



Flooding November 21st 2012

EMERGENCY PLAN

CULMSTOCK PARISH

revised Nov 2020

Under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004, we are required to produce a plan which would come into effect in the event of a local emergency. The concept assumed in this Emergency Plan is to take the “worst case scenario” in the case of each situation so that there is a suitable plan in place for residents in Culmstock.

Introduction

We have identified all sorts of emergency event which might affect Culmstock within three main headings:-

- 1). Natural Causes
- 2). Man-made Incidents
- 3). Invasive attack & warfare

The purpose of the attached plan is to identify each type of emergency and to suggest self-help emergency plans which will enable the Parish to support itself during (and after) any such event. In some circumstances there will be a short period before an emergency occurs when it might be avoided by prompt or decisive action.

Planning Assumptions

A plan must be relevant and appropriate to the needs of the community served by the Parish Council and should be based on an assessment of the likely and foreseeable risks faced by the community ([Annex A](#)). In the event of a significant emergency affecting the parish, the parish council will form an Emergency committee to work with statutory agencies to minimise the impact on residents. Most **major incidents** that could occur in the parish would be responded to by the emergency services or other statutory bodies – (e.g. military, police, fire service etc.) and would not require significant self-help measures to be implemented. In the event of a major incident occurring where the emergency services or other statutory bodies are unable to respond, it is likely that local residents would take action to assist those immediately affected. For example an extremely severe storm affecting the whole South-West region might leave the Emergency Services unable to attend many simultaneous incidents. The Parish Council may be able to assist in co-ordinating the response to a major emergency, but is more likely to be involved in the recovery from such an incident.

Aim & Objectives

The aim of this plan is to outline how the parish council can help to manage emergency incidents and to minimise the potentially damaging effects on residents.

Further the plan is intended to contribute to the recovery after any type of local emergency.

- To have a procedures in place for notifying key members of the parish council in emergency.
- To have contact details of other key statutory organisations available.
- To have details of key resources within the parish.

Notification

[Annex B](#) attached outlines the relevant emergency contacts both internally within the parish as well as details of external bodies when local support is unavailable. The relevant contacts in any particular emergency are referred to within the right hand column of the hazards listed in annex A table, giving quick reference to who should be contacted in any particular emergency. Should an incident occur where residents feel it necessary to consult or advise the council, **the initial contact should be to the Chairman, vice-chairman, or clerk as listed below in annex B.**



Review

The Emergency Plan shall be reviewed annually.

Culmstock Emergency Plan updated by Councillors Bass & Plastow

Nov 2020

HAZARD	LIKELIHOOD	SEVERITY	CONSEQUENCE	ACTION	REF
Natural Causes					
Heavy Snowfall	Occasional heavy falls	Severe if prolonged	Disruption to amenities, transport & communication network. Parish isolated from supplies.	Arrange farmers to clear B3391 and lanes. Clear pavements. Plan helicopter food supplies if needed.	1,3
Serious flooding	Road drainage and gullies likely to be affected. River Culm frequently floods during prolonged rainfall of over an inch per day (as on Nov 14 th 2002 and on Nov 21 st 2012). Serious flooding if river level tops the flood wall. Frequent surface water run-off from saturated fields and hills. High likelihood of storm drains proving inadequate.	Minor traffic disruption	Road surfaces will be affected adversely, needing repair.	Arrange farmers to clear gullies	1
		Effect is greatly reduced due to the flood wall along The Strand.	The road bridge might become impassable (as well as at Hemyock).	Check water level at flood wall by remote DCC website. Inflatable sandbags available in Village Hall meeting room.	6
		Serious to properties within the flood plain if the wall overflows.	More than 30 dwellings including the pub will suffer ground floor flooding.	Check Sewers and drain sumps have been emptied	1
		As in November 2013 water will back up the sewers, especially north of river.	Businesses like the Garage and the Shop could be affected	Check that drainage channels have been cleared.	3
Severe storm	Storm-force winds over 55 mph are likely every few years.	With proper warning, should not have too severe effect.	Trees broken off or uprooted, structural damage likely.	Arrange farmers to clear debris.	1
	Hurricane-force winds 73+mph) must be expected during next decade, especially with the current climate predictions. Sewage upsurge possible.	Winter storms predicted to worsen. Hurricanes would have a very severe effect on residents, buildings farms. Summer thunderstorms are likely to become more frequent.	Severe widespread damage to vegetation and structures. Debris & unsecured objects hurled about. Possibility of lightning strikes on unprotected buildings	Parish Lengthsman available Contact .Devon Council to clear fallen trees and report serious highway flooding using "Report a Problem". Divert sewage contaminatio	2
Serious Drought	Infrequent, but becoming possible due to climate changes	Disruption if water supplies reduced or stand-pipes introduced	Restriction on water supplies with greater effect on elderly	Contact South-West Water	1
Flu epidemic or other infectious disease	COVID-19 shows that pandemics are a real threat as in 2020.	Culmstock is likely to be less severely affected than urban centres	Many and varied effects, possibly fatal especially to the clinically vulnerable	Form Community response team to	8

