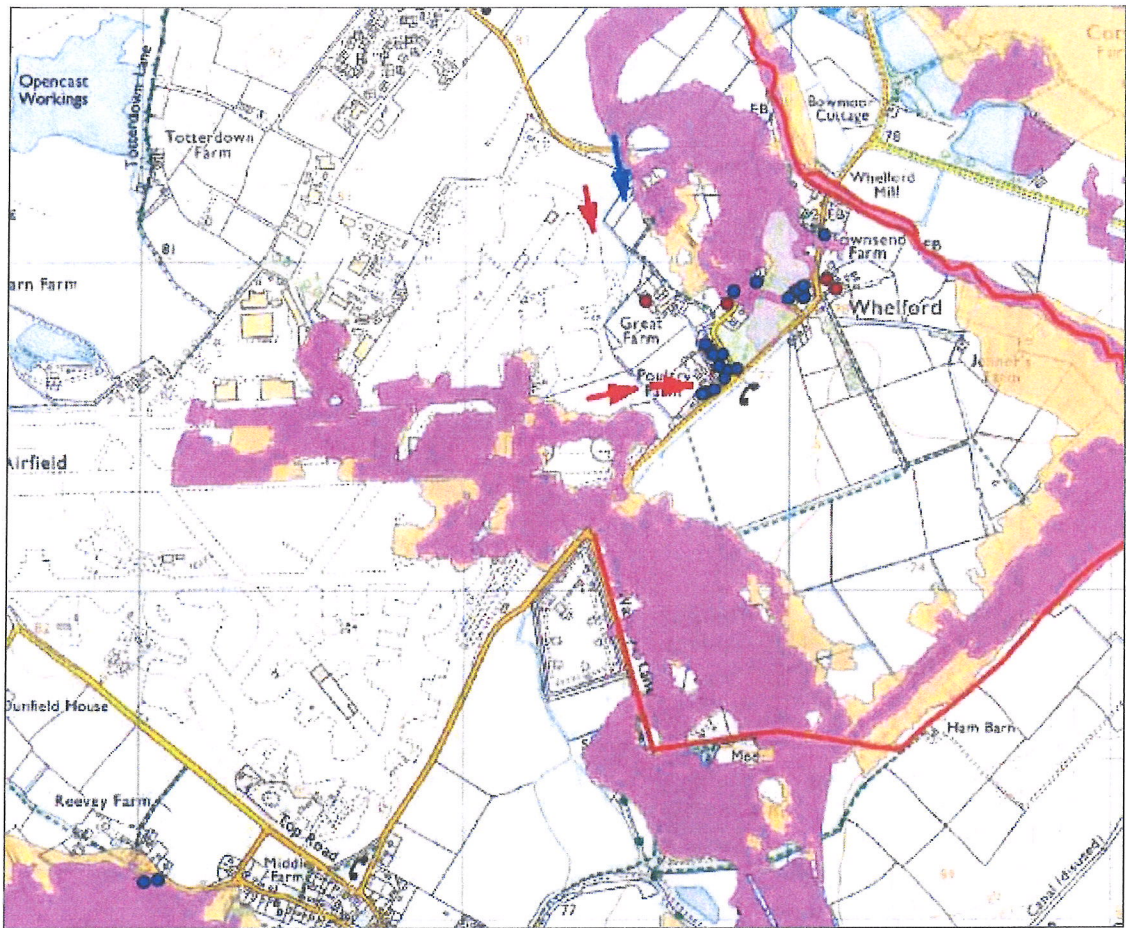


Map 9. Kemsford. Whelford. July flood outline and flood routes.



