

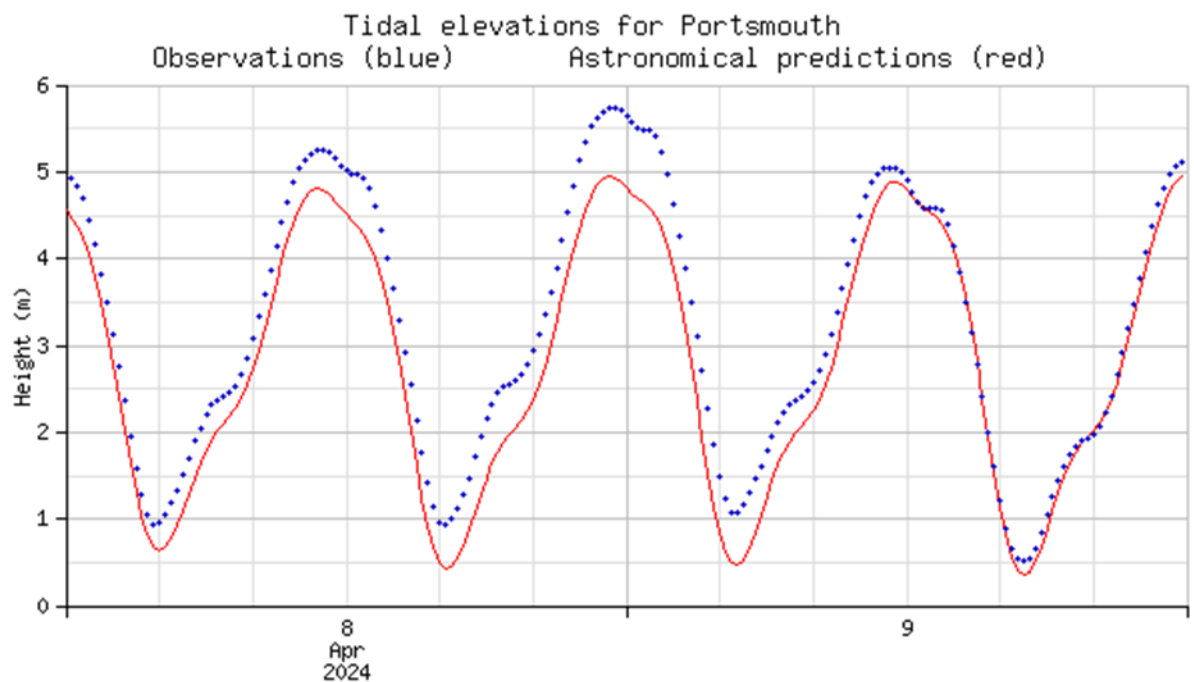
FLOOD REPORT – APRIL 8/9 2024

Introduction

This brief note is designed to inform the membership of the facts surrounding the flooding of approximately 20 bungalows overnight on Monday/Tuesday 8/9th April 2024. It should be emphasised that these are as we understand them, none of us are experts. It will also refer to the flood risk paper that we circulated in December last year. This should then help members as to actions they might wish to take with regard to their own properties.

Facts and Figures

1. Portsmouth tide tables predicted a tide of 4.9m
2. Langstone tide tables predicted a tide of 5.1m
3. Portsmouth recorded tide was 5.8m – so there was a weather effect of wind and storm surge created by low pressure of 0.9m, see chart below:



4. Langstone has no tide gauge but applying the Portsmouth weather effect of 0.9m to the tide table suggests that it could have been a 6m tide. The picture below shows the west Gate flooded to a depth of 10-20cm, the road is 5.8m above

chart datum (3.3 AOD) so also consistent with a tide of up to 6m.



5. Our November paper said that 'if the tidal height is above 5.8m a significant number of chalets will be flooded'.
6. Current sea walls along the north side (chalets 22-28) protect to a tidal height of 5.8m (3.1 AOD). Eastern side sea walls are lower at 3.0 AOD.
7. Therefore, the figures suggest that all sea walls on all sides were 'overtopped' and water entered the site from all sides including through the gates from Ferry Road. Anecdotal evidence from those on site support this conclusion.

Preliminary Assessment

1. Any effort we might have made to install a barrier on the slipway, raise the bund by 116, increase the height of the informal slipway area into the Kench by 104 or protect Ferry Road would have been a waste of time and money and would have stopped the sie from draining as the tide went down.
2. It would appear that some members were unaware of the flood warning. You can sign up for the flood warning service at www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings

The Future – Can it get worse?

1. The weather effect of 0.9m equals the Storm Eunice calculation in our November paper and would seem to be the largest ever recorded (a figure of 0.86m was mentioned at the time as the Portsmouth record).
2. The largest tide table prediction for Langstone Harbour this year is 5.32m
3. If we use 5.3m as the working example of extreme tidal height then that gets us to a maximum possible tidal height of 6.2m.

Conclusion

1. The November paper was accurate and, sadly the events of Monday night were predictable and should be expected again (unfortunately).
2. Monday's tide of about 6m was around 20 or 25cm short of the worst case scenario, had it occurred on top of a 5.32m predicted tide! so members should be encouraged to protect their bungalows to at least 30cm above the observed tidal levels.(All of this ignores any effect of rising sea levels over time caused or to be caused by global warming).
3. Some members are now actively pursuing flood protection measures for their properties. We would encourage them to share their experiences on our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/haylinghealthsociety> , so that we can all benefit from shared knowledge.

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