

‘Happy to help’

Dear local residents

Many people are becoming anxious about the new coronavirus illness COVID-19. The public health measures to slow it down will impact all of us over the next weeks and months. Many people will need, or choose, to self-isolate at home. Some people will find it harder to do what they are used to doing, for all sorts of reasons.

Our congregation, along with other local residents, think a local community response will be useful, and maybe essential. We encourage you to reach out to people you know and maybe some you don't know so well to show them, in a practical and safe way, that you are happy to help, if it is needed.

On the back of this letter are some simple ‘happy to help’ cards for use during this current situation. We encourage you to fill in **YOUR contact details** and drop them through the doors of as many people as you wish. Over the next few weeks, they might appreciate help with simple errands or just someone to chat to by phone. You might also get some offers of help back.

Please don't feel there are any expectations for you to use these cards. They are intended to make contacting neighbours easier and safer for you.

Please complete as much of the contact information as you feel happy with. The ‘restrictions’ part could be used to say that you are more likely to be around in evenings, or not on a Sunday morning, are hard of hearing or are not very mobile yourself.

If you are offering help, you can, of course, say no to any request.

Please follow current NHS 111 advice and please don't put yourself at additional risk of infection. If you have any worries - or good ideas - do contact me.

We are also working with ****?**** to compile a list of useful local information and links. This is on their website ****?****. You might like to print some of it off for people who don't use the internet.

With my very best wishes,