

## **Why we need a community emergency plan**

A Community Emergency Plan has been developed because Burton Pedwardine is stronger when neighbours look out for one another. In an emergency, such as flooding, severe weather, loss of utilities, road closures or another local incident, the people who live and work in the community may be the first to notice problems, check on those nearby and share important information before wider support arrives. The plan helps us use our local knowledge, community networks and available resources in a safe and organised way, so that residents know who to contact, where to go, what support may be available, and how to help without putting themselves at risk. It is especially important for identifying streets, households or individuals who may need extra support, while respecting privacy and working alongside emergency services and Lincolnshire County Council. By preparing together, we can reduce confusion, support vulnerable residents, keep each other informed, and recover more quickly after an incident. Above all, this plan reflects a shared commitment to caring for our community, protecting local people and strengthening Burton Pedwardine's resilience before, during and after an emergency.

## **What emergencies**

- Flooding e.g. Coastal / Surface Water
- Fire / Explosion / Lighting
- Severe Weather e.g. Heat / Cold / Wind / Drought
- Loss of Critical Infrastructure e.g. Roads / Water Supply / Electricity / Communications
- Shortages e.g. Fuel / Food
- Disease e.g. Human / Animal
- Contamination e.g. Ground / Airborne
- Malicious Acts / Terrorism
- Failure of Government or Council Services / Societal Breakdown

**Disasters can strike without warning, anywhere, at any time.** To minimise their impact and ensure a coordinated community response, a Community Emergency Plan (CEP) has been developed. By preparing in advance, we can strengthen our community's resilience and provide essential support to emergency services.

The plan is a comprehensive, all-hazards strategy, including provisions for flooding, and has been approved by Lincolnshire County Council and the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Leader. It will be activated when at least two members of the CERT determine that immediate action is necessary to respond to an incident and will follow the procedures outlined in the plan.