



LITTLE GADDESSEN *parish council*

COVID 19 and our Community: Little Gaddesden Parish Council

In these unprecedented times, working together as a community is more important than ever. The Council have been extremely impressed with the initiatives that are already under way, proving once again what a special place Little Gaddesden is to live. Details of these initiatives are below.

An apology: We are sorry that we had to cancel the last Parish Council Meeting at incredibly short notice but as a public body we are bound to follow government guidelines for the safety of council members and parishioners alike. We will be putting measures in place to hold meetings remotely going forward where possible. Please do watch this space for further details.

Village Shop and Pub

The Pub has rightly shut for the time being, they are still very much part of the community and will be looking at ways to support. The Village Shop remains open and remarkably well stocked as you would expect. It has very kindly offered to take telephone orders and deliver groceries for vulnerable and elderly customers. Please call 01442 842448 should you need this service.

Church: The Church have responded correctly to received advice to suspend public worship and is also now closed during the day. The Church as we are all aware are still working hard to support the community both practically and spiritually. The church website has very useful information – www.littlegaddesdenchurch.org.uk

VPA: The VPA has reluctantly decided, for the safety and well-being of its customers and volunteers, that the Garden Store should be closed for a while during this unprecedented time. Subject to the Government's guidelines the VPA will offer home deliveries where it can. See VPA website store page for how to place an order. <https://lgvpa.org/vpa-store/>

The Little Gaddesden Charities: The aim of the charity is to aid anyone in need within the Parish of Little Gaddesden, who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress by making grants of money or providing or paying for items, services or facilities calculated to redress the need hardship of such persons. We maintain strict confidentiality in all we do, to enable those who need support to be fully confident that no one other than the Trustees will ever know of any request or grant that has been given.

For further information please contact: Reverend John Russell on 01442 214898

Community First Responders: Sarah Gall and Wendy Molloy have led a team of wonderful volunteers to support all villagers during the COVID 19 distancing/isolation measures. Our thanks go out to them. You should have received a card through your door giving details of who to contact for support. If you need to contact Wendy or Sarah you can use the numbers below.

Wendy Molloy 01442 843215 / 07771 762505

Sarah Gall 01442 842422 / 07717 068280

Various email and social media groups have already been set up to make sure everyone in our own little part of the village is cared for. Please also feel free to call Councillor Sarah Lawson should you need any assistance on 01442 842311 as she will be liaising with Wendy and Sarah on this initiative.

Sports Clubs: with thanks to the various Sports Clubs who have already implemented extremely sensible social distancing measures/closures. We look forward to these resuming at the appropriate time.

Public areas and playgrounds: Whilst we do not intend, for now, to officially close the village public areas, do please be sensible and avoid large groups of social contact where possible. We do unfortunately have to advise that both the adult and children's play equipment is out of bounds at the moment.

Staying in touch as a Community: Please do continue to (safely) contact your neighbours and see if they are OK. A phone call with a friendly word could make all the difference to someone alone and vulnerable.

We will continue to keep parishioners informed via the Notice Board, Parish Council Meeting and our website – <https://littlegaddesdenpc.org.uk/> which includes details of how to get in touch with Council members. We would encourage you to 'subscribe to our mailing list' by going to the bottom of the Home page and adding your email address. You can 'Unsubscribe' at any time but we are keen that you automatically get sent our Newsletters.

Little Gaddesden Rules! Do check out the village support information being posted on this Facebook site.

Stay safe everyone and see you on the other side!