



WELCOME TO THE FIFTH CORONAVIRUS NEWSLETTER FROM BRIXTON PARISH COUNCIL



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QUALITY

Issue 5 – week ending 17th April 2020

Brixton Parish Council Coronavirus Newsletter

This newsletter is produced weekly (Friday) by Brixton Parish Council and published on the Brixton Parish Council website and Face book pages. Updates in between are posted on the Brixton Devon website and Love Brixton Devon and Brixton Village Facebook. A copy is also posted on the notice board in the village by the pedestrian crossing.

Firstly thank you to everyone for following the guidance from Public Health England to stay at home and only make those necessary journeys for shopping, work and medicines ... you are all helping to prevent the spread of the virus to our communities. It is difficult but when you see how people with the virus suffer and how hard our NHS colleagues are working to look after us then we know how important it is that we stay at home. We now have at least another three weeks of lockdown, so please stay vigilant and follow Public Health England guidelines at all times.

This week ...

Prescription pick up volunteers covering Yealm Medical Centre and Dean Cross are working well with planned pickups Tuesday and Thursday from Yealm, plus others as needed. Thanks have poured in from all those getting this service – they appreciate it very much and volunteers are really getting to know the Parish! Don't hesitate to ask for this service as it reduces the risk of infection by having just one person go and pick up. Please email helen.deaswilliams@brixtonparishcouncil.org.uk or if urgent phone her on 01752 881873.

Around 200 people have responded to the flier 'Nobody should feel alone' and continue to return these by email or phone or hard copy. Copies are on the Brixton Parish Council website and outside when it's not raining, outside 3 Pear Tree Cottages, next to the Foxhound.

Volunteer leaders are starting to look after their small areas in Brixton Parish to be a contact point, arrange local calls for those who would like this and to be alert to any issues or signs someone need help locally. Volunteer leaders walk around their area daily (while doing their exercise!) to look out for signs of distress if not already alerted by neighbours or daily phone calls. Some leaders are still waiting for their letters, Helen apologises for the delay, all should be finished this weekend.

We can all help look out for each other - If starting to feel seriously unwell or unable to phone, everyone is asked to hang a pillowcase, towel or similar from their letterbox, door, and window – a visible signal that help might be needed – better safe than sorry.

A big 'thank you' to Helen and all our volunteers for the great work they are doing. We are also working with neighbouring parishes, South Hams District Council and Devon County Council.

South Hams District Council is offering a hotline number for residents who can't access information and support available through the council's websites or social media and need help and support during the Coronavirus outbreak. The number 01803 861297 and will be open from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday to Friday. The calls will be answered by the Community Co-ordination Team at the Council. Outside of these hours an answer phone service will be available. The team can help people with a wide range of queries, such as where to get additional help and support, as well as putting residents in touch with their nearest community support group, Helen and team.

National Government support for businesses can be found on www.businesssupport.gov.uk

Shielding or At Risk? Since the last newsletter Public Health England has written a letter to more people at high risk ... if you have received this letter informing you to self-isolate for 12 weeks you may like to register with the Brixton Community Emergency Team so that we and local volunteer leaders are aware of your circumstances as you may need extra support. All personal information is being held in a way which is GDPR compliant- we will protect your personal information. Email helen.deaswilliams@brixtonparishcouncil.org.uk or phone 01752 881873.

This week's update

Bus time tables

For information, up-to-date bus timetables, including temporary changes, go to:
<https://www.traveldevon.info/bus/latest-news-service-updates/>

Brixton Village Shop and Post Office and the Post Office at Yealmpton are temporarily closed until at least 22nd April 2020. Post Office services are available at Elburton and Newton Ferrers. Newspapers are available at Rodgers Garage. If the closure of the Post Office counter services creates any immediate problems, please contact Helen Williams, details above, who will try to find a way to support.

Annie at Just Williams can supply 1kg bags of frozen veg and fruit, phone first to arrange payment and pick up 5-6pm ... Annie can be flexible if needed on timing.

Debbie in the Brixton Fish & Chip Shop is closed for the moment through supplier issues.

Neighbouring Yealmpton Stores and Londis at Yealmpton Garage are also stocked and offering excellent service to locals.

Keep your distance and pay by card rather than cash to minimise risk.

Rodgers Texaco Garage/Petrol station new hours until further notice – closed on Sundays, open from Mon- Sat 08.00-18.00hrs for the full range of services newspapers, local shopping services, car servicing and MOTs.

Morrisons Doorstep Delivery is a dedicated telephone line for their customers who are self isolating, elderly, vulnerable and not able to visit a shop but are able to place an order over the phone. Customers can choose from a Food Box or place an order from a selection of 45 essential groceries. The order is then matched to a local store that picks up the order and delivers it directly to the customer the following day and payment will be taken through a contactless card by the delivery driver. If you have friends or family in need of this help and are unable to shop in store, please ask them to call 0345 611 6111 and select option 4 to order a Food Box or 5 to place an order for Doorstep delivery. The order will take 24 hours to process.

Yealm Medical Centre

Email repeat prescriptions to e.yealmmedicalcentre@nhs.net and allow 6 working days/2 weeks to process. Advise Brixton Volunteers of need for pickup at least two working days ahead email helen.deaswilliams@brixtonparishcouncil.org.uk (or if not on email, phone 881873). Approved volunteers pick up prescriptions Tuesday & Thursday pm.

