

BEPTON Parish Resilience Plan: 2020/21

1. This plan is designed to provide a framework for a Parish based approach to deal with severe winter conditions as experienced in 2009/10, and similar emergencies.

What are the objectives of the Plan?

2. To enable people in Bepton to access and continue to use the roads in the event of heavy snowfall or obstruction from fallen trees.

3. To ensure best possible access by emergency services.

Identified Key Risks and Hazards

4. In times of extreme weather conditions, the disruptions are from:

- ❖ Hazardous road conditions and blockage of roads because of snow and ice on:
 - Primary routes: Bepton Road, Severals Road, Bugshill/Bell Lane access points.
 - Steep inclines and at junctions
 - Fallen trees (all roads)
 - Fallen power cables (limited)
 - Severed telephone cables

- ❖ Power failures resulting in loss of electricity supply and thus loss of heating and cooking facilities, access to sources of information (e.g. the internet) and lighting

- ❖ Telecoms disruption (land line & cellular) resulting in loss of communication

WSCC Offer

5. The WSCC Offer is as set out in their document 'Supporting Local Community Winter Plans 2020/21'.

6. In brief, the Offer is that WSCC would grit those roads, in the Precautionary Network. Bepton Parish Council have identified Bepton Road, Severals Road, Bugshill Lane and Bell Lane as local priority. ACS Services will undertake precautionary salting/gritting, and, if necessary, clearance of them because of a WSCC notification of a significant snow event. A map of the roads accompanies this plan.

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7. WSCC will also provide £35 per hour towards the local contractor (ACS Services) to clear snow because of a significant snow event, from the roads identified in paragraphs 4 & 6 of this plan. Note ACS charge out rate is £85 per hour for the first hour and £45 thereafter, the shortfall will be payable by Bepton PC.

8. If the Parish Council decided to ask a contractor to do any further gritting or snow clearing that was not agreed by WSCC, the cost would fall to the Parish Council. Similarly, the cost of any new salt or grit bags would fall to Bepton Parish Council. We currently have no salt or grit bags in Bepton. The approved local contractor for Bepton is ACS Ltd.

9. People are encouraged to work together to clear the necessary routes and give access for those less able to help themselves.

10. Owners of four-wheel drive vehicles are encouraged to give assistance wherever and in whatever way possible. Drivers should have regard to the nature of the road and weather conditions and always consider safety first.

Fallen Trees

11. Bepton has several heavily wooded areas. In extreme high winds or heavy snow conditions, trees may be brought down causing blockages to roads or pulling down overhead power and telecommunication lines. The utilities will normally be aware as soon as this happens and take the necessary action, but residents should check that this is the case.

12. Often oaks or pines heavily laden with ivy vines are the first to succumb when there are snow /severe gales. Some residents take preventative action by cutting the ivy vines to avoid this as it causes the leaves to then drop.

13. If a fallen tree interferes with power or telecom lines the appropriate utility supplier should be contacted so that any risk/clearance is managed by them. Where the tree is blocking the road or is on a highway verge the West Sussex Highways Dept. should be contacted.

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At Risk members of the Parish Community

14. As in the past, experience of the 2009/10 snowfalls showed that neighbours took care of residents. This is always appreciated, not just in the case of extreme weather conditions, power failures etc.

15. There is a DEFIBRILLATOR accessible to all in the restored telephone box near The Country Inn.

16. Please refer to our website BEPTON.ORG for further information and register for emails for the latest updates by signing up on the 'FOLLOW' link at the bottom right-hand corner of the opening page.

For more information – listen to BBC Sussex 104.8 and 95.3 fm.

For further information please contact:

Emergency Contact Details:

Utility Suppliers:

- Southern Water www.southernwater.co.uk Tel: 0330 303 0368
- Southern Electric www.south-electric.co.uk Tel: 0800 072 72 82
– (National Power Cut Helpline Tel: 105)
- BT www.bt.com/faults From a landline: 0800 800 151

West Sussex Highways Dept.

- Western Area Office, Drayton Lane, Drayton, near Chichester, West Sussex, PO20 2AJ
E-mail: highways.western@westsussex.gov.uk
Telephone: 01243 642105

West Sussex Police:

- Tel: 101 from a landline or 112 from a mobile.
- In an emergency call 999 from any phone or 112 from a mobile.
- <http://www.sussex.police.uk/>

