

RUSHCLIFFE BOROUGH COUNCIL'S TOWN AND PARISH UPDATE

Wednesday July 8, 2020

Please remember for all the latest on our services during COVID-19 please visit www.rushcliffe.gov.uk

Please email media@rushcliffe.gov.uk with any enquiries.

Have your say on new Strategic Plan for the Greater Nottingham Area



Residents, organisations and businesses in the Borough are being asked to have their say on the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan to help shape future planning for the area.



We have joined Broxtowe and Gedling Borough Councils and Nottingham City Council in developing the joint plan which will help guide future development across their combined areas and all can now have their say by visiting www.gnplan.org.uk

The consultation lasts for ten weeks ending on September 14, 2020 and asks for views on what should be included in the plan.

The consultation document does not include any draft policies or identify how much or where future development will take place. These will come later when a draft Strategic Plan is published next year.

Once approved, the plan will set out how Greater Nottingham's development needs can be met up to 2038.

A draft of the plan will be published next year when there will be a further opportunity to comment.

Management of council buildings announced



The Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government has now [published guidance](#) for those managing council buildings, including Parish Councils.

The guidance applies to the operational use of council buildings rather than hosting council meetings and outlines rules on a range of different activities that can now take place at the venues.

Each council is required to apply relevant guidance locally depending on circumstances, including its size and type of activities, how it is organised, operated, managed and regulated.

Measures have been in place at our sites for a number of weeks to ensure councillors, staff and visitors could work safely from the venues and these have been reviewed in line with this advice.

Residents asked to be responsible and follow rules as play areas reopen



We're appealing to residents to be responsible and follow the rules after our managed play areas reopened over the weekend, in line with central government advice.

All users are asked to follow a few key rules at each site.

Additional cleaning schedules of play equipment will take place until further notice and all are asked to:

- Be Covid-19 aware and ensure a two-metre distance is maintained between people at all times where possible.
- Ensure hands are sanitised before and after using play or outdoor gym facilities
- Ensure children are supervised carefully to maintain good hygiene and should not use play areas if they have any symptoms of coronavirus
- Encourage children to limit contact with anyone they do not live with
- Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds as soon possible after leaving a site and again as they return home
- Have only one family member accompanying a child in the play area at any one time. If a play area is busy, please consider returning at a quieter time when social distancing can be observed
- Not consume food or drink on play equipment or in a play area
- Dispose of all litter including any used protective wear such as face coverings or gloves properly in litter bins. Disposable face coverings and gloves cannot be recycled

Where a park or play area location has toilet facilities with hand washing facilities these have now re-opened and signage is in place to remind users of the need to follow social distancing and hand hygiene measures.

Toilet facilities are continuing to be cleaned and checked at least three times a day at each location in line with government advice.

The parks were closed in March due to COVID-19 and the following sites have now re-opened:

- The Hook toddler play area, Lady Bay
- The Hook junior play area, Lady Bay
- Oaktree Close, Lady Bay
- Adbolton Grove, Lady Bay
- Abbey Park, Buckfast Way
- Alford Road
- Bridgford Road basketball court
- Bridgford Road, teen park
- West Park, Loughborough Road
- Boundary Road
- Denton Drive
- Greythorn Drive

Parish Councils in the Borough have also been advised that they can reopen parks and briefed on government guidance of protocols to follow.

Working with bar, restaurant and business owners on how to operate securely



As bars, restaurants, hotels and hairdressers opened from last Saturday (July 4) we're continuing to work with business owners to advise how they can open securely in line with central government guidance.

We're asking residents and visitors to familiarise themselves with further advice on the [dos and donts](#) when visiting businesses in line with these new rules.

They are also being reminded of the steps we and partner agencies including Nottinghamshire Police are taking to ensure visitors to these businesses and parks in town and village centres are aware of how to be responsible in line with this guidance.

Across the Borough, our Environmental Health and Licensing teams and Police are continuing unannounced high-profile visits to licensed premises to ensure compliance with licensing and COVID requirements.

Premises in West Bridgford continue to display signage at their premises reminding customers to follow the local Public Space Protection Order(PSPO) guidelines.

All officials and Police have powers to enforce this order which means local park users and town centre visitors must stop consuming alcohol when asked to do so by an official.

On June 22, we announced Bridgfield and Bridgford Park in West Bridgford will have earlier evening closing times to alleviate recent issues around litter and anti-social behaviour.

