



Community Resilience in Bilbrook

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Adapting to our Changing Local Environment Plan

Action Plan developed to help understand changes and evolve the management and efficiency of our services to adapt to changes in local weather patterns.

- Monitor temperatures and rainfall
- Establish baseline data on vulnerable habitats
- Research risk to endangered species from silt and agricultural land from flooding events
- Assess agricultural soil runoff onto highways
- Flood management
- Sign up to Climate Local with the LGA
- Develop community partnerships



Duck Lane – costly damage by flash flooding.

Source: South Staffordshire Council
2014

Development of 'Community Resilience Plans'

- Outline risks community face as a result of severe weather
- Show how these risks may change in future.
- Outline **possible responses** that could be implemented to deal with risks and how community can be involved.
- Strengthen the community's response to dealing with a severe weather event when it occurs and after it has happened.
- Outline the way the community can help vulnerable residents, e.g. those who cannot go outside in heavy snow, in times of need.
- Help strengthen the community group and their collective response to such events.



Use of BIOPICCC to initiate scheme actions



1. SSC Rural Summit
June 2012

2. Interest from Parish Councillors – appetite for project to go ahead



South Staffordshire Council



Staffordshire County Council

4. Development of project plan
Summer 2013

3. SCC and SSDC meet collectively; buy-in from EA



Environment Agency

5. SCC and SSDC attend parish councils meeting to advertise project
September 2013

6. Hold workshop with key community group members
6 November 2013



7. Develop Severe
Weather Plan
January 2014



8. Review SWP



9. Follow up meeting
October 2014



12. NFF taken on
initial Flood Action
Group to continue
to deliver project
**August 2015
onwards**



11. Action Group
development by
Community Council Good
Neighbours Scheme with
support from external
organisations
2014 - 2015



10. Action
Plan
developed



South Staffordshire Council Rural Summit Workshop - Adapting to a Changing Local Environment.

Aims:

- Collect views from local stakeholders working at Parish area level.
- Bring together Parish, District and County Councillors together with other key stakeholders.
- Share knowledge about localities and experiences of extreme weather, key risks and ideas for action.
- Identify parish/community to work with on a 'Community Resilience Project'.

How BIOPICCC was used:

- Identify key stakeholders & relationships for development of 'Resilience Plan'.
- Project planning – gathering key risks and ideas for actions.
- Organisation and process of stakeholders/rural summit.
- Participatory mapping.

County Council's role in Bilbrook project:

- Project manage and oversee the project's development.
- Help to identify and bring together stakeholders.
- Organise and facilitate the workshop and mapping exercise.
- Develop the initial draft of the Severe Weather Plan.
- **BIOPICCC was useful in helping achieve all of these.**

Stakeholder engagement:

Appendix 2b - Identifying key partners working at the neighbourhood level: an example 'organogram'

Local Government	NHS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adult Social Care: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> social workers residential carers day carers home carers 'telecare' Public health practitioners Neighbourhood management Emergency planners Spatial planners Engineers Resilience and development continuity planners Adaptation and climate change officers Local environmental services Community development workers 	<p>Local Care Providers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community nurse representatives Local GPs and practice managers Local pharmacies Local hospitals
<p>Coordinating Bodies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Strategic Partnership (e.g. area/community partnerships) Parish and Town Councils 	

Independent Care Sector	Other
<p>Community and Voluntary Sector</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individual older people and their informal carers <p>Frontline workers/local representatives from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Age UK groups Parish Councils Older people's forum Carers' advisory group Alzheimer's Society 'Other' local user-led groups Local faith group representatives <p>Private Care Providers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Domiciliary care providers Care home managers Care in the community managers Personal Assistants 	<p>Emergency Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local police representatives Local fire service representatives Local ambulance teams <p>Transport Services serving the locality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local bus companies Dial-a-ride Local taxi firm managers Voluntary car service providers in locality <p>Local Advocacy and Brokerage Groups</p> <p>Local Social Housing Agencies</p>

Running the workshop: **(appendix 3a)**

Discussion groups

Participants will be divided into mixed stakeholder groups (approximately 6 people per group) and will be given a map of the locality. You will need to identify someone to facilitate the group discussion and identify a rapporteur to record the discussion. Participants will be asked to:

1. identify key parts of the health and social care systems in the area including:
 - o key health and social care facilities e.g. hospitals, residential care homes and GP surgeries;
 - o key health and social care services e.g. domiciliary care and meals on wheels;
 - o infrastructure systems supporting the facilities and services identified e.g. transport network, electricity, gas and water networks;
 - o strategies and ways of working that strengthen community and human resources in the locality.

(approximately 30 minutes)

2. examine how extreme weather may affect these systems *(approximately 20 minutes)*;
3. explore how these elements in the system connect and depend on each other *(approximately 20 minutes)*;
4. determine suitable sites (settlements/communities) for more detailed assessment of these issues and demonstration of resilience planning strategies *(approximately 20 minutes)*.

Plenary feedback and close *(approximately 20 minutes)*

Groups will be asked to share the key points from their group discussion to the wider group.

- We used these ideas and simplified them slightly to suit the location and the participants involved.
- **We also included some of this info in the Plan.**

Running the workshop: (appendix 3a)

Participatory mapping, involving the annotation of 'official' maps of the locality or the preparation of sketch maps by participants, offers a way of capturing local knowledge about an area (see the examples below).



