



Dear Resident,

WATERGATE TRIAL DEPLOYMENT-

On the 21st of November a company called Briggs who have been appointed by Aberdeenshire Council to act as Standby Contractors will be carrying out a trial run of the deployment of the Watergate barrier in the area of the "wild flower garden" and the setting up three high capacity pumps and hoses at various locations in Kembhill Park and Waterside Court, behind Bremner Way.

Briggs have extensive experience in dealing with emergencies of various sorts and will be starting the deployment of the barrier and pumps at 9.30am and be here for a couple of hours. Whilst this exercise is underway we would ask residents to be understanding of any disruption which takes place and to accept that we need such a trial run to make sure that equipment will be set up in good time and be in the right place to deal with any future flooding emergency.

LOCATION OF BARRIER AND PUMPS-

If you click on the links at the end of this message you will see where the Council have asked Briggs to locate sections of the barrier and the pumps during the trial run and in any future flooding emergency. The Council has calculated that the position they have chosen for the barrier sections will provide the best level of protection for our houses from flooding of a similar nature to that experienced in 2016. Outlet hoses will be connected to the pumps to simulate what would happen in a real emergency and you can see where these are to be located by clicking on the link below. These pumps are designed to direct any flood waters which get over the barrier back into the river.

Please make the effort to come along on the 21st to see what is involved in setting up the barrier and the pumps and let us have your comments on the exercise so that we can feed them back to the Council. In the first instance I would suggest that people meet at the bus stop on Bremner Way opposite Alehousewells School and see how things develop. Please let your neighbours know about the trial run as we do not have e-mail addresses for everyone in Kembhill Park or surrounding area and some people do not have access to the internet.

OTHER NEWS-

KPFG has made application to the Post Code Lottery Fund for a grant of £20,000 towards the cost of purchasing additional sections of the Watergate barrier which we think will give even greater protection for our houses in the event of another flooding emergency. The result of our application should be announced shortly. An application to SSEN for similar funding was unfortunately recently turned down.

KPFG is currently waiting to hear from SEPA if Kemnay will be designated a PVA (Potentially Vulnerable Area) when the issue is considered in the near future by Scottish Ministers. This follows a survey of the whole of Scotland by SEPA into which areas in the country should be given PVA status. All the indications from SEPA are that Kemnay will shortly be accepted as a PVA. Achieving this status will allow the Council to plan for a permanent flood barrier to be built at Kembhill Park and for works to take place at Milton Meadows to provide better flood protection there.

MEMBERSHIP-

KPFG needs new members so if you have not already done so please consider joining our flood group. We will only be able to influence the Council to give Kemnay priority for permanent flood prevention measures if we are able to show that we have strong

community support. We also need a couple of volunteers to sit on our small committee which consists of five KP residents and three ex officio individuals from Milton Meadows Resilience Community Group, Scottish Flood Forum and Sanctuary Housing. Our meetings are usually once a month but we also have a break in the summer and at Christmas so they are not too frequent. Membership forms can be obtained from Jim Buchan, our secretary or from myself. You can e-mail us at secretary@kpfg.org.uk or chairman@kpfg.org.uk. I look forward to hearing from you.

**Kind regards,
Ken Ledingham,
Chairman,
Kembhill Park Flood Group,
Charity number SCO47830**

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