

Berwick Saint James Community Emergency Response Plan



Intent.

This Community Emergency Response Plan (CERP) aims to provide our village (and local community) with a contingent level of resilience that will enable us to manage small scale issues and potentially complement the emergency services, before the relevant services can arrive. It will also establish the baseline for further interim measures should that be required before the restoration of more normal services.

Key contacts – the Berwick St James Emergency Response Committee.

The following have volunteered to form the Berwick St. James Emergency Response Committee and will therefore act as the empowered hub for contingency planning and advice where appropriate:

James Barnes – Village Chairman
Ian Gibb – Emergency Response lead
Neil MacDougall – Emergency Response deputy
Kate Glyn-Owen
Howard Tolley
Chris Lange
Bill Hiscocks – Village Treasurer and Church Warden
Greville Bibby
James Hardy – Flood Warden

Our approach.

Based on our experience from the Covid pandemic, the CERP will use a similar cascade of information – or alerts – from the Emergency Response lead (in concert with the Village Chairman), utilising the established village WhatsApp Group, backed up by neighbourly over-watch and then by door-to-door contact where necessary. In that manner, any notable incident news or messaging should catch everybody. This will only be done when absolutely necessary to avoid unnecessary disruption or confusion. More routine events (such as roadworks) do not fall into the scope of this plan. Nonetheless, we ask that everybody in our community stays linked in with their immediate neighbours for the benefit of the same. In this manner we will also decide if a more deliberate response is required, for example, local sharing of transport or generation of power.

Key Contacts



Community Emergency Lead			
Name	Ian Gibb	Contact number	Mob: 07768 593829 ijgibb@live.co.uk



Village Chairman			
Name	James Barnes	Contact number	Mob: 07725 860129
Emergency Response Deputy			
Name	Neil MacDougall	Contact number	Mob: 07502 565456 Home: 792761



Place of Safety Key Holders			
	St James' Church (Bill Hiscocks)	Contact Number	Via key contacts
	The Reading Room (Nicky Street)	Contact Number	Via key contacts
	The Guide Hut (Helen Thompson)	Contact Number	Via key contacts
	The Boot Inn/ Farm Shop subject to negotiated access - TBC		

Scope.

The following emergencies may have an impact on our community:



