



Manor Park and Hempstead Fields Residents' Association



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Good Neighbour Scheme – is it needed, will it work?

The Manor Park and Hempstead Fields Residents' Association is working with Action in Rural Sussex and the Uckfield Volunteer Centre to develop a Good Neighbour Scheme for the residents of Manor Park and Hempstead Fields.

Paul Sparks, Chairman of the Residents' Association explained: 'A Good Neighbour Scheme is a voluntary group run by local residents who recognise the value in having 'good neighbours', particularly where public transport and other local services can be limited and where people's family may not live close by. Each volunteer decides what sort of help they are able to offer, how much and when. Volunteers would not undertake jobs best left to qualified professionals but help with things like form filling, collecting prescriptions, befriending or shopping.

All volunteers would be fully insured and DBS checked for extra peace of mind.

Anyone who wants a bit of extra help would simply ring the group's phone number and a volunteer phone-handler, would then match the request for assistance with an available volunteer'.

The Association's Spring Newsletter includes a survey form listing some of the services that a scheme might be able to offer and asks respondents to tick either the services that they might use or where they themselves might be able to help'

More information and a survey form can also be obtained from the Association's Secretary, Peter Griggs by emailing mphfres@gmail.com or by phoning Paul Sparks on **01825 764287**.

For those that would find it easier to complete the survey on-line it can be found at:

www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/MPHFGNS1

The replies will help the Association to decide whether a scheme is needed and whether it would work. Personal details will not be shared with anyone else.

Peter Griggs, Secretary

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