HICovid19 digest (12 Nov 20)

We're one week into Lockdown 2, the High Street is functioning well, people appear to be behaving, but there is an upward trend. We need to be wary.

We're all epidemiologists and statisticians now so we can follow what's happening in terms of both national and local infections. The former seem to be plateauing so that's good news but the latter bounce around and that's the nature of short term trends and small populations. It's good to see the rate of infection coming down in Cambridge but today's spike in Histon & Impington is of modest concern. However we know that the infections being reported are being professionally managed and self-isolation is being practiced.

Life is much easier now than it was in the early days of Lockdown 1 because our essential retail stores have continued to operate as normal. They are doing a great job for us and face covering and social distancing guidelines are being observed. Now is probably the time to use these more and to reduce our dependency on the larger outlets elsewhere.

Many businesses are adjusting with take-away and click and collect offerings. Let's please support this enterprise because it may be the difference between survival and closure for some of them. When you're out for a walk on your daily exercise you can get excellent take-away coffee at both the Geographer and D:licious. And remember you can continue to get great take-away food at the Histon Fryer and at Number 35 (by the Rose & Crown).

Loneliness is one of the biggest adverse consequences of lockdown. It's often having nobody to chat to that's the biggest contributor so the Parish Council is nominating a number of 'happy to chat' safety benches. They're on the Green and the Rec and by the Peace Memorial. And if you're a member of a community club or society please telephone other members. It might make a big difference.

The newspapers this week are full of news about the vaccine .Firs House is ready and willing but is waiting for the official government announcement about what to do. Check <u>firshouse.com</u> for the latest information.

If anyone does need any help for any reason they should contact their street co-ordinator or call the HICOVID19 helpline on 01223 320420.