

Quidhampton Covid-19 Support Group

Minutes of the meeting of the steering group on 5 August 2020 via zoom

Present: John Cater JC (community emergency volunteer); Ian Day ID; Hannah Newnham HN (secretary); Jane Taylor JT; Ken Taylor *KT (parish zoom facilitator and acting chair); Bea Tilbrook BT (minute secretary).

Apologies for absence: Howard Rowley *HR (chair): work commitments. Zoe Hoare* ZH also later sent apologies.

JC had to leave at 10.30 but later re-joined the meeting

*parish councillors

1. Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting 22 July 2020

These were approved without alteration

2. Matters arising and actions agreed from previous meeting not elsewhere in the agenda

- a. Summary of Quidcommunity emails sent relating to the covid pandemic: BT reported that all months are on the website except July. There were 95 such emails between 8 March and the end of June. JT remarked how valuable they had been - and are - and how useful for disseminating news such as the recent installation of the defibrillator.

Action: BT to complete the archive of emails

- b. All other actions had been completed

3. Report from chair

HR had sent a report via KT. He praised the continuing positive actions in the village that raised spirits. New this month were the photographic competition, the acquisition and installation of the defibrillator, and the forthcoming purchase of a Speed Indicator Device for Quidhampton's sole use. Looking into the immediate future he felt there were indications that the invaluable work done by JT and her volunteers (often the over 70's who cannot help in any other way) would become even more necessary. Lockdown and restrictions are seen to have affected mental health nationally.

JT asked whether a supply of masks and gloves should be kept with the defibrillator but it was felt that in emergency people would want to get the defibrillator working as soon as possible and not want to look for gloves or masks.

4. Community Emergency Volunteer

JC had nothing to report but began the discussion of **item six: problems and lessons learned**. He believed we have progressed well, despite a few creaks early on, and that we are now in the best possible situation. He felt it is too soon for a complete evaluation as the situation is still ongoing.

BT reminded the meeting of JC's suggestion of a rota for volunteers (see minutes of 22 July) and also suggested that those villagers who had undertaken shopping and other tasks without joining the volunteer group should be offered the instruction/training materials supplied by ID. It should be made clear this did not mean they were an insured volunteer but the advice could help them keep safe.

JT felt there had been too much emphasis at the beginning on shopping being for essentials only and for vulnerable people only.

JC added that in future we should specifically seek volunteers who were under 70 (or whatever age was decided upon as having to be sheltered) so they could shop for others.

Action: HN agreed to produce a list of current volunteers who were under 70 or not vulnerable

JT had had 10 contacts with villagers and volunteers, including one who has returned home with carers coming in twice a day. All seems to be well with that arrangement so far.

5. Committee members reports

Nothing to report not mentioned elsewhere

6. Problems and lessons learned

a. ID said there have been problems with **hand sanitiser**:

- It can contain 60% alcohol and cause alcoholic poisoning in children, who will often put their hands in their mouths after sanitising
- It must not be stored in the front of the car in hot sun or it may explode
- People must make sure their hands are dry before eating with them e.g. people may sanitise their hands in Macdonalds and immediately pick up a burger to eat

Action: BT will send email with these points

A community email was sent after consultation with ID and HR but the information was challenged. A second email was sent, including additional information about the danger of skin burns from wet hands, and clarifying that washing hands thoroughly and frequently is best.

b. ID also spoke about **behaviour**. He felt some young people thought they could do anything they wanted and that some religious groups were breaking the distancing rules. He had met one individual (a taxi driver) who said he simply did not care.

HN supported this and said she had seen many often older people not wearing their masks correctly and others who seem to think they no longer have to worry about social distancing. JT felt villagers going into Salisbury would be influenced by people they see there breaking the rules, and that the traffic made distancing difficult.

ID said before we have visitors to our homes we should ask them where they have been and how they are applying the rules.

KT suggested we should publicise the latest government advice: masks (wear one)- hands (wash them)- distancing (2 metres) and add: isolate where you can.

Action: BT would send an email and a notice should be printed for the bus stops.

7. Updates from Wilts Council or UK government

Nothing not covered above

8. Data protection considerations

Nothing to report

9. Training

Nothing to report

10. Any other business

KT spoke about the good things there had been in the village including the new photographic competition. In the autumn there will be a new page of further art in lockdown: pieces produced by artists since the online exhibition was launched.

He also asked whether anyone knew how Bemerton St John school was coping. BT had heard no news since the online support for pupils at home and the preparations for returning year groups in July were described on the website.

Continuing the first part of the discussion of item 6 BT suggested that pairing villagers for shopping so one volunteer helped the same villager every time might have encouraged more people to ask for help. Some did not like the idea of having to talk to a different person every time.

Date of next meeting: 19 August 2020