**KEMPLEY COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PLAN (KCEP)**

**STATUS REVIEW 19TH APRIL 2020**

**Summary**

Work to update the Kempley Community Emergency Plan (first drafted in 2013) began on the 16th March and was complete just before the lockdown of the UK commenced on 23rd March 2020. The plan has been operational for about 5 weeks (on 27th April 2020) in its revised form with new Community Response Volunteers and a Community Response Group (CRG) comprised of:

David Lewis;

Katie Osmond;

David Spencer; and

Martin Brocklehurst (Chair)

The group is supported by Arin Spencer Kempley Parish Clerk.

Operation of the plan was reviewed week ending 19th March with the Clerk and the CRG. This note summarises the main findings from that review and outlines how we leant from what has been done so far and how we maintain resilience until Lockdown measures are relaxed. The review covers the main aspects of the plan.

**A. LOGISTICS – Keeping our community supplied.**

We now have in place a range of measures to keep the community supplied in addition to informal help arrangements operating between neighbours and supporting those who are self isolating.

These include the following arrangements:

* Daily milk and paper delivery service from Gareth Kemp;
* Friday deliveries from Mid Shires Co-operative Society Newent along with internet ordering systems and telephone credit card payments;
* Friday deliveries from the “Newent Friday Market” with internet ordering and cash or BACS payment systems (building on Kempley Produce Market);
* Community Wednesday and Friday delivery systems for Forest Bakehouse with online ordering and payment systems or credit card payments on collection;
* Community Shop volunteer collection systems for telephone orders for the Gorsley and Bromsberrow Community shops;
* Community collection and telephone ordering systems for the Spar Ledbury;
* Vegetables and Fruit deliveries from Little Marcle Farm Shop (building on Kempley Produce Market) every Wednesday;
* Self Ordering and collection for ice cream from Hillbrooks Ice Cream who operate within the village;
* Ad hoc collection and payment for groceries for a limited number of isolating “at risk: individuals who order and receive groceries on a Friday.
* Community collection systems for prescriptions from the two Newent dispensaries including preferential collection arrangements with the Holts Medical Centre dispensary. Deliveries are made on a Friday and villagers have an opt in form developed by the Clerk to provide all necessary legal clearances for this service;
* Community collection service from “Boots the Chemist” Ledbury using the same approval service as for Newent but on a needs basis and with a different volunteer;
* Free delivery service of meat, vegetables and fruit from Andy Creese butchers on orders over £25;
* Moody Cow takeaways and community shop for collection;
* Bentleys Fruit Farm Shop fruit juices for collection in the village; and
* Stephen Bull savouries for collection by community volunteer (building on Kempley Produce Market).

In addition to the above villagers have secured hypermarket slots from Morrisons, Sainsbury’s and Tesco’s and some sharing of slots has started.

With the above in place everyone in the village should be able to secure supplies and medicines for the foreseeable future. The only issue identified by this review is how do we make sure these measures remain sustainable for the foreseeable future.

**Additional Recommendations**

1. Key critical volunteers are: Arin Spencer; Rachel Plant; Robin Bennion and Denise Baker. We currently have an offer from Di Gaskin to cover for Robin Bennion but no cover for the other volunteers.

**Recommendation - To be sustainable over the longer term we should make a request for additional volunteers through the village Mail Chimp and Whats APP Groups**

1. Hypermarket slots are still very limited and could be better used

**Recommendation – Make an appeal for those with slots to share them with neighbours through the Mail Chimp and Whats APP Groups.**

**B. Community Response** **Volunteers (CRV)**

We have in place 10 Community Response Volunteers co-ordinated by the Parish Clerk. They are: Lynn Andrews; Glyn Bennett; Maggie Bligh; Maggie Brocklehurst; Helena Cenbrowicz; June Dransfield, Annette Fernyhough, Ros Flook, Ricky Goodwin and Donna Latimer. We have no reserves.

Parish Councillors have each been given a group of CRVs to maintain communication links to and check they are operating effectively. CRV’s have contacted everyone on their contact list to:

* check contact details are correct;
* ensure they are aware where they can get support;
* understand who is not on the Mailchimp circulation list or the Whats APP system and needs paper copies of village information;
* to check if they are self isolating whether or not they need support so they can co-ordinate volunteers to help.

