

## RESILIENCE & EMERGENCY PLAN SUB COMMITTEE

### NOTES OF THE MEETING

**09 June 2025 – 19.30 – 21.00**

**Attendees** -Lucy Stevens - Chair, Deb Muscat, Ann Yarnold – Notes, Linda Houseby, Janet Court, Sue Donachy, Rodney Armstrong.

#### 1. Communications

The phone and internet signal within the parish is extremely poor with patchy reception and some areas have no reception at all. Many businesses have resorted to expensive satellite connections. Turning off analogue signals has become an increasing issue for the most vulnerable people, especially in emergency situations when the electricity is off. The cost of the digital and satellite connections is beyond the reach of many households especially the most vulnerable. It feels like the parish is at times excluded due to these connectivity issues, especially in times of electricity outage.

**Action** - To escalate issue to MP – Resilience Sub Group will pull together short report of issues and outline letter. MP will be asked to raise this at PMQs as this is likely to be a national issue with other rural areas. Covering note to be sent to CALC and other influential stakeholders.

#### 2. Funding

Cumbria Community Foundation – Criteria for grant restricted to flooding only i.e. for flood gates, but issue is that parish is still impacted albeit not directly related to flooding. We can however get portable heaters, radios etc however this has been informally discussed by Carolyn Otley and Liam Ryan and it is hoped the grant can be expanded to encompass community resilience.

Next resilience sub group meeting will focus the parish needs, write up a brief plan to be forwarded to the CCF to see if funding can be used to encompass community resilience, not just flooding.

**Action** – Resilience Sub Group to discuss and move forward with report to CCF.

#### 3. Community Resilience Forum

Planned by Cumbria Resilience Forum for September and one place is available for the parish. Deb will attend for the parish.

**Action** – Deb Muscat will attend for the parish and feed back.

#### 4. SolFest

It is understood that the licence has been granted and the festival is going ahead however issues were raised when the representatives attended the Parish Council meeting earlier in the year. There was an agreement at the time to exchange resilience plans prior to the festival.

**Action** – Sub Group to contact Solfest Committee. Send them the parish outline plan and ask for their resilience plan. Also raise with them a) Emergency number needed b) Signage c) Traffic

## **RESILIENCE & EMERGENCY PLAN SUB COMMITTEE**

control measures i.e. no large traffic queues on the very small surrounding roads and enrolling people in site if needed.

5. Next meeting

Next Resilience of the steering group meeting to be held week commencing 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2025. AY will organise.