## **Kesgrave Emergency Support Group**

## **Report for ATM 2022**

The Kesgrave Emergency Support Group remained in place for 2021 and has continued into 2022 to offer support if needed, as the country began to navigate it was out of covid restrictions and back to a more normal, familiar way of life.

The group has remained a point of contact for over 70 residents', offering information, sign posting and support for not only covid related matters but with general issues too.

The Town Council recognised in the summer that there was a real need to provide a way for our older residents to meet up in a safe and comfortable setting, for them to gain confidence in socialising and interacting again after what for many, had been over a year of being alone in their homes.

The Afternoon Tea Parties were born! with the first one taking place at the Millennium Jubilee Hall in August 2021. The Tea Party was a success and was followed by the Town Council's annual trip to Felixstowe for fish & chips, bingo and a walk along the prom in October, with over 30 resident's attending.

The Town Council decided to hold a Christmas Afternoon Tea Party in December, which was a great success, with everyone enjoying sandwiches, cakes and lots of tea! Along with games and dancing. Father Christmas made a special visit with a gift for all, and he even ventured out onto the dance floor!

Christmas Cards were again sent to all on our support list with a note confirming that the Town Council will remain a point of contact for them, with a note of our emergency telephone number for over the Christmas period.

The Afternoon Tea Parties are continuing into 2022 and the first one for Easter, which takes place on 13 April has sold out!

The Town Council will be writing to all of our residents on the support list shortly, confirming whilst we are no longer under any covid restrictions and for most life has returned to normal, we will continue to provide information and support, should they require.

The group would love for the Emergency Support to become a 'Good Neighbourhood Scheme', however this will heavily rely on having a group of regular volunteers for this to be viable. If you would be interested in volunteering a few hours a month, then please contact the Town Clerk on 01473 625179 or townclerk@kesgravetowncouncil.org.uk