



## New Covid-19 Initiatives

*This is your chance to tell us about any new, innovative initiatives that you and members of your Group are doing to help local residents cope with the effects of the current pandemic and lockdown.*

### Staying in Touch with the Dedicated Phone Line

**Cllr James Easter, who represents Bressingham and Burston ward on South Norfolk Council, got in touch to tell us about the success that he has had in setting up a dedicated phone number for residents to call for both information and company.**

*In our village we have opened an 0800 telephone line that is free to use for everyone to keep in touch and up-to-date with information about developments during the pandemic.*

*The line is available for 1-2 hours every day, and the best part about it is that you don't need any advanced technology to access it - all you need*

*is a phone. This means that anyone can use it, especially vulnerable and elderly residents; those who stand to benefit the most from such assistance.*

*As the District Councillor for the ward, I go on to give daily updates and local information, as well as what the Council are doing to support those residents currently in*

*isolation or those recovering from the virus.*

*The service is used by a number of residents, and we have new users coming on to use it every day.*

*It clearly works really well, and there is huge potential in rolling out this service to a wider audience. For example, one line could service*

*upwards of 10 villages, all using it for an hour a day.*

**If you have set up a new community group or initiative to help residents during the current pandemic, please get in touch at [cca@conservatives.com](mailto:cca@conservatives.com) to let us know!**