

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TASK AND FINISH GROUP (SOCIAL ISOLATION) AT WITHAM TOWN COUNCIL HELD 17<sup>th</sup> January 2020 AT 1PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER.**

**PRESENT:- Councillors** Mrs S Ager, C Lager, Mrs M Weeks

**Staff:** Miss N Smith - Assistant Responsible Financial Officer

**Members of the public** Mrs JoAnn Williams

**1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN**

The Clerk called for nominations to serve as Chairman of the Social Isolation Task and Finish Group for the year Civic year 2019/2020.

It was **AGREED** that Councillor Mrs S Ager be elected to serve as Chairman of the Social Isolation Task and Finish Group for the Civic year 2019/2020.

The Chairman called for nominations to serve as Vice-Chairman of the Social Isolation Task and Finish Group for the Civic year 2019/2020.

It was **AGREED** that Councillor Miss M Weeks be elected to serve as Vice-Chairman of the Social Isolation Task and Finish Group for the Civic Year 2019/2020.

**2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillor Miss C Jay and Councillor R Ramage due to previous engagements.

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interests.

**4. TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Members considered the Terms of Reference and **AGREED** to adopt them in their entirety.

JoAnn Williams requested to join the Task and Finish Group and it was **AGREED** for her to be co-opted on.

**5. CLERK'S REPORT**

The Clerk reported to committee the agencies within Witham dealing with Social Isolation noting a lack of volunteers throughout them all.

**6. FIRST STEP CAN BE THE HARDEST**

Members received an article published by the U3A group. Members noted that there were groups and activities available but the issues were travel costs and encouraging people to attend for the first time.

**7. SOCIAL ISOLATION QUESTIONNAIRE**

Members discussed the results from a questionnaire on Social Isolation that was completed by members of the Royal British Legion's Ladies Section. Members **AGREED** to ask the Community Safety Task and Finish Group for the questionnaire to be given to members of the public attending the TAFG Pop Up Stall on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> January in the Newlands shopping precinct.

**8. 2020 GROUP FOCUS AND ACTION PLAN**

Members **AGREED** that the Clerk would arrange a meeting between the Task and Finish Group for Social Isolation and the Chairman of all groups in Witham that are tackling Social Isolation.

**9. SOCIAL ISOLATION OUTREACH PROGRAMME**

It was **AGREED** that Fern House Surgery would be approached about the possibility of members of the Task and Finish Group running 'Information Stalls' within the surgery where leaflets on Social Isolation could be handed to patients.

**10. FUTURE COMMITTEE WORK**

It was **AGREED** that the Clerk would concentrate on matters arising from the current meeting at this time.

**11. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

It was **AGREED** that the next meeting would be held in approximately four weeks time, date to be circulated.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 1.50pm.

NS 22.01.2020

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Councillor Mrs S Ager  
Chairman