

Extract from Evesham Journal 5<sup>th</sup> January 2012

PLANS to floodproof a village between Evesham and Pershore are well under way thanks to an Environment Agency initiative.

Houses in Charlton were flooded by Merry Brook in 2007 and steps are being taken, with the help of the Charlton Flood Committee, to implement a £335,000 flood alleviation scheme, which includes funding from the Regional Flood and Coastal Committee.

The work is due to start in February and will include homes being fitted with new doors made by Whitehouse Construction, land management and maintenance of watercourses.

Agency staff will give demonstrations to land-owners so they can continue maintaining the brook and reduce the risk of flooding, while ways of reducing surface run off will also be pursued. Plans are being made to form a regular maintenance group of local residents and a community flood plan as part of a wider parish emergency plan.

Roger Davies, secretary of the Charlton Flood Committee, said: "It was really good to see the quality of the manufactured product and the test. I was very impressed with the way everyone is working together to develop the floodproof doors and their determination to provide a personal service.

"It's going to be a huge help. We will need the co-operation of the county council to keep the gullies clear and keep silt and other blockages in the stream down."

"Then we need an action plan to maintain maximum flows and for if we do have another calamitous event."

Residents will soon be able to choose the measures used to protect their properties.