

# Quidhampton Covid-19 Support Group

Minutes of the meeting of the steering group 19.00 on Monday 21st December 2020 via Zoom

**Present:** John Cater JC (community emergency volunteer); 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 minutes** – The minutes for the meeting held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December were approved.
3. **Matters arising**
  - 3 re 7: WhatsApp data policy** – A reminder on data policy had been sent by HN on WhatsApp.
  - 3 re 6** BT would judge whether/when a reminder was needed of the option to call 101 “if you see rule breaking” **Action BT**
  - re 5.** See JT’s report in 5 below
  - re 6b).** BT had sent an email on Doorstep Carols. Whilst only a few had participated, the meeting considered the activity worthwhile although there were problems with the words provided by the radio station which did not match the carols exactly.
  - Re 11c)** An email was sent around with firm guidance on risks. There was a limited reaction most of which was positive.
4. **Report from chair**
  - 4.1** Prizes had been bought for garden and front of home Christmas decorations , and the judging would be done next day.
  - 4.2** HR summarised an ‘ever-changing position’ : A more contagious strain of Covid had been identified, but was believed no more harmful, and also responsive to vaccines. UK biological detection had found the strain in the UK, but it was believed present everywhere else. 0.5 million people had been vaccinated. News was expected on Dec 28<sup>th</sup> for approval of another vaccine, not requiring -70degC, and which can be manufactured in the UK.
5. **Community emergency volunteer**
  - 5.1 JC :** Nothing to report.
  - 5.2 JT :** made 7 phone calls and had four face to face meetings. One elderly resident had called to discuss Christmas plans and what they should do. Conversations had been encouraging indicating caution, and quite a number of residents were planning to be on their own over Christmas. Details were shared with the steering group on some specific circumstances. The group was asked to let JT know if there were others not mentioned and expected to be on their own. **Action : all**  
In discussion, it was mentioned that it had been heard that one former resident had lost a parent to Covid, and was ill themselves in hospital.
6. **Committee members reports**
  - 6.1 ZH : The White Horse** Some customers’ behaviour had been disappointing, and she was uncertain whether to open in the period between Christmas and New Year. There was in any case an expectation in the industry for a government ruling for closure on New Years Eve, and possibly by 27<sup>th</sup> December.
  - 6.2 BT: Communication** An email would be sent reminding of the national bell ringing at 6pm on Christmas Eve, and the Boxing Day stroll 11.30-12.30 to greet neighbours. (Jingle bells provided by ZH and BT were being made available for Christmas Eve). **Action BT**
7. **Problems and lessons learned**

Nothing to report

## **8. Consideration of updates from UK government or Wiltshire Council**

Nothing to report

## **9. Data Protection**

Nothing to report

## **10. Training**

Nothing to report

## **11. Any other business**

**11.1 HR** felt that people were generally doing well to hold to the rules and guidance.

**11.2 ID** remarked on the very poor situation in some countries which he has contact with.

**11.3 KT** reported that Wiltshire Council's CEO and Chief Medical Officer's online talks had been quite general and uninformative on detail.

**11.4 HN** mentioned that she had received good feedback from volunteers on the workings of the group.

**Date of next meeting: 19.00 Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021** However in the event of important change, for example a change to Tier 3, a meeting could be called at short notice. **Action HR**

1 January 21