**Legend**

**2007 Flooded Properties**

**Source of Flooding**

- N/A
- drainage
- main river
- ordinary watercourse

**2007 Flood Flow Routes**

**Flow Type**

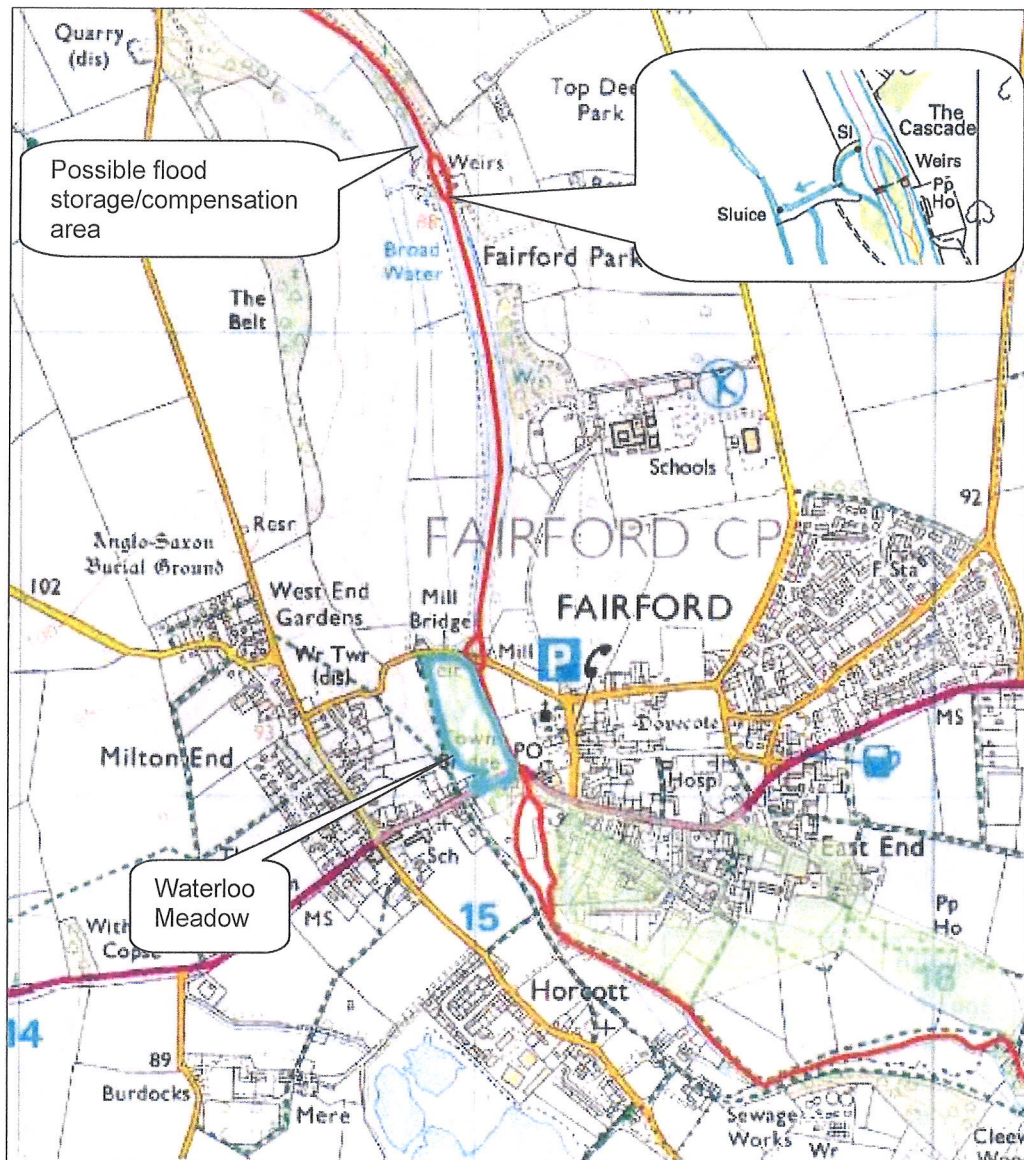
- Fluvial Flow
- Surface Flow
- Main River

