

## AIRMYN PARISH EMERGENCY PLANNING TEAM

### INFORMATION NEWSLETTER, January 2016

Welcome to this newsletter, which is a response to the recent flooding situations across our County and to the flood warnings from Boxing Day onwards, affecting the village of Airmyn.

For some time now, there has been an Airmyn Emergency Planning Team (AEPT), the purpose of which is to provide a system of support and information in the event of an emergency taking place in the Parish of Airmyn, until handing over/assisting the relevant emergency service, or giving any requested assistance. Local knowledge and plans put in place to support the community are vital in such situations and can also save lives. The Team has worked very hard to produce a viable Emergency Plan, should the village be involved in a disaster or emergency. As we saw in 2013/2014 and again this festive season, events can strike at any time and in particular, the threat of flooding.

We are all aware that flooding can have a devastating impact and this impact has been seen and felt right across the country. Even being on constant flood alert brings its own stresses and strains and the aim of this newsletter is to help lessen the impact.

The Committee is in need of more volunteers, to assist with Street Co-ordinators, to help with the delivery and collection of sandbags, or anyone with particular skills that may be useful in an emergency.

#### **FLOODLINE WARNINGS DIRECT**

One of the most important things to ensure in the case of flooding or warning thereof, is to sign up to the **FLOODLINE WARNINGS DIRECT** system.

This you can do through the following websites:

**[www2.eastriding.gov.uk](http://www2.eastriding.gov.uk) site**

**[www.environment-agency.gov.uk](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk)**

You can sign up to receive warnings via phone, text or email. Alternatively, you can call **0845 988 1188**. You will also receive a call when the flood alert has been cancelled. If everyone is registered, this will give the Street Co-ordinators extra time to assist with requests for particular help, rather than going from house to house to alert occupants of a flood warning.

#### **CHECKING TIDE TIMES AND AIRE RIVER LEVELS**

To check up to date tide timings, which would affect Airmyn, you can go onto:

**[willyweather.co.uk/yorkshire-and-humbar](http://willyweather.co.uk/yorkshire-and-humbar)** (NB humbar with an 'a' is as it appears on the website). This will give you the River Ouse and River Aire Entrance Tides.

Also:

**<http://www.ukho.gov.uk/easytide/easytide/showprediction.aspx?portid=0180&predictionlength=7>**

This shows high tides at Goole with a 7-day prediction. To check on regular river level readings, go onto **[apps.environmental-agency.gov.uk/river- and-sea-levels](https://apps.environmental-agency.gov.uk/river-and-sea-levels)**.

Or just type in River Levels at Airmyn or River Tide Timings for Airmyn!

### **STREET CO-ORDINATORS**

Whilst no-one wishes to intrude into the lives of our neighbours or be seen to be “Officialdom”, it is felt that those living in certain roads, may have a better knowledge of anyone living near them, who may need specialised assistance. The emergency services would need to know about these people. The person may be infirm, have special needs, be registered visually or hearing impaired and may have difficulty in reacting to certain situations. There may also be householders who have animals or pets, but who work during the day and would want their pets cared for if necessary. There is also the case of householders who may be on holiday, as happened over festive season. You will be advised of the name and contact details of your co-ordinator in the near future.

### **WE NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS TO ACT AS CO-ORDINATORS – SO PLEASE VOLUNTEER.**

Please contact the Emergency Team by posting a note through the post box at Airmyn Memorial Hall or e-mailing: [pchec62@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:pchec62@yahoo.co.uk)

Or at **[www.airmynvillagehall.org.uk](http://www.airmynvillagehall.org.uk)**

### **DEFIBRILLATOR**

Airmyn has its own defibrillator; it is situated on the wall of Airmyn Garage, on the High Street. Caroline Fox and Andrew Percy are trained First Responders and more are needed. If you feel able to volunteer for this role and are willing to be trained, please contact the Emergency Team as above.

### **SANDBAGS**

This is always a contentious issue, so attempts have been made to co-ordinate this in the future. The relevant department at East Riding of Yorkshire Council (ERYC), have asked that requests for sandbags be co-ordinated by the Airmyn Parish Emergency Planning Team (APEPT).

Due to time constraints, it was not possible recently for sand-bags to be delivered door-to-door by ERYC and hence the Memorial Hall Car Park was deemed the delivery and collection point for the sandbags. Getting this information out to everyone was by Facebook/Twitter and the Airmyn Parish Council Website as this was deemed the fastest route. It is appreciated that not everyone uses these sites, so it is hoped that family, neighbours and the community as a whole, would assist in passing on the information and helping those less able to collect. Attempts were also made to find out how many sandbags were going to be delivered and to gain a ratio of sandbags per house, but no-one at ERYC was able to quantify. This is where community cohesion is important to ensure that those directly in the path of anticipated flooding, be given priority. For future such events, householders requiring sandbags are requested to contact their Street Co-ordinator. In the

event of the Airmyn Memorial Hall being flooded, information as to the delivery/collection point for sandbags will be given at the time.

Due to the fact that sandbags have a short time-span and erode quickly, we have been advised that bags should not be made up in advance. As a result of this, we are attempting to obtain a village store for sand and also for a stock of sacks, which would then be available to be made up by villagers at short notice. Further information will be published when known.

### **FLOOD PREVENTION BY HOUSEHOLDERS**

We are currently in the process of attempting to arrange for a Flood Advisory Information and Advice Roadshow to come to Airmyn. Again, once this has been arranged, the details will be published. These road shows will advise on most aspects of flood prevention, the recommended products and suppliers.

Depending on the availability of these road shows, we are also considering asking suppliers of domestic flood equipment to put on an exhibition and advice day in the Memorial Hall, where products may be purchased also.

These events would also be publicised for a wider area in the hope of helping as many householders as possible.

However, there are many domestic products which are worth considering and can be found easily by looking online. As we recently kept hearing, sandbags are a standby, but other products have superseded these and are proving more effective. Whilst we will still approach EYRC for sand and sacks, perhaps it is time for householders to take prevention measures themselves.

There are some simple measures which can help in a flood situation:

Putting medicines in plastic sealed bags

Checking torch batteries

Keeping a supply of candles

Keeping important documents in a safe and protected place. Whilst most documents can be reproduced, having the originals will save time and stress.

Keeping a copy of your House Insurance in a protective cover, ensuring it is easily available.

This is important, should you need to make urgent contact with your Insurance Company.

Ensuring you have pet carriers or other animal transport available and food/water bowls

If you have outside animals i.e. Rabbits/Guinea Pigs/ Chickens etc, ensure you can make emergency provision and include food etc.

### **Flood Advisory Service: [www.floodadvisoryservice.co.uk](http://www.floodadvisoryservice.co.uk)**

We hope that this Newsletter has provided some help and can assure you that arranged flood prevention events will be published in the near future.

Airmyn Parish Emergency Planning Team