

A Draft Parish Plan for BUCKDEN Civil Parish

Foreword

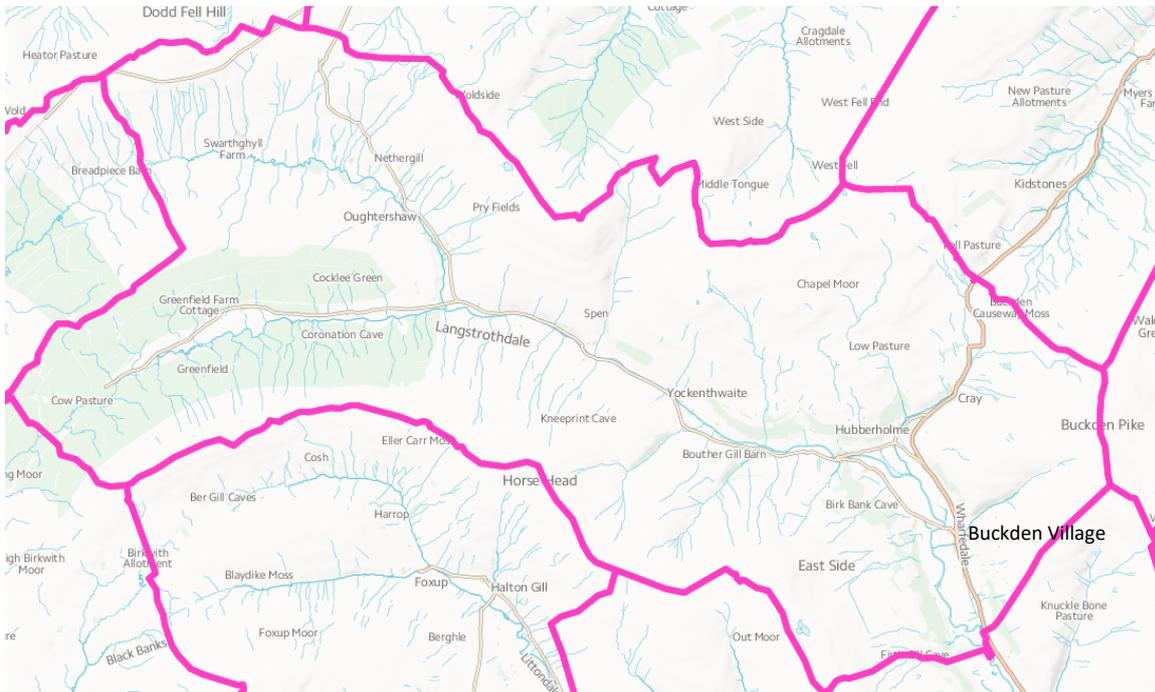
In November 2011, the Localism Act passed into law. Through this legislation, the Government aims to give some of the powers currently held centrally to local councils. Although this is likely to have its greatest impact in the larger towns and cities and on the planning system, it is intended that local communities will have a greater say in their future and more control over their assets. At very least, individual communities can expect to be consulted in far more detail than in the past. It is also conceivable that if we do not make a statement of what we see as the most important characteristics of our community and of our hopes for the future that others, at a higher level of local government, might make important decisions about our community on our behalf. For this reason, many communities have decided to create a plan in an attempt to define their essential character and priorities. For some communities the plan is about changing and improving their facilities for others it's about maintaining and preserving their locality.

Of course, Buckden Parish is a relatively small community with a tiny budget or precept which the Parish Council is committed to keeping to a minimum. However, the Parish Council having taken advice feels that it will be important in the future to have a Parish Plan. By doing this we may be able to participate more effectively in decisions taken at higher levels of local government and thus ensure that the services we need to maintain and sustain our way life are not ignored. We also need a variety of authorities to appreciate that our community is lively and vibrant and concerned to continue and develop as an attractive and viable place to live and work for a diverse range of people. This has already been in evidence in the way the communities of the Upper Dale came together to keep Kettlewell School open, to provide a Community bus transport service between Buckden and Grassington, to retain access to mobile library services, by the work of the Sustainability Group and the efforts to bring superfast broadband to the area.

