Quidenham Parish Council

How might the Coronavirus pandemic affect our activities?

It is clear from events over the last 24 hours that health experts expect the situation to worsen over the coming weeks. Although Norfolk is free from any reported cases, restrictions aimed at slowing down the spread of the virus will almost certainly be brought in nationally.

This will inevitably restrict how we conduct our business. We must therefore consider what we can do to lessen the impact of any restrictions.

Kate and I have therefore been pondering this issue with a view to producing the following summary. Although QPC is a relatively small organization it does have ongoing obligations both direct and indirect. No doubt Breckland would provide some guidance at the appropriate time.

* If there should come a time when it proves impractical to meet, then we should consider using E-mail or other electronic means of communication. If it is formal Council business, then we must ensure that the public are not excluded from any debate. If this proves

impossible than we may simply defer the item. This will be especially true of planning items.

* Kate is happy that she will be able to carry on with the accounts side of the business, provided cheques can be signed. She will fill us in with the details when we next meet.

We are due to appoint internal auditor(s).

* QPC has an indirect interest in the Garnier Hall as it is the community center for our four villages. If restrictions were to be applied to public venues then any temporary closure however short could have a severe impact on the Garnier Halls revenue income. It is important that we consider any impact now. There may well be actions which we can take should this situation arise. However, as a first step we need to ascertain the possible impacts. A meeting of the Garnier Hall management committee is due for Tuesday 17th March. I will therefore be asking the committee to draw up a list of items, which need to be paid irrespective of whether the hall is open or not. I will ask David Hunt, as Parish Council Rep. to let Councilors know the outcome. The Council will then be in a better position to debate the issue, when they next meet.

Peter Lotarius

Chairman, Quidenham Parish Council

13/03/2020