

# Ringwood Town Council

Ringwood Gateway, The Furlong, Ringwood, Hampshire BH24 1AT  
Tel: 01425 473883  
www.ringwood.gov.uk

## SUMMONS

Dear Member

23<sup>rd</sup> July 2020

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Town Council to be held on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2020 at 7.00pm.



Mr C Wilkins  
Town Clerk

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Ringwood Town Council is committed to transparency in its decision-making processes. The current crisis prevents the holding of physical meetings but insofar as it is possible and in accordance with Government Regulations, this meeting will take place in a virtual environment using the "Zoom" technology. The meeting will start in Zoom at 6.45pm. Councillors are encouraged to join in good time ready for a start of the meeting proper at 7.00pm. In the event of difficulty joining please contact Chris Wilkins, Town Clerk on (01425) 484720 or by sending an email to [chris.wilkins@ringwood.gov.uk](mailto:chris.wilkins@ringwood.gov.uk). Members of the press or public who would like to participate or simply observe the meeting will need to tell us in advance by contacting Chris Wilkins, Town Clerk by no later than 12noon on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2020 and will then receive an email explaining how you to participate or observe.

## AGENDA

### 1. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There will be an opportunity for public participation for a period of up to 15 minutes at the start of the meeting

### 2. To receive Apologies for Absence

### 3. To receive Declarations of Interest

### 4. To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Meetings held on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2020

### 5. To receive Minutes of Committees and approve recommendations contained therein:

Recreation, Leisure & Open Spaces

DATE :- 1<sup>st</sup> July 2020

Planning, Town & Environment

DATE:- 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2020

Policy & Finance

DATE:- 15<sup>th</sup> July 2020

*F/5818 Revised Budget – To consider and, subject to any amendments, approve the revised budget 2020/21.*

### 6. DISTRICT COUNCIL QUESTIONNAIRE

To consider a response to District Council community engagement about the impact of COVID-19 on our community (see questionnaire)

**7. RE-OPENING HIGH STREETS SAFELY FUND**

To consider a proposal to accelerate the closure of the junction of West Street with the A31 and to apply to Hampshire County Council and New Forest District Council for the required works to be funded from the emergency funds at their disposal  
(Report A)

**8. RINGWOOD FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT**

To receive a verbal report from the appointed representative to the Steering Group for this project

9. To receive such communications as the Town Mayor may desire to lay before the Council(Councillors are reminded that no decision taking may take place as a result of this item)

10. To Receive Reports from Ringwood Town Councillors and Student Advisors  
(Councillors are reminded that no decision taking may take place as a result of this item)

11. To receive Reports from County and District Councillors (Councillors are reminded that no decision taking may take place as a result of this item)

12. Forthcoming Meetings – to note the following dates:

Recreation, Leisure & Open Spaces	7.00pm	Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2020
Planning, Town & Environment	10.00am	Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> August & 4 <sup>th</sup> Sept'2020
Policy & Finance	7.00pm	Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> September 2020
Staffing Committee	7.00pm	Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September 2020
Full Council	7.00pm	Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2020

Council Members:

Chairman: Cllr Tony Ring, Town Mayor  
Vice-Chairman: Cllr Philip Day, Deputy Mayor  
Cllr Andy Briers  
Cllr Gareth DeBoos  
Cllr Hilary Edge  
Cllr Rae Frederick  
Cllr John Haywood  
Cllr Jeremy Heron  
Cllr Peter Kelleher  
Cllr Darren Loose  
Cllr Gloria O'Reilly  
Cllr Steve Rippon-Swaine  
Cllr Glenys Turner

Student Advisors:

# Community Engagement

## Questionnaire for Town and Parish Council's

In response to COVID-19, New Forest District Council is keen to work in partnership to support our residents and communities to recover from its impact. The council has set up a Task and Finish Group for Community Engagement to undertake an Impact Assessment. Within this group we have five themes to understand the impact on:

1. Frontline Support and those most in need.
2. Community Safety and Wellbeing.
3. Communities, Families and Young People.
4. Arts and Cultural Activities.
5. Physical Activities and local sports and leisure clubs.