Perhaps the most important point about a Parish Plan is that it should represent a view that can be supported by the majority of people in the community. We have looked at how others have gone about this task and have learned that to expect a unanimous view on every detail of life in the Parish is unrealistic. At the same time, asking people to write down a list of their wishes for the future appears often to result in an unmanageable number of unachievable objectives. We also think that applying for grants to get consultants to advise us is not appropriate for a community of our size. For these reasons the Parish Council has taken the job on and we are offering this draft plan for your comments. We want this to be something that everyone can get behind but also to be something that that community and its representatives can actually deliver.

This draft plan is in three parts. The first attempts to describe the condition of the village and its aspirations for the future with reference to issues which local government usually concerns itself with and the second is a summary of actions that the community or the Parish Council can choose to make in pursuit of maintenance or change defined in the first part. The third part is an Emergency Plan drafted by Robin Davidson from Buckden Barn which can be published separately as a resource for residents and visitors when an unusual event that threatens the safety of the community occurs.

Parish Profile



The parish of Buckden lies on the Dales Way at the northern end of Wharfedale and consists of the village itself as well as the hamlets of Cray, Hubberholme, Raisgill, Yockenthwaite, Deepdale, Beckermonds, Oughtershaw and Greenfield. Buckden is in the centre of the Yorkshire Dales National Park and there is a thriving local community with many activities and events taking place throughout the year.

The economy of the area has been based on sheep farming for many years although, as with other Dales villages, lead mining has had an impact. Buckden Gavel mine was opened in 1803 and was worked until 1877. In the second half of the 20th century, however, tourism became a second staple element of the economic and commercial life of the dale, and represents a significant amount of local investment and employment. In addition, the internet has made working from home an option for a number of people whose clients may be outside the immediate area and, in some cases, anywhere in the world.

The dominant building in the Parish is Buckden House built largely in the mid-18th century following the sale of local land by the Duke of Devonshire. Buckden House and its remaining land and buildings were disposed of in 1974 at which time the house itself was bequeathed in perpetuity to Bradford Education Authority for use as an Outdoor Education Centre which is available to school groups and others of up to 56 persons. The Parish Church of St Michael and All Angels is located in Hubberholme. Parts of the original Norman church built in the 12th Century remain. It is thought that the site was previously in use as a burial ground as early as Anglo-Norse times.

Facts and Dimensions

The Parish

Buckden is a large parish relative to its population with an area covering some 6500 Hectares (c 16,000 acres). Census figures indicate that the population of the Parish did not change in number between 2001 and 2011, although the gender balance shifted slightly in favour of females, remaining at 187 people. There were 135 dwellings listed within the boundaries in the 2011 census. While these figures continue to provide a useful indicator for most purposes, it is worth noting that a recent shift in property use from holiday letting to longer term rental, particularly in Buckden Village, may be significant and has already led to an increase in the number of families and children in the Parish.

Farming

There are 11 working hill farms in the Parish with a substantial acreage occupied by tenants of the National Trust. While sheep production is the primary activity, some farms produce beef cattle and all play a key role in conserving the Dales landscape. Patterns of modern agriculture indicate that diversification from animal husbandry is an increasingly important factor and many of these farms have long been involved in activities such as tourism, farm door sales and environmental education.

Tourism, Hospitality and other business activity

There is a wide range of tourist businesses in the Parish including self-catering holiday cottages, B&B, Bunk Barns, campsites; there are three public houses (The Buck Inn in Buckden Village, The George at Hubberholme and The White Lion at Cray) providing food, drinks and accommodation. There is a village shop in Buckden Village and there are two tearoom businesses. A joinery workshop is being developed on a former swimming pool site. Increasing numbers of people now work from home carrying out a range of professional and commercial services, either full-time time or for part of the week. Skipton is just half an hour away, and Keighley, Harrogate, Leeds and Bradford are all reachable in an hour or so.

Local Services

Some basic public services such as recycling and other centralised facilities including Housing Benefits are provided by Craven District Council although its expenditure typically accounts for less than 10% of the Council Tax it is responsible for collecting. It is, however, the source of the Parish Council's precept. North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) is responsible for education, highways maintenance, public transport, libraries and a range of other social care responsibilities.

