

# PARISH COUNCIL 2021 EMERGENCY PLAN

## INTRODUCTION

This Parish Council Emergency Plan has been prepared in order to assist the residents of this parish to cope in the event of an emergency or other unforeseen situation which has disrupted the normal day to day life of the area. In most circumstances the 'Blue Light' services (police, fire and rescue, ambulance and coastguard as appropriate) would be in attendance very quickly and thus the involvement of parishioners should be minimal. In some situations, a supporting role of "tea and sympathy", and possibly providing temporary shelter until the situation is resolved, could be most valuable.

However, in the event of severe weather and/or commitments elsewhere, the emergency services may not be able to respond as quickly as necessary and then it would be up to residents to deal with the situation to the best of their ability. Therefore, the Parish Council has drawn up lists of services and facilities available within the parish, together with contact numbers of individuals who may be able to provide aid. We have also included a list of some useful contacts outside the area.

In the first instance, any unforeseen incident should be dealt with by those on the scene and further assistance sought as necessary. Parish Councillors are often a useful source of advice and information and are a good first point of contact.

An up-to-date version of this Plan will be maintained for viewing or download on the Parish Council website.

<http://www.westalvingtonparishcouncil.co.uk/>

The Emergency Plan will be periodically revised and any suggestions for corrections, additions or updates should be sent to the Clerk, Katharine Harrod, 169 Cumber Close, Malborough, TQ7 3DE, Email: westalvingtonpc@gmail.com.

Please ensure you have the latest printed copy of this plan as details may be subject to change.

## **Parish Self-help Emergency Plan**

The Civil Contingencies Act 2005 suggests that parish councils prepare a contingency plan for self-help in case of emergency. Nearly all emergencies affecting our community will be dealt with by the "blue light services", local authorities or public utility companies but there may be occasions when the community will have to help itself. We have therefore prepared a community self-help plan which is hoped will provide a framework for parishioners to cope with any emergencies affecting our community.

This guidance is by its very nature generic and can be adapted to any incident. Once the emergency services are in attendance the information in the plan can then be used to provide further assistance and local knowledge.

Risks that may require the communities to act independently include isolation caused by bad weather or being unable to receive help from the emergency services due to widespread disaster or pandemic. In situations such as major spillage, flood, aircraft accident or lost persons the emergency services might well rely on local knowledge to help in their efforts.

Please ensure you have the latest printed copy of this plan as details may be subject to change.

If you require a printed copy of this plan please contact:

Katharine Harrod, West Alvington Parish Clerk  
Tel: 07704 941150      Email: [westalvingtonpc@gmail.com](mailto:westalvingtonpc@gmail.com)

## **Emergency “Grab Bag”:**

National guidelines suggest that householder prepare an emergency bag to help them locate essential items quickly should an incident occur. It is also suggested that they collect and maintain a small emergency store of bottled water, ready to eat food and a can opener.

The bag should be small enough to carry and be stored in a safe place where family members can find it. It should be checked regularly and should include most of the following:

- Details of regular prescriptions for your family
- Paper copy of useful telephone numbers (e.g. family, friends, insurance company, utilities, doctors etc)
- Mobile phone and charger
- Important documents e.g. passport, insurance certificates
- NHS numbers
- Toiletries
- First Aid kit
- Wind-up or battery radio, including spare batteries
- Wind-up or battery torch with spare batteries
- Essential keys (house, car, work)
- Special items (e.g. spectacles, contact lenses)
- Cash and debit/credit cards
- Candles and matches

In the event of long term or frequent power cuts it could be useful to have a traditional plug-in landline telephone available at home.

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## **POSSIBLE EMERGENCIES:**

### **Flooding**

Recent years have seen an increase in short-term localised flooding which occurs after particularly intense rainfall (flash flooding) exacerbated by blocked culverts and drains. These floods are by their nature difficult to predict.

Sand and sandbags can be purchased from your local Builders Merchant, DIY store or Garden Centre.

**South Hams Flood Line out of hours service 01803 867034**

**Volunteer Flood Officer:** Parish Clerk Katharine Harrod

**Email:** westalvingtonpc@gmail.com **Tel:** 07704 941150

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### **Snow and Ice**

This could result in fallen trees, power disruption, blocked roads and failure of public transport. With only one main road through our parish we could quickly become seriously affected.

The village grit is supplied by Devon Highways. The Parish Council has established a volunteer Snow Warden scheme and bags of grit are stored locally. If you would like to store a bag of grit ready for spreading nearby on roadway inclines that could become dangerous or impassable please contact the Parish Clerk via email.

**Volunteer Snow Warden:** Parish Clerk Katharine Harrod

**Email:** westalvingtonpc@gmail.com **Tel:** 07704 941150

In her absence this task falls to the Parish Councillors.

There are also grit boxes located at:

- Longfields
  - Lower Street A381 Junction & Square
  - Ring O Bells & Town Park Junction
  - Town Park Car Park
  - Townsend Close Square
  - West Alvington Village Hall
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## **High Winds and Loss of Power/Communications**

Since much of the local medium-voltage power and telecommunications networks still rely on overhead power lines localised outages can be anticipated during exceptionally windy weather. Loss of electricity can have a “knock-on” effect on all other mains services. Mobile phone coverage of the parish is patchy and therefore cannot be relied on to provide back-up.

If telephones are not affected and road traffic is moving freely, contact should be made with the relevant service supplier to:

- a. report the loss of service.
- b. obtain an estimate of time when service will resume.
- c. if necessary obtain advice on making the situation safe.

If reconnection is likely to be delayed the supplier should be asked to institute emergency measures to help the community deal with the situation until the services are reconnected. South Hams District Council (01803 861234) should also be kept informed of the situation.

