**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:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  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 fetchshopping for older people but taking their money and never comingback | Do not accept offers from strangers.Only accept help from a trusted friendor neighbour or if one of the localCoronavirus 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 sellingitems such as face masks and handsanitisers are taking money but not delivering the items. | Only shop online with retailers youknow 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