

Resource Sheet 4:

BOBBY SUMMERS: Bobby is a local farmer who has just secured a contract to supply vegetables to Tesco's; these he grows on fields located on the river's floodplain. He is keen to expand the area of land that he has under cultivation on his farm by cutting down several areas of woodland, and draining swamps and marshes. Although he was sad to see the devastation that the flood did to the village, his real concern was the loss of several fields of crops. Although he can bear the burden of such a loss this year, a repeat flood next year would lose him the Tesco's contract and put him out of business. Bobby wants the local council to act fast!

PETER TYSON: Peter is a local lad who works for the National Trust. He loves the countryside and spends his free time fishing and bird-watching. However, in recent years he has become unhappy at the state of the countryside, farms have become too big and industrialised, fields have been enlarged as hedgerows have been destroyed. He fears that several species of fauna and flora will soon become a rarity to the area as water meadows are given over to farming. He sees the floods as a mixed blessing, on the one hand nature has re-captured some of its land, but on the other hand it means that there will be calls for proper hard-engineering flood protection measures.

JASMINE GALLOWAY: Jasmine runs a small hotel in the centre of the village. The floods were disastrous for her business, although her hotel was not damaged, she has been unable to attract any guests since that fateful night of August 18th. Tourists are worried about returning to the area for fear of similar flooding at some later date. Furthermore, the village is still a mess and some of the attractions have yet to re-open after the floods. If businesses like hers are to remain afloat, Jasmine feels that the council has to not only protect the village from floods, but maintain the natural attraction of holidaying by the river.

ANGELA ANDREWS: Angela can't believe her misfortune, she spent the last five years saving money so she could put down a deposit on her first home, only to move into a property that now turns out to be prone to flooding. The estate agent didn't warn her that all the new houses on the estate were built on a floodplain. The floods of August 18th submerged the ground floor of her house totally underwater, thousands of pounds of damage was done and it now turns out that her insurance won't cover her losses. Although she loves the village and it is an ideal location for her work, she thinks she's made a big mistake, and is not sure she'll ever get her money back on her house.