

POYNINGS PARISH COUNCIL - response to Covid-19

Dear neighbours,

As your Parish Council, we have a part to play in ensuring residents in and around Poynings are supported as much as possible in the uncertain times which lie ahead. A lock down of some sort seems inevitable, so we plan to build a support network to get through this.

We will coordinate help and support for those who may be ill, self-isolating or otherwise impacted by Covid-19. We are compiling two lists; one for those who require any form of assistance and one for people who can help. Clearly this situation is evolving, so we'd like to try and keep communication channels open as safely possible.

We offer this in the capacity of your Parish Council, we are not trained in this type of response but we welcome suggestions on things we could help coordinate, improve or do differently. We feel a coordinated response will be most productive, so please get in touch via email, WhatsApp, FaceBook or telephone.

Ways we imagine the community support:

- Collecting food and shopping
- Collecting prescriptions
- Dog walking
- Transport
- Contributing to a local food bank
- Providing company and conversation, albeit remotely

Here's how we plan to coordinate our response; contact Will on 07790 936570 or Nigel on 07967381341 so we can add you to the WhatsApp group or message you directly.

We've created an email specifically for this; cv19poynings@gmail.com we're monitoring this inbox daily.

Please state your name when you email or text, so we know who you are, and if you would like help, or are able to help.

We will use the 'Poynings Community' Facebook page and WhatsApp to communicate updates from the Parish Council. Connect with us to make sure you get these. Facebook is a valuable resource for sharing information from local providers of food and other vital services. Working alongside Fulking and Newtimber, we will deliver as much useful information as we can.

Let's make sure we're there for each other, and get through this safely. We hope you'll get in touch and get involved.

Many thanks in advance.

Nigel, Will, Neville, Mike and Colin

Poynings Community FaceBook can be found by using the search bar. Ask your Friends and Family to join if you want them to be able to see what's happening in the village.

The Royal Oak, Rushfields, Swains, Jeremy's, Jermey's Too, Truffles, Shepherd & Dog and plenty of others are looking to provide delivery services, so we'll post contact info and most can also be found on FaceBook.

Jan and Clare from the Royal Oak are looking to put support in place and options of food hampers, takeaways and maybe even a cheeky bottle of wine will be available. Details to follow.

Milk & More already deliver to Poynings www.milkandmore.co.uk

We plan to talk to Hurst and Henfield surgery to see about prescription services and if they can be delivered direct to your door.

If you knock on a neighbour's door then the suggestion is to then take two generous steps backwards, but do take care!!

Currently, all Poynings 650th Anniversary celebrations are on hold. Rev Tim will be reaching out to the Parish directly too. Church services are also suspended for now. Rev Tim Harford available 01273 857456 and revtimharford@gmail.com

All delivery services will now sign their own delivery notes, so don't handle them if you don't have to!

Zoom is an excellent bit of video calling software to connect with friends and families. It's free to use, and is the most likely way we'll conduct Parish Meetings for the time being. The AGM will be postponed, but if we have your email address then we'll invite you to join the video call for the normal meeting.

We will update you as best we can, but the news channels will continue to give you regular updates, as they do. At a Parish level, we simply want to help everyone get through this with the least amount of interruption as possible.

NHS advice is not to attend a surgery unless you have an appointment.