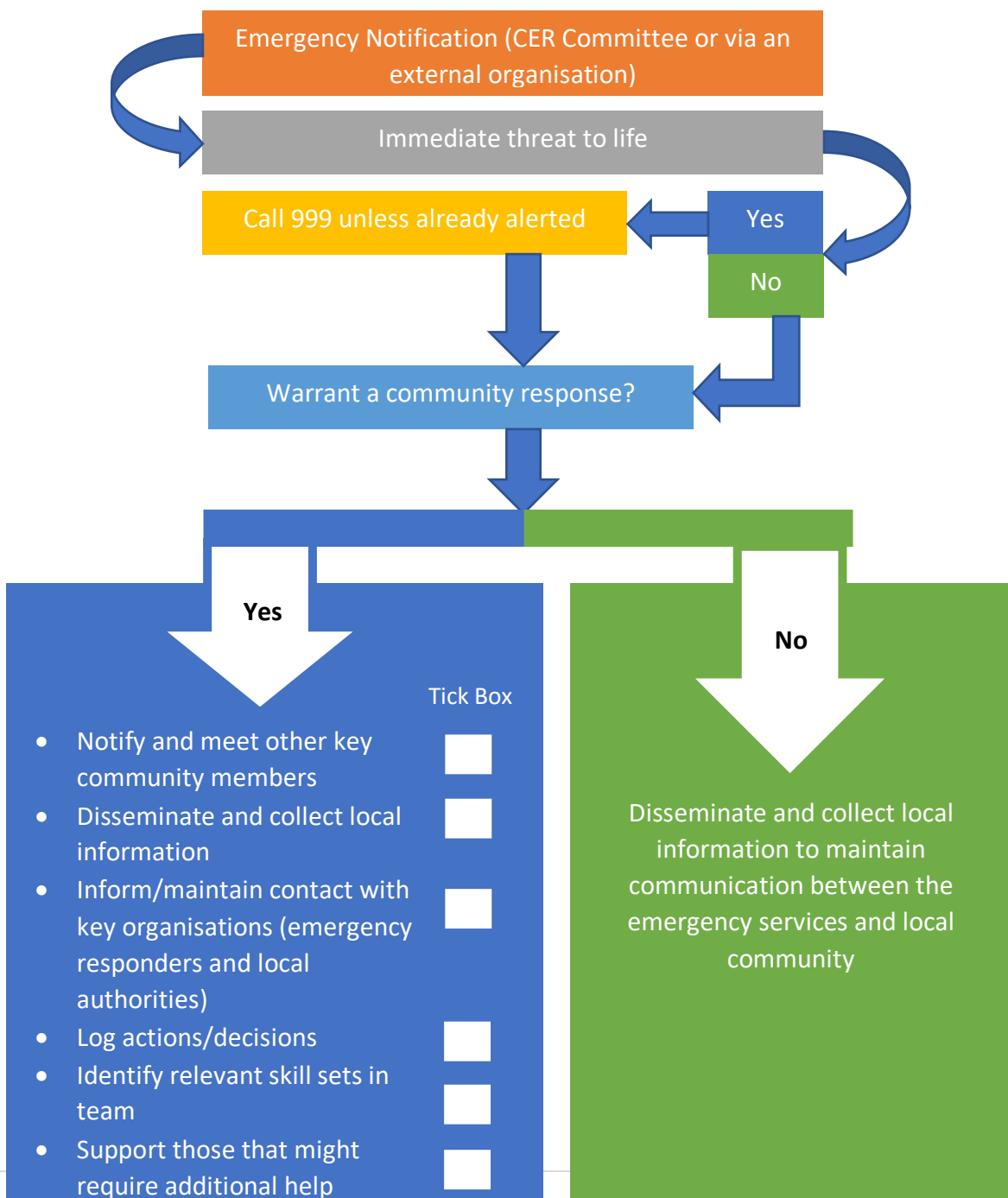
Issue	Impact	Notes
Pandemic or major influenza outbreak	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased demand on health care services and potential impact on medicine provision. Reduced levels of Emergency Services cover. Staff shortages at businesses. Disruption to the (local and national) economy. 	
Major traffic incident	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A303/A36 traffic diverted through the village. Incident blocking Berwick Road. 	<i>The preserve of the Emergency Services but might require a response (such as First Aid) where appropriate (and safe to do so).</i>
Severe weather	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Travel disruption. Disruption to utilities. Property disruption. Emergency Service and organisational difficulties in delivery daily services. 	
Flooding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disruption to utilities. Potential evacuation. Psychological and health impacts Impact on local businesses and economy. 	<i>Deemed unlikely for us given revised drainage in the village but groundwater may be an issue for some.</i>
Utility failure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disruption to power for household activities (including for example; cooking, heating, internet usage and charging of electrical items). Health endangerment to vulnerable individuals. Financial impact to local businesses. 	

Response decision tree - Initial action (IA).

Activation may come from two different sources:

Emergency Notification (such as from Local Authority).	Follow direction from the emergency responders.
An incident identified by a villager.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call 999 if there is a risk to life. • Contact the Village Chairman and Emergency Committee lead. • Follow the procedures outlined below:

Information cascade.



Emergency Responders.

