

POYNINGS PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council
Mr Colin Warburton

Minutes of the Virtual meeting of Poynings Parish Council using Zoom on
Wednesday January 6th, 2021 at 7.00pm

Present: John Digby
Neville Searle
Michael Crowther
Paula Seager

Colin Warburton - Clerk to the Council
Joy Dennis - County Councillor
Colin Trumble - District Councillor
Allison Bennett - District Councillor
Rodney Jackson - District Councillor

9 members of the public attended

1. **Apologies**

None

2. **Volunteer to run the meeting in the absence of a chair**

As the previous chair has left the village and resigned, the PC does not currently have a chair. The Clerk asked if one of the councillors would run the meeting. John Digby volunteered, and this was accepted unanimously.

3. **Minutes**

The Minutes of the previous meeting, as circulated, were agreed.

4. **Matters Arising**

After reading the Code of Conduct, JD reminded the council and residents that in the public participation section, (if included) members of the public can speak for 2 minutes if they wish to ask a question and the meeting should only last 1.5 hours with a maximum of 2 hours. Also, under GDPR rules it is illegal to record the meeting.

JD suggested that a message is put on the community group and village email that the Parish Council will help anyone who needs it during the current Covid lockdown. This was agreed, the clerk to organise. The PC will help and facilitate and will work with the village volunteer group. Do not hesitate in coming forward if you need help or know someone who does.

The clerk reported that the application to have Fibre to the Premises (FTTP) installed has been submitted and there would be no cost to the residents, due to 2 grants. If successful it could take up to a year for the process to complete. This should give up to 1 Gbyte download speed.

5. **MSDC**

Colin Trumble

Peter Stuart (head of finance) Has obtained a £28m grant. Recently £2m has been spent on Covid, making a total of £30m spent so far.

7 people have died of Covid in the last 7 days in Mid Sussex, the situation in East Grinstead

is as bad as Kent.

The government have agreed that the planning changes suggested are not going ahead and the previous rules apply.

The SDNP has a Zoom meeting with MSDC and representatives of the four Downland parishes on Friday, hosted by Gary Marsh, concerning the communications between the SDNP planning department and local parishes.

Rodney Jackson

MSDC leisure centres are closed but outside facilities will remain open.

Allison Burnett

Confirm other councillor comments. JD asked what help could the PC do to help 90+ year olds in the village who haven't been contacted about their vaccination yet. AB advised the parish council not to ring the surgery as it will put more strain on the NHS, the parishioners will be contacted when it is their turn. Joy D agreed with this.

WSCC

Joy Dennis

She has sent out her report to the councillors prior to the meeting and this will be attached to the minutes.

WSCC is under a lot of pressure at the moment due to Covid which may be declared a major incident. The public must follow the rules as the virus is spreading quite quickly through the area.

6. Public Participation

The following questions were asked by members of the public:

What is happening about the sewage leak on the Dyke. JD advised that this will be covered under item 13.

What is the point of Fridays meeting with the SDNP?

CT advised that Fulking, Poynings, Newtimber and Pyecombe have had issues in the past with the way the SDNPA consults the Downland villages and makes its decisions. It was felt that it would be useful to open up a dialogue so that better lines of communication are observed.

7. Expenditure for Oct 2020 and Nov 2020

The following amounts have been paid for Oct 2020 and Nov 2020

Date	Payee	Amount
30/11/20	SLCC - Annual Subscription	£112.00
30/11/20	C Warburton - Annual Domain fee	£10.00
30/11/20	M Brennan - Cemetery grass cutting etc	£180.00
30/11/20	Clerk wages - Sept - Oct 2020	£756.34
30/11/20	AA Taylor - Finger post - insurance	£3,344.40
30/11/20	HMRC	£77.00
30/11/20	Landbuild - Cattery drainage - Operation Watershed	£2,930.69
	TOTAL	£7,410.43

Receipts for Oct 2020 and Nov 2020

Date	Payee	Amount
03/09/20	Zurich ins claim - finger post	£2,537.00
	TOTAL	£2,537.00

This was unanimously agreed

8. Planning Applications

Southdown View. The Street. Poynings. BN45 7AQ

Notification of intention to prune overall by 2 m on 1 no Beech Tree. Passed

9. Co-opting new councillor

The clerk advised that this can't be done until the existing notice has expired. The vacancy notice will expire 14 working days from publication, which will be 5pm on the 13th January 2021. To advertise after the 13th January.

