

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE AND EMERGENCY PLANNING SUB GROUP UPDATE JAN 2025

REGISTERING THE PLAN

In December the following were informed that we have a plan.

- Cumberland Council Communities Team
- CVS Community Resilience Coordinator
- Cumbria Local Resilience Forum

THE PLAN

The team are now finalising version 5. Will be finalised in the next couple of weeks ready for sharing with the community.

ISSUE: GENERATOR

Update from Josie, ACT

NWElectric will now only provide generators in prolonged power outage. They consider population size, expected reconnection time and the number of registered vulnerable people. This is a change in their original message but reflects their review of capacity etc

Actions:

1. Promote the NW registration to the residents.
2. Have our own short term solution? In particular providing warmth and hot
3. refreshments at the village hall.

APPENDICES

There are number of appendices that need to be completed. These are likely to make up the Policy and Procedures file for the Sub Group, ie lists of volunteer contacts, households, offers of help etc. These will change as people move in and out of the Parish.

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE

Raised at the public meeting and in our discussions. It would be good to have a no. to contact. Various issues arise when you start to think about it.

EG Buy a mobile – but it might not be used for years – who is going to pay for

Use an existing land line – what number, only needed in emergency, but what if the owner is not here? Need a process that is flexible and works in the moment.

COMMUNICATION

WEBSITE: -Deb Muscat and Linda Housby are planning up to meet to set up a separate webpage.

FACEBOOK: A facebook page has been set up and is closed but will point individuals to the PC website for further information. It is planned that we can open up the site to local residents in a time of emergency to share information, offers of help, etc.

LEAFLET: A leaflet has been drafted to be distributed to households. It needs further work. To keep it short and likely to be read we need to be able to direct residents to more information on the PC website.

POSTER for Parish Council notice Boards, Church Parish News, etc. This needs to be created and shared once the website and leaflet are completed.

FUNDING: Cumbria community Foundation have a fund for community flood resilience. Need to ensure that the plan clearly shows the flood risk in the village. Up to £2000.

Cumberland Resilience has funding but I believe it to be to cover actual costs after the event. Eg additional bills incurred by the village hall.

COMMUNITY LINK VOLUNTEERS

A valuable resource that has worked well and should be built upon.

Would like to bring them together to chat about the role, listen to their ideas.

Don't want to publish something that they haven't signed up to. One issue might be what do we do if you are on holiday, need to knock on doors as all communications are down or very limited. Speak to Sue D. Once we have done this

Will create a community link volunteer pack which will have the information they need to do their role.

We are in the process of writing a list of other volunteer roles –there will be general information in the plan and on the website. Personal details of volunteers will be kept in the Subgroup Policy and Procedures file to ensure we are not contravening confidentiality law/DBS.

ADDITIONAL SAFE HUBS

Manor House, Tarns Country Park and the Lowther Arms have all offered to provide additional support in times of emergency. Details about this will be kept in the annexes and not made public until there is an emergency.

SCHOOL Caroline Oldham (Newtown) is a school governor and on the Health and safety group. She is the process of discussing this. What we know so far.

- Their emergency safe place is the village hall.
- They have enhanced/cable internet as they are a Council building. This could be valuable resource, but relies on electricity. There is a guest password.
- We will need to ensure that any procedure includes managing any safeguarding issues.

TIMELINE

2025

Jan	Update Parish Council
	Create Facebook page for subgroup ready for directing people to website
Feb	Meet with Community Link Volunteers
	Setup a website page
	Apply for funding for leaflet and poster.
March	Community meeting to discuss the plan
April	Distribute Leaflet and posters. Press release, etc
April onwards	Core team to continue to update the website/ Plan appendices as more information is gleaned either from the community or from the resilience forum.
	Update the PC as necessary
November	Formal meeting of the group. Invite public and consider if purchase are required.

2026

February	Parish Council precept meeting.
October	Formal sub group meeting