

Community Group Planning Autumn 2020

A guide for Committee Members and Key Volunteers thinking about re-starting activities

Here follows a series of questions for discussion at a committee meeting of the group or to share via email or Zoom with your committee members and the key volunteers who help regularly to run the group.

These are just suggestions, please do contact us if anything is unclear or we can help in any way.

Restarting groups Autumn 2020

- We have consulted with our committee members / key volunteers and we have established that the majority are keen and happy to re-start, following new guidelines.
- We need more volunteers and we will start a recruitment process.
- We need more volunteers, we will start a recruitment process and we will ask the local mutual aid group if they can help.
- A minority of committee members are keen to start and so this makes it impossible and we will reassess later in the year.
- A good number of committee members and volunteers are keen to start but we don't know what we need to do to keep everyone safe.
- We would like to restart but we would like advice on administration such as how to set up systems so that people book a slot in advance, as well as how to arrange payment in advance, make card payments, etc.
- No one is keen to restart at present.

Meeting Place

We have looked at our usual venue and: -

- It is not open

- It is now no longer suitable
- It places a heavier burden on the committee members / key volunteers and -
 - That will make us delay our re-start as we will need more volunteers
 - That will make us delay our re-start as we will need to buy extra equipment
 - That will make us delay our restart because _____
 - The extra measures are putting us off re-starting.
- There are new measures in place at the venue but we think we can work with them and plan a re-start.
- We could plan a re-start but we now see that numbers will have to be much reduced and we are not sure that it is viable.

Would you restart in a different venue?

Yes / No / Depends

Keeping in touch

Have you been keeping in touch over the previous months with your members via: -

- Phone call
- Door step / garden visits
- Zoom or similar video calls
- Letters or Emails
- Dropping round activities to do such as seeds to sow

Are you planning to carry any of these activities on from Sept to Christmas, particularly if you are not re-starting or if only a small group of members are hoping to return?

Any further comments / questions: -

Further advice

Is there anything that we can do to help at CVS?

For example, our Development Team could read over the information from your usual venue and help you work out what is required, going forward.

We could also help you put together a risk assessment for restarting your activity.

Using our newsletter and social media we can put a call-out for new volunteers for your group, if that is what you need.

You can also register your volunteer needs with Gaynor Atkins at Connex Community Support. <https://connex.org.uk/services/services-volunteers/latest-volunteering-opportunities/>

In addition we have a **new digital inclusion project at the CVS called Digital Connections**. The project will directly support people referred to the New Connections social prescribing service, by:

- Providing them with devices (where there is a financial need).
- Connecting them with a volunteer who can help them to get online.
- Access online groups and services in their area, to improve their health, finances and happiness.

It might be that the Digital Connections project can help your committee and your members, especially if you are thinking about running an online activity as part of your group, either instead of, or as well as meeting face to face.

Contact us on 01629 812154 or email enquiries@ddcvs.org.uk