

FORMER MONDI/HOLCOMBE MILL
BRIDGE STREET, RAMSBOTTOM, BURY

**FLOOD WARNING PLAN
COUNCIL CAR PARK**

February 2024

Report Title	Former Mondi/Holcombe Mill, Bridge Street, Ramsbottom Flood Warning Plan – Council Car Park Final Report v1-1
Client	Eccleston Homes Ltd
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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose of Report

The Car Park off Bridge Street, Ramsbottom is at a risk of flooding from the River Irwell in an extreme storm event. This Flood Warning Plan has therefore been prepared to ensure that the Council is aware of the potential for flooding, and to enable it to implement appropriate procedures in the event that flooding is expected or has occurred.

1.2 Structure of the Report

The report is structured as follows:

- Section 1** Introduction and report structure
- Section 2** Provides background information relating to the site and the potential risk of flooding
- Section 3** Summarises the roles and responsibilities for flood response and management, how to receive flood messages and warnings, and what to do if flooding is forecast or occurs.

1.3 Relevant Documents

This Flood Plan has been informed by the Flood Risk and Drainage Assessment report prepared by Weetwood (issued in October 2023).

2 CAR PARK DETAILS

2.1 Site Details

The Council Car Park is located off Bridge Street, Ramsbottom as shown on **Figure 1**.

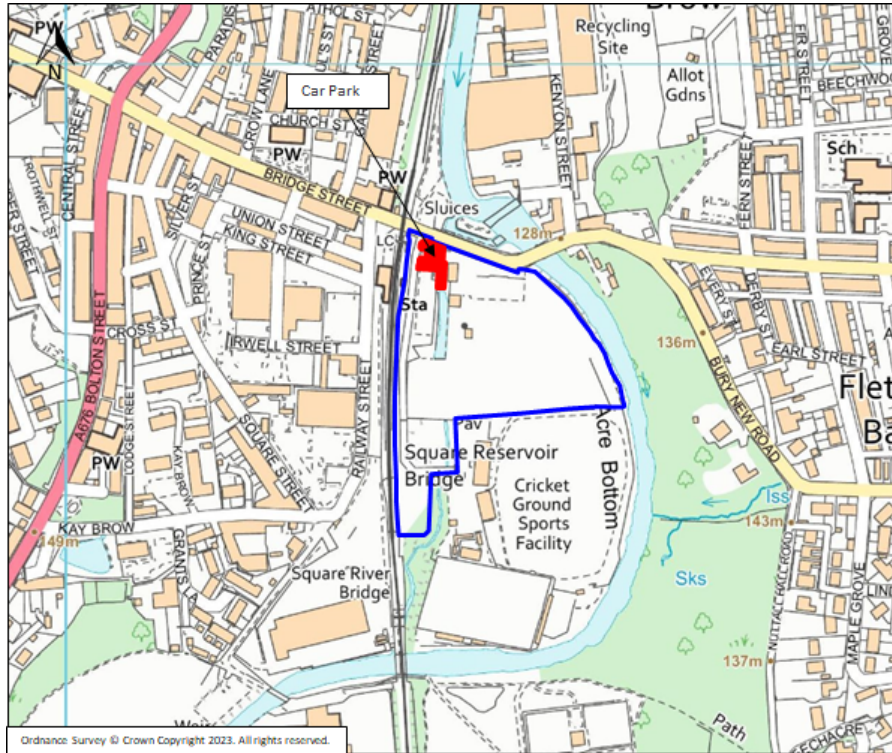


Figure 1: Site Location

2.2 Historical Flooding

The area is indicated on Environment Agency mapping to be at a high risk of flooding from the River Irwell (Flood Zone 3).

Reviews of historic flooding identify that the Ramsbottom district has been subject to regular flooding from the River Irwell, surface water, and (often) a combination of the two. The most recent flooding was in December 2015 and February 2020, with the former the largest flood event on record.

The records repeatedly reference the affected areas as being located to the north of Ramsbottom railway station (e.g. Athol Street, Crow Lane, Garden Street, Rook Street), Kenyon Street, Bridge Street, and also at Ramsbottom United Football and Cricket Ground.

