

March 2007

NORFOLK COUNTY RAYNET CALL OUT FOR COASTAL FLOODING.

On Tues 20th March at 1205hrs Norfolk County RAYNET were put on a stand-by status by Joint Operations Control North Walsham Police Station (Silver Control) requesting RAYNET to man the JOC at 1500hrs for North Norfolk Coastal Flooding from Kings Lynn to Great Yarmouth due to Spring high tides with NE Winds of 30kts.

At 1500hrs Terry G4PSH deputy controller Opened JOC RAYNET Control (G7RNN) 144.650Mhz and obtained Radio checks from G7VAH Steve, MOCNP David and G0TAM Alan, N Norfolk Controller, at their home QTH.

At 1530 JOC held a brief with the User Services present and RAYNET were asked to man an outstation at Salthouse and Walcott together with the Police and Flood Wardens for the high tide at 1914 Kings Lynn which would be 7.7m decreasing to 2.7m by the time the tide reached Gt Yarmouth (JOC Great Yarmouth not required to open).

At 1830 G0TAM/M departed to Salthouse sea defences and G7VAH/M departed for Walcott floodgates. MOCNP was on standby for N Norfolk District Council offices to man the RAYNET Station but informed by Silver Control Council Office would not be required unless evacuation was put into operation and sea defences breached.

At 1845 Contact was made with G7PRC Steve at his home QTH, who is coordinator for 4x4 Rescue in Norfolk, and with Trevor, M0THA, representing 4X4 Rescue in JOC.

At 1850 Contact with M1CQS Graham, Broadland Controller, who was standing by if/as required. Also on Frequency G0TJA Terry, G0MXN, John as relay stations if required.

At 1900 G7KBF Stuart, Broadland deputy controller, also on frequency with some Broadland RAYNET Members being put on Standby in case sea defences were breached at other locations and evacuation procedures brought into operation.

Also G7HXI Ian (not RAYNET) was at his QTH near Eccles beach if required.

At 1920 report from G0TAM/M with his 4X4 at Salthouse that the sea had not breached the sea defences and the Flood Wardens also confirmed the high tide peak had passed without much damage.

At 1930 report from G7VAH/M at Walcott that all was in order again Tide peak passed.

At 2005 JOC Stood the User Services Down, likewise RAYNET was Stood Down at 2007hrs.

The tides were high this month but because the wind reduced from 30kts to 20kts between 1500 and 1900hrs it did help to reduce the chances of flooding of homes and evacuations. Our next high tides are due in December, but what we do not want is any tide surges which causes breaks in the sea defences.

The JOC Police Inspector and the Security Liaison Officer thanked RAYNET for turning out and providing communications where and when required by Sea Witch Silver Control.

The co-operation between the Police, Fire Service, Coast Guards, Emergency Planning Officers, Civ Protection, 4X4 Rescue, Search & Rescue and Ambulance Service with Norfolk County RAYNET is very good and we are involved with User Services Exercises quite often.

It is good to know RAYNET are recognised in Norfolk and are always ready for any incident or unforeseen disaster with flooding being on top of the list.

A thank you was also received from Broadland District Councillor (Emergency Planning) to RAYNET for their attendance on an Emergency Call-out.

To all Members who took part from G7RNN Silver Control, Well done.

Report by Terry Owen G4PSH

North Norfolk RAYNET Depcon