

Wake up to Water! Flood Action Group.

Have you been affected by flooding in Chesterfield?

One woman has lost her life and others have lost their belongings, income, sense of security in their own homes to say nothing of trust in a caring society. What does the future hold for the residents who moved back into Tapton Terrace having moved 9 times after their evacuation just over a year ago? When the water fills your living room not once but twice, and your precious things float in sewage again, you can't help but wonder what is going to happen next.

Flooding is a complex issue. Climate change is a large factor, so we can say that as the carbon dioxide in the atmosphere increases and our world gets warmer and warmer, flooding is a consequence we must all face. Our rain is now more likely to come in sudden bursts. Our old drainage systems and waterways can't cope.

Other factors are the increase in hard surfaces as we build more houses and roads and root out hedges and trees. Even in private properties people are paving their front gardens and replacing hedges with concrete mounted fences. So the water moves faster and more dangerously!

What can we do as concerned citizens?

Last night a new Flood Action Group formed to look at these issues. The group is at a very early stage in its development. It has the following draft aims:

1. to amplify the voices of victims and survivors of floods in Chesterfield and North East Derbyshire
2. to educate the public about water/ flooding
3. to facilitate dialogue between the agencies concerned
4. to find short and long term solutions to the problems
5. to get those solutions implemented

Let us know if you have something to say about this or want to get involved. You can email chesterfieldclimatealliance@gmail.com.

You can also email if you want to drop out of this contact list.

Steph.