2.3 Flood Risk Mitigation

The Car Park is situated in the north-west part of the residential development located on the site of the former Mondi Mill.

The risk of flooding from the River Irwell to the residential development is mitigated through the implementation of a package of mitigation measures, including widening of the River Irwell channel, ground raising, and raising the floor levels of the dwellings.

The Car Park is lower than surrounding land and has been designed to flood preferentially. This ensures that flood water crossing Bridge Street is contained within the Car Park, before it enters an existing culvert (former Mill Race) and is conveyed in southerly direction to the River Irwell.

Detailed hydraulic modelling illustrates that the Car Park (and Mill Race) may flood during the 1 in 100 annual probability event plus climate change and the 1 in 1000 annual probability event, to a maximum flood depth of up to circa 750 mm.

The maximum depth of flooding on Bridge Street is typically less than 250 mm and the flood hazard rating for the 1 in 100 annual probability event plus climate change is generally Low (i.e. Safe). As such, safe access and egress routes onto site are available turning left onto Bridge Street.

The flood hazard rating within the Car Park ranges from Low to Significant (i.e. Danger for Most) due to the increase in flood depth (refer **Figure 2**). It is for this reason that this Flood Warning Plan has been prepared.



Figure 2: Maximum flood hazard during the 1 in 100 event plus climate change

3 FLOOD PLANNING AND PROCEDURES

3.1 Roles and Responsibilities

Details regarding the roles and responsibilities of the emergency responders are provided in **Appendix A**.

Responsibility for the safe operation of the Car Park rests with the Council. It is expected that the Council:

1. Is registered with the Environment Agency Floodline service.
2. Reviews this Flood Warning Plan quarterly and following any flood warning (irrespective of whether flooding actually occurs), and following an actual flood event. This should specifically include a review of the flood checklist (**Appendix B**) to ensure that all details are correct, particularly contact names and telephone numbers.

3.2 Signing up to Receive Flood Warnings

The Car Park is included within the 'River Irwell at Ramsbottom' Environment Agency flood warning area.

Details regarding the Environment Agency Floodline service can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings> or 0345 988 1188. By signing up, flood warnings can be received directly from the Environment Agency by phone, text and email.

Current flood warning information is also provided at <https://www.gov.uk/check-flood-risk>. The site also provides a live flood warning map and five day forecast flood forecast information and up to date river levels at river level monitoring stations, e.g. the River Irwell at Ramsbottom Weir (see screenshot in **Figure 3**).

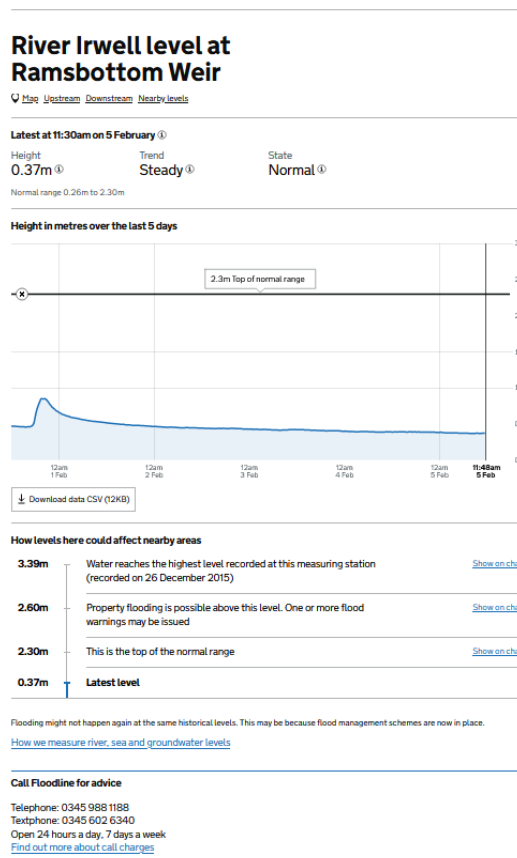


Figure 3: Screenshot of River Irwell at Ramsbottom Weir Status (5 February 2024)

Source: <https://check-for-flooding.service.gov.uk/station/5115>

3.3 Environment Agency Flood Warning Codes

The Environment Agency issues flood warnings using the following set of codes:



Flood Alert (Flooding is Possible – Be Prepared): Issued when flooding of recreational land, car parks and minor roads from rivers is possible. A Flood Alert covers a relatively large area. The purpose of a Flood Alert is to alert people that flooding is possible and that people residing in and businesses located in areas at risk should be prepared to act on their Flood Plan.



