

COPYTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY MAY 12TH 2020

Item 4. County and District Councillors Reports

County Cllr. Edwards Heron

No report received

District Cllr. Diane Andrews

As you are aware much change has been driven by the present situation. I intend to only report on the main issues effecting the community and the council itself.

I have had daily briefings which are now down to twice a week (which is a good sign!)

The cabinet meeting went ahead on 6th May via Skype and be shared to You Tube. This will be a comprehensive meeting with much information, below are more facts relating to the departments that come under my portfolio.

NFDCs Local Response Centre (LRC) was established on 31 March 2020 in support of the Hampshire Coronavirus Helpline, Hants help4vulnerable, to provide help to the most vulnerable including those under the Government shielding measures who currently have no family or friends to support them.

The LRC consists of a team of about 15 Council employees from various departments who receive, process and action referrals from the County Council helpline. Referrals relating to people who are under the Government's Shielding Measures are dealt with by the Council direct, with others being referred on to the voluntary sector via Community First. Community First has proved invaluable at this time with their ready supply of DBS volunteers.

In addition a food hub has been set up at Applemore Health & Leisure Centre to receive food supplies and box up into food parcels for delivery for those on the shielding list, who haven't yet received their Government food parcel or to those for which the Government food parcel isn't appropriate, due to dietary requirements or other needs.

In the first two weeks 336 referrals were received, this number is now up to 806 New Forest is receiving more referrals than any of the other District or Borough Councils. 446 food deliveries have been made from the Food Hub up to 05/05/20 To date, more than 88 households have been identified as needing ongoing support through weekly food deliveries. These numbers have been rising.

NFDC has been allocated funding to support Shielding Hub and Foodbanks of £25,000.

As for the council itself, all Information Offices are closed, customer services are working from home.

CCTV is operating as normal, with redeployed staff from Leisure Services and Electoral Services providing resilience.

Carelines are operating as normal, though we are not accepting new installations at this time.

Community Safety Team are operating as normal, with enhanced daily liaison with the Police.

I was delighted to see the speed with which many parishes were able to offer local support and were able to identify those who made need help. This varied from shopping, picking up prescriptions and/or just keeping in contact so that those in isolation did not feel alone.

The last time I left the house, other than for exercise was 16th March, I have been working from home and been in contact with my ward parishes. We are waiting for future government announcements and are already preparing for how we will ease back into what is now being called the "new normal".

I wish you all well and trust you are enjoying this wonderful Spring weather, if not your freedom.

It is, I think a small price to pay to keep you and your family safe. As always please contact me if I can be of help.

District Cllr. Derek Tipp

I have nothing to report other than that the NFDC Cabinet has met via Skype and that the details of the meeting are on the Council's website. Here is a link:

<http://www.newforest.gov.uk/article/19450/Review-of-Coronavirus-actions-Cabinet-members-May-2020>

Best wishes to everyone and hope to see you all again soon.

District Cllr. Joe Reilly

No reports received