If there is one applicant, and the council feels they are suitable, they can be co-opted at the next meeting. If there is more than one, then they have to be interviewed using the same questions for each and a logical reason arrived as to why one is more suitable.

10. Zoom

The clerk asked if the council felt the need to purchase a Zoom licence for about £130pa, as the PC cannot use the previous chairs licence anymore. The council were advised that they are able to use the Churches licence or there is access to another one, which is being used for this meeting. It was agreed that buying a licence is not the best use of PC funds.

11. Roundabout finger post

The Clerk informed the Council that the replacement post at the roundabout has been repaired after the accident (insurance claim) and is waiting for WSCC volunteers to install it (that could be a while due to Covid)

12. Budget for 2021 - 2022

The budget, which had been duly circulated by the clerk, was agreed.

13. Devils Dyke Sewage outlet

PS advised the council that there is still a smell from the sewage leak in the summer (from the drainage cover coming off). The sewage that was not cleared up has now moved down the hill to the end of Dyke Lane and is by the footpath and a health hazard. CT said he would put give the clerks Scott Wakely - MSDC's Drainage Engineering details to look into it and give advice. It was agreed that the clerk will then contact the Devils Dyke pub asking how they propose to stop this happening in the future. Joy D advised copying in MSDC environmental dept, The National Trust and Brighton Council (who own the property).

14. Ash Dieback

At a previous meeting, a resident asked if a map could be drawn up showing the trees in the village that have Ash Die back (via a letter drop). The clerk advised the council that he has spoken to the National Trust and forestry commission and they can't see the benefit of it. They do ask for instances in areas thought to be free of Ash Die back. Poynings is known to be an Ash die back area, and as it travels on the wind, they can't see it would help. The council decided it could not see the benefit of carrying out the survey.

Joy D advised that WSCC have started a survey in West Sussex to identify trees next to the road that could be a hazard. If identified, and on highways land, they will rectify and if on private land will contact the owner of the land.

15. Speed indicator device

The clerk advised the devices that monitor traffic cannot be in the same location for any length of time so have to be rotated to various locations. Other Parish councils have found them useful, but Poynings does not have any suitable permanent posts in the correct positions. One of the most dangerous spots is from the church to the school, and Highways do not own any of the verge there. Another spot/post opposite the playing field is also temporary. Due to Covid it was decided to postpone any decisions. The possibility of "Gates" was also re-visited, however, Highways have said that we can't put them in one place by the playing field where they would be most useful. Joy D to speak to highways to see why

they cannot go there. The council were not convinced that gates are the best way to reduce the speed in the village and felt that it creates too much clutter. The councillors agreed that for the time being this will be put on hold. The Clerk suggest that it may be possible to reduce the speed limit from 30 mph to 20 mph and Joy D said she would support this application which could take about a year to get a decision.

It was agreed that the Clerk should go ahead with this.

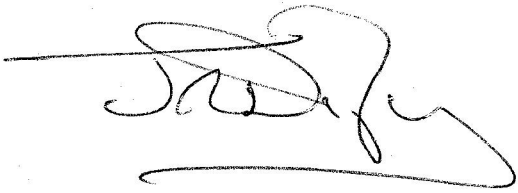
16. Items for next month's Agenda

JD - Passing lane from Oak to Garage. Clearing of the stream.

17. Dates of next meeting

Wednesday 3rd March

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.20pm

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Joy D', with a long horizontal line extending to the left.

3/3/21

Joy Dennis WSCC - Parish Update 6th January 2021

Headlines

The Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, announced a third national lockdown for England at a press conference held at 8.00pm on Monday 4th January. The Prime Minister maintained that the tier system would have continued to be effective were it not for the new variant of the virus which is between 50 and 70 per cent more transmissible.

The Prime Minister linked the future lifting of the lockdown with the progress of the vaccination programme in vaccinating the four top priority groups identified by the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation. This would mean vaccinating residents in a care home for older adults and their carers, everyone over the age of 70, all frontline health and social care workers, and everyone who is clinically extremely vulnerable which Government is aiming to achieve in mid-February. The Prime Minister stressed the time lag of two to three weeks from getting a jab to receiving immunity and the need to remain cautious about the timetable of lifting the lockdown measures.

