



DROXFORD PARISH COUNCIL

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Dear Residents,

COVID 19

The impact of the extraordinary but essential measures that have been implemented by the government in order to limit the spread of Covid-19 is being felt by everyone. Your Parish Council is committed to doing all that it can in these difficult circumstances to support our own community.

We are fortunate that a well organised volunteer group is in place and they distributed a leaflet to all households outlining how to access help with shopping, deliveries, collection of prescriptions etc. To date, a lot of volunteers have come forward and although not much assistance has yet been sought, it is anticipated that this will change. The Parish Council will be holding weekly meetings electronically and support of the volunteer group in line with government instructions will be a priority.

Our excellent surgery in Wickham has, in the last few days, changed some practice processes as a result of Covid 19. I would recommend that all patients of the surgery read the Letter to Patients dated 25th March which is posted on their website – www.wickhamsurgery.co.uk in order that we can assist them to continue to provide good care in this time of unprecedented demand upon the NHS.

Local businesses are working hard to support our needs: the Post Office remains open for business and Peter is doing his best to maintain his usual service; Merringtons is well stocked with many essentials; Christina's shop in the Square will be open Friday to Sunday 12.00 – 3.00 pm selling a selection of meals; The White Horse has distributed leaflets detailing its take-away service. A full list of services, including local businesses providing home delivery services is on the Parish Council website – www.droxfordweb.co.uk

Most, but not all residents have email and where possible, I would like to use that for any future communications. To assist in this, even if you are confident that the Parish Council already has your email address, Please email clerk.droxfordpc@gmail.com with 'Parish Council Covid 19' as the subject line simply stating your name and postal address. This would ordinarily require completion of GDPR permissions but The Information Commissioners Office recognises that these are exceptional circumstances and this is solely to assist in this current public health emergency.

We have already seen how our community is working to support the elderly and vulnerable. It is important that we are able to sustain that effort and there is no doubt that necessary social distancing/self-isolation will impact adversely on many people. Contact with those without email is particularly difficult. If you know of friends or neighbours who are likely to miss important information, please telephone them to pass on the information. Obviously, the social contact is vital too and I know that the telephone lines are currently being heavily used!

Thank you to all those who have come forward to support others in these strange times. We have a caring community that will continue to rise to the challenges.

Janet Melson

Chair - Droxford Parish Council.

30 March 2020