Ref in last column refers to Annex B

Source of risk data: Assessment of risk is based on a 30-year historical study, considering a period of 10 years forward

identifiesHAZARD	LIKELIHOOD	SEVERITY	CONSEQUENCE	ACTION	REF
Man-made Incidents					ANNEX A (2)
Serious road traffic accident	Highly likely in view of heavy vehicles, farm machinery and speeding traffic on narrow lanes	Severe implications in the event of road deaths or injury. Accidents on the bridge could have severe impact.	Likely road deaths & damage to property	Emergency Services would handle.	3
Accident with hazardous materials	If we are warned about any transport of hazardous goods, the parish should be given advance warning.,	Serious impact from hazardous, toxic, polluting, or inflammable materials. Immediate serious risk from explosive materials.	Possible air or water pollution of watercourses. Danger to health. Local fire or chemical destruction of buildings and property.	Emergency Services would handle.	3
Aircraft or helicopter crash	A rare event, but the AirShow at Dunkeswell & military exercises recall the 1996 Harrier crash.	Very serious if occurring on any inhabited dwellings.	Possible loss of life.	Emergency Services would handle.	4,5,14
Fire	High risk of fire from many sources and in drought conditions,	Severe for thatched buildings around the Cleeve & the Bridge.	Any house fire has immense impact on the owner and immediate neighbours.	Mark fire hydrants at Cleeve & bridge etc. Emergency services.	4
Underground gas escape	The main gas main crosses south of Whiteball. Dwellings do not have gas supply, so escape is unlikely.	Due to rural location, any gas escape would only affect a few rural properties at the very north of the Parish.	Local Toxicity problems	Emergency services would handle.	17
Railway accident	The Great Western railway runs under Whiteball. Any accident is likely to occur within the tunnel.	Any impact would be on the passengers or cargo, especially severe if carrying hazardous goods.	Possible road closures.	Emergency Services would handle.	3,4,5,14
Burst water main	Aging water mains make this more likely.	Minor issue unless inhabited dwellings are flooded	Possible localized flooding to dwellings and to highways	Contact Emergency Services. Locate water stop-valves	8
Prolonged power cuts	The National Grid overstretched from reactor decommissioning, the shortfall of alternative energy, and the demands of electric powered vehicles.	The effects of serious power cuts are being reduced due to improved prior warning, but minor cuts are already becoming more frequent. National Grid failure severe.	Likely problems in mid-winter especially around Christmas. Possible loss of frozen foods and hard on businesses dependent on electrical equipment.	Consider the needs of older people during power cuts. Help to find access to generators for essential businesses.	9
Electricity pylon collapse	Unlikely	Would only affect farms or highways	Highways closure, farm animals or people hurt.	Emergency Services would handle.	9
Failure of utilities	Electric or water cut-off possible especially in drought,	Main water supply failure is severe, although there are lots of local wells	Risk of hypothermia in winter Need to look after older people	Locate generators & standpipes Contact South-West Water about quality of local wells.	9 8
	Collapsed sewers likely.	Pollution of households and of river	Contamination of crayfish breeding.	Inform Environment Agency	7
Terrorist attack	Unlikely target for terrorists	Very severe	Hide somewhere safe!	Contact Emergency Services.	18
Chemical, biological or nuclear warfare	Unlikely target for warfare, except as a national fall-out	Nuclear fallout would be severe, nb our proximity to Hinckley Point	Stay indoors and close windows	Contact Emergency Services.	18
Electronic disruption	Uncertain, but increasingly possible to cut off internet & mobile phones	Broadband destroyed, especially severe if caused by terrorism	Without broadband & telephone communication will be difficult	Arrange meeting in Village Hall.	15

More information on National emergencies is available at www.preparingforemergencies.gov.uk (0870-241-4680)

List of Emergency Contacts

Annex B

This list (after section 1) is made mainly for the benefit of Parish Councillors, but also for any individual residents who find it necessary to get external help in an emergency.