The Prime Minister also announced that summer exams will not go ahead this year and that the Education Secretary, Gavin Williamson, will work with Ofqual to put in place alternative arrangements.

The announcement follows a joint statement from the UK Chief Medical Officers (CMOs) recommending that the UK Covid-19 alert level move from level 4 to level 5. This change comes due to them not being "confident that the NHS can handle a further sustained rise in cases and without further action there is a material risk of the NHS in several areas being overwhelmed over the next 21 days".

The Chancellor, Rishi Sunak, announced yesterday morning (Tuesday 5th January) a £4.6bn fresh financial support package for businesses struggling due to the new lockdown measures. Businesses in the retail, hospitality and leisure sectors are to receive a one-off grant worth up to £9,000 per property to help businesses through to the Spring. A £594 million discretionary fund is also being made available to support other impacted businesses. Within West Sussex this fund will be distributed by local district and borough councils.

During the lockdown people must not leave, or be outside of their home except where necessary.

People may leave their homes to:

- shop for basic necessities, for themselves or a vulnerable person
- go to work, or provide voluntary or charitable services, if they cannot reasonably do so from home
- exercise with their household (or support bubble) or one other person, this should be limited to once per day, and should not travel outside their local area
- meet their support bubble or childcare bubble where necessary, but only if they are legally permitted to form one
- seek medical assistance or avoid injury, illness or risk of harm (including domestic abuse)
- attend education or childcare - for those eligible

If someone is clinically extremely vulnerable, they are advised to begin shielding and should only go out for medical appointments, exercise, or if it is essential, and should not attend the workplace but rather work from home if possible. A letter from the Government providing further guidance will be sent to extremely vulnerable people.

Colleges, primary and secondary schools will remain open only for vulnerable children and the children of critical workers. All other children will learn remotely until February half term. Early Years settings remain open.

Higher Education provision will remain online until mid-February for all except future critical worker courses.

If people do leave home for a permitted reason, they should always stay local in the village, town, or part of the city where they live. People may leave their local area for a legally permitted reason, such as for work.

People cannot meet socially with anyone they do not live with or are not in a support bubble with (if they are legally permitted to form one).

The majority of public services will continue to operate and people will be able to leave home to visit them including NHS and medical services like GPs and dentists as well as waste or recycling centres.

Recorded Cases

The **seven-day** incidence rate is the number of cases per 100,000 population and varies in the county. In the period 24th December to 30th December:

- The overall West Sussex seven-day incidence rate over this period was 555.2 per 100,000 population. This is higher than the England 7-day incidence rate for this period (518.5 per 100,000 population)
- Only Chichester and Horsham have incidence rates lower than that of England. Arun and Crawley have 7 day incidence rates higher than that of the South East. The South East rate (617.7 per 100,000 population) is now the third highest regional rate in the country after London (950.7 per 100,000) and the East of England (707.1 per 100,000 population).
- **Overall 60+ Rate per 100,000** - The overall 60+ years rate for West Sussex is 308.1 per 100,000 population aged 60+, compared with 407.3 in the South East, and 339.2 in England. Within West Sussex, Crawley has the highest 60+ incidence rate; at 541.6 per 100,00 this is higher than both the South East and England.

Incidence Rate 24th December to 30th December

Area	Number of cases in 7-day period	7-day rate per 100,000 population (all ages)	7-day rate of cases (per 100,000 population) for people aged 60 years or over
Adur	345	536.5	300.9
Arun	1019	633.9	383.9
Chichester	461	380.6	235.0
Crawley	906	806.0	541.6
Horsham	663	461.1	257.8
Mid Sussex	785	519.8	251.6
Worthing	618	558.9	254.3
West Sussex	4797	555.2	308.1
South East	55044	617.7	407.3
England	291867	518.5	339.2

Age Groups

Of the people testing positive, young adults (aged 20 to 29 years) had the highest age-specific incidence rate. Children aged 0-9 years had the lowest rate.