Planning regulation is delegated to the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority (YDNPA). Details of whose policies can be found on its website at: <http://www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/living-and-working/planning>. These can be characterised as having conservation of the appearance of the landscape and built environment at their heart. Skipton, Leyburn, Hawes, and Settle are the larger settlements in the area and fuel and supermarkets are available. All of these are within twenty miles of Buckden Village. Smaller groups of shops can be found at Grassington and Hawes (both about 10 miles from Buckden Village) and there are also medical and dental facilities available here.

Built Environment

One of the unique characteristics of the Parish is its stock of buildings many of which are of limestone and rubble construction and which date back to the 17th and 18th centuries. Historic England has listed 23 buildings in the Parish as Grade 2 and there are 6 scheduled monuments. A list appears below:

GRADE II HERITAGE CATEGORY LISTING	
<i>Name of building</i>	<i>Location in Buckden, Craven, North Yorkshire</i>
THE COTTAGE, WITH ATTACHED OUTBUILDING TO LEFT	Deepdale
WEST DEEPDALE HOUSE	West Deepdale, Deepdale
SCAR HOUSE	Hubberholme
SUNDIAL APPROXIMATELY 5 METRES SOUTH OF THE CHANCEL OF THE CHURCH OF ST MICHAEL	Hubberholme
THE GEORGE INN	Hubberholme
BUCKDEN HOUSE	Main Street, Buckden
THE BRIDGE	Yockenthwaite
EAST DEEPDALE	Deepdale
MANOR HOUSE	Dubb's Lane, Buckden
CHURCH OF ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS	Hubberholme
OUTBUILDING APPROXIMATELY 5 METRES SOUTHWEST OF THE GEORGE INN,	Hubberholme
THE BUCK INN	Main Street, Buckden
MULLIONS	Main Street, Buckden
WILLBROW COTTAGE WITH ATTACHED BARN	Yockenthwaite
DANE HILL	Oughtershaw
YOCKENTHWAITE HALL WITH ATTACHED OUTBUILDING AND GARDEN WALL AND GATE TO FRONT	Yockenthwaite
CHURCH FARMHOUSE	Hubberholme
COWSIDE HOUSE WITH ATTACHED OUTBUILDING	Deepdale
BUCKDEN BRIDGE	Dubb's Lane, Buckden
BRIDGE OVER RIVER WHARFE	Hubberholme
IVY COTTAGE	Main Street, Buckden
FORMER SCHOOL AND CHAPEL	Oughtershaw
TOP FARMHOUSE	Yockenthwaite
SCHEDULED MONUMENTS	
<i>Name of building</i>	<i>Location in Buckden, Craven, North Yorkshire</i>
DEEPDALE SETTLEMENT	Deepdale
YOCKENTHWAITE SMALL STONE CIRCLE	Yockenthwaite
MEDIEVAL WAYSIDE CROSS	Kettlewell with Starbotton
CAIRN ON SCAR ABOVE HUBBERHOLME, 380M SOUTH EAST OF SLADES SWALLOW HOLE	Hubberholme
BUCKDEN GAVEL LEAD SMELT MILL AND MINE	Buckden
PACKHORSE BRIDGE ACROSS CROOK GILL, 530M SOUTH WEST OF MOUNT PLEASANT FARM	Buckden

Land Owned by the Parish Council (Community Assets)

1. Green in front of Village shop and terrace of residential property towards The Buck Inn.
2. Green in front of The Buck Inn.
3. Area at northern end of the car park at The White Lion, Cray.
4. Area of green behind The White Lion, Cray.
5. Former quarry area on Buckden Wood Lane (B6160) between Buckden and Cray.
6. Area on Park Lane (B6160), Cray, parallel to Cray Beck Bridge parapet.
7. Area on B6160, Cray where Blackstones Lane meets the Causeway.
8. Area adjacent to Rose Cottage at junction of Back Lane and Church Lane.

9. Snicket adjacent to the Garages at Wesleyan Chapel
10. Snicket leading to sheep pens between Ghyll Holiday Cottages and Pikefoot
11. Anymore?

The Plan

A Vision for Buckden Parish

Buckden Parish will continue to be a pleasant, prosperous, safe, healthy and green place where people want to live, work, do business and spend their leisure time.

