

# Next Thursday – the time to show some resilience

A DROP-in session to launch the work of the Cranleigh Resilience Group will be held in the village hall next week.

The group is chaired by Cranleigh's county councillor Alan Young with the support of Waverley Borough Council, the parish council, the chamber of commerce and residents.

Its purpose is to ensure that Cranleigh 'remains a resilient community' - better placed to deal with extreme events such as flooding, storms, heavy snow, power cuts, water shortages and health epidemics.

Cllr Young will be at the hall next Thursday (June 9) to listen to the concerns of Cranleigh residents, councillors, Thames Water, the Environment Agency, BT, UK Power Networks and The National Flood Forum.

Cllr Young said: "Although I have convened the Cranleigh Resilience Group

and invited all the relevant agencies to the meeting on June 9, I want to emphasise that this initiative is to be owned by the people of Cranleigh.

"Each of us has our part to play in making our local community safer and more resilient and I want to bring everyone in the village together to make this happen.

"The purpose of the Cranleigh Resilience Group is to ensure that the many local communities that make up Cranleigh are as well equipped as possible to cope with any future adverse events. We all know that the authorities cannot be everywhere at once and that it is sensible to try to manage some of the risks we face as a community.

"This could be as simple as knowing that a particular area might be prone to flooding, for example owing to a blocked drain, and ensuring

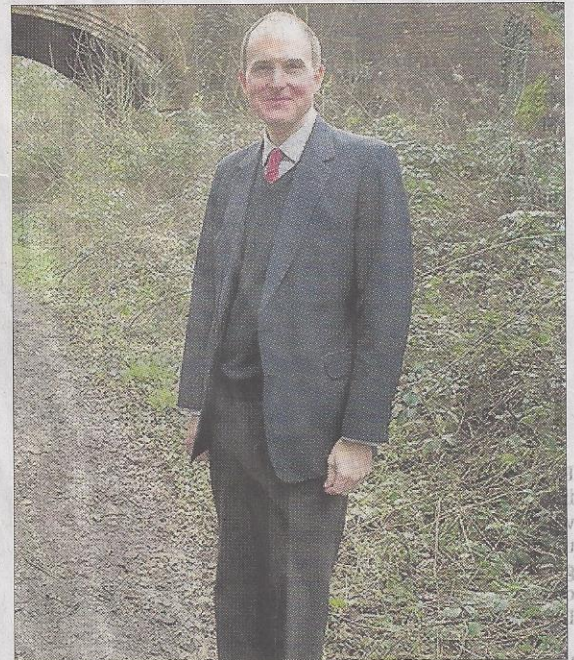
that there is a rota of people to keep it unblocked in bad weather.

"Or it might be keeping a list of local four wheel drive owners to ensure that, in snowy weather, everyone, especially vulnerable elderly residents, has access to essential provisions.

"It is about ensuring that, in every street in our village, people are working together to both deal with existing local problems and to put in place a plan for tackling those future risks we may face as a community.

"The village hall event will give every local resident the chance to speak to experts about any local resilience problem they face, to ensure it is logged and that it gets dealt with.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for all in the local community to work together to build a safer and more resilient future for Cranleigh."



Steve Porter  
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County Councillor  
Alan Young