Age-Specific Incidence Rates per 100,000 (24th December to 30th December)

Age group	Number of cases	<u>7 day</u> rate per 100,000 population
0-9	211	214.3
10-19	425	454.0
20-29	953	1153.3
30-39	874	863.8
40-49	827	737.6
50-59	731	588.8
60-69	368	359.1
70-79	226	248.9
80+	182	310.9

Covid-19 vaccination programme update

Work continues at pace to roll out the vaccination programme across Sussex that had commenced with the first vaccines being delivered from the 9th December 2020 from the Royal Sussex Hospital.

Since then two more hospital hubs (The Conquest Hospital in Hastings, East Sussex, and Worthing Hospital in West Sussex) are now delivering vaccinations to existing patients of these hospitals aged over 80 years old, and health and care staff.

St Richard's Hospital in Chichester, Eastbourne District General Hospital and the Princess Royal Hospital in Haywards Heath, were planning to commence delivery this week.

The GP-led vaccination services also continue to expand, with 15 sites now completing their first round of vaccinations. A further eight sites will join these from next week, subject to final approval.

This week, Sussex Primary Care Networks (PCNs) and GPs have started vaccinating residents and staff in care homes, with the first eight care homes now vaccinated across Sussex.

We plan to ensure there is equitable delivery of vaccines across the area to ensure all those eligible to receive the vaccine can get to a local site easily.

People will be invited to receive their vaccine from the local NHS provider.

We welcomed last Thursday's news that the UK regulators have approved the vaccine developed by the University of Oxford and manufactured by AstraZeneca. This will be another significant boost to our Covid-19 vaccination programme. As further guidance is issued, we're working through how we will be delivering it to people across Sussex. This will not delay vaccinations already planned and the sites due to go live next week will continue with the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine.

Importantly, there has been new guidance issued which changes when the second dose of the vaccine should be delivered – changing the second appointment from 21 days to within 12 weeks. This will be important to share with the public and patients and your help with this would be appreciated.

The roll out of the Covid-19 vaccination programme continues to be an incredible effort from our Trusts, member practices and from teams across the CCGs, showing true partnership working at its best.

The Sussex Health and Care Partnership continue to publish all of the latest information on the vaccine on their website including a [public FAQ](#).

Shielded and Community Hub

The Community Hub remains in operation providing support seven days a week from 8am to 8pm and was fully operational throughout the Christmas period providing support to residents of West Sussex. It can be reached by calling 033 022 27980.

The Local Tracing Partnership Team within the Community Hub are working hard to contact residents who have tested positive for Covid-19.

The Community Hub has recently contacted all of our Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV) residents and has sent **14,330** emails and posted **19,222** letters to residents without an email address.

Libraries, Record Office & Ceremonies

Libraries will continue to offer the 'select and collect' service, which people can do via telephone, email or online. They will still be offering an essential delivery service too. Unfortunately, the library will not be able to offer the use of computers in the library which is a temporary suspension of this service during lockdown. It has really been emphasised about the benefit of borrowing books, for both helping with home learning and for mental health during these difficult times.

The Ceremonies Team is cancelling the ceremonies which were scheduled to take place in January and are currently awaiting legislation and guidance before cancelling those scheduled for February. Appointments for giving notice are now only being booked for those with a ceremony which is due to take place straight after the end of the intended lockdown period.

Due to the national lockdown, birth registration appointments are temporarily unavailable. This will be reviewed in line with any updates to government guidance. Before registering the birth, new parents can make a claim for Child Benefit or Universal Credit. We will continue to provide emergency birth appointments for exceptional cases where a birth certificate is required urgently.

Care homes & Hospital Capacity

Care homes

There are 235 care homes for older people in West Sussex. The care homes provide around 8,608 beds. A third of these are commissioned by the County Council with the remainder commissioned through other local authorities, health or funded directly by residents.

The number of older people's care homes with a confirmed case of COVID-19 is 43 (staff and/or resident). Learning disability and mental health services have 8 services with confirmed cases.

Local data on care homes reports admissions are currently restricted in:

- 48 care homes for older people and
- 12 care homes for mental health/learning disability

The Council, working with Public Health and the Clinical Commissioning Group, continues to provide daily support for care services with confirmed outbreaks or identified cases of Covid-19.

As the whole of England is now in a national lockdown the visiting guidance for care homes remains as before. Visits to care homes can take place with arrangements such as substantial screens, visiting pods, or behind windows. Close-contact indoor visits are not allowed. No visits will be permitted in the event of an outbreak. Further information can be found on the [GOV.UK website](#).