Dean Cross surgery

Order repeat prescriptions on the website, allow 5 working days. Only 1 inhaler can be given and 28 days meds. Well Pharmacy deliver only to existing delivery patients, cannot take on new patients and need one week to process – so order two weeks ahead; Dean Cross also works with Church Road (Gallaghers), Springfield in Elburton, Morrisons and Boots Broadway. For volunteer pick-up, book ahead as above.

Full list of shopping and medical services can be found on the Brixton Parish Council website and on Face book please contact Helen with any updates or additions.

Sherford Community

We are liaising closely with them to support their community emergency response.

Financial help may be available locally

The Brixton Feoffee Trustees are very well aware of the problems that some people may be experiencing during this emergency. The Brixton Feoffee Trust has allocated £3,000 from its reserves to help people who are struggling during the current crisis. One-off grants of up to £100 per household for food and basic essentials may be made depending on the individual household's circumstances and subject to approval by the Board of Trustees. This funding is available for people living in Brixton parish. Applications should only be made for a grant to buy food and basic essentials. Please contact the Clerk, Sally Axell, on 01752 880262 or email brixtonfeoffeetrust@googlemail.com for further information.

Yealm Community Energy - COVID relief -

Yealm Community Energy has committed £2,000 from its upcoming community fund payment to each of the five parishes for measures relating to COVID-19. Applications can be made using the form available on the YCE website. Please contact Andrew Moore on 01752 873532 or email drramoore@gmail.com for more information.

Access to Dental Care

Across every NHS region local Urgent Dental Care (UDC) systems are being created to provide care for people with urgent and emergency dental problems. Registered patients who have a dental practice and use it regularly should contact their dentist by phone to seek a referral. All NHS dental surgeries should be accessible by phone, even though their doors are shut. Unregistered patients people i.e. who don't have a dentist, should call the dental helpline 03330 063300 email: - accessdentalhelpline@nhs.net. Out of usual surgery hours, people should call NHS111. For further information, contact the NHSE/I dental team in the South West at england.swdental@nhs.net.

St. Marys Church, Brixton – the church building is currently closed. For information on services and prayer groups see the combinedbenefice.co.uk website or follow the Yealm Erme M.C. Facebook information.

Dementia Friendly Parishes around the

Yealm is in telephone contact with all its 40+ families. If you have concerns about a person with dementia or if as a family or a carer you need additional support, please contact Maxine on 07450206312. There are also regular updates on Facebook

Citizens Advice South Hams - Contact information - Advice line: 03444 111 444 (Monday - Friday 9am - 4pm) Email: www.southhamscab.org.uk Help: www.citizensadvice.org.uk Letter: Citizens Advice, Follaton House, Plymouth Road, Totnes TQ9 5NE

Brixton Devon Website

<https://www.brixtondevon.co.uk/> this website replaces the Brixton Village website with a wealth of information about the village and the parish. A regular update on the Coronavirus is also on this website.

Urgent appeal for community equipment - If you've got any community equipment you no longer need particularly commodes, walking frames, shower stools, and raised toilet seats please can you return it ... as increased demand during the corona virus (COVID-19) outbreak means these items are in danger of being in short supply. Please contact Millbrook Care on 0330 124 4491 to arrange a free contactless collection.

Cyber criminals are preying on the fears and uncertainty surrounding corona virus (COVID-19) by sending scam messages that attempt to trick people into clicking a link or opening attached documents.

The National Cyber Security Centre has recently updated their guidance on dealing with phishing messages, including advice on spotting them, and actions to take if you've already clicked. Any victim of fraud through an online scam can report it as a crime to Action Fraud, the UK's national reporting centre for fraud and cybercrime.

Public Rights of Way - Devon County Council is keeping the public rights of way footpaths open. If you use the footpaths please be considerate to the farmers who are essential workers and at risk, if the hygiene requirements for corona virus are not followed. So please keep to the paths, leave gates etc as you find them. Keep your dog/s on short leads at all times and keep to the path when walking on the public right of way footpaths through fields as there are baby lambs there now and ewes about to lamb ... they can miscarry if spooked by a dog ... even a dog on a lead can frighten a sheep. So please take great care using the public rights of way footpaths and support our local farmers- if they get corona virus there is no one to look after their animal's welfare.

An update from Devon & Cornwall Police for non-emergencies

If possible the Police ask that you use the following options before dialling 101 for non-emergencies at this busy time. Click before you call – go online at devon-cornwall.police.uk/
Check if you can find the answer yourself on AskNed

Use the online crime reporting form
Web chat live with the 101 service (link to this facility at bottom right of Devon and Cornwall Police homepage)

Email the 101 service at 101@dc.police.uk
Calling 101 phone line

If you do need to call 101 about a non-emergency, please be aware that it may take longer than normal to answer your call. Perhaps consider calling at a quieter time of the day, like late evening if it is not time critical.

I have intelligence about a crime – who should I contact?

Please continue to contact the police on the details listed above. If it is an emergency call 999 or for non-emergencies use the online contact options where possible. You can also report crime and intelligence anonymously via Crimestoppers either by calling 0800 555111 or by using their online reporting system at www.crimestoppers-uk.org

Thank you to everyone for keeping our community going and safe... smile and wave... give a shout on Thursday for our wonderful health care and all support workers. Look after our farmers... keep dogs on short leads where the public rights of way footpaths cross the fields (all other fields are private and there is no public access). Let's keep our distance and stay home ... coronavirus relies totally on us to spread and continue the infection it doesn't do it on its own.

STAY AT HOME FOR BRITAIN AND BRIXTON

