

## **Quidhampton Covid-19 Support Group**

Minutes of the meeting of the steering group 10.00 on 19 August 2020 via zoom

**Present:** John Cater JC (community emergency volunteer) in Scotland; Ian Day ID; Zoe Hoare\* ZH; Hannah Newnham HN (secretary); Howard Rowley \*HR (chair), Jane Taylor JT; Ken Taylor \*KT (minutes, parish zoom facilitator); Bea Tilbrook BT (village communicator)\*parish councillors

### **1. Apologies for absence – none**

### **2. Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting 5 August 2020**

These were approved. KT's offer to write the minutes in future was gladly accepted by BT who would now be designated village communicator.

### **3. Matters arising and actions agreed from previous meeting not elsewhere in the agenda**

All actions had been completed except that to repeat advice on Masks, Hands, Distancing and Isolation. This has been held over for reconsideration at this meeting - see AOB.

### **4. Report from chair**

- a. For information: the Parish Council (QPC) meets for an extraordinary meeting on 25 August to make a decision to buy a Speed Indicator Device (SID).
- b. HR felt that it is important to discuss isolation and quarantine - see item 6.
- c. KT's suggestion to have Report from Covid-19 support group a standing item on the parish council's agenda was accepted.  
**Action** HR to contact the clerk.

### **5. Community Emergency Volunteer**

JC had nothing to report

JT reported that one elderly resident had been in hospital for a few days, and was now at home being visited by carers four times per day. She had been in touch with five other people in the last two weeks, with nothing untoward to report.

JT also reported that 2 cars had been vandalised in the Coronation Square area. Other members of the group felt tempers were becoming short and there were more incidents of rowdy behaviour (not just in the village). There has also been one theft and one attempted theft. There was some discussion about Neighbourhood Watch which had functioned in the village in the past.

Action 1: KT to contact police to ask about value of neighbourhood watch or other actions.

Action 2: BT to email village asking everyone to be aware and keep an eye out for their neighbours.

### **6. Committee members reports**

KT was today attending a networking meeting convened by Wiltshire Community Action (WCA) for Covid support groups. The purpose is to discuss the creation of a formal network between groups to strengthen and connect community action, and identify needs. There were 51 attendees on Zoom across Wiltshire.

**Action** KT to report outcomes when available from WCA

BT now has the role of village communicator at these meetings. This (email and newsletter) had grown since March. 116 emails had been sent on 185 Covid related topics between 8 March and end of July. There have been several appreciative responses but she reminded the group that judgements made about what to include were generally her own and she welcomed comments.

Newsletter: BT asked how people felt about reverting to a paper newsletter, which could attract more risk to the delivers. There were some strong views in the village both for and against having a paper newsletter again and she felt it was inevitable that in future delivery would be mixed with some getting paper copies and others emails. The deliverers were happy with this. HR said the royal mail had continued postal deliveries with no problem and he thought we could now change to paper when appropriate. BT would judge when this should happen.

HN had a new job, and therefore could no longer attend daytime meetings. It was agreed to move the meetings to 19.00 on Mondays, with the next meeting on 7 September unless it became necessary to have one before then.

**Action:** HN/KT Terms of Reference to be updated/ posted on website

## 7. Problems and lessons learned

- a. Quarantine. HR proposed that the volunteer group should offer help to any villager required to quarantine or self isolate

**Action:** BT to send email making this clear

- b. HR felt that the public needed to know that testing is readily available to anyone with potential symptoms that could indicate Covid-19.

**Action:** HN to research where test can be booked then BT to send email

BT explained that the Kings College Covid-19 research project offered testing to anyone who recorded symptoms. It was felt to be a good thing to encourage villagers to register with the Zoe/Covi-19 App which helped to discover the many symptoms that could be indicative for Covid-19. Anyone with suspected symptoms is asked to take a test locally. Results come through in 2 days or less.

**Action:** BT to include the information in the email.

## 8. Updates from Wilts Council or UK government

Nothing to report

## 9. Data protection considerations

Nothing to report

## 10. Training

- a. ID felt that poor wearing of masks needed to be brought again to public attention (see AOB)

- b. HR: defibrillator training was raised as a need but was a matter for QPC. Following discussion, it was felt that the video on the subject was very good and could be promoted by QPC while physical training wasn't possible.

**Action** HR to mention to QPC then BT to send email reassuring villagers the defibrillator was easy to use without training

## 11. Any other business

- a. **Masks:** ID proposed an addition to the visual advice about not putting masks round your neck: face should be washed after wearing masks, not just hands.

**Action:** BT to send a repeat of the email with this addition.

- b. The general government advice of Use masks – Wash hands – Social distancing : it should be emphasised that the steering group strongly advises that everyone keep to those rules, and that this should be added onto other emails where appropriate

**Action:** BT to put the advice in village emails

- c. KT reported on more of the meeting he had attended earlier. Other attendees thought the personal support provided by the Quidhampton group was impressive. He would re-join the meeting when this one ended. He had the impression of a great variety of structures and levels of organisation in place in towns and villages. Some groups were strongly to connected to their councils and some were not.

Meeting concluded 10.45

**Date of next meeting: 19.00 Monday 7 September 2020**