

AMERG AGM December 2022

Election of new Officers— —Chair— Graeme Ransom
Vice Chair— Hazel Hanley
Treasurer— Tim Haldon
Secretary— Claire Warbouys

Thankyou to all previous Officers with a special mention to CCC Councillor Claire Driver.

1. Safe Havens —Alston Town Hall,(possibly the annexe) , Garrigill Village Hall, Nenthead Village Hall. These to be included into Emergency Plan. (not yet developed) Generators required and work goes on behind the scene to be successful in requiring them .(hopefully by next winter) Garrigill has a small generator which will power the heating and fairy lights for a few hours. Storms are likely to continue, so we need to be ready.

GR attended an ACT meeting along with Representatives from Electricity North West and 999 Emergency Services. Most important information going forward is to have people on the ground knocking on doors. Residents to remain in their own homes where possible. For communication , looking at using radio wave communication. But areas on their own initially to begin whatever is needed.

AM has set up a WhatsApp group for Lead Reps, Trustees and Volunteers to allow for quicker action. This could be a 24 hour service delivery

EG mentioned problems associated with lack of communication in Garrigill with all outside professional services and EDC and CCC Councillors, hopefully ,if radio wave communicators available then this would help .

2. Warm Hubs—Town Hall —open on a Monday, , Library, —See opening hours for Local Links . Cafe across the road from the Town Hall (Chat Room) which is open 5 days a week. Amy from CCC to contact CCC CD to see if she can get permission from the NHS to use the hospital in an emergency need when the area is affected by power cuts. This request has not been successful when actioned before.. Leaflets and posters to be put in Notice Boards and on Social Media to advertise the TH Warm Hub. Volunteers needed to help as to will be drivers to bring along residents.

3. Area Planning —-some members met up with reps from other areas to find out how they coped with what happened in Storm Arwen , and what was best practice.

4. Food Bank—Several Donations given by groups as well as individuals. Trustees are applying for grants. Money only. Not collecting items of food as nowhere to store them . Food requested is shopped for on the day with freshness in mind and delivered. Most people applying are on disability allowances . Need is very great.

5.—Discussion re providing a free Christmas dinner 2023. Numbers would be restricted so booking would be essential. ? Venue. ? Ability to cook on premises.

Elaine.