

## Community Resilience Report May 2020

I have previously reported on the specific topic of our Devon Emergency Resilience Fund grant of £774, and how the money has been spent.

I will therefore concentrate on Parish Council work to support our community since mid March.

### **Volunteers**

During the first 2 or 3 weeks, following UK Government instruction to stay indoors, our village volunteer team provided invaluable support by collecting and delivering medication and assisting with Community Shop deliveries.

Our readiness to meet community needs during this period filled a void whilst Budleigh Hub and other organisations finalised their support arrangements.

Subsequently, day to day requests for our assistance tailed off as everyone settled to new routines and we turned our attention to the wellbeing of everyone in our parish.

### **Parish Council Activity**

We successfully applied for a £450 grant from the Prompt Action Fund, and received the monies on 8th April.

On Easter Sunday, 12th April, we distributed a Home Baked selection of cakes to those in the parish we hoped might benefit most from the gesture.

On Easter Monday two 'bunnies' handed out donated chocolate eggs to our youngsters.

And on VE Day, 8th May, our bakers produced another set of biscuit treats that were despatched via the volunteer team to mature members of our community who live alone.

The baking box was accompanied by a 'trip down memory lane' East Budleigh photo album.

The album provided another opportunity for us to message recipients that we are ready and waiting to answer any call for support, even if just a phone chat, via them simply phoning the PC Clerk.

To address any concerns regarding hygiene and safety our 3 bakers all hold current food safety and hygiene certificates, and were the only people to handle the product between baking and the recipient opening the cake box.

In addition, of course, our Clerk has been really busy making much needed scrubs and face masks for a local care home and for individuals in our community.

To date we have only spent a very small proportion of available funds, primarily due to understandable volunteer reluctance to accept any form of payment for their goodwill.

If we consider a further gesture appropriate it may possibly involve the purchase of bespoke retail packages that would make good use of the fund monies.

### **Statistics**

It feels like we are all being programmed to analyse graphs and figures on a daily basis during these strange times so I provide below performance detail for all to digest:

17 volunteers have supported 35 members of our community by carrying out 55 different tasks. In addition, 48 children each received an Easter Egg.

### **Community Response Team (CRT)**

A 'Parish Council Property' system is now in use, and administered by the Clerk, to record and track individual items.

In the coming weeks I hope to distribute the new Hi Viz suits to the CRT, and flood road signs to identified holding areas.

I also intend to continue reviewing our draft flood plan with a view to reducing core content to a minimum whilst moving necessary but less vital detail to additional annexes.

During this period I've kept in contact with Kate Ponting, Clinton Devon Estates, our County Councillor, Christine Channon, and the team at Devon Communities Together