

RYE EMERGENCY ACTION COMMUNITY TEAM (REACT)

Notes of meeting held 24 October 2007

Present Cllr Granville Bantick (GB), Richard Farhall (RF), John Holbrook, John Izod (JI), Cllr Shaun Rogers (SR) [part]

Apologies Anthony Kimber (AK)

Accuracy of notes of last meeting

Cllr Bantick should be recorded as having been in attendance at the last meeting.

Insurance cover for volunteers RF had spoken with the Town Council's insurers. Authorised volunteers are covered currently under the Council's public liability cover. If the Council considered it reasonable for volunteers to have personal accident cover (£50k lump sum + £50 weekly benefit) the Council's premium would rise by £2.50 per volunteer per annum. Before authorising a volunteer the Council would need to carry out a risk assessment.

Funding RF had emailed the Rother/Hastings Emergency Planning Officer, Charles Sharrod. He had undertaken to investigate funding sources and offered to attend a future meeting (after early November).

Paul Carey It was agreed to ask him to re-join the Team. RF

Communications SR's suggestion that the Team investigates whether it is possible for text alerts to be issued (similar to Floodline) received general support.

Vulnerable residents SR suggested it might be desirable for Wardens to know the access codes for any sheltered housing units within their Sector.

Visitors SR pointed out that, during the main visitor season – and on Market Day – there could be many hundreds of non-residents to take into account during an emergency response.

Draft letter to potential Sector Wardens/additional Team Members RF's draft (which included an invitation to attend an information evening) was generally approved - subject to AK being replaced with RF as the contact for further information/queries.

Warning signals The question was raised whether there are any (functioning) 'air raid' sirens remaining in the town. Failing that the Church bells could perhaps be utilised as a means of alerting people to a 'hazardous situation'.

Rye Contingency Action Plan

Members considered a revised version of the CAP kindly provided by AK.

Sectors

It was observed that Love Lane and the Grove had been inadvertently overlooked. The proposed sectors were reviewed and revised as follows:

SECTOR	Potential Warden
1 Citadel	Peter Vega, John Izod, Simon Pettigrew
2 Cinque Ports St, Station, Rope Walk, Landgate, Ferry Rd, Bridge Place, Eagle Road	David Wright, Mary Smith
3 Rock Channel, South Undercliff	John Holbrook, John Royal, Charles Bronsdon
4 Winchelsea Rd, New Winchelsea Rd, Harbour Rd	Roger Breeds, Reg Emson Rod Harrow
5 Kings Avenue, New Road	John Standen, Gary Booth, Rodney Booth, Frances Catt
6 Tilling Green	Mandy Turner, Paul Tyler, Fred Heritage
7 Udimore Road, Cadborough Cliff	Granville Bantick, Paul Osborne, Sam Souster
8 Rye Hill, Deadman's Lane, Mill Rd, Fairmeadow, Love Lane, The Grove	Derek Bayntum, David Russell Lorna Hall, Kevin Hall Spencer Toby, Alan Dickinson
9 Military Road, North Salts	Sonia Holmes, Liz Baldwin, Margaret O'Neill

Logo JI's suggested REACT logo was received and adopted.

Way forward It was agreed generally that perhaps the draft CAP was becoming unnecessarily complex and that it would be helpful to have guidance from the Emergency Planning Officer at the next meeting.

RF

Next meeting To be arranged for a date when Charles Sharrod could attend. The Team would meet 30 minutes earlier to agree the questions to be put to him.