□ Flood Outline July 2007

■ Flood Zone 3

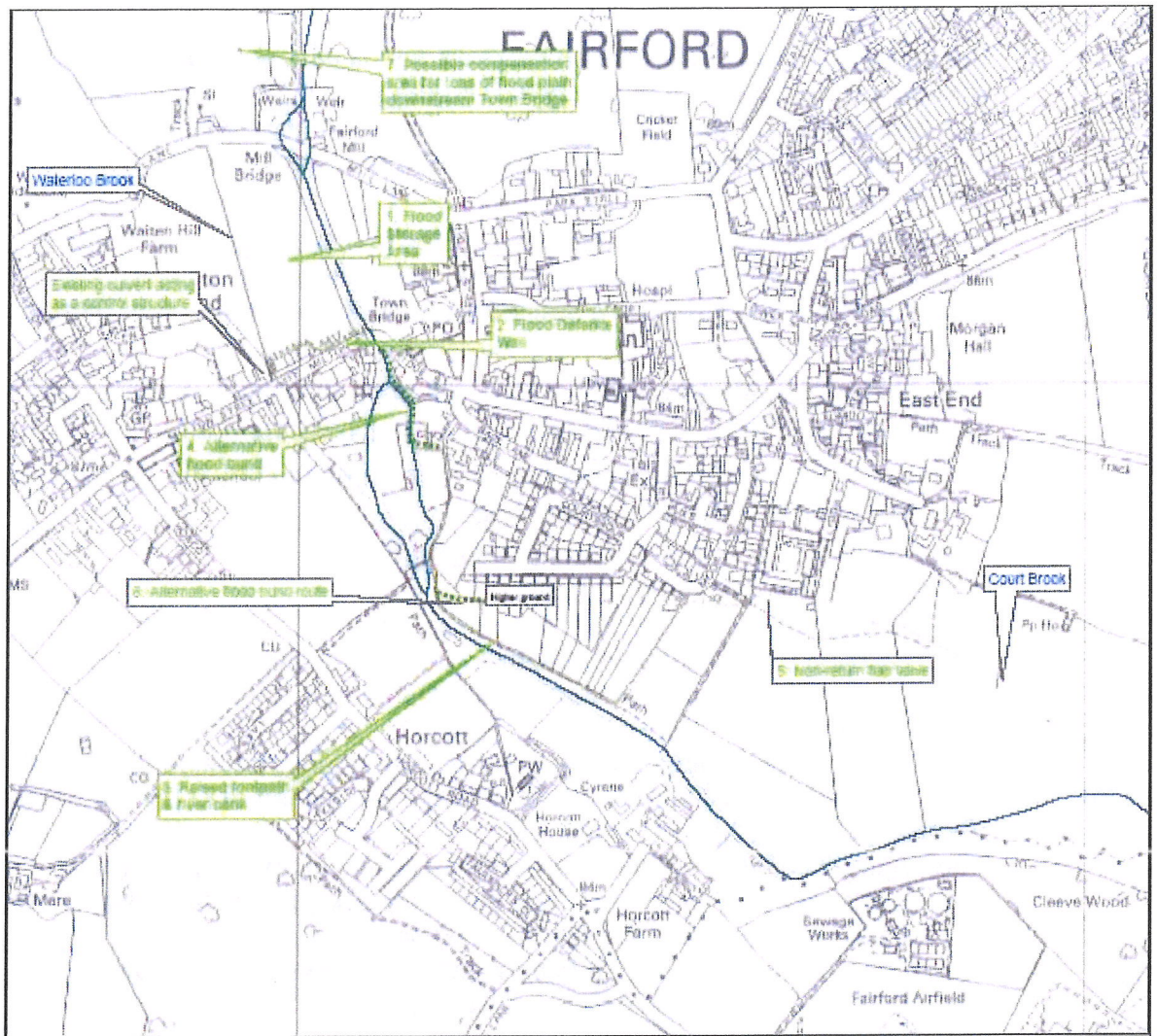
■ Flood Zone 2

Map 10. Fairford. Location of potential flood storage/compensation area.





Map 12. Fairford Flood Alleviation Scheme Elements.



## Glossary of terms

**Catchment.** The area over which rain falls and is caught to serve a natural drainage, a river basin. (Dictionary of Geography, A. N. Clark, London, 1990)  
The catchment includes both the streams and rivers that convey the water as well as the land surfaces from which water drains into those channels (Wikipedia).

**Catchment Flood Management Plan (CFMP).** A large scale planning document that identifies long-term sustainable policies for the holistic management of flood risks in a defined river catchment or group of related catchments.

**Critical Ordinary Watercourse.** These are ordinary watercourses which have been identified by DEFRA as being strategically important.

**Drainage.** The Water Resources Act 1991 (as amended by the Environment Act 1995) defines drainage as including:

- a) Defence against water, including seawater;
- b) Irrigation other than spray irrigation;
- c) Warping; and
- d) the carrying on, for any purpose, of any other practice which involves management of the level of water in the watercourse.

**Flood Zone.** Flood Zones are the Environment Agency's nationally agreed geographical layers of information that define the extend of flood risk. They are split into Flood Zone 1, 2 and 3.