The sites will now be closed from 8pm and 9pm respectively, instead of 9.30pm each evening, until further notice with increased security patrols each day giving reassurance to park users they remain a safe place to visit.

[A list of Frequently Asked Questions](#) on the measures in these locations is now available.

In Bingham Market Place, outlets are working with us on where they can open and extend outdoor seating areas in line with their licences.

Business owners should visit our [business pages](#) for more information for advice on operating securely in line with advice from our Environmental Health and Licensing teams.

Cllr Sue Mallender is our new Mayor



Congratulations to our new Mayor of Rushcliffe Cllr Sue Mallender who was elected to office for the forthcoming 12 months last Thursday (July 2) and aims to be carbon neutral and produce zero waste in her new role.

In a ceremony in the Council Chamber at the Arena she accepted the position from 2019/20 incumbent Cllr Mrs Christine Jeffreys in a virtual Full Council meeting and was congratulated by our Chief Executive Kath Marriott.

As the 'first citizen' of the Borough the Mayor will virtually or safely attend many official engagements during her term of office this year and assumed duties last weekend when opening the Virtual Lady Bay Open Gardens as one of her first appointments.

She aims to attend as many events as possible when it is safe to do so by walking, cycling or public transport.

The Lady Bay Green Party councillor has nominated Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust, Musicworks and Trent District Community First Responders as her chosen charities for the year and will raise vital funds for their causes.

Cllr Mallender said: "It is an honour to have assumed this role and represent over 115,000 people across the Borough in what continues to be challenging times for so many of us in light of COVID-19.

"I am delighted to have the opportunity to engage with our communities in the year ahead, whether in person safely or virtually and of course raise funds and the profile of the charities. Please support them wherever you can.

"I also am setting myself the challenge of being a carbon neutral and zero waste mayor and will do all I can to achieve this."

Cllr Tina Combellack was elected as Deputy Mayor for the next 12 months and expressed her honour of being entrusted with the role.

Last week Cllr Jeffreys was thanked for her wonderful efforts during 2019/20 when she continued to raise monies for her charities Headway and Lincs and Notts Air Ambulance even in light of COVID-19.



Our Chief Executive presented her with flowers and a book celebrating her year in office and we again extend our huge thanks to her for her support of 12 months of events and her tireless work performing the role around the Borough.

Recommendations for new crematorium to be discussed



Recommendations for a new crematorium based at Stragglethorpe near Cotgrave operated by us are set to be discussed by our Cabinet.

A planning application for the site which was approved by the Planning Inspectorate last year and we have since purchased the land.

Cabinet will now discuss at its meeting on July 14 progress on plans to deliver a modern, functional

and sympathetic facility for families' needs.

The report also recommends working alongside the wider bereavement services sector whilst investigating options to deliver a greener facility utilising the latest new technologies.

Local stakeholders including residents and businesses close to the site will be contacted to further update them on the current proposals should they be agreed.

Subject to Cabinet approval, a design team would be appointed in the coming months with an estimated nine-month period to work up full designs and secure a construction partner.

A 12 month build period to allow for some establishment of the landscaping could see the new facility open in Spring 2022.

The new site has been cited as vital infrastructure as our communities grow significantly with over 13,000 new homes having been allocated to the Borough in recent years.

Our Leader Cllr Simon Robinson said: "We are working with partners to evaluate the situation and sensitively consider the next steps of this project.

"We have highlighted the increasing need for additional facilities in Rushcliffe for residents dealing with family bereavement and aware of the feelings of some of our local communities on the new site.

"Should the recommendations be approved at Cabinet, work will commence on more detailed designs and we will continue to talk with all stakeholders in shaping these proposals."

Annual canvass forms distributed from July 10



Residents will be reminded from later this week to complete their annual canvass form when it arrives through the post from July 10, should it require any changes.

With County Council and Police and Crime Commissioner elections set to take place in the Borough next year, this is an important opportunity for residents to make sure they can take part.

The form ensures that we can keep the electoral register up to date and identify any residents who are not registered so that they can be encouraged to do so.

All residents are asked to follow instructions on the form but only need to respond if any details have changed.

Where a response is needed, they need to complete the form online at www.householdresponse.com/rushcliffe.

Those who have moved address recently are particularly encouraged to keep an eye out for the form and check the details.

Research by the independent Electoral Commission indicates that recent home movers are far less likely to be registered than those that have lived at the same address for a long time.

Across the country, 94 per cent of people who have been at their property for more than 16 years will be registered, compared to 40 per cent of people who have lived at an address for less than one year.