Regular testing is being undertaken across staff and residents in residential care and supported living and domiciliary care workers have now started to be tested.

Care homes have been provided with lateral flow tests for use with family members and visitors, but guidance is as above even with testing.

There is a programme of vaccination through both GP practices and hospital hubs. Care home staff are being invited to the hospital hubs in a planned way.

Hospital capacity

At the present time there is pressure on the acute hospital and community bed capacity in West Sussex due to increasing numbers of people requiring treatment for Covid-19. The Council is working with the hospitals to support timely discharge pathways.

Update from NHS - GPs in Sussex begin offering COVID-19 vaccine

Today GP-led vaccination services in the community began vaccinating patients against coronavirus.

This is the latest stage of the roll out following the launch of the vaccination programme in hospital hubs last Tuesday 8th December.

Eight local vaccination services went live yesterday and today in the first phase of GP-led services for our local population.

Each vaccination service is being supported by one or several GP practices, with their teams working collectively to vaccinate patients at these sites. A full list is below.

At the vaccination services, nurses, paramedics, pharmacists and other NHS staff will work alongside GPs to vaccinate those aged 80 and over, as well as care home workers and residents, identified as priority groups for the life-saving vaccine.

Today's milestone marks significant work from GP practice teams across Sussex to work rapidly over the last weeks to plan for the vaccination programme, redesign their sites and put in place safe processes to meet the tough logistical challenges of offering the vaccination.

The sites that go live today are the first across Sussex, but more will launch over the coming weeks with more GP practices contacting patients to invite them in for their vaccinations.

People are asked not to contact their GP surgery so that their practice team can focus on arranging the vaccinations and provide day-to-day services for all of their registered patients. You will be contacted when it is your turn to receive the vaccine.

We are now asking the public to do three things to help as we roll out vaccinations:

1. The NHS will contact you when it's your turn, so please be patient until then.
2. Please act on your invite when it comes, and make sure you attend your appointments.
3. Remember Hands, Face, Space. It will save lives and help the NHS.

Libraries, Record Office and Ceremonies

Libraries continue to offer services to customers and are trialling a number of very limited Covid-secure story times in five libraries before Christmas as there has been a lot of demand from young and new families with 'lockdown babies' who are desperate for some social activity with their children.

The Record Office and Ceremonies teams continue as they have during the past two weeks and will continue to do so until further Government guidelines are announced.

Care homes & Hospital Capacity

Care homes

There are 235 care homes for older people in West Sussex. The care homes provide around 8,608 beds. A third of these are commissioned by the County Council with the remainder commissioned through other local authorities, health or funded directly by residents.

The number of older people's care homes with a confirmed case of COVID-19 is 13 (staff and/or resident). Learning disability and mental health services have 4 services with confirmed cases.

Local data on care homes reports admissions are currently restricted in:

- 19 care homes for older people,
- 1 extra care setting,
- 9 care homes for mental health/learning disability,
- 1 domiciliary care providers, and
- 2 supported living settings.

The Council, working with Public Health and the Clinical Commissioning Group, continues to provide daily support for care services with confirmed outbreaks or identified cases of COVID-19.

New national guidance regarding visiting in care homes was published on the 2nd December 2020. This guidance sets out expectations on how safe visits into care homes may be facilitated, dependent on the 'tier' a care home's host local authority is in and the availability of lateral flow tests.

This is now week three of the Department for Health & Social Care's roll out of lateral flow tests to care homes, for visitors. Care homes are using the tests to facilitate visits; however they are concerned about the reliability of the tests. Last week the West Sussex Director of Public Health, Dr Tony Hill, issued a message to providers sharing that he has strong reservations about lateral flow tests. In particular, the high levels of false negatives which could falsely reassure someone that they do not have COVID-19 when they actually do. The message reminded care providers that visitors should continue to social distance and wear appropriate PPE.

Last week saw the introduction of the vaccination for coronavirus. A number of care homes across West Sussex have been invited to submit details of staff to be vaccinated at hospitals in Sussex and Surrey (dependent on the location of the home). This is an offer that care homes welcome.

Hospital capacity

At the present time there is adequate acute hospital and community bed capacity in West Sussex and preparations are underway for anticipated winter demands on the system.