Economy

At the time of writing there is some uncertainty about the economic effects of leaving the European Union particularly for hill farmers. There is as yet no clear indication of the government's priorities for farm support which in recent years has focused on environmental stewardship. Whatever happens it seems clear that farmers will need to do their best to build robust, diverse businesses if they are to survive and prosper. Of course, the appearance of the landscape also underwrites much of the tourist trade and its attractiveness for walkers, wildlife observers and others may well be affected if the current system changes.

Electronic communications are an increasingly important aspect of life. The Parish Council has very strongly supported the introduction of a superfast broadband facility which is transmitted wirelessly via masts from a point of origin in nearby Kettlewell. Buckden village and Hubberholme have also benefited from the recent introduction of Vodafone's Rural Open Sure Signal programme. It seems probable that the development of enterprise, whatever its nature, can only benefit from a fast, effective and reliable electronic communications infrastructure and ensuring that the best available services are on offer should remain a priority.

Traffic and Transport

Access to transport is a vital element of life in rural communities in that the range of goods and services required by most people is not readily available and has, in the main, to be delivered or obtained by travelling elsewhere. The nearest medical facilities for the majority of residents of the Parish are in Grassington, 10 miles away from Buckden Village, whilst others to the north of the Parish can access services in Hawes. People who do not own or drive a car are dependent on the goodwill of neighbours, on the local bus service and a taxi service is available in Grassington. Following a reduction in subsidies for rural bus services by North Yorkshire County Council in 2016, a group of local individuals has formed a not for profit company which operates the 'Upper Wharfedale Venturer', a sixteen seater minibus providing a connection with Grassington and forward connections including Skipton where a rail service is available. Staffed by a mixture of paid staff and volunteers the service has operated in advance of its performance targets since April 2016.

However, the importance of a scheduled bus service goes well beyond access to goods and services for residents of Buckden Village. It can be argued that this service is evidence of a positive interest by residents in the sustainability of the community and its determination to create facilities that make living in Buckden and working elsewhere feasible. A scheduled bus service also has an important impact on tourism whereby people visiting Buckden or the surrounding area can plan activities, particularly walks, relatively easily. The Parish Council has strongly supported the

development of this service which it regards as fundamental to the wellbeing of the Parish as a whole and every effort should be expended to ensure its maintenance.

Given that most journeys undertaken by parish residents are by car on narrow roads bounded by dry stone walls shared with agricultural machinery, HGVs, motorhomes, cyclists, motorcyclists, pedestrians and livestock, it is worth considering the broader aspects of the road network and its safety. Single carriageway roads are known to be the least safe but the number or frequency of collisions and injuries in an area does not always take account of the inherent nature of the risks. Relatively low volumes of traffic make the occurrence of death or serious injury a random event. Massive changes to the road environment are unlikely to be publicly acceptable however better speed management is a realistic option for the Parish Council to pursue. Reducing speeds through Buckden Village and other building clusters such as Hubberholme and Oughtershaw and reducing speeds on other sections of the main routes to Leyburn, Hawes and Skipton frequently used by residents and visitors should be kept under consideration.

Education

Key Stage 1 and 2 education is available at Kettlewell School some four miles from the centre of Buckden Village. Free transport to the school is provided by NYCC from all parts of the Parish. Kettlewell School is now part of a Federation with three other Primary Schools in Burnsall, Cracoe and Grassington. Secondary education options are available in Grassington and Skipton and public transport is scheduled to make this journey feasible for school attendance. Changes to the structure of education nationally are inevitably having an impact on schools and an active group of school governors is striving to ensure the Key Stage 1 and 2 education remains available to young children as close as possible to where they live.

Housing and Development

The Parish Council is aware of the inevitable tension caused by the need for a diverse range of people to live and work in the area and the objectives of the Yorkshire Dales National Park which focus on conserving the appearance and quality of the Dales landscape, wildlife and cultural heritage. However, current pressure from central government on local government to make land available for new housing is at an all-time high. Regardless of the protections implied by the delegation of planning responsibilities to the Yorkshire Dales National Park, it is clear that communities such as Buckden need to do their utmost to identify suitable sites for the development of sustainable and affordable housing or run the risk of having sites compulsorily chosen by others. At the very least the Parish Council will decide the number of building projects that would be acceptable, over the next, say, twenty years, assuming that building land became available. To comply with the Government's expectations we will have to be increasingly proactive in this regard perhaps working with other Parish Councils to ensure that all available sites are identified.

