

## **Long Sutton Parish Council help for the KCFPG**

During the winter of 2023/2024 the hamlet of Knole was badly flooded 4 times, with water entering 9 different properties. As a result, the villagers formed an action group called the **Knole Community Flood Protection Group** and set about the task of preventing future flooding events.

The first step was to survey where the flood water had come from and to formulate some ideas for slowing the water coming into the village at the same time as speeding run-off out of the village. The Parish Council kindly contributed some funds to add to the villagers' own contributions to speed up the survey work.

We identified four main areas where Flood Management Techniques could be applied but could only obtain funding from FWAG (Farming & Wildlife Advisory Group South West) and the SRA (Somerset Rivers Authority) for one of them. There were no immediate sources of funds for the other three projects (a pipe by-passing flood water across a field, leaky dams and new ponds off the Mill Stream, and raising of bridges causing obstruction to Mill Stream flow).

So, we have applied for grants from the SRA Flood Action Scheme and from the National Heritage Lottery Fund. Both these organisations asked for the applications to be made by recognised, well-constituted bodies with a bank account and track record of Project Management. The KCFPG did not qualify so we appealed to the Parish Council for help. We were delighted and extremely grateful that the Parish Council has agreed to head up our grant applications, thereby making it much more likely that we may succeed.