**Claverley Coronavirus Support Network**

**Important Advice on Scams**

There are signs that the current coronavirus pandemic has led to several scams and unscrupulous practices and we can expect to see more. We would advise taking the following precautions to protect yourself:

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| PROBLEM | HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF |
| You may receive calls, letter, emails,  texts or social media messages  regarding claims of rebates, grants  and other benefits. These may look  official andhelpful but will often be  bogus. | If it seems too good to be true, it  probably is! To check validity, you can  access Citizens Advice by copying the  link below into your browser – if you don’t have internet, get someone to check it  out before you act.  [www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/)  scams/check-if-something-might-be-  a-scam/ |
| Distraction burglars posing as health-  care workers have been using the  virus to enter peoples homes to steal. | Do not let anyone into your home  unless you are expecting them. Refuse  them entry and call 999 straight away. |
| There have been some bogus  *Good Samaritans* offering to fetch  shopping for older people but taking  their money and never coming  back | Do not accept offers from strangers.  Only accept help from a trusted friend  or neighbour or if one of the local  Coronavirus Support Network team  (named on the first leaflet you  received) has been in touch to  organise a visit. |
| Rogue Traders have been visiting  people offering to do roofing,  gardening, driveways and the like. | Don’t get involved – you are almost  certain to regret it. Simply say no. |
| Some online marketplaces selling  items such as face masks and hand  sanitisers are taking money but not delivering the items. | Only shop online with retailers you  know and recognise. |

Carers, neighbours and family, please bear this in mind for anyone you are keeping an eye on. If you have any concerns or wish to report anything suspicious, call Citizens Advice Consumer Service on 0808 223 1133