Flood Warning (Flooding is Expected – Act Now): Issued when flooding of homes and businesses, rail infrastructure and roads is forecast. Flood Warnings cover smaller geographical areas.



Severe Flood Warning (Severe Flooding – Danger to Life): Severe Flood Warnings cover the same geographical area as a Flood Warning. A Severe Flood Warning is issued when actual flooding has occurred posing a significant risk to life and/or widespread disruption to communities. The conditions on the ground expected during a Severe Flood Warning are deep and fast flowing water, potentially with debris.



Warning No Longer in Force (No Further Flooding Expected): Issued when a Flood Warning or Severe Flood Warning is no longer in force and when the risk of flooding has passed, and when river/sea levels have dropped back below the Flood Warning trigger level. It may be the case that there may still be standing floodwater or property flooding, so care will still need to be exercised.

3.4 Flood Response

A Flood Notice sign should be placed in the Car Park to ensure that users are aware of the risk of flooding (see **Appendix C**).

The entrance barrier should be closed if a flood warning for the area is received, and not opened until an All Clear has been issued by the Environment Agency. This intervention will prevent users from attempting to enter or vacate the car park when flood depths may potentially be significant.

3.5 General Advice

- Don't walk through flowing water - currents can be deceptive, and shallow, fast moving water can knock you off your feet.
- If you have to walk in standing water, use a pole or stick to ensure that you do not step into deep water, open manholes or ditches.
- Don't drive through a flooded area - half a metre of floodwater can carry a car away.
- Stay away from power lines - electrical current can travel through water.
- Look before you step - after a flood, the ground and floors can be covered with debris, which may include broken bottles, sharp objects and nails. Floors and stairs covered with mud and debris can be slippery.
- Avoid contact with floodwater.

APPENDIX A

Roles and Responsibilities of Relevant Agencies

Environment Agency

- Issues flood warnings for flooding from rivers, the sea and groundwater
- Receives and records details of flooding incidents
- Monitors the situation and advises other organisations
- Deals with emergency repairs and blockages on main rivers and own structures.

Bury Council (Local Authority)

- Manages surface water and groundwater flooding
- Co-ordinates emergency arrangements
- Maintains safe conditions on the roads including clearing blockages on highway drainage systems, puts flood warning signs on the highway and organises road closures and traffic diversions
- May take action to protect property from flooding by water from the highway where there is a failure of the highway drainage system.

Greater Manchester Police

- Takes an overall co-ordination role during a flooding incident.

Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue Service

- Responds to emergency flooding incidents as required
- Assists the public where a need is identified and the use of fire service personnel and equipment is required.

United Utilities

- Clears blockages in public sewers
- May take action to protect property from flooding by water from the public water mains or discharges from the public sewerage systems.

Electricity, Gas and Telecommunication Companies

- Attend to emergencies relating to their service at properties where life is at risk as a result of flooding
- Attend to flooding emergencies at their own serviced installations.

APPENDIX B

Flood Checklist

Address:	Mondri/Holcombe Mill, Bridge Street, Ramsbottom
Date:	

PART 1 – CONTACT DETAILS

Flood Response Manager

Name	Contact Number(s)	Other Information

Category 1 Responders

Responder	Telephone
Bury Council	
Greater Manchester Police (non-emergency calls)	101
Greater Manchester Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service	0161 736 5866
Environment Agency Floodline	0345 988 1188

General Contact List

Contact	Name	Telephone
Electricity Provider		
Insurance company		
	Insurance policy number:	

Useful Contacts

Identify people who can help you before, during and after a flood. For example:

- Provision of flood products; provision of water pumping services
- Provision of emergency storage
- Building services

Company	Contact Name	Telephone

PART 2 – PROCEDURES TO PROTECT THE HOME

Services

Service Cut-off	Description of Location and Actions to be Taken
Electricity	
Gas	
Water	

