



KIRKBYMOORSIDE TOWN COUNCIL
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2 February 2026

Dear Resident

Due to recent flood alerts and understandably raised levels of anxiety among residents of Keldholme and Kirby Mills the Town Council would like to share the following guidance summary, information available and actions taken over time and since Storm Darragh relating to flood warnings, flood management and flood prevention.

- Residents should continue to monitor the relevant Government/Utility websites for flood risks in their area.
- In cases of actual flooding residents should contact the fire brigade and any other emergency service they feel they need as first responders via 999.
- Once notified the relevant emergency service has the responsibility to contact the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA), North Yorkshire Council. The situation will then be managed by its Flood Resilience & Emergencies Team.
- A supply of sandbags, provided by the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA), North Yorkshire Council, is available at Kirby Mills Garage.

The Town Council's formal powers in emergency management are limited compared to the principal authority, North Yorkshire Council. However, the Town Council still plays a key role in supporting and coordinating local efforts. For example:

- provision to the emergency services and North Yorkshire Council of resilience information specific to Kirkbymoorside including details of all assets and information pertinent to a local emergency response e.g. the location of local facilities, defibrillators, amenities and useful contact numbers. This information is to help any first responder handling an emergency or other situation, to be aware of what resources are available and where, to support their plan;
- designation of the Moorside Room for use by the responding agencies during their operations. [In the event of an emergency the responding agency will contact the Town Council office, or Councillors out of hours, to arrange access to the key safe];
- publication of any information received from the respective authorities/agencies on the Town Council website www.kirkbymoorsidetowncouncil.gov.uk There is a section on the home page designated to Flood Recovery & Risk Management with links to:
 - Storm Darragh Flood Recovery updates received from the Lead Local Flood Authority, North Yorkshire Council
 - Flood Risk Management
 - Flood and water management
 - Be Flood Ready

- permission for use by *Water Tight* to site stores at the sports field for the duration of their works in the area, and arrangement, by mutual agreement, for use of the Football Club facilities.

Regarding flood support and prevention specific to Kirby Mills and Keldholme since Storm Darragh:

- North Yorkshire Council (NYC) Flood Resilience have been in touch with all properties affected by flooding. Please note that detail of support offered to each household is not in the public domain, this includes the Town Council.
- NYC Flood Resilience have provided residents with contact information should there be a recurrence.
- It remains the intention of the Town Council to establish a store for flood associated equipment/supplies, in close proximity to the affected area. To date five potential sites have been investigated. However, none have been suitable due to complexities involving permissions, dropped kerbs and/or cooperation from 3rd parties. Alternative arrangements will continue to be explored with the hope of realising this objective.
- The Town Council also intends to ensure that communication is possible in the event of an emergency and when there is no mobile network coverage. This has involved testing recommended equipment, used locally on the North York Moors, without success. Due to the thickness of the walls at The Moorside Room (the designated base in the event of an emergency) and the lay of the land between the town centre and Kirby Mills and Keldholme, it is apparent that more sophisticated equipment is needed and alternative options are being explored.

We hope this update is helpful and provides some additional clarification on how the risk of floods and flood management is handled.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Joe Coughlan', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Cllr Joe Coughlan

Town Mayor