Who?	How to contact them?	What they do in an emergency?
Police	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dial 999 in an emergency such as a crime in progress. Non-emergency Police reporting dial 101. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Responding to incidents. The co-ordination of the emergency services, local authorities and other organisations during an emergency.
Fire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dial 999 in an emergency. For home advice link via: dwfire.org.uk/safe-and-well-visits <p>Or call 0800 0382323 during office hours.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Responding to incidents. Fire-fighting and fire prevention Detection, identification, monitoring and management of hazardous materials and protecting the environment
Ambulance & NHS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dial 999 in an emergency. NHS non-emergency number: 111. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Responding to incidents Identify & alert the receiving hospitals
Wiltshire Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In and out of hours use: 0300 456 0100. In hours you may ask for the Emergency Planning Team. Also, via emergencyplanning@wiltshire.gov.uk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the emergency services. Help the community recover. May take action to protect property from flooding by water from the highway where there is a failure of the highway drainage system. Help facilitate road closures and diversions. Identify and set-up a safe place for community to stay after being evacuated - known as rest centre.
Environment Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incident hotline 0800 80 70 60 (24-hour service). Floodline service 0345 988 1188. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect the environment and take reports of environmental pollution such as chemical or fuel spills, or many dead fish in rivers. Issue flood alerts and warnings to the public and implement flood defence where appropriate. Deal with emergency repairs and blockages on main rivers and own structures.
Utility Providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gas (National Grid): 0800 111 999. Power Cut: Call 105. Wessex Water: 0345 600 4600. British Telecom: 08001217667. SSE: 03303035063. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support statutory responders. Ensure continuity of supply. Provide alternative means of supply during an emergency if there is a threat to life.

In some cases the emergency services and local authorities will have to prioritise those greatest in need and therefore may not be able to reach the village immediately. We can play a vital role in helping the emergency responders by reducing the impacts of an emergency but also by being prepared at home.

Self-resilience preparation at home.

Individual and individual household resilience will be key to how we as a village cope with or respond to a crisis, be it another pandemic, widespread and sustained power failure or worse.

With that in mind, the following suggestions provide some guidance on domestic resilience should some independence be required, at least initially. The suggestions below, summarised from the Flood Warden's separate advisory flyer, are also detailed in the Government's 'Prepare Campaign' website. <https://prepare.campaign.gov.uk>

A house plan.

Print a telephone/email address list of your emergency contacts, friends and key financial contacts/agents. Place it somewhere safe, have a spare and give a spare to your Next of Kin or a trusted neighbour or keyholder.

Keep copies of important documentation (driving licences, photo page of passports, birth certificates, marriage certificates and insurance policy details and consider sharing with appropriate individuals.

Discuss 'procedures in the event of a crisis' with a trusted neighbour or keyholder.

Ensure that you have torches/radios and batteries for them and that you have a power-bank battery for extending the life of your mobile phone (and that it is charged).

If you are over 65, you may be entitled to be on the Priority Services Register which means you should be prioritised by the utility companies in the time of a crisis.

Medical preparation.

Ensure that you have an emergency medical kit. The British Red Cross 'First Aid' and 'Baby and Child' First Aid apps are also helpful.

Prescriptions. Ensure that you always have sufficient prescription and non-prescription (for example hay-fever or insect bite/sting) medicine to cover at least a week without resupply.

Medical history. Print a copy of your medication regime for others to supervise or manage in extremis.

Water and food supplies.

Water supply. Ensure that you have stored sufficient bottled drinking water stored: UK Government advice urges households to have three days' worth.

Cooking. Houses have a mix of fuel sources so may be resilient enough to heat water/food. However, the backup of a camping stove or barbecue that could be used to prepare food should be considered – with sufficient fuel.

Food supply. Ensure that you have three days-worth of food that does not need to be cooked or at least requires minimal heating.

Support to others. If you have a substantial barbecue or camping stove that can sustain significant/sustained use, and you would be prepared to heat food, fill thermos flasks or hot water bottles for others, please be prepared to support the community in the event that you are approached by the Committee – or indeed in proactively looking after your neighbours..

Fire Defence.

Alarms. Make sure that you have considered a home exit plan in the event of an emergency. Check your smoke alarms regularly.

The Dorset and Wiltshire Fire Brigade offers a free home safety visit service and will come and check everything in your home and give advice.

Fire Extinguisher. Keep a 1-2 kg extinguisher in the house. Dry powder fire extinguishers cover most eventualities.

IJG

BStJ CER lead

9 Jun 26