

South Cambridgeshire District Council – Harston & Comberton Ward

Report to Haslingfield Parish Council April 2020

Coronavirus Pages in South Cambs

All the relevant Covid-19 advice is contained here:

<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/your-council-and-democracy/parish-councils/coronavirus-advice-for-communities/>

Information about the county and district/city hub contacts

Contact details are attached in this link: [Covid-19 Co-ordination Hubs info and contacts.pdf](#)

Virtual meetings

Local authorities, including county councils, district councils and parish councils, have been waiting for emergency legislation which would allow us to have council meetings without councillors being physically present in the room. The Coronavirus Act was passed by Parliament last month and it contained section 78, which dealt with the issue of local authority meetings. The Secretary of State later published regulations setting out the detail, which came into force on Saturday 4th April.

The regulations give local authorities greater flexibility in the conduct of meetings, including allowing members to attend remotely, and for public and press access to those meetings. This means that meetings of councils and their sub-committees can now legally take place online, be considered quorate and include votes on decisions where previously these could only take place physically in person.

Bins

The decision was taken to stop green bin collections for now because a third of staff in the Shared Waste Service were ill or self-isolating. This meant it was no longer possible to carry on with all the usual bin collections – and black bin collections are a statutory duty.

SCDC also advised residents that there will be changes to bin collection days due to the Easter and Early May Bank Holidays. In terms of changes to bin days, we will just catch up from Easter, then collection days will be later again due to the Early May Bank Holiday.

Virtual Parish Liaison Meeting

Parishes across the district are invited to a virtual Parish Liaison Meeting to be held online on Wednesday 15th April at 7pm. Parish council representatives will be briefed by Councillor Bridget Smith, Leader of South Cambs District Council, on the Council's response to the Covid-19 crisis and its work with parishes and communities. Parish councils are asked to nominate one representative of the parish to participate and to send their name and email address to democratic.services@scambs.gov.uk – together with any questions you would like to ask in the Q&A session – by Friday 10th April.

Business Support

Supporting local businesses – guidance for parish councils and community groups

As part of the Council's Covid-19 response, we are trying to urgently support businesses in the district who are struggling during this difficult period. We do not have a single database for all businesses in the district, as not all businesses are registered for business rates. To help us get a list together as quickly as possible, could you help by sharing with us any mailing lists or databases you have on this including:

- Sole traders
- Home based businesses
- Community enterprises and charities including CICs

We want to ensure that we can put in place, as quickly as possible, appropriate support to help businesses through the next few months, and fill the gaps around the central government support offer where we can. We will be proactively contacting businesses to find out what they need, so any help you can give in providing details for our emerging database would be very helpful.

Please could you send any lists to our colleagues at the Greater Cambridge Partnership who are helping us with this work via greatercambridge.business@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Please also use whatever communications channels you have (social media, websites, etc.) to spread the word about this appeal, and encourage any businesses of these types to flag themselves to us by emailing greatercambridge.business@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Additionally, information for businesses is being updated frequently on the Coronavirus section of our website at www.scams.gov.uk/business/coronavirus-information-for-businesses

Changes to bus services across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough

As Government social distancing during the Covid-19 outbreak continues, a number of bus companies across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough have announced changes to their timetables.

Further temporary changes to Stagecoach bus timetables have been introduced in Cambridge and Peterborough from Sunday 5th April. Critical routes will be maintained wherever possible. Visit the Stagecoach [website](#)

In Cambridge, there are changes to the following services: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 13A, 13B, 13X, 16A, 18, 19, 25, H, X8 and 39.

Cllr Philip Allen Cllr.Allen@scams.gov.uk

Cllr Ian Sollom Cllr.Sollom@scams.gov.uk

Cllr Tony Mason Cllr.Mason@scams.gov.uk