

Quidhampton Covid-19 Support Group

Minutes of the meeting of the steering group 19.00 on Tuesday 5th January 2021 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); *parish councillors

Copy to : Jane Morgan JM

The meeting had been deferred to know the outcome of the change announced by the PM at 5pm on Monday 4th January for a 3rd lockdown starting immediately.

1. **Apologies for absence** – Bea Tilbrook BT (village communicator)
2. **Approval of minutes** – The minutes for the meeting held on Monday 21st December were approved.
3. **Matters arising**
 - 3 re 6 (repeated) BT would judge whether/when a reminder was needed of the option to call 101 “if you see rule breaking”. In view of developments, BT had thought that a reminder may be required at some time soon. **Action BT**
 - re 6.2 Dec 21st An email had been sent as requested
 - re 11 Dec 21st Meeting moved today to accommodate events.
4. **Report from chair**
 - 4.1 Covid cases up: Study of data by HR had shown a very large increase in the local figures for Covid, increasing from 18 to 36 in seven days (Churchfields), though as yet no cases were known of in Quidhampton itself.
 - 4.2 Vaccination support Support to people called for vaccination was felt important now (see discussion & actions in item 7 below)
 - 4.3 Support offer/NHS guide Mandy Wheelan had offered the group help with any concerns about general health provisions. She had also drawn attention to a well-written NHS guide on vaccination on the web. HR requested this is circulated in the village Initial actions would be to circulate a link via email, **Action BT**
And, see 7.1.4 below, ZH to seek paper copies **Action ZH**
 - 4.4 Parish clerk For information, it was noted that the parish clerk had resigned effective end January. Steps were being taken to find a replacement. Clare Churchill had offered to help in the transition.
 - 4.5 Lockdown HR felt that the lockdown would last until end February as a minimum.
5. **Community emergency volunteer**
 - 5.1 **JC** : Nothing to report on support. However a request seen on Whatsapp by JC had been perplexing. The circumstances were clarified. There had not been a technical break in to Whatsapp from an unknown party, though the request had gone from a Facebook request directly via WhatsApp and not firstly via the named CEV's. It was reaffirmed by the meeting that requests for support should come to the CEV's for further action in order to maintain the system. This was especially important if the volume of requests for assistance would increase. **Action: ongoing, all**
 - 5.2 **JT** : Reported she'd had many face to face talks running up to Christmas, and also delivered gifts, e.g. pots of bulbs, and made 7 phone calls. The very generous making of Christmas meals offered by Lily Newman had eventually extended to seven households, and others were known to have done the same for their neighbours and friends. Some were last minute requests, and some resulted from change of plans to visit relatives. ZH's suggestion for a gift of flowers for Lily was warmly supported. **Action : HR**

6. Committee members reports

6.1 KT : Future briefings: mentioned two upcoming online sessions on 6 January– a well publicised public online briefing by Wiltshire Council at 19.00, and two opportunities coming to JC for Covid support groups to link in with their community area manager. JC and KT would coordinate to cover attend and feedback. **Action JC and KT**

7. Problems and lessons learned

7.1 Vaccinations : ‘How to help’ was discussed before the meeting came to the following conclusions:

7.1.1 Direct help would be offered by the Group to those discovered not to be able to get to their vaccination centre. Calls for help should be directed to CEV’s JC and JM (as with other requests), who would liaise with ID as required on the appropriate action to take in particular cases; viz., either alert WhatsApp group, or arrange transport themselves via bus or taxi, and perhaps ID accompany if required. ID and JC would liaise about the procedures before advising volunteers of their part should a volunteer be willing to help under guidance. **Action JC and ID**

7.1.2 Advice would be sent by village email on the offer of help with transport if required **Action BT**

7.1.3. Payment for taxis would be made if found necessary. ID offered to look into taxi rates. **Action ID**

7.1.4 How would the public be called for vaccination? It was believed that the NHS would call the public to a priority via their GP’s. A number of elderly villagers were known to have been called to the Michael Herbert Hall Wilton. Clarity would be sought via the briefings on 6 January. **Action KT**

7.1.5. Allergies HN raised whether people with allergies could have the vaccine. It was suggested that GP’s should have the answer, though recognising that all GP practices do not have top expertise on allergies.

7.1.6 Information from residents working for the NHS. ZH would enquire with individuals, eg for the NHS leaflet on vaccinations. **Action ZH**

7.1.7 Volunteering For information KT mentioned that the NHS sought volunteers e.g. as marshalls. This was in addition to their better known call for medical staff.

8. Consideration of updates from UK government or Wiltshire Council

See 6.1 above for future briefings.

9. Data Protection

Nothing to report

10. Training

Nothing to report

11. Any other business

11.1 ZH’s offer to continue in the group though no longer living in the village was warmly accepted.

11.2 HR recapped on the home decorations over the Christmas period and active community involvement. Prizes for displays had been published on email and in the January Newsletter.

Date of next meeting: 19.00 Monday 18th January