Preparations are also underway to commence the vaccination programme in West Sussex hospitals.

West Sussex Covid Community Hub

We continue to promote the West Sussex Covid Community Hub, where people and families in need of help can get in touch seven days a week if they are in need, by calling 033 022 27980.

Education Update

Numbers of Children in our schools continues to be high and above the national average.

Other

The county's Household Waste Recycling Sites (HWRS) remain open but in order to keep safe people should avoid travel to the sites unless waste cannot be safely stored or put out for normal kerbside collection.

This month: -

Just an indication of some of what I have been involved in the last four weeks in November/December and this week: -

- Chaired Performance and Finance Scrutiny Committee – item reviewed included the indicative budget and the reset plans.
- Attended cabinet meetings as Chair of Performance and Finance
- Attending as a governor the Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust Governors meeting. SCNHS FT are leading the delivery of the immunisation programme in West Sussex
- A2300 ongoing updates
- Rampion 2 briefing
- Burgess Hill / northern Arc steering committee
- Next meeting of policy group re Cycling and walking strategy in West Sussex to agreed recommendations of the use of Tranche 2 funding from Government.
- Local residents' issues
- Attended various Finance/budget meetings
- Parish meetings
- Other WSCC meetings
 - Audit Committee – Agreed 19/20 final WSCC and WSCC Pension Accounts and Agreed Internal Audit Programme
 - Pensions committee – agreed New Fund manager for non active funds
 - Treasury Committee
 - Full County meetings

Joy Dennis WSCC Hurstpierpoint and Bolney

Fyi – previous figures to compare numbers of Covid Cases

	21st September to 4th October	22nd September to 5th October	23rd September to 6th October	24th September to 7th October	25th September to 8th October	26th September to 9th October	27th September to 10th October
West Sussex	473	506	525	567	609	622	644
	28th September to 11th October	29th September to 12th October	30th September to 13th October	1st <u>October</u> to 14th October	2nd <u>October</u> to 15th October	3rd <u>October</u> to 16th October	4th <u>October</u> to 17th October
West Sussex	658	666	687	724	748	768	752

	5th October to 18th October	6th October to 19th October	7th October to 20th October	8th October to 21st October	9th October to 22nd October	10th October to 23rd October	11th October to 24th October
West Sussex	705	765	802	843	885	940	1,005
	12th October to 25th October	13th October to 25th October	14th October to 26th October	15th October to 27th October	16th October to 28th October	17th October to 30th October	18th October to 31st October
West Sussex	1,074	1,173	1,225	1,302	1,311	1,362	1,428

District	New cases in the 7 day period - 12th November to 18th November 2020	7 day incidence rate per 100,000 population
Adur	63	98.0
Arun	189	117.6
Chichester	158	130.4
Crawley	129	114.8
Horsham	161	112.0
Mid Sussex	239	158.3
Worthing	93	84.1
West Sussex	1032	119.4

Area	Cases in the 7 Days between 26 th November to 2 nd December	Rate per 100,000
Adur	23	35.8
Arun	103	64.1
Chichester	55	45.4
Crawley	47	41.8
Horsham	88	61.2
Mid Sussex	151	100.0
Worthing	28	25.3
West Sussex	495	57.3

Incidence Rate 3rd December to 9th December

Area	Number of cases in 7-day period	7-day rate per 100,000 population (all ages)	7-day rate of cases (per 100,000 population) for people aged 60 years or over
Adur	37	57.5	5.3
Arun	144	89.6	82.4
Chichester	91	75.1	48.0
Crawley	115	102.3	71.3
Horsham	144	100.1	47.7
Mid Sussex	148	98.0	62.9
Worthing	65	58.8	31.8
West Sussex	744	86.1	54.8
South East	17,478	196.1	122.7
England	97,524	173.3	121.8

Age Groups

Of the people testing positive adults (aged 40 to 49 years) had the highest age-specific incidence rate. Adults aged 70-79 years had the lowest rate.

Age-Specific Incidence Rates per 100,000 (3rd December to 9th December)

Age	Rate per 100,000 Population
0-9 years	55.9
10-19 years	89.7
20-29 years	117.4
30-39 years	113.7
40-49 years	134.7
50-59 years	85.4
60-69 years	50.7
70-79 years	27.5
80 and over	104.2