Local Communications

Keeping people informed of new developments and events is a key aspect of the Parish Council's work and is part of its statutory duties. The Link Magazine, which is published monthly primarily as a calendar of church events but which also incorporates other announcements, continues to be used by many people as an important source of local information. In recent years the advent of the Buckden Village Website has provided a more immediate means of keeping the community

informed of events although access to a computer or other internet receiving device is an implicit requirement. The popularity of the website has been an important contributor to maintaining a good flow of information for all aspects of Buckden Parish's formal and social activity. To some extent, its effectiveness is a function of the exceptional abilities of the person who designed and developed it and who still maintains it. Such is its importance, some consideration may need to be given to planning for a situation in which this person's services are no longer available. In addition, the village notice board on the wall of Heber Farm's barn plays a role as an easily serviced and accessible point of dissemination .

Buckden Village Institute

Buckden Village Institute is at the centre of life in the Parish providing a venue for public and private social events, a meeting room and a useful activity and performance space. It is well used by all sections of the community. The Institute is managed by an active committee of residents. Major sources of income for the maintenance and running costs of the building are provided by Buckden's Annual Gala, performance income from the Buckden Singers (a locally organised choir) and from a range of events .

Actions

Economy:

Monitor all available sources of information concerned with agricultural strategy and use all possible means to lobby local and central government to ensure that land stewardship stays at the centre of support to hill farmers.

Support, wherever practical and possible, the development of new businesses both within the context of existing businesses and new start-ups.

Monitor and regularly review electronic communications infrastructure to ensure the best available services can be offered within the Parish and extended wherever practical beyond existing residential clusters.

Transport:

Continue to support Upper Wharfedale Venturer project and its management in maintaining a viable, scheduled means of public transport connecting effectively with onward services.

Support any measures that may emerge which will make this service more affordable for lower paid workers.

Periodically review volume and nature of traffic passing through Buckden village and consider adjusting speed limits, in keeping with recommended best practice, to provide maximum protection for residents.

Housing and Development:

Maintain close liaison with District and County Councils, other adjacent Parish Councils and the Yorkshire Dales National Park to ensure that Buckden Parish is doing its best to identify suitable sites on which to increase the stock of affordable housing.

Continue to monitor planning applications to ensure that the sustainability of the community is fully considered by the planning authority.

Local Communications:

Monitor technological developments, available grants and other sources of support to ensure that the best available electronic communications infrastructure is offered to the greatest number of people.

Buckden Village Institute:

Continue to support efforts of the Institute Committee in maintaining the fabric of the building by ensuring that any available resources from higher tiers of local government are channelled appropriately.

General:

Make a full inventory of community assets and create a schedule for their use and maintenance. Periodically review the Parish Plan and update its action points giving a time frame wherever possible.

Buckden Parish Emergency Plan

Background

Buckden Parish broadly follows the valley bottom of Upper Wharfedale and into Langstrothdale for a distance of approximately ten miles by road, from the village of Buckden at the south end to its northern extremities at the remote properties of Swarthgill and Cam Houses. The Parish holds a dispersed community with the bulk of the residents in the village of Buckden. A substantial number of properties are holiday homes or holiday lets.

The centre of the parish is served by three roads; the B6160 south towards Skipton, the B6160 northwards towards Aysgarth and the unclassified (?) county road northwards to Hawes. Access to the village has also been obtained by the Air Ambulance in the past.

It is noted that The Parish is an engaged community with most residents being known to one another, thereby facilitating an interactive approach within the framework of the Plan.

Scope

The Parish Emergency Plan addresses abnormal situations where significant disruption is brought to the community by accident, infrastructure failure or natural disaster. Some potential scenarios where the plan may be relevant are:

- Significant road accident blocking road and requiring police, ambulance and fire services
- Major power outage to the area lasting days
- Major village fire
- Military plane crash
- Major flood event taking out bridges in all directions leaving no access to major centres.
- Major snow event blocking roads in the region for days

The Parish Emergency Plan endeavours to envisage the range of actions and precautions necessary to safeguard the welfare of residents and visitors to the Parish.

