

Emergency Resilience Plan

As a Parish Council it has been suggested that we prepare a plan for how we can respond in cases where there is a loss of Telecommunications. By 2027 all telephones, both business and residential, will be replaced with Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP) systems. These are dependent on a broadband connection, which is dependent on electrical power. Our attention to create a plan has been focussed by the recent 36-hour power outage in the Ladock area. Frustrations continue in the Ladock area when there are outages from internet providers; we depend on WiFi Calling.

Put simply, in the event of an emergency we need to be able to get help!

There are things that we can / should do for ourselves...

Vulnerable People in our Community who are telecommunications dependent for medical aids and alarms should have a back-up battery for VOIP phones... their telecoms provider should be able to help with this... even though the back-up power only lasts for a short while it would be long enough to make someone aware of the situation.

Please check to see if you are eligible to be on the Priority Service Register <https://www.thepsr.co.uk> . If you are eligible, please register; they will send through alerts about power outages. You can also register with the National Grid on 0800 0963080 and British Gas 0800 0728625. Again, although this will not stop the disruption it will give you time to plan.

Making sure that we have a power bank for mobile phones, a supply of candles, battery operated torches and camping stoves available helps us to be resilient.

What could we do as a community to keep each other safe?

- Do we have medical professionals in our community or a community first responder who will be able to assist in a medical emergency?
- Have we identified where the mobile signal is strong?
- Do we have any businesses with a battery back-up or generator?
- Would you be willing to call in on vulnerable people in the event of an outage?
- Does anyone have an amateur radio network handset or a base station?
- Does anyone have a satellite phone or a Starlink Set?
- Do you have a venue that could become a hub?

If you have answered 'Yes' to any of the above, please get in touch to help us to create a Community Response Plan. It would involve you

- sharing your details with us
- attending a meeting to form a plan
- trying out the plan
- reviewing the plan annually
- holding a hard copy of the plan
- in the event of an emergency meeting at an agreed place.

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