Any residents who have any questions can contact their local registration team at elections@rushcliffe.gov.uk or by phoning 0115 981 9911.

Nottinghamshire flood hardship fund reopens



A hardship fund for the flood victims made up of money raised by community groups, organisations and match funded by the Government has now reopened for applications.

Lincolnshire Community Foundation are reprising their role to receive and allocate the funds raised via local appeal, which was originally set up for those whose homes were affected by flooding in November 2019.

Funds released by Government now bring the amount raised to £34,000. Families and individuals affected by the flooding in November, alongside new applicants, are encouraged to apply before the closing date on Friday, July 31.

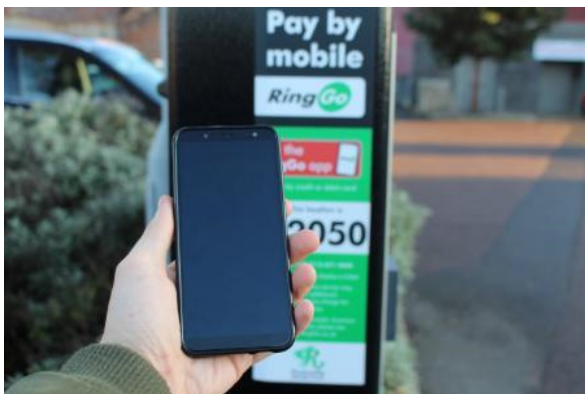
Anyone affected can apply for a portion of the funding, although priority will be given to:

- Homes that were flooded internally
- Individuals and families suffering financial or other hardship
- Low income households, people over 70, families with young children, people with physical or learning disabilities, mental health needs or medical conditions

Hardship grants normally up to £500 subject to funding availability. However, in exceptional circumstances, higher grant awards may be considered based on need.

To apply to the fund or find out more about the application process, please visit the [Lincolnshire Community Foundation website](#) or call 01529 305825 or 07908 208838.

Residents encouraged to use Ring Go for an easy, cashless way to pay to park



Residents and visitors parking in our car parks can use Ring Go cashless parking as the easy and cashless way to park as town and village centres adapt to the new normal.

With all our sites now resuming regular charges and restrictions, motorists can park even more securely without the need to use a ticket machine and instead use the Ring Go app on their phone.

The scheme ensures there is no longer the need for motorists to hunt for change and place a printed ticket in their vehicle.

All are advised to follow social distancing measures in line with central government guidance when using car parks across the Borough.

When arriving at one of our car parks, motorists can download the Ring Go app, call, text or pay online at www.myringgo.co.uk across our seven Pay and Display car parks at:

- West Bridgford: Bridgford Road, Gordon Road and Nursery/Albert Road car parks
- Rushcliffe Country Park
- Keyworth: Bunny Lane car park
- Bingham: Needham Street car park

Where a free period is offered within pay and display car parks, the motorist can obtain a free voucher from the parking machine to take advantage of this free period.

Alerts to motorists' phones ensure they're always aware a parking period is due to finish and it takes a few easy steps to extend their parking time.

The easy to use facility has been used over 31,000 times in car parks across the Borough since we introduced it in November 2018.

NHS Birthday thank you



We were delighted to turn Rushcliffe Arena blue on Sunday to celebrate the NHS' 72nd birthday and say thank you for all they do for us.

Part of the nationwide celebrations, ever more in focus due to the incredible efforts of the service during COVID-19, residents joined us on social media to thank them.

Contact detail request when visiting businesses and venues



Businesses and organisations are now being asked to collect contact details of their visitors as their venues reopened from Saturday.

The records will help NHS Test and Trace to reach anyone who may at a later date be found to have potentially been in contact with a positive coronavirus case whilst at a particular venue, helping to quickly contact people at risk of the virus and prevent localised outbreaks before they occur.

The details visitors share must be stored securely and handled in line with the General Data

Protection Regulation (GDPR). They will only be shared, if asked, with the NHS Test and Trace service to manage local coronavirus outbreaks if they occur.

While the government continues to encourage everyone to play their part to curb the virus, if a member of the public does not wish to share their contact details, it is not mandatory.

The Department of Health and Social Care has published guidelines setting out the steps pubs, restaurants, cinemas and similar venues can all take to support the service.