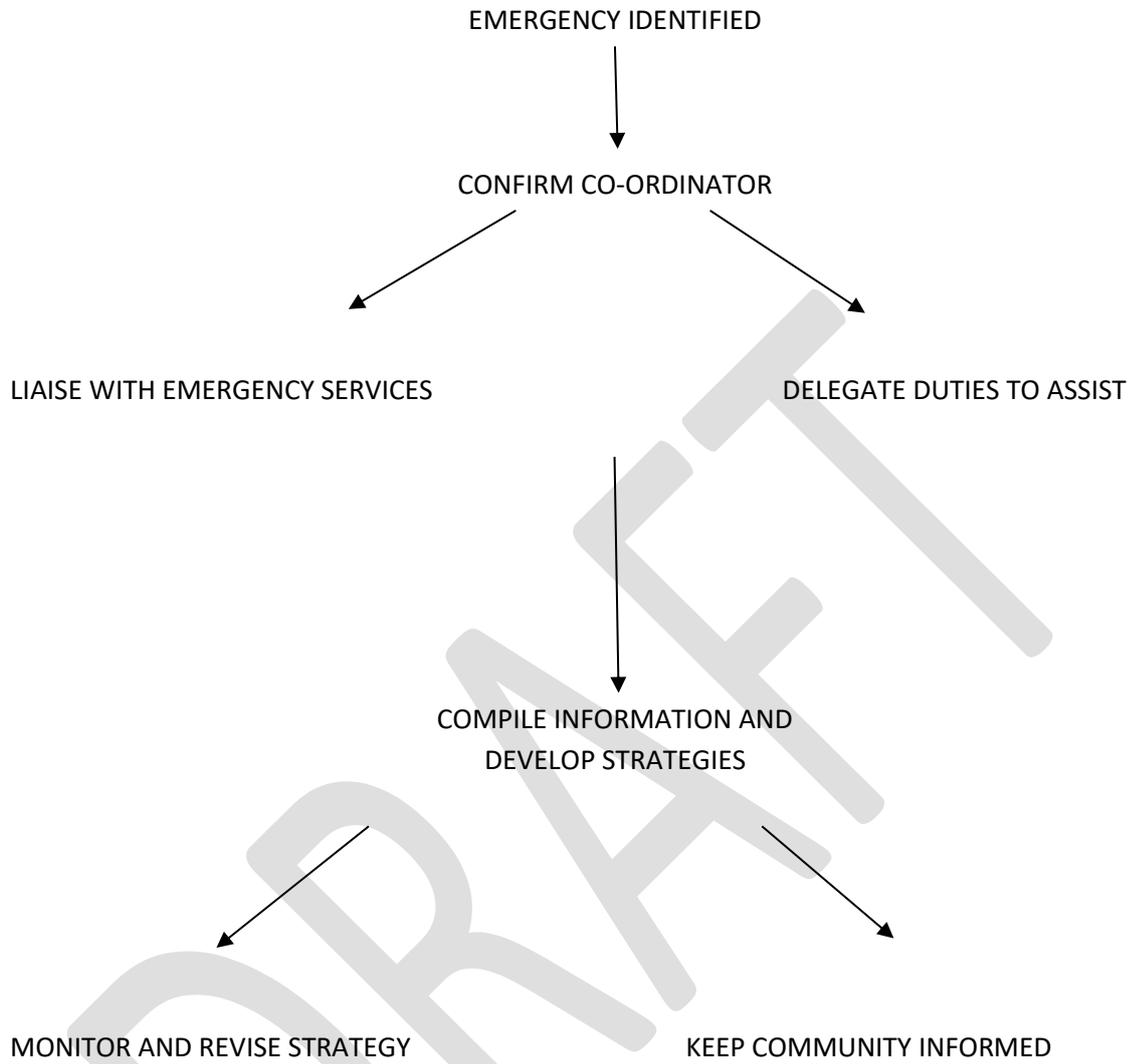
Key Elements

1. For any incident of a magnitude affecting many people a "Local Co-ordinator" is to be identified, starting with any available Parish Councillor who can co-opt any other competent person for this role. In the absence of any councillor availability a member of the Village Institute Committee may assume this role as they will all be aware of this Plan's existence.
2. The Local Co-ordinator shall ensure that, if possible, the relevant emergency services are notified. Emergency services should be notified by a 999 call. If there is a major power outage, notification and feedback can be obtained via National Grid (Yorkshire Northern Powergrid) Tel. 0800 375 675
3. Where a number of people need to be sheltered or treated, the first option for a central base shall be the Village Institute which has the benefit of high speed broadband and the potential for mobile phone connection. [absence of a land line could be a problem] If all power and heating is lost, Buckden House or The Buck Inn should be approached for assistance as they both have emergency generators and wood/coal fires.
4. If a large number of properties are affected, as in an extreme blizzard, the collated parish residential maps in Appendix X should be used as a basis for checking that occupants are

well and safe. The Local Co-ordinator can delegate checking to individuals to report back to base. No one should expose themselves to danger in order to complete this task. For the more remote properties it may not be safe or viable for the Parish to make a physical check, in which case the Emergency Services should be given as much information as possible[Consideration could be given to acquiring telephone numbers for as many residences as possible to ease checking].

5. A simple information leaflet is to be left at each holiday cottage such that strangers will be aware of the principles of the plan and a Plan summary with Parish Councillor contact details shall be posted on the village notice board and Institute board. The Institute board shall also have contact details for Committee members/key holders.
