

Firm moves to prevent floods



Lake flow controlled

EMERGENCY measures have been taken and longer-term moves are being looked at to ensure the Aldermaston flood disaster never happens again.

Blue Circle PLC, which owns the lake which flooded the village, has ensured the flow of water can be controlled in future.

Site Services Manager at Blue Circle, Michael Parker said: "We have our consulting engineers coming back to us on it and are talking to Newbury council about the area.

"We are exploring all areas in order to take any sensible precautions that can be taken to prevent any re-occurrence.

"The structure of our dam is sound and the water was carried away by the channels designed to do so. The bottleneck occurred at an underpass at Church Road and we need to discuss this with the council."

The water flowed normally from the lake

By SHARON SMITH

swelled by the freak storms but was coming down at such a tremendous rate it built up by the underpass and burst a wall there.

He said it was too early to say what measures could be taken to prevent such flooding in the future.

But angry villager Barbara Barrett, 73, whose cottage was flooded under three feet of water said: "I am annoyed because this happened once before in 1971 and people should know it could happen again."

Barbara Barrett shown with the aftermath of the Aldermaston floods ©