

# Everleigh Parish Council

## EVERLEIGH WINTER EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN (EWERP)

### INTRODUCTION

The Everleigh Winter Emergency Response Plan (EWERP) is designed to provide a basic co-ordinated approach to ensure access, emergency response, and the safety of those residents who are at risk in the event of Everleigh being directly or indirectly affected by severe winter weather. The plan has been compiled in association with Wiltshire Council, and should be read in conjunction with the Everleigh Village Emergency Plan aide-memoire (Annex A and Enclosure 1) and the Wiltshire Council gritting and salt bin map (Enclosure 2).

### KEY RISKS AND LOCAL HAZARDS

Everleigh is a small isolated community which depends on access to other resources and shops located in the nearest villages (Tidworth, Collingbourne Ducis, Pewsey, Upavon, Netheravon) which are all in excess of 4.5 miles away. It is not considered to be at risk from flooding. In times of extreme weather conditions, likely disruption and risks to the inhabitants are from:

- Hazardous road conditions and restricted access as a result of:
  - Snowbound, icy roads
  - Steep icy hills (Lower Everleigh (A342), and Pewsey Hill)
  - Fallen trees
  - Fallen power cables
- Power failures as a result of:
  - High winds
  - Snow damage
  - Fallen trees
- Telecoms disruption (Landline and cellular):
  - Fallen trees
  - Lightning strike
- Risk to the frail and elderly as a result of any of the above and/or persistent cold conditions

### LOCAL RESOURCES

Being a rural community with several agricultural and contractor skills, machinery and equipment, Everleigh is able to cope well with environment-related emergencies. This has been proved in the past, when the community acts together.

### EMERGENCY RESPONSE:

#### Snow and Ice

The A342 is an essential east-west route through Everleigh and central Wiltshire for both commercial and local traffic. It is therefore on Wiltshire Council's priority list to keep open by gritting and snow-ploughing. Secondary priority is given to The Marlborough Road (leading to Pewsey, via Pewsey Hill) and Chick's Lane (leading to Collingbourne Ducis).

Critical high risk points prone to snow drifts and ice are known to exist on the A342 between Church Hill (grid SU 197 543) and Lower Everleigh Hill (grid SU 186 547). The high ground on the A342 from Lower Everleigh Hill westwards towards Trenchard Lines, Upavon is particularly susceptible to drifting. Although outside the Everleigh parish boundary, Pewsey Hill is impassible when icy conditions prevail and its eastern approach from Everleigh suffers from drifting, and frequently remains closed as it is a secondary priority route for gritting and clearance.

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Local assistance may be provided by farmers and 4x4 vehicle owners. For example, Mr Charles May, Linden Farm, is on the Wiltshire Council's list of farmers providing snow-plough support (and tractors for recovery assistance particularly on the A342 through Lower Everleigh).

Everleigh and Lower Everleigh have three grit-salt bins located on road junctions with sloping surfaces, shown on the Wiltshire Council's map (Enclosure 2), and required for local access. Replenishment grit-salt stocks are held at the parish-owned ISO container at Pingleaze Farm, The Street.

### **Fallen Trees**

Once notified of a fallen tree an appropriately qualified/experienced person will be contacted to assess the hazards and to clear the obstruction as necessary. In the event of a situation being dangerous or complicated with power or telephone lines, the appropriate utility provider will be contacted to ensure any risk is managed prior to clearance commencing. In the event of a road being blocked, Wiltshire Council and Wiltshire Police may be consulted to assist.

### **Risk to the Vulnerable**

Everleigh has several elderly parishioners who may be particularly affected and at risk in the event of a prolonged incident and/or extreme weather event. Everleigh is a small community which has an established Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) organisation. This splits the community into seven Schemes, each with a Coordinator responsible for only a small number of properties. The NHW Scheme Coordinators act as focal points for most emergency scenarios. Additionally, Everleigh has a reputation for 'inclusiveness' and neighbours expect to assist others in need.

### **CONCLUSION**

Everleigh is well rehearsed and prepared for severe winter weather-related incidents, and is prepared to coordinate emergency response with assistance from outside agencies. In conjunction with the Everleigh Village Emergency Plan, which lists contact details for other agencies, the Everleigh Parish Council emergency response coordinators will assess any situation and apply a dynamic risk assessment in order to resolve emergency requirements.

Annex A and Enclosure 1 - Everleigh Emergency Plan aide-memoire (distributed to all households)  
Enclosure 2 - Wiltshire Council' Gritting and Salt Bin Map

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