

**Notes of a meeting of the Covid Response Working Group  
held on Microsoft Teams**

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2020 – 6pm**

Present

Cllr Andy Foulsham (Chair)  
Cllr Gabby Barody (Vice-Chair)  
Cllr Cheryl Briggs  
Cllr Eric de la Harpe  
Cllr Alex Greenaway  
Cllr Lorraine Oates

In attendance

Louise Brown            Communications, Marketing and Events Officer (CME Officer)  
Nigel Warner            Town Clerk

**1. Apologies**

Ex-officio members Cllr Charlie Birks (Mayor) and Samantha Bowring (Chair F and GP/ Leader). **Noted.**

**2. Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Alex Greenaway declared a non-pecuniary interest as a member of the Covid Community Response Group in Abingdon and confirmed that should funding be discussed for this group he would abstain from the conversation.

**3. Notes**

The Committee received and considered the notes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

It was **RESOLVED** that the notes of the meeting of the Covid Response working group held on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2020 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

**4. Update on news from County Council and District Council**

Cllr Gabby Barody provided an update on the Coronavirus support from the County Council and Cllr Andy Foulsham provided an update on support from the District Council.

Both Cllr Barody and Cllr Foulsham confirmed that Cllr Helen Pighills was the lead Cllr regarding the Covid response for the Vale of White horse District Council and they were working closely with her and Cllr Emily Smith regarding any funding available for individuals and organisations.

Cllr Gabby Barody would continue to update the group via communication with Cllrs Pighills and Smith.

## **5. Update from Abingdon Coronavirus Response group & AbiMeds**

Cllr Alex Greenaway provided members with an update on the Abingdon Coronavirus response group and Abimeds, confirming that things had been quiet in terms of requests at the moment. They were expecting an uptake after the next edition of the Town Crier was delivered where this support group had been publicised, but that currently the level of requests was very manageable.

Cllr Alex Greenaway also confirmed Abimeds were operating but a more reduced service this time only for people that fall into the Clinically Extremely Vulnerable category as all surgeries in Abingdon are now set up for home delivery.

## **6. Feedback from contact with local businesses / organisations.**

The Communications, Marketing and Events Officer confirmed that there had not been a high level of response from the Businesses and Organisation and that the Council were still receiving these in. Miss Brown confirmed she would compile the responses ahead of next Monday's meeting (23<sup>rd</sup> November).

Cllr Andy Foulsham suggested contacting schools outside of the Abingdon area that took Abingdon pupils as well.

## **7. Busker in Market place**

Cllr Gabby Barody confirmed that a busker had been using the Market place during the national lockdown and that there was a concern around spreading Covid through singing and that it was attracting a crowd.

There was a discussion around the best ways to handle this issue and it was agreed that The Vale of White Horse District may have a role in the situation as the Public Health Authority.

It was also agreed that PCSO Ali Blood, who was notoriously good at dispersing professionally and effectively could be notified if the issue continued.

It was agreed that the Works Team Staff could monitor the situation on the regular cleaning of the Market place, but that any enforcement would need to be through the police or the environment agency.

## **8. AOB**

Cllr Gabby Barody asked if anyone knew of a volunteer scheme within Abingdon that transported vulnerable people to hospital appointments. Cllr Lorraine Oates confirmed there was a service she was aware of and that she

would locate the information and forward it to Cllr Alex Greenaway for him to distribute to the Covid Response Group.

**9. Next meeting**

Monday 23rd November – 6pm  
(Group will meet every week at 6pm on a Monday).

The meeting rose at 6.45pm.