They include:

- collecting the names, and phone numbers of all staff working at the premises, as well as the date and time they worked
- making a record of the name and contact phone number of any customers or visitors, or if it is a group of people, the name of the lead member of the group, who is able to contact other members of the group, and the number of people in the group
- recording the date, arrival and departure time of all visitors or visiting groups
- storing the information for 21 days, after which should be safely deleted

Surplus COVID-19 food now reaching Friary users



We have connected local charity the Friary with surplus COVID-19 food boxes which will now be distributed to vulnerable people using their services.

In April, the charity's Chief Executive Ben Talbot safely collected over 40 parcels that were part of the Nottinghamshire Coronavirus Hub network reaching out to those who were clinically vulnerable and shielding.

Now with some central government restrictions lifted, less individuals have opted to continue receiving food parcels.

It means hundreds of items such as bread, pasta, cereals, tinned tomatoes, baked beans and long life milk can be now given out to those who visit the charity's Musters Road base in West Bridgford.

The hub co-ordinated by Nottinghamshire County Council continues to assisting efforts across the Borough and wider Nottinghamshire with support available at <https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/care/coronavirus/nottinghamshire-coronavirus-community-support-hub>

Our Deputy Leader Cllr Debbie Mason met Ben and Resources Manager Charlotte Mayfield at our Bingham depot to hand over the items.

Cllr Mason said: "As shielding comes to an end for some individuals, we're glad to be able to connect our colleagues at the Hub with the Friary and assist their efforts to reach out to other vulnerable people who will benefit from this food.

"It will continue to be provided to the charity until at least September to support the on-going need the charity has during the pandemic.

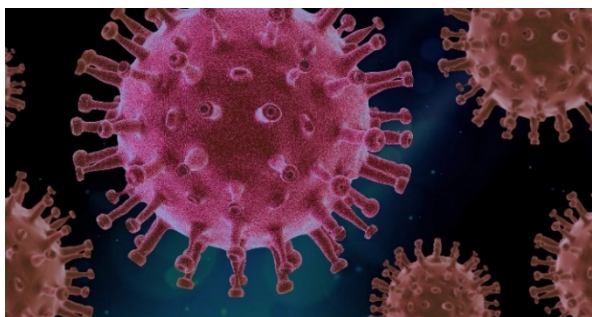
"Credit should be given to so many voluntary, charity and local authority efforts in the Borough in recent months who have gone to great lengths to ensure food and essential items have reached those in need.

"We were delighted to present flowers to many of them during National Volunteer Week earlier this year, highlighting their tireless efforts."

Ben added: "We're really pleased to be able to further support those who need our help at a time when our main support services are so affected by the pandemic.

"We thank all the local authorities for their assistance in being able to continue to play a role in helping local vulnerable people in this fashion."

Nottinghamshire COVID-19 Local Outbreak Plans published



Plans have now been published that outline how future outbreaks of COVID-19 will be managed in Nottingham and wider Nottinghamshire.

The Government announced in May that top tier local authorities will lead new Local Outbreak Control Plans which give powers to local public health leaders to

manage the risk of potential future outbreaks of the disease, similar to how the current lockdown measures are being managed in Leicester.

The plans will see Directors of Public health lead and manage strategies to reduce and suppress outbreaks of COVID-19 infection across the local area with a focus on using the latest data to make decisions about how any outbreaks of the disease should be managed including deployment of local testing and advice on how the virus should best be contained.

[The Nottinghamshire Local Outbreak Plan](#) sets out how local government works with the NHS Test and Trace service, so that the county is prepared to contain the virus wherever and if-ever it occurs.

The plan outlines how lives will be protected using the emergency response systems in partnership with Public Health England, the NHS, the voluntary sector and the wider community.

It builds on existing health protection roles and responsibilities as well as the specific work councils have been undertaking to stop the spread of COVID-19.

Reach Rushcliffe funding helps walking group combat social isolation



A walking group that helps to combat social isolation and loneliness has received vital funding from Reach Rushcliffe.

Rushcliffe Ramblers is receiving funds as part of our initiative which was launched in May aiming to tackle the issues.

The group will use the funds to encourage more participants to join their health walks, which are aimed at residents recovering from illness, with low self-esteem, who have poor physical health or are

socially isolated, as well as to the Ramblers' general sessions for those who enjoy walking and socialising.

The project is one of six successful applications that have benefitted from over £8,000 to help those in need.

Rushcliffe Ramblers will also use the funding to purchase leaflets, allowing them to extend and promote their group to more residents.

Our Deputy Leader Cllr Debbie Mason met Rushcliffe Ramblers' committee member Trevor Griffiths at the starting point of one of their frequent walking routes.