## **Telephone numbers of the main utilities are on Page 7**

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## **Serious Road Traffic Accidents or Aircraft Crash**

This would probably only be a very short-term problem before the emergency services took over. However, help could be provided by local householders in the form of hot drinks, blankets, shelter etc.

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## **Major Pollution or Contamination Incident**

While there is no known major or hazardous chemical or biological process industry in the area the possibility of airborne or waterborne contamination reaching the parish cannot be wholly ruled out. However, management of any such incident would be very technically specialised and thus any response by the community would be confined to communication and observance of measures recommended by MoD, Police and Emergency Services.

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## **Water Supply Failure**

In addition to inconvenience and reduced fire-fighting capability, failure of the mains water supply may lead to a public health hazard from contamination of conduits. In recent years South West Water have been quick to supply bowsers of water to areas in need of temporary supplies.

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## **Emergency Accommodation**

Temporary accommodation could in an emergency be provided at West Alvington Village Hall. The Hall has kitchen and toilet facilities.

Contact: 07710 114340 or email [autoncourt@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:autoncourt@hotmail.co.uk)

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## **CONTACT DIRECTORY**

### **MEDICAL**

First responders are volunteers trained and equipped to deal with some medical emergencies. Based in the community, they have greater local knowledge and are able to mobilise more rapidly than other rescue services. They are contacted through the normal Ambulance control centre **Emergency 999**

**The village heart defibrillator is located in the entrance porch of the village Hall (accessible 24/7)**

Kingsbridge Health Centre	01548 853551
Salcombe Health Centre (Redfern)	01548 842284
NHS (non-emergency)	111
Pharmacies:	
Boots, Kingsbridge	01548 852354
Day Lewis	01548 853129
Boots, Salcombe	01548 842146
South Hams Hospital	01548 852349
Derriford Hospital	01752 202082
Torbay Hospital	01803 614567
<b>FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES</b>	<b>999</b>
Fire	101
Police	101 or 112
Ambulance	103
H M Coastguard	999
Western Power Distribution Emergency Line	0800 6783 105
Environment Agency, Region Emergencies	03708 506506
Floodline	0845 988 1188
South Hams Floodline (out of hours)	01803 867034
South West Water	0800 346 2020

# **PARISH, DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL DIRECTORY**

## **West Alvington Parish Council:**

Katharine Harrod, Clerk

Tel: 07704 941150      Email: westalvingtonpc@gmail.com

Leanne Carr

Tel: 07779 008842      Email: leanne@devoncove.co.uk

Liz Chin

Tel: 07757 750360      Email: muzzy.chin@gmail.com

Ryan Kilgannin

Tel: 07904 477984      Email: robsw ltd@gmail.com

Stephen Lees

Tel:                              Email: cllrstephenlees@hotmail.com

Andrew Pascoe

Tel: 07811 385275      Email: andrewjpascoe18@gmail.com

Kathryn Rawlinson

Tel:                              Email: ksrawlinson@hotmail.com

Helen Rhymes

Tel: 07968 271410      Email: helen.rhymes@hotmail.co.uk

John Walster

Tel:                              Email: Walsterjj@yahoo.com

## **South Hams District Council**

General Enquiries      01803 861234

Out of Hours              01803 867034

## **Devon County Council**

General Enquiries      01392 382000

Out of Hours

## **BE PREPARED:**

### **Flood Prevention & Flood Advice:**

Obtain advice from the National Flood Forum on how to protect yourself and your property from flooding.

- Tel: **01299 403 055**
  - Website: <https://nationalfloodforum.org.uk>
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### **Environment Agency: Sign Up for Flood Alerts**

You can register online with the EA's Floodline Warning Direct service if your home or business is at risk of flooding.

- <https://www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings>
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### **NHS Health Advice**

This winter is likely to be more difficult than most, due to the impact of Coronavirus (COVID-19) on health services across the UK.

The NHS have issued the following advice:

- Find out where to get advice if you are unwell
  - Get a flu jab
  - Keep your home warm
  - Check in on vulnerable neighbours and relatives
- <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/keep-warm-keep-well/>
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### **Met Office Winter Advice**

You can sign up for Weather Warning alerts from the Met Office via email, Twitter or follow alerts in the Met Office App.

Remember to follow them on Social Media for regular updates and information.

<https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/warnings-and-advice/uk-warnings#?date=2020-12-01>

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### **Seasonal Advice from the Met Office**

The Met Office also regularly publish seasonal advice. You can find information about Travel, Health and Wellbeing, Protecting Your Home and much more.

<https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/warnings-and-advice/seasonal-advice>

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## **Roads and Travel**

The roads and highways in the South Hams are managed by Devon County Council.

Devon County Council have lots of advice and information about travelling in winter, road gritting, grit bins, salt bags and snow wardens.

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/safe-travel/winter-travel/>

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## **Highways England**

The main A-roads and motorways are managed by Highways England.

There is lots of information, including travel advice and road safety on their website.

<https://highwaysengland.co.uk>

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## **Vehicle Checks and Advice**

It's a good idea to check your vehicle thoroughly before winter sets in.

Highways England have produced a series of handy videos to take you through some basic vehicle checks. Maintaining and checking your vehicle will help prevent accidents and breakdowns.

<https://highwaysengland.co.uk/road-safety/vehicle-safety-checks/>

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## **RoSPA**

The Royal Society for the Prevention Of Accidents (RoSPA) have advice and guidance on their website covering the following:

- Winter driving - for drivers and employers
- Slips, trips and falls
- Clearing ice and snow
- Water and Leisure safety in the winter
- Home and Christmas Safety
- Safety in the Workplace

<https://www.rospa.com/resources/hubs/winter>