

The third week of the lockdown with the Covid-19 Coronavirus brings more uncertainty and anxiety for many. As a Parish Council we want to do our bit in supporting anyone that needs help. If we can't help directly, we probably know an organisation or somebody that can, but please <u>do not</u> struggle alone. As a rural parish we often struggle with limited local resources, but it is great to see so many businesses, organisations and members of our local community coming together to support one another.

If you look on our website or Facebook Page, we have given some details of statutory organisations that are able to offer support. My message to you is that if you are looking on the internet or social media — make sure that you only take advice from recognised bodies such as the government, NHS, police and councils. Even in such a nation emergency, there is a plethora of misinformation, that can worsen anxiety and mental well being to those looking for support.

Many people are starting to come to terms with the lock down, but please keep an eye on your family, friends and neighbours. Sometimes a phone call is all it takes to brighten their day. The Parish Council and local community group – the Framfield Isolation Support Group have plenty of volunteers to help anyone, including those who are vulnerable, elderly, self-isolating or lonely.

Having helped people myself, and spoken to a few other volunteers, it is evident that some people do not want to ask for help, but need it. If you are one of those people – Please do ask, we are all in this together, and volunteers are ready to help where they can.

So if you cannot get to the shops and need something, are struggling with where to turn to, are looking for guidance as to what you can and can't do during this pandemic, or simply would like a phone call with a friendly voice at the other end – call us, and we will get the right help to you.

Sadly, throughout the past 3 weeks or so, there has been an increased amount of fly tipping around the parish. Please do not do this as it means we have pay for our contractors to go out and clear it. It can create vermin issues, and potentially will incur extra costs from our reserves that were otherwise allocated elsewhere.

There has also been a massive increase in dog poo being left on paths. Please be respectful to others and use the proper bins, or take it home with you.

If you are out taking daily exercise, please be aware that our country lanes often attract drivers taking short cuts who may not be familiar with the area. Just be extra cautious, especially on the lanes and roads without proper footpaths.

Finally, please all be kind to others. Their crisis may seem insignificant to you and the outcomes may have differing consequences, but each and everyone of us are trying to cope in unprecedented times. A small act of kindness can change someone's life.

Best Wishes, Keith

Chairman - Framfield Parish Council

If you want to get in touch, please do at:

clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk

or telephone: 01825 890182 / 890103