Flood Zone 2 is flooding from rivers without defences at a 1% (1 in 100) chance of happening each year. It is the natural flood plain area that could be affected in the event of flooding from rivers.

Flood Zone 3 is the outline of a flood extent in an extreme flood with a 0.1% (1 in 1000) chance of happening each year.

**Flood risk** is expressed by combining information on probability (sometimes referred to as likelihood) and consequence (sometimes referred to as impact).

The probability that water levels in a river rise higher than the banks – or an existing flood defence structure – can be estimated using historic data and computer software. The consequences of such an event are determined by a range of factors including the presence, proximity, number and type of the buildings that the floodwater comes into contact with when the flood occurs.

**Flood Risk Management** is one of the principal functions of the Environment Agency. Flood Risk Management works to reduce the risks of flooding from rivers and the sea to people, property and the natural environment. We may consider solutions such as changes in land use, temporary defences, better flood warning and self-help schemes, as well as building and maintaining flood defences.

**Floodplain** is an area of land over which river or sea water flows or is stored in times of flood. A flood plain can extend beyond the land immediately adjacent to a watercourse. (Living on the edge)

**Flood Risk Management** is one of the principal functions of the Environment Agency. Flood Risk Management works to reduce the risks of flooding from rivers and the sea to people, property and the natural environment. We may consider solutions such as changes in land use, temporary defences, better flood warning and self-help schemes, as well as building and maintaining flood defences.

**Flood storage area** is that a part of the flood plain that allows flood waters to be temporarily stored. The purpose of such an area is generally to retard larger floods from reaching a main watercourse for a designed flood return period.

**Fluvial** related to rivers e.g. fluvial flooding

**Main rivers** are usually larger streams and rivers, but also include smaller watercourses of strategic drainage importance. A main river is defined as a watercourse shown as such on a main river map, and can include any structure or appliance for controlling or regulating the flow of water in, into or out of the main river. The Environment Agency's powers to carry out flood defence works apply to main rivers only. Main rivers are designated by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs in England (DEFRA) and by the Welsh Assembly Government. (Living on the edge).

**Ordinary watercourse** is every river, stream, ditch, drain, cut, dyke, sluice, sewer (other than public sewer) and passage through which water flows which does not form part of a main river. On ordinary watercourses, the local authority and, where relevant, Internal Drainage Boards (IDB) have similar permissive powers as the Environment Agency has on main rivers. (Living on the edge)

**Return Period.** A measure of the rarity of an event: the longer the return period, the rarer the event. It is the average length of time (usually in years) separating flood events of a similar magnitude. Sometimes referred to as the recurrence interval.

The risk of flooding to floodplain areas and property is often described in terms of a return period. Statistical return periods relate to the long-term average time interval between events of a particular magnitude. The 1 in 100 year return period flood has a one percent chance of occurring in any one year, ie. the odds of it happening are one hundred to one.

It must be emphasised that return periods are averages. It should not be assumed that it will be exactly 100 years for example before a 1 in 100 year event re-occurs. It is statistically possible for such events to occur in successive years or even more than once in one year. Equally, such events may be several hundred years apart.

**Riparian Owner** is any person who owns property (ie land) alongside a natural watercourse. Under common law they possess rights and responsibilities relating to the stretch of the watercourse which falls within the boundaries of their property. Often a riparian owner owns the land up to the centre line of a non-tidal watercourse and not just the bank(s). However,

this is not always the case and legal advice must be sought where doubt exists.

**Run-off** is that part of rainfall or snowmelt that finds its way into streams, rivers etc. and flows eventually to the sea.

**Soil Moisture Deficit.** A measure of the effective rainfall which would theoretically be necessary to saturate the soil

## List of abbreviations

<b>AOD</b>	Above Ordinance Datum
<b>CFMP</b>	Catchment Flood Management Plan
<b>DC</b>	Development Control
<b>DEFRA</b>	Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs in England
<b>FSA</b>	Flood Storage Area
<b>FAS</b>	Flood Alleviation Scheme
<b>FWD</b>	Flood Warning Direct
<b>PPS25</b>	Planning Policy Statement 25

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Lechlade [www.lechladeonthames.co.uk](http://www.lechladeonthames.co.uk)



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