

Minutes of a meeting of the Briantspuddle CV-19 Group held at 6.30pm on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>  
April 2020 remotely using Zoom

**Present:** Leonora Sheppard, Campbell de Burgh, Ali Chorley, Stuart Chorley, David Griffiths, Liz Whatley, Amelia Chorley.

**Chair:** Sue Jones

**Clerk:** Anna Bendall

**Minute Number      Comments**

C/006      **Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Parish Councillor Trevor Poole.

C/007      **Update from Ali Chorley – Village Shop and Post Office**

A new team of volunteers has been established to serve at the shop however some willing volunteers from high risk groups are continuing to work in the post office as it is a role that requires a deal of training. They are working behind glass and wearing gloves to protect themselves. Marshalls and additional space in the village hall is being used to manage the queue outside of the shop and post office. This ensures social distancing advice is followed and is working well. Newspapers are being delivered by younger volunteers in the local area and a new account system has been established to reduce the handling of cash and better facilitate the deliveries that are offered through the shop and the volunteer group. There has been roughly a 60% increase in takings. It is hoped that the community will now see the importance of having a community shop and will continue to support this after the lockdown has ended.

C/008      **Update from Leonora Shepherd – Village Shop (Purchasing) & Parish Newsletter**

Acquiring shop produce has been a challenge due to lack of goods available as well as purchasing limits. Several trips a week have been required to keep the shop stocked. Leonora was asked to let the rest of the group know she requires other people to help with purchasing. The Parish Newsletter is going to be available in digital on the Briantspuddle Community Website.

C/009      **Update from Liz Whatley – Representative of Affpuddle PCC, Puddletown Medication Co-ordinator and Social Liaison**

There is a secure process in place for volunteers collecting any prescriptions from Puddletown Surgery which is being led and managed by Liz. Ideas have gone out via leaflet for people to participate in well being activities but there has not been any response of feedback save for a resident offering to donate wool. This will be left in the Village Hall for anyone to collect who would like some. There are ongoing discussions about setting up a telephone buddy system as well

as possible VE Day commemoration. More information will be available as decisions are made.

It was agreed that David Griffiths and Amelia Chorley would take over management of prescription deliveries after a briefing from Liz.

C/010 **Update from Campbell de Burgh – Website Communication**

The group were reminded to contact Campbell if they want anything at all put onto the website. There are currently between 50 and 60 hits per day on the website on average which is an increase compared with usual use.

C/011 **Update from Stuart Chorley – Village Hall Representative and Operational Lead**

The Village Hall remains closed but is being used to support use of the shop and post office.

The possibility of having conversations on doorsteps with those known to be self-isolating were discussed. Social distancing advice would always of course be observed.

C/012 **Update from David Griffith – Technical Lead**

David has already begun initiating telephone conversations by contacting those who have used the volunteer service to get feedback. It was suggested that these calls could be used to engage people in more in-depth conversations. Volunteers could be open to having 'door-step' conversations when delivering prescriptions, leaflets or other goods and the suggested plans for a book of memories to commemorate VE Day could also be used to instigate more casual conversations. There are now over 40 volunteers who have been grouped to support either the shop or mobile deliveries. The helpline messages are checked regularly and there is a fast response time. Good links have been made with both Dorset Council and the Volunteer Centre and 30 badges have been initially acquired for volunteers. These should be carried by those who are travelling or visiting people as volunteers but not necessary worn all the time. They can be presented if the volunteer is challenged.

It is important that co-ordinators always remain positive and challenge any negativity. This will help reduce volunteer fatigue and help the community as a whole to be more resilient.

C/013 **Update from Sue Jones – Parish Council Strategic Lead**

The Parish Council is incredibly grateful to the group for the services that it can provide and the speed that it has established itself. The parish Council has applied for a grant to support the group financially but has also set aside £1,000 a budget for agreed items of expenditure in support of the aims and objective of the Parish Council Covid-19 Group. A policy to set out the rules associated with this budget has been by the Parish Council and is available on the website.

C/014 **Other Business**

Support for volunteers is something that may be considered moving forward.

It was pointed out that there are several young people who have stepped up to support the community when schools, colleges and universities closed and that their contribution should be commended.

It was suggested that the wildlife newsletter could possibly be delivered again in the village perhaps along with other leaflets or newsletters. It was agreed that David would speak to a volunteer who may be willing to establish a YouTube channel for local wildlife videos.

It is likely that some people may take time to adjust when the lockdown ends. This means that the role of the support group may need to be extended beyond the lockdown.

It was agreed to offer help to the PCC should they need it to continue to deliver the Parish Magazine.

Meeting closed at 7.20pm