

Alva Community Resilience Team

Progress Report to ACC November 2020

ACRT continues to make good progress on a number of issues

Weather Alerts in last month

There have been 3 warnings of expected heavy rain since the beginning of October:

- Friday 2nd - Saturday 3rd October (Storm Alex);
- Monday 19 - Tuesday 20 October (Met Office Yellow Warning for rain);
- Saturday 31 October - Sunday 1 November;

Fortunately, none of the warnings converted into full actions, but they did allow the team to begin using our new WhatsApp communications systems. In addition, the team carried out regular inspections of the various watercourses that run through Alva for any potential issues.

We have also started to build some knowledge of the water levels at the bridge over the A91 at the Clock, and at the same time, what that level is at Henry Street. Henry Street is one of our primary causes for concern, so understanding what the levels are at each of the locations when there is heavy rain could be very useful.

River Track

We have made our application to have a River Track monitoring system installed in Alva. This is now progressing, and a site survey will be carried out in the next few weeks to identify the best location to install the sensor. This needs to be somewhere under one of the bridges where it can see the water passing below. This will also need to be somewhere that it is not obvious there is a sensor there so that it does not attract unwanted attention from anyone who might want to vandalise it.

Flood Plans

We are making good progress on the full flood plan, and plan to issue this for review by Clackmannanshire Council and the Scottish Flood Forum, among others. We are also drawing up a public version of this, which will have contact information removed, and a 'Quick Plan', which should be no more than 2 pages, and is designed for very quick reference.

In the absence of the River Track system, that will eventually provide automated alerts when the burn rises above set levels, we are creating a system that is based on Met Office and SEPA alerts.

This manual alerting process will still be required to cover the other water courses that flow through Alva (Carnaughton Burn, Spring Burn and Silver Burn)

Membership

We are still looking for some willing volunteers from the West end of Alva, particularly the 'Molem' estate. This was the location of severe flooding in the past (probably over 30 years ago). There is a significant drain just at the corner of the field next to the estate on the A91, and making sure this gets monitored for any issues would be very useful.

Next Meeting

Monday 7 December 2020 at 7:00pm via Zoom. Call details can be provided to anyone interested once they become available.