Protective Actions

Identify actions to protect the site, for example:

- Switch off appliances and turn services off at the mains (gas, electricity and water)
- Move anything not fixed down into a safer location
- Install flood protection products
- Weigh down any manhole covers to prevent them floating away and leaving a hazardous hole

Item	Location	Action

APPENDIX C

Flood Notice Sign

FLOOD NOTICE

Holcombe Mill Car Park Ramsbottom

This Car Park lies within an area at risk of flooding. If the Environment Agency has issued a warning that flooding is expected, the entrance barrier to the Car Park will be closed and vehicles can not be removed until the risk of flooding has passed and an All Clear has been issued.

Flood Warning Information

- Call Floodline on 0345 988 1188
- Download the Flood Alert app

Car Park Contact

Telephone:



FLOOD ALERT

Flooding is possible - be prepared.



FLOOD WARNING

Flooding is expected - immediate action required.

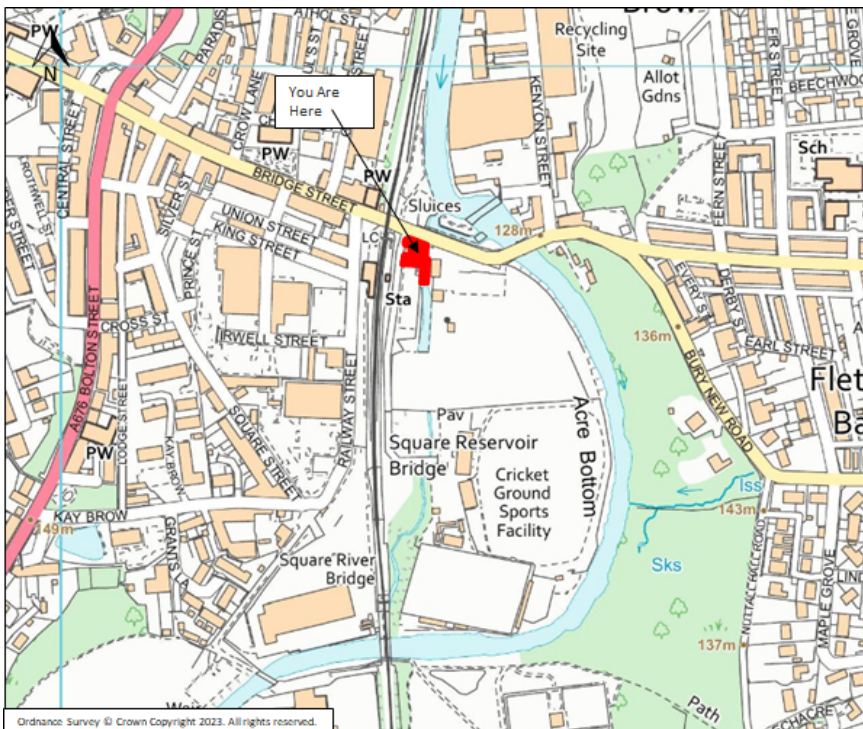


SEVERE FLOOD WARNING

Severe flooding – danger to life.

WARNING NO LONGER IN FORCE

No further flooding is currently expected in your area.



Always follow the advice of the Emergency Services.

Don't walk through flowing water – shallow fast moving water can knock you off your feet.

If you have to walk in standing water, use a pole or stick to ensure that you do not step into deep water, open manholes or ditches.

Don't drive through flooded areas – half a metre of floodwater can carry a car away.

Stay away from power lines – electrical current can travel through water.

Look before you step - after a flood the ground and floors can be covered with debris, which may include sharp objects. Floors and stairs covered with mud and debris can be slippery.

Delivering client focussed services nationally

- Flood Risk Assessments
- Flood Consequences Assessments
- Surface Water Drainage
- Foul Water Drainage
- Environmental Impact Assessments
- River Realignment and Restoration
- Water Framework Directive Assessments
- Environmental Permit and Land Drainage Applications
- Sequential, Justification and Exception Tests
- Utility Assessments
- Expert Witness and Planning Appeals
- Discharge of Planning Conditions

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