1 Parish Council contacts:-

Chairman	Lizzie Jones	07870-622824	lizzie@culmstock-pc.org.uk
Clerk	Melanie Shore		clerk@culmstock-pc.org.uk
Other Councillors	Rosemary Balchin		rosemary@culmstock-pc.org.uk
	Catherine Bass		catherine@culmstock-pc.org.uk
	Charlie Kay		charlie@culmstock-pc.org.uk
	Jo Saunders		jo@culmstock-pc.org.uk
	Jude Zebedee		jude@culmstock-pc.org.uk
	Sarah Leppard		sarah@culmstock-pc.org.uk

2 District Council contacts:-

Emergency no.	Out of hours team via	01884 255255	Duty incident manager, Corporate Management Team
	Simon Clist	07855-027595	sclist@middevon.gov.uk
	Natasha Bradshaw	01884 233247	nbradshaw@middevon.gov.uk

3 County Council contacts

Emergency no.	Out of hours	01392 382680	https://www.devon.gov.uk/emergencies/
Local	Ray Radford		ray.radford@devon.gov.uk
Flood or Highways 24/7	Highways Op'n control	01392-383329	https://www.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/
Highways (local)			csc.roads@devon.gov.uk

External Emergency Services

4	Fire Service	999	www.dsfire.gov.uk
5	Local hospitals	999	
	NHS Medical advice	111	Non-Emergency
	Ambulance	999	(including Devon Air Ambulance)
6	Environment Agency Floodline	0345-988188	www.environment-agency.gov.uk/homeandleisure/floods
7	Environment Agency - Pollution incident	0800-807060	www.environment-agency.gov.uk
8	South-West Water	0800-1691144	(0844-507-5281 costs 5p/minute!)
9	Western Power Distribution	105	or 0800-365900 www.westernpower.co.uk/Power-outages.aspx
10	Highways maintenance	01392-383329	csc.roads@devon.gov.uk
11	Coastguard	0870-6006505	www.mcga.gov.uk
12	Devon & Cornwall Police	999	www.devon-cornwall.police.uk or 01392-777444 for exeter
13	Samaritans	116123	08457-909090
15	BT emergency	0843 850 2091	www.bt.com/faults
16	Met Office		www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/uk/sw/sw_forecast_weather.html
17	Gas leaks	0800-111999	http://www2.nationalgrid.com/UK/Safety/Gas-emergency/
18	Disaster Action <i>National contact as last resort</i>	01483 799066	www.disasteraction.org.uk

Defibrillator	Village Hall entrance	Checked monthly		
First Aid kit	Village Hall	Minor emergencies	Village Hall	
Snow clearance	Village	Terry Pike	Primrose Cottage	01884-841067
	Prescott	Stewart Priddle	Brookshill Farm	07979-752275
	Nicholashayne	Keith Prettejohn	Nicholashayne Farm	01884-849121
	Hillmoor	Stafford Sampson	Fry’s Farm	07970-089534
	Gipsy Town / Red Ball	Steve Findlay	Moor View, Red Ball	07855-316780
Snow Shovel & Hi-Viz jacket		Geoffrey Bass	Cadbury House, Fore St	01884-849172
Salt	Manageable bags available Salt bins are stocked	Stewart Priddle at most highway hills	Brookshill Farm	07979-752275
Salt Spreaders	South of village	Stafford Sampson	Fry’s Farm, Hillmoor	07970-089534
	North of Village	Steve Findlay	Moor View, Red Ball	07855-316780
Sandbags	Inflatable sandbags available	Village Hall Meeting Room-(central cupboard);		Access code from any Parish Councillor
Water pump	Available through various farms			
Radio stations	BBC Radio Devon	95.8 MHz		
	BBC Somerset Sound	95.5 MHz		
	Phonic FM	106.8 MHz		
	Heart FM	97.0 MHz		
Refuges	There are several places to convene within Culmstock for greater communal safety within a serious emergency situation:-			
	North of Village	Village Hall	might be locked	access code from Parish Councillors (see p5.)
		Culm Valley Inn	might be flooded?	Key via: michellecolman6@gmail.com
	South of village	Parish Church	Might be locked?	Key: Katherine at Mulberry Lodge