

February 2021

Dear Parishioners,

We have been contacted by Cllr Victoria Wilson, Cabinet Minister for Communities and Culture, Staffordshire County Council asking for the following information and support options to be circulated to try and look after those in our parish who need it most.

“How you can help reduce social isolation

Our aspiration at the county council is summed up by the ethos of #DoingOurBit – we want everyone in Staffordshire to think about what one extra thing they could do to look after themselves, the people around them and the places where they live.

- *You may be aware of **Community Help Points**, a new network across Staffordshire where people can go for help. Currently made up of a county council library and a key voluntary sector organisation or district council in each area, the Help Points exist to direct people to the right kind of local support.*

- *Our **#DoingOurBit** (<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/DoingOurBit/Doing-Our-Bit.aspx>) approach is not just a campaign – we want your support to live and breathe its ethos, championing it as your own message and not just ours.*

- *A large number of **“Mutual Aid” groups** sprang up during the first lockdown to support vulnerable people, and we know many parish councils were involved with them. Support Staffordshire offer help and advice to grow these schemes into Good Neighbour groups – you can find out more here <https://www.supportstaffordshire.org.uk/covid-19-support/good-neighbour-scheme>.*

- *You can use and promote our online resources, like:*

- *Staffordshire*

- *Connects <https://www.staffordshireconnects.info/kb5/staffordshire/directory/home.page> (to help people find support digitally)*

- *the county council website*

- *<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Homepage.aspx> (for up to date signposting)*

- *the interactive Happy at Home house*

- *<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Advice-support-and-care-for->*

[adults/Help-and-support-with-daily-living/Daily-living-equipment-and-technology/Support-at-home.aspx](https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Adults/Help-and-support-with-daily-living/Daily-living-equipment-and-technology/Support-at-home.aspx) (to help people identify and find assistive technology suited to their needs)

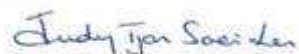
- our Orcha apps <https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Care-for-all-ages/Search-for-health-and-wellbeing-apps.aspx> (to help people stay healthy and well)
- Do It Staffordshire <https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Community/Volunteer/Do-It-Staffordshire.aspx> (to promote and recruit volunteers)

- When the time is right, you can think about exploring models that bring people together and which have worked in other areas of the county, such as Places of Welcome <https://www.placesofwelcome.org.uk/> and Pub is the Hub <https://www.pubisthehub.org.uk/>. We can share learning to facilitate this.
- You can link into our other key campaigns in the months ahead. For example, recently we have done fantastic work around suicide prevention.
- I would also like to draw your attention to the “Coronavirus Case Studies” <https://www.nalc.gov.uk/library/news-stories/covid19/3221-coronavirus-case-studies/file> publication which the National Association of Local Councils compiled in the early weeks of the pandemic.

Once again I want to say thank you for what you are doing, and ask that you continue to help us and Staffordshire’s communities as we get through the difficult weeks and months ahead.

Kind regards,
Councillor Victoria Wilson Cabinet Member for Communities and Culture,
Staffordshire County Council County Councillor for South Staffordshire – Kinver”

Kind Regards



Judy Tjon Soei Len
Clerk to Anslow Parish Council

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