She said: "It is brilliant to award funding to another local organisation, which will help them to reach more residents at risk of health conditions or social isolation as well as helping them to reap the benefits of getting out into the fresh air.

"We know that exercise is incredibly important and especially to those with health conditions or at risk of being disconnected to their community, with this group also adding a social aspect so members can meet new people and walk together.

"We would encourage any organisations also looking to reduce social isolation in their part of Rushcliffe to apply for funding through Reach Rushcliffe by visiting www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/health/reachrushcliffe/."

Mr Griffiths said: "It is great to receive funding through Reach Rushcliffe and the Borough Council as we can now extend our group to reach more residents across the Borough.

"Our health walks especially help those who may have been ill or struggling with their mental health, so to be able to promote that further is fantastic."

Two of the recent recipients of the funding have also included local charity Musicworks, who provide virtual music cafes to combat social isolation, and the Friary who are using the funds to further develop their 'Space to Think' project.

If you're aware of any groups who work to reduce loneliness and social isolation across Borough, please encourage them to [visit our website](#) to find out if they could receive funding through the Reach Rushcliffe initiative.

Dazzling Streetwise flower displays welcome back customers and businesses to Central Avenue



Dazzling flower displays from Streetwise are welcoming back business owners and customers on Central Avenue in West Bridgford as residents, visitors and the local economy adapts to the new normal.

The dozens of pink, yellow, purple and red surfinias are a regular feature of the high street in the town during the summer and despite COVID-19, they are on display again this year in full bloom to greet shoppers, park users and those visiting bars and restaurants.

The grounds maintenance contractors to the Council and clients across the region were delighted to again add some summer sparkle and encourage all to shop local.

Our Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Finance and Contracts Cllr Gordon Moore praised the Streetwise team for their efforts.

He said: "The large colourful creations in flowerbeds and planters or decoratively tied to lampposts are bringing summer colour to the Borough and some much-needed cheer after such a tough few months for everyone.

"Vibrant floral displays in this part of Rushcliffe have become part and parcel of the Streetwise service and we thank the team for their efforts to brighten up the high street for all to enjoy as we look to support businesses operating securely here wherever we can."

Streetwise Managing Director Nigel Carter added: "We're delighted to have been able to plant and maintain these wonderful flowers despite such a hot spring and summer to date and all of the challenges COVID-19 continues to throw at us.

"We're very pleased to help wherever we can in safely attracting customers back to our high streets in Rushcliffe to shop local."

Streetwise offers a range of services to get your garden in great shape for the rest of the summer.

Call 0115 914 8408, email streetwise@streetwiseenvironmental.co.uk or visit www.streetwiseenvironmental.co.uk

Agencies ask for support to manage demand of water this summer



The Environment Agency and Severn Trent are asking our communities for help to manage the demand of water this summer.

Demand in the Midlands has increased sharply as a direct consequence of the COVID-19 emergency, combined with an exceptionally dry spring and the agencies have witnessed spikes in usage of up to 40 per cent in some cases.

If the long-range weather forecasts are accurate there will be enough water for the summer, despite the exceptional conditions. But the margin of comfort is small and they are therefore taking additional steps to ensure safe, reliable supplies of water for the whole community.

Specifically they are asking all users:

- To not use hoses to water gardens, municipal parks and other outside areas on days when the temperature rises above 22°
- To not wash vehicles more than once a month between now and September (except for reasons of essential hygiene)
- To help spread the message why these measures are necessary and encourage others to be more water conscious.

Further tips about water saving can be found at <https://www.stwater.co.uk/wonderful-on-tap/save-water/you-can-make-a-difference/>

Nottinghamshire Coronavirus Community Support Hub



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Nottinghamshire County Council are coordinating the Community Support Hub and they are continuing to work closely with all seven District and Borough Councils to further their COVID-19 Community and Support Volunteering Hub.

Details are available on their [website](#), which welcomes emails or phone calls from volunteers, as well as those seeking support for free between 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday: **0300 500 8080**.

Applications for the COVID-19 Community Fund



**Nottinghamshire
County Council**

COVID-19 Community Fund

The County Council's COVID-19 Community Fund is among the places that volunteer groups and community efforts should apply to for funding during the pandemic.

To date, the fund has assisted 17 initiatives in the Borough, with over £51,000 distributed.

Applications can be made on [the Nottinghamshire County Council website](#).

A reminder that Councillors' Community Support Grants can also now be used to fund COVID-19 related projects. Please email media@rushcliffe.gov.uk with any queries.
