

PARISH COUNCIL 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.southmiltonparishcouncil.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: south.milton@gmail.com.

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, South Milton Parish Clerk
Tel: 07704 941150 Email: south.milton@gmail.com

Emergency “Grab Bag”:

National guidelines suggest that householders 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 electricity cuts it could be useful to have a traditional plug-in landline telephone available.

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.

The Parish Council has produced a Community Flood Plan which provides details of action which should be taken in the event of Red or Amber rain warning from the Met Office. Despite some works already effected, it also lists work it considers needs to be undertaken to further mitigate against the effects of flooding. The Plan lists volunteers and contractors who can assist in an emergency. A supply of sandbags is kept at the Old School. The Plan is available to view on the village website.

South Hams Flood Line out of hours service 01803 867034

Volunteer Flood Officer: Nick Townsend 01548 560243

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 supply is kept updated by Devon Highways. The Parish Council has established a volunteer Snow Warden scheme and bags of grit are kept behind the village hall. 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 Snow Warden or Parish Clerk.

The Parish Volunteer Snow Warden is:

Tim Lewis (01548 560868 or 07870 337918)

In his absence this task falls to the Chairman of the Council.

There are also grit boxes at:

1. Entrance to Backshay Close.
 2. Shute Lane (Sunnyside).
 3. Upton Cross.
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Major Incident on the Beach

Any incident involving waterborne craft, bathers, cliff falls and the like will be dealt with by the emergency services but local knowledge from villagers may be called on.

The emergency services have been made aware of the established local custom of calling the southern end of the beach (accessed down Horswell Lane) 'South Milton Sands' and the northern end (accessed down Links Road) 'Thurlestone Sands'. This distinction should remove the chance of any unfortunate confusion about which end of the beach emergency services should attend and is reflected in the signposting in the parish.

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 8 & 9

E-mail regional outages. Call 199 to see if the whole area is 'down'.

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.

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.

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.

Landslip & Falling Trees

The steep banks alongside some of the lanes are prone to landslips after heavy rain. Landslips are usually minor and can be bypassed with the debris cleared by local farmers. Fallen trees can also be problematic following heavy winds.

If you are reporting an emergency that requires immediate attention, please call Devon County Council on **0345 155 1004**. An emergency on the highway is defined as something that is very likely to present an imminent threat to life or serious injury or serious damage to property.

Emergency Accommodation

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

Chairman Anne Berryman - 01548 560359
Secretary/Key Holder Jane Howey – 01548 560600
Treasurer/Key Holder Jenny Brown – 01548 562248
Key Holder Nick Townsend – 01548 560243

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 porch of the village Hall (which is open 24 hours a day)

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
FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES	999
Fire	101
Police	101 or 112
Ambulance	103
H M Coastguard	999
Western Power Distribution Emergency Line	199
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 & COUNTY COUNCIL DIRECTORY

South Milton Parish Council:

Marion Brice, Chairman

Tel: 01548 560454 Email: marionbrice41@btinternet.com

Anne Berryman

Tel: 01548 560359 Email: anneberryman@btconnect.com

Paul Booker, Vice Chairman

Tel: 01548 561885 Email: paul.booker@hotmail.co.uk

Graham Collyer

Tel: 01548 560932 Email: grahamcollyer46@gmail.com

Graham Jinks

Tel: 01548 561292 Email: gh.jinks@gmail.com

Tim Lewis

Tel: 01548 560868 Email: tim.b.lewis@gmail.com

Nick Townsend

Tel: 01548 560243 Email: gillnickt@yahoo.co.uk

Katharine Harrod, Clerk

Tel: 07704 941150 Email: south.milton@gmail.com

South Hams District Council

General Enquiries 01803 861234

Out of Hours 01803 867034

Devon County Council

General Enquiries

- 0345 155 1015
- Email: customer@devon.gov.uk

Emergencies (out of hours)

- Social Services: 0345 600 0388
- Highways: 0345 155 1008
- Animal welfare, petrol and explosives: 01392 499499

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/>

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>

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>

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/>

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>

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/>

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.rosipa.com/resources/hubs/winter>