

Ibstone Parish Council
Village Newsletter – 16th March 2020

This newsletter covers matters related to the **Coronavirus/COVID-19** pandemic. You are receiving it in hard copy as we want to be sure it reaches those who do not use email.

Diary dates. Several dates in your diary may be affected by Government advice in the days to come. These include our Parish Council elections (*deferred until 2021*), the V.E.Day village party (*cancelled*), the annual village litter pick (planned for Sunday 29th March) and the Village Show (planned for 1st August). Please keep an eye out for further updates either via newsletter or on the Ibstone Village Community Group Facebook page administered by Simon Hammond (simon.hammond@ibstone.org) and Louise Long (loubristow@hotmail.com). If you are not a member you may apply to join by answering the membership questions on the page.

Village Communication. The Parish Council will act as a focal point for any messages you wish to distribute via our email list relating to your own Coronavirus related matters. We will also try and co-ordinate any action required for you personally or the community as a whole.

For example, if you wish to tell the village that you either have the virus or are in self-isolation we will pass on the message (this may help others assess the level of risk within the community). Also, if you are in medically instructed self-isolation and need any help in getting medicines/food/essential items we will try and find someone to obtain them for you. We already have a list of volunteers and do not envisage any charge for time and travel expenses being made. If you are prepared to volunteer on that basis for the period of this crisis, or any part of it, please contact me or Melanie (chairman@ibstone.org or councillorgrimsdale@gmail.com). If you do not use email you can call or text (often better) me on 07880 740508, or Melanie Grimsdale on 07410 959121. If you get no response from one of us try the other as we may be occupied elsewhere or even infected ourselves. Simon Hammond (07872 997294) will back us up.

Whilst we hardly need to say this, please also check up on any vulnerable neighbours you may have from time to time and let us know if they are in difficulty.

Our system may evolve over time (we are considering setting up a village video conferencing facility), and if you have any other ideas as to how we can co-ordinate the village response to the pandemic please let me know and we will try and oblige. The situation may become very challenging but the more we pull together the better we will handle it.

Richard Scott - Chairman Ibstone Parish Council