The aims of the group are:

- To understand and assess the overall impact of COVID-19 on our communities.
- To identify and respond to concerns within local communities.
- To support local initiatives with recovery in local communities.
- To understand and engage with marginalised groups and communities.
- To foster positive community relations through partnership working.

We are contacting numerous organisations and all Town and Parish council's and ask that you take a few minutes to answer the following questions. Please consider your experience and give consideration to all five themes when answering.

**Name of Town/Parish Council:**

1. What has been the impact of COVID-19 on your community and the services you provide?

2. How have you responded to the impact?

3. What do you understand to be the key issues now for your community?

4. As lockdown eases how are your communities' requirements changing?

5. Are there any risks or issues that you can foresee arising?

6. What are your plans to respond to these risks or issues?

7. Is there anything you have learnt due to the impact of COVID-19?

8. What support do you or your community need to recover from COVID-19? (not necessarily financial)

**TOWN COUNCIL****29<sup>th</sup> July 2020****Re-opening High Streets Safely Fund****1. Introduction and reason for report**

- 1.1 New Forest District Council, has invited proposals from town and parish councils for local schemes which can be considered for inclusion in its Action Plan for use of its share of the Re-opening High Streets Safely Fund. Some initial ideas were considered by the Policy & Finance Committee when it met on 17<sup>th</sup> June (see minute ref. F/5809). A further decision is needed from members now.

**2. Background information and options**

- 2.1 The first element of the proposal put to committee was for 'Be Alert' packs (containing materials designed to help local businesses to re-open safely) to be quickly assembled and made available to those businesses free of charge. It is understood that this element meets the eligibility criteria for this funding and is likely to be included in the Action Plan. Ringwood Surplus Store kindly assembled the packs and facilitated their distribution at cost. Several councillors have also helped with the design and the distribution arrangements.
- 2.2 The second element involved physical changes to the roads, pavements and traffic flow designed to create more space for pedestrians to queue and move about safely whilst observing social distancing requirements. This was referred to Hampshire Highways who sent an engineer to visit the town and advise on options.
- 2.3 The engineer advised that the management of traffic by volunteers was unlikely to be practical (because of the training and equipment needs) or supported by HCC. He suggested that both the volume and speed of the vehicular traffic would probably reduce if the West Street/A31 junction were to be closed. He did not rule out other measures to restrict the traffic flow (e.g. arranging a 'one-way' system along High Street and Meeting House Lane) but felt that any such attempt would require loss of on-street parking and delivery space, which might not command support from the traders and could lead to other difficulties.
- 2.4 The first question, therefore, is whether members wish to press NFDC to include the early closure of the junction in their Action Plan. This would be a 'temporary' measure only in the sense that it would be effected by the use of removable barriers, signage, etc. It would NOT be the acceleration of the final closure (involving groundworks, permanent signage, etc.) – but it would probably remain in effect until that permanent closure occurs. (It is understood that this proposal would, in principle, meet the eligibility criteria for the funding.)
- 2.5 The second question is whether members wish to press for any further traffic control or other measures to be included in the plan.
- 2.6 Local district and county councillors have been involved in discussions about possible use of the Fund in Ringwood. Our County Councillor has expressed his support in principle for the early closure of the junction but not for any further traffic measures.

# A

## 3. Issues for decision and any recommendations

**3.1 Whether to ask NFDC to include the temporary closure of the West Street/A31 junction in their Action Plan?**

**3.2 Whether to ask NFDC to include further measures (and, if so, what)?**

For further information, contact:

Christopher Wilkins, Town Clerk  
Direct Dial: 01425 484720  
Email: [chris.wilkins@ringwood.gov.uk](mailto:chris.wilkins@