

Our response to Covid-19

From Cllr Sean Smith

Time has marched on. All though we are not in lockdown at the moment, we could be again at any time. We all think we have had conflicting advice, but as a parish council we have set up ur covid 19 action plan phase 1 in a very short time.

Now we need to look at phase 2 covid 19 lockdown. There have been various indication as to when this 2nd lockdown might be, it could of been September, October and I now hear they are saying December, but recent news shows this could be sooner than later. Whatever date it is, we need to have a plan in place, do you agree?

I feel that we can enhance our phase 1 covid action plan:- we are asking for feedback GOOD OR BAD to see where we can adjust our approach should we go into a 2nd lockdown.

We welcome the Views on how you, your contacts, residents, or even your business have seen the response of Parish Council,?

If you are one of the many that have been in high isolation, not being able to go out until recently, it would be good to hear how you or others have coped,?

What I have found in my business is that when I am visiting properties, residents are relieved that there still life out there, and they are doing the right thing. Their main comments is the loss of social interaction, and talking to people, most have said that they have had family and friends who have helped out.

They have all appreciated the window signs that are getting a bit faded now, if there is a second lockdown do we need to re-do these signs? (should we get them pre-printed) and hold on file ?

As you know we set up a working group, we need to confirm that all members on the working group to phase 1 lockdown are happy to take up their responsibilities should there be a 2nd lockdown,? **are there any other councillors who wish to help out ?**

Sadly there was the closure of public facilities under March lockdown, do we try and do our best to keep open public toilets, ?

I know the delivery drivers and workers have appreciated the toilets being open, thanks to maintenance team and clearers who have done a great job in keeping the toilet in tip top condition, **(should we send a thank you letter to our employed cleaner)** what about a card and a bunch of flowers for a photo ? -good news for our web site ? do we add sanitizers etc to these toilets? (naturally we are led by government advice) but if we could keep them open with some changes, should we keep the facilities open.?

Newsletter:- we know this was received well and was very reassuring especially where there was contact information on services listed.

I suggest that we make contact with all current providers listed and continue the updates John has been doing with contact's, do we ask for further of contact's to add,? suggestions ?

I know Chris Davis has retired, he has sold his business to a young family who are not just delivering milk etc they have an extensive food delivery range on offer. I sure a lot of other

business have now adjusted their business to cope with lock down, it would be good to have a number of them on the contacts section. Suggestions and ideas please ?

If we have a 2nd lock down should we have a 2nd newsletter sent out to every house hold in the parish, plus a new window poster. ?

Can we prepare a newsletter in advance of any lockdown so minor adjustments are done prior to a print run, so we can get it out to residents without delay, giving them as much updated information as possible under a 2nd lockdown?

The Website has been a great contact area. How do we keep people interested in this link? and other links- so that they don't just click and leave, any ideas please,?

We can update our covid pages etc **but I think we need to put some good content on our website like photos ?**,

Do we ask for content for local organisation to add to our news section.?

Do we put a question on the website for an answer after they have visited the site - to ask was this site of help to them Yes or No if necessary a comment's section, this will give us feedback quickly to see if we are taking the right approach. ?

How often should we update our website ?

Do we consider paying someone for a web site, (we might have this already in place, I don't know at the moment) ?

Within newsletter we need to look at update advice and content do we have any new suggestions we could include,?

Have you read or seen information in other areas that we could add,?

Are there additional people who can help especially with the isolated houses and farms?

Do we send out a personal thank you letter/card to all these community helpers,? thanking them for their help and tell them they have made a difference to the community.

Ask them if we have a 2nd lockdown can we count on their support,? Update their contact details any changes etc - what do you think ?

John has logged all contacts request to the parish council, you may think there was only 20 contacts, but I am sure that the information given out in our newsletter and also the first point of call from the community helpers, has helped to keep this number of request to a minimum. Does this show that the information given out worked,? or is it that it did not work ? views comment's please?

In the Covid fund we allocated a number of donations to various origination and support groups is there more we could do ?

Do we try and involve the **Parochial Church Council** more as we see that there action was low and didn't respond to offers of help?

Liskeard food bank should we consider ?

Should we ask the organisation's that we granted grants to,- to give us their reports and input, also ask them do they have any suggestions where we can help them and the community further, should there be a 2nd lockdown,?

Last but not least is there anything that you wish to add and say or see added or changed for this pandemic.

Thanks you for taking the time to read this, and for any considered replies, **we are working to make the community we live in better for all.**

Kind regards
Cllr Sean Smith
Mobile: 07912465100

Timeline of MPC response to COVID-19 pandemic

Date	Action
16/3/20	Lockdown announced by HMG
21/3/20	COVID-19 Working Group. Formed 21/3/20 with Cllrs Phil Seeva; Eve Easterbrook; Jerry Tucker; Nathan Pearce; Sean Smith; Tony Ball; Pete Mulford. Facilitated by Clerk.
24/3/20	Public facilities. Agreed to close public toilets, play areas and outdoor gym 24/3/20 (reopened 13/7/20) Allotments remain open throughout on advice from National Allotments Society
24/3/20	Website. Front page and dedicated sub-page from 24/3/20, regularly updated along with Facebook (50+ postings), Twitter & NextDoor. We also published 3 letters from the Chair to residents thanking them for their continuing support for each other during lockdown.
30/3/20	Newsletter. Church newsletter: promoted work of CVWG in April edition (published 30/3/20)
31/3/20	Newsletters All contacts 31/3/20 updated 21/4/20, 26/5/20 Pastoral care 1/4/20 Mental health 7/4/20 updated 19/5/20 for Mental Health Awareness Week
4/4/20	Community Helpers. First email bulletin to 25 Helpers 4/4/20 13 editions mailed out at weekly intervals
7/4/20	MPC Newsletter published and distributed to every household in parish.
	Posters Red/Green posters distributed with MPC Newsletter

Requests for help

Logged all requests for support related to pandemic wef 27/3/20. Newsletter distributed 7-9 April.

	Personal*1	Food*2	Medicine*3	TTL
Pre Newsletter 27/3-9/4	6 (67%)	3 (33%)	0 (0%)	9 (100%)
Post Newsletter 10/4-5/9	6 (55%)	1 (9%)	4 (36%)	11 (100%)
TTL to date 5/9/20	12 (60%)	4 (20%)	4 (20%)	20 (100%)

*1 Enquiries with personal concerns about their own or a neighbour's wellbeing.
Sourced from emails into the clerk's mailbox, social media, and personal referrals.

*2 Enquiries about where to obtain food deliveries

*3 Enquiries about prescription ordering or collection.

Financial help offered from MPC to:

Liskeard Foodbank – no response from councillors

Young Farmers – offered & accepted

Real Junk Food Project – offered & accepted

Rosedean House Surgery - offered & accepted

Quay Lane Surgery - offered & accepted

Menheniot Parochial Church Council – offered & no response

date	source		£ out	£ in	
21/05/2020	MPC			5000.00	5000.00
	Liskeard Foodbank	Donation			5000.00
21/05/2020	Young Farmers	Donation	250.00		4750.00
19/06/2020	Real Junk Food Project	Donation	250.00		4500.00
19/06/2020	Rosedean House Surgery	Donation	100.00		4400.00
19/06/2020	Quay Lane Surgery	Donation	100.00		4300.00
23/07/2020	St John Ambulance	Donation	300.00		4000.00
					4000.00