

## **Flood Early Warning Device Messaging**

We have an Early Warning Device fitted at the brook running from Clifford's Mesne to Newent. This device notifies us when the water reaches a certain height and there is a risk of flooding. The notifications were previously sent to residents via email, but after consultation with the public, it was determined that this method was not timely enough. We have since explored the option of sending notifications via SMS.

We have been working with the Newent Neighbourhood Flood Association, who have canvassed for participants to join the scheme.

We have identified a way to send SMS messages, instead of emails, from the Early Warning Device free of charge—provided we do not send more than 10,000 messages per year.

The system operates via a government platform called **GOV.UK Notify**. If the annual limit of 10,000 messages is exceeded, a small charge per additional message will apply.

To receive alerts, residents will need to provide their mobile phone number for inclusion in the system.

If approved by Council, the new system should be up and running shortly.