We have a system in place to ensure no villager should be left isolated. Three volunteers are new. It is not clear yet how effective this system is to ensure “no one gets forgotten” nor is it clear if all villagers understand what they can and cannot do or if all the volunteers fully understand their role.

**Additional recommendations**

1. **To build a common approach set up a ZOOM meeting opportunity for volunteers to talk to each other and chat through issues that might be emerging. Such a session could be introduced by the CRV co-ordinator (Arin Spencer) to provide more details on the KCEP and the respective roles everyone plays. Action for Arin Spencer**
2. **Build a common understanding of who our high risk residents are (those who are self isolating) to ensure we run periodic checks (telephone calls) that everything is fine and no support is needed. Action – Request the CRVs to help the co-ordinator put together a confidential at risk register.**

**C. Communications and Community Wellbeing**

The CRG and the Parish Council have put in place four main communication systems to ensure the village is informed as the pandemic runs its course. They are:

* Weekly mail chimp briefings;
* Two Whats App groups, one for formal requests for help and village briefings;
  + Kempley Emergency Plan – circa 49 participants
  + Kempley Keep In Touch – circa 50 participants
* Telephone cascade system through the CRVs; and
* Community Zoom account.

We are able to reach all villagers through these systems and have in addition drawn in a number of isolated individuals in Dymock, Much Marcle and Upton Bishop who live on the boundary of Kempley.

Apart from a few personality clashes on the WHATS APP group these systems have been beneficial in allowing the community to come together and raising morale in what is a very difficult time.

Various groups in the village are using the Zoom platform though few are coordinating at this time through the community Zoom Service. Attempts have been made to set up a Zoom coffee morning with limited success.

In addition to the above 1 village competition has been run during the emergency with excellent participation by young and old alike and a second is under consideration. These competitions have been run by Maggie and Chris Bligh with Parish Support.

Various support mechanism are in place run by the Forest of Dean District Council to support mental health and community wellbeing but our knowledge of how well they are being used in Kempley is limited. We have no formal systems to connect isolated individuals who are most likely not IT literate or to set up common conference call systems that such people could participate in.

**Additional Recommendations**

1. **Review best practice from other communities and consider what if any additional measures are needed to protect people’s mental health and wellbeing as this pandemic and lock down measures drag on.**

**Action All CRG Members**

1. **We are experiencing a once in a life time event. Other communities are recording life in lockdown – should Kempley do the same.**

**Action All CRG Members to consider how this might be done by for instance:**

* **Recording stories**
* **Creating a photographic record etc.**

**D. Living with covid-19**

1. In the event that covid-19 cases reach the village we need to consider what action will be required through our emergency plan to ensure Public Health England advice can be followed and families can isolate and break the chain of infection in the village. It will be crucial to have volunteers who can support families and provide:
   1. food and medical supplies;
   2. morale support; and
   3. home testing kits if they are available.

We have not yet thought through how this can be achieved.

1. As we move to post lockdown conditions we need to consider how we as a community approach the management of future infection risk. Other communities are encouraging their inhabitants to join the covid-19 Tracker App that records very early symptoms of the infection. This has a number of advantages:
   1. it acts as an early warning system for the community;
   2. discussion are now under way with Public Health England that participants may be given early access to home self testing kits if they show early warning symptoms of covid-19; and
   3. some communities are suggesting that in areas where very high percentages of the community are taking part in covid-19 tracker earlier relaxation of the lock down arrangements may be possible.

**Additional Recommendations**

1. **The CRG open discussions with the FODC to ensure we are prepared for and understand how our village will respond to any infections in our community and whether or not we can encourage effective measures to be put in place to move out of lock down with good risk management systems in place.**

**Action Chair of CRG**

**Addendum**

**Grants**

The Parish have been offered access to grants of up to £3000 to support our community through the current crisis. Grants can be used for the following:

***The funding can only be used for direct expenditure in relation to the Covid-19 Crisis including, but not exclusively:***

* ***Setting up of Community Floats to purchase food and essential supplies for vulnerable people and families (if less than £1,000.00 please apply to FVAF small grants fund by emailing*** [***help4groups@fvaf.org.uk***](mailto:help4groups@fvaf.org.uk) ***)***
* ***Development of digital/virtual support – equipment such as mobile phones or tablets to support an on the ground response***
* ***Expenses incurred by volunteers, such as petrol (at a maximum of 25p per mile)***
* ***Developing infrastructure to support vulnerable people***

Do we wish to apply for funding?