ROUND THREE PROJECTS

Community Climate and Nature Fund

OVERLAND FLOW CHANNEL CONSTRUCTED TO REDUCE FLOOD RISK AT PILLERTON PRIORS VILLAGE HALL

> “Grant aid ensured the long term sustainability of the hall with its freedom from flooding and its continuing value to the village and the surrounding area as a community asset.”
>
> Matthew O’Brien
>
> Trustee, Pillerton Priors Village Hall

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Pillerton Priors Village Hall has been flooded several times in the past and remained in danger of further flooding from adjoining land in the future if no mitigating action was taken. There is a watercourse just north of the Village Hall, which is mostly culverted close to the site. Unfortunately, these culverts had not been appropriately maintained and had insufficient capacity for peak water flows. During periods of high rainfall, instead of moving along the watercourse through the culverts, water flows moved onto the land surrounding the Village Hall. As the building is located at the lowest point of the site, these water flows often surround and flood the building. This posed a significant risk to the long term future of the Village Hall as a community asset, and, if no action was taken, a high flood risk would likely incur expensive maintenance and insurance costs over the coming years. In order to reduce the risk, a ditch with slightly raised banks was constructed to take water away from the Village Hall into a nearby drainage ditch. The grant funding fully met the cost of the work which was done by a local engineering contractor.



IMPACTS

The village in general will benefit as it will have a Village Hall will now be less prone to flooding. If the Hall were to have flooded again there would have been the need to raise funds to repair the hall as insurance companies would have been reluctant to cover a hall that was at real risk of flooding again. The well used Hall should remain an asset to the local community and users from the surrounding area for many years to come. Now that the Hall is as ‘floodproof’ as it can be, the Hall Committee has realised a surveyor’s report advising on what work the Hall Committee might consider in future years to ensure the long term sustainability of the Hall. It may be possible to apply for additional grants from external sources for some of the identified work.