

PARISH COUNCIL

A huge thank you to Janine Kelly for setting up the 'Community Help' and all the volunteers assisting her and working so hard to help those who are self-isolating and vulnerable in our community with their shopping, prescriptions and so much more. A special thank you to Daryl Gaylard for delivering the 'Community Help' leaflets and 'Stay at Home' guidance to everyone in the village on behalf of the Parish Council. Without his help, it would have been difficult to get these around to everyone. It is wonderful that we have such selfless people who are willing to assist others during this dreadful time.

We would also like to express our appreciation to everyone who is continuing to work especially nurses, doctors, and carers. Not forgetting everyone working in our supermarkets, postmen/women, delivery drivers and our waste collection services. Thank you for everything you do! Also, a shout out too for all those of you in the village who are quietly lending a hand to your neighbours in need. You are all stars. This is such a great village to live in.

It is wonderful to hear and see everyone out Clapping for Carers on Thursday evenings at 8pm. Let us make as much noise as we can every single week to show our appreciation!

A **Somerset Support Helpline** by the County and District Councils has been launched on **0300 790 6275** if you need transport to medical appointments, waste collection and disposal, emotional support if you are feeling worried or anxious, financial support. Callers will be asked to describe the support they require.

SSDC Wellbeing Hub - You can also call the District Council on **01935 462462** between 8am and 4pm seven days a week if you need support during the Coronavirus crisis.

The Council can provide information regarding: -

- **Business grants** during the Coronavirus crisis
- Access to **free food boxes** if you are facing financial hardship
- Access to the **food boxes** being provided to the vulnerable from the Wellbeing Hub

It is so important that all of us continue to obey the social distancing rules and stay at home. It will save lives. Guidelines are changing all the time about what we can and cannot do outside, and so you can find the most up-to-date information at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do>

Keep looking out for one another. Remember to be kind and we will get through it somehow - together. Keep washing those hands and practicing social distancing!

Hamdon Medical Centre

The Hamdon Medical Centre recently posted the following on Facebook: - All the staff at Hamdon Medical Centre would like to thank our patients for their understanding during the COVID-19 outbreak. We are grateful for the messages of support and thanks that we have received (and the biscuits and chocolate!). We appreciate that these are challenging and worrying times for you. We would also like to send a HUGE Thank You to the local Community Help Project that has been set up, you are doing an amazing job at supporting our local community. You will have heard messages in the media about letters for high risk and very high-risk patients being sent out by the government. There are also different terms such as social distancing, self-isolation and shielding being used— we get confused too! We are still waiting for computer searches to use that will look at our computer system and identify those of you that fall into the very high risk category— this is a national issue and not restricted to Hamdon Medical Centre. As soon as we have those searches please be assured that we will action them. Some of you will have been contacted directly by your hospital teams already.

VE Day 75 – 8th May

As we are unable to have the celebration on VE Day, it would be lovely to mark the occasion with residents standing on their doorsteps at 7pm on 8th May and singing a rendition of 'We'll Meet Again' followed by 'Rule Britannia'. Come on everyone let's make it an evening to remember!

Bonfires

Whilst many of us are in 'lockdown' and it is gloriously sunny and warm, we now have time to tidy our gardens and allotments. However, with the recycling centres closed and Somerset Waste Partnership not collecting the garden waste some of us are clearing this waste with a bonfire. Although there is no law against having a bonfire it is only courteous to consider your neighbours. Please check whether your neighbours windows are open or whether there is washing on the line. Also, consider what time of day you decide to have your bonfire. Ideally, at this time of year it is better to light a bonfire after 7pm.

Never leave your bonfire unattended and make sure it's not too big. Do not burn rubber or plastics as all of these factors are considered a nuisance and you could be reported.

Crime & Anti-Social Behaviour

For any advice and further/up-to-date information on incidents please go to the website: www.police.uk. If you are a witness to or the victim of a crime, then it is imperative that you report it to the police immediately whether it is during the day or at night. When reporting an incident please telephone either 101 for non-emergencies or 999 for emergencies only.

Parish Council Meetings

During this 'lockdown' period, a resolution was passed at our last meeting to follow Government guidelines and suspend all parish council meetings until further notice.

The Parish Council's day-to-day business will carry on as usual where possible. If you have any issues/questions, please contact the Parish Clerk on the contact details below.

Contact details: Sarah Moore, Parish Clerk

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Email: clerk_montacutepc@hotmail.co.uk

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