Examples of participatory maps produced by stakeholders.

- We used this idea at our workshop (except we used coloured dots and card...)
- The maps were subsequently digitised and used in the plan.

Running the workshop: (appendix 6b)

Do members of the community group agree that this is a good summary of the transport services that they need to use to access health and social care? Are there other services that are important?

The impact of extreme weather

Participants talked about weather-related hazards which have occurred in *Local Authority North* in the past. These events included: localised flooding in 2000 and 2011 and the extended period of cold weather in 2010/11. The service providers felt that the snow and ice caused the most disruption to older people, many of whom were housebound for a number of weeks. The main roads were cleared by the council but not the side roads or pavements and older people were often worried that they might fall and injure themselves. Some disruption to health and social care services was reported but this mainly occurred in the more remote villages in *Local Authority North*. Domiciliary care teams covered for each other when colleagues were unable to reach the older people they care for.

Do members of the community group agree? Was the snow and ice more disruptive than the localised flooding? Why? Were their health and social care services disrupted by the extreme weather? If so, how?

Preparedness and planning

Whilst acknowledging the differentiated needs of older people, the service providers identified key health and social care services for which continuity is essential. These services are listed below.

<i>Must have (use most days)</i>	<i>Essential if needed</i>	<i>Could manage without for a while</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electricity, gas and water • Somewhere safe [to stay] – different for different people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domiciliary care services • Pharmacy • Hospital • 999 • Lifeline (connection with help, if needed) • Housing services (cold winters) • Plumbers, gas engineers and electricians 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patient transport • Day care centres • Post Office • Banks
-----Food-----		

These questions were useful to ask to community members – as well as ask for their ideas as to which services they think are important first.

This table was also useful as a prompt in terms of what to include in the Plan, by way of contact details etc.

- BIOPICCC primarily used to help practitioners who are running a community resilience scheme.
- Not just involving elderly people!
- Main source of support provided was through ideas for the workshop and subsequent plan.
- Helped with both who to engage with and **how** to engage with them.



Content:

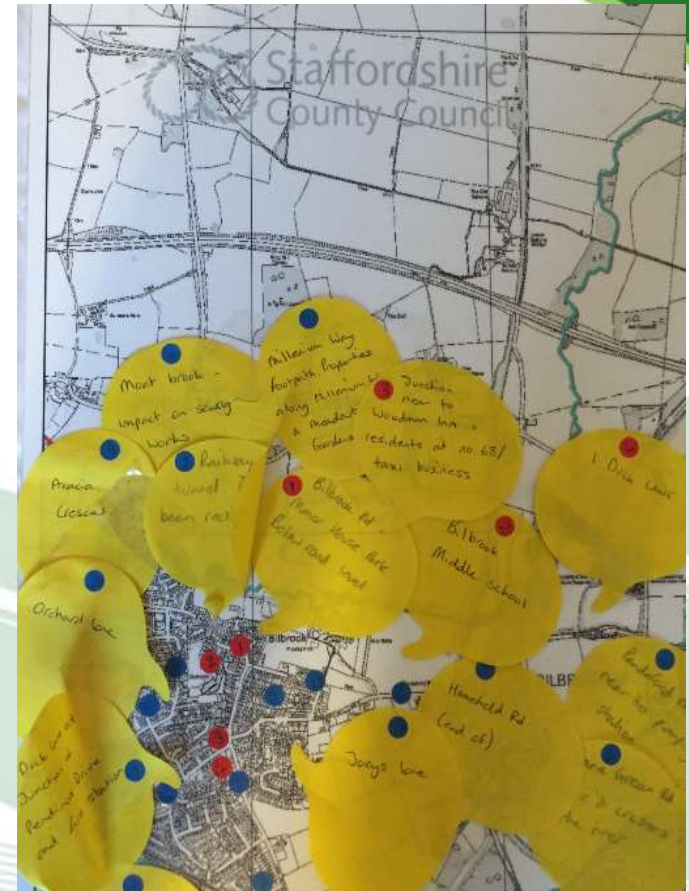
Background to the current local weather related risks in Bilbrook.

Background to the local health and demographic picture and how weather could exacerbate this.

Advice on what to do during a weather event.

How these risks could change in future.

An **action plan** outlining how the community and external organisations can deal with the identified risks.





2014 – 2015 - Action Group development by Community Council Good Neighbours Scheme with support from external organisations.

Facebook comments:

- Mr A, 'But the clue must be in the name,,,,, DUCK Lane.....'
- Mrs T, 'When I was a kid in Bilbrook 70-few years ago it always flooded at the bottom of Duck Lane around where the shops were - the lowest point I suppose. Don't forget there was a natural water source on the Green - i.e. the village duck pond.'



Acacia Crescent, Bilbrook



2016 - NFF taken on initial Flood Action Group to continue to deliver project 2016 onwards.

Results Bilbrook Community Severe Weather Plan

A community locality approach needs to be achieved to evolve the Council's services to a changing climate (environmentally and economically), bringing in resources and reducing costs.

Successes:

- Engagement of the key stakeholders at Local Authority level.
- Engagement at community level
- Increase in street cleansing efficiencies
- Engagement of Community Council & National Flood Forum
- Engagement of Flood Management Team & CCU
- No reported flood problems during wettest December month on record!
(2016, EA)