

Notification of change to the services provided by Great Massingham Area Community Car Scheme – with immediate effect – 17th March 2020

The committee of the Community Car Scheme met on 17th March 2020 to discuss the implications of Covid-19 and to plan accordingly. We regret having to make these decisions, which will be kept under review, but believe we would have been negligent had we not done so.

In doing this we considered: The information currently available to us regarding Covid-19; the ages of our volunteer drivers, with particular reference to those 70 yrs and older. Of those remaining drivers, a number had contacted us to advise that due to their or their family circumstances, they did not feel able to drive passengers in this crisis, or they did not wish to drive to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, King's Lynn (which is reported to currently have three cases of Covid-19).

Our decisions, which were unanimous from those present; comprising six of a total of seven committee members including both joint Chairmen and the Treasurer. The seventh committee member decided not to attend. We liaised in two telephone calls with the Practice Manager of the joint medical practice of Docking and Great Massingham.

1. Medical trips: We will only transport passengers for medical reasons if it is deemed necessary by the hospital or the GP practice.
2. Hairdresser appointments: We will not transport passengers to these appointments.
3. Shopping trips: We will not transport passengers on shopping trips. Should some drivers who are traditionally contacted direct by the passenger or have a long standing arrangement with a passenger decide to continue transporting the passenger this will not form part of the arrangement with the Community Car Scheme and drivers considering this as a possibility are advised to discuss the matter with their insurance company as they will be acting independently of the Car Scheme.
4. Cleaning and disinfecting the car after use: Drivers should take appropriate precautions and clean after use. See this article for detailed information: <https://www.edmunds.com/car-safety/how-to-reduce-the-risk-of-the-coronavirus-in-your-vehicle.html>

This document has been placed on our website and distributed to: Parish and County Councils in the areas served by the Scheme, Docking and Great Massingham Surgeries, Car Scheme drivers, office staff and others who have donated to the Scheme. When the current situation improves, we hope to resume our previous range of services.

Great Massingham Area Community Car Scheme, Village Hall, Great Massingham, King's Lynn PE32 1NR
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17th March 2020