6. The Local Co-ordinator will use the collective knowledge in the Parish to identify aged, infirm or disabled residents to ensure that their needs are met.
7. It is possible that power, phone, mobile and broadband services as well as road access may be cut off in an extreme event, in which case the local co-ordinator will assess the current parish resources and ask for co-operation from all residents to share resources.
8. Within the Parish there are working and retired nurses who could be requested to assist in cases where treatment is required. The Community First Responders within the Parish have access to oxygen and a defibrillator (e.g. for strokes, cardiac arrest or breathing problems) but are not trained for injury accidents and are normally only permitted to assist if called upon by the Ambulance Service. In extreme cases where no phone contact is possible to activate them they can use their judgement in using the defibrillator but are instructed not to use oxygen or any other issued equipment.
9. It is recognised that all scenarios cannot be addressed in detail and for each scenario there will be many variations. For this reason this Emergency Plan is deliberately kept to a broad concept with the “engaged” parish community inputting into the general framework with their local knowledge as requested.

FLOW CHART



Buckden

Caution: This map has not yet been checked by residents.
There may be errors and omissions.



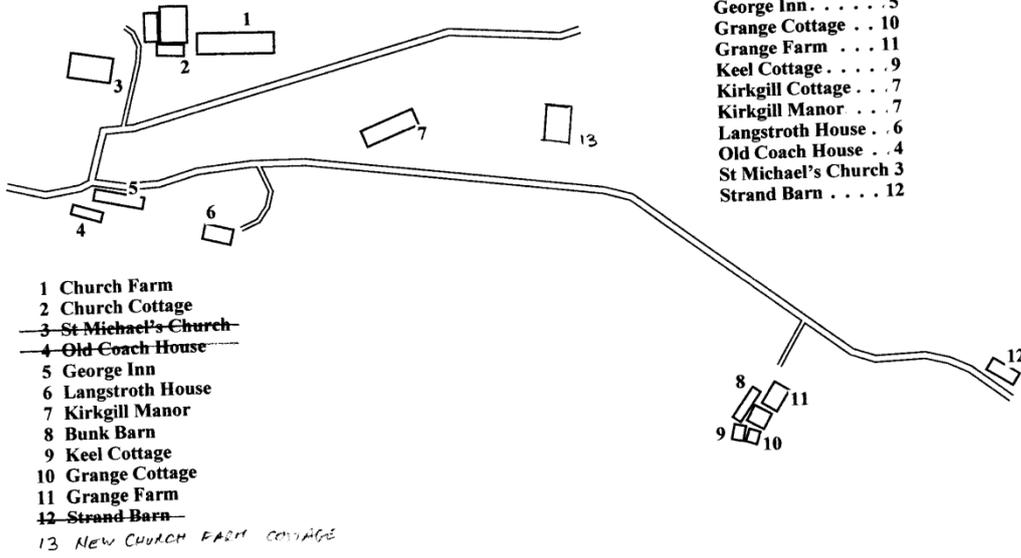
The Barn 41	5 Buckden Court 20	The Croft 5	10 Dalegarth 7
Barndale 25	6 Buckden Court 19	1 Dalegarth 16	11 Dalegarth 6
Beck Cottage 69	7 Buckden Court 18	2 Dalegarth 15	Dale Head Cottage 42
Birks View Cottage 48	8 Buckden Court 17	3 Dalegarth 14	Dale View 43
Brae Foot 82	Buckden House 80	4 Dalegarth 13	Fairlawn 52
Buckden Barn 84	Buckden Village Store 47	5 Dalegarth 12	1 Firth Demesne Cott. 31
1 Buckden Court 24	The Buck Inn 64	6 Dalegarth 11	2 Firth Demesne Cott. 32
2 Buckden Court 23	Chestnut Cottage 54	7 Dalegarth 10	1 The Ghyll 59
3 Buckden Court 22	Clifford House Farm 65	8 Dalegarth 8	2 The Ghyll 58
4 Buckden Court 21	Cornerstones 56	9 Dalegarth 8	3 The Ghyll 57



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Hubberholme

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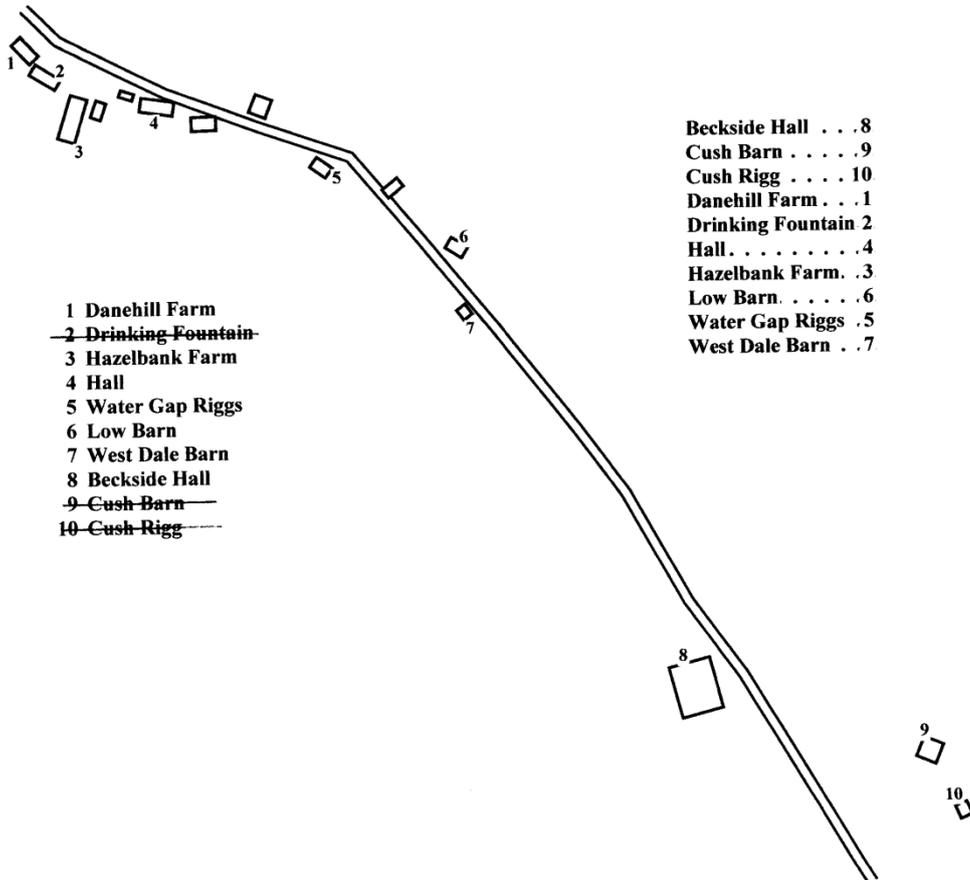
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Oughtershaw

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Emergency Telephone Directory

Emergency Services

Local Medical Centre

01756 752313

Parish Councillors

District Councillor

County Councillor

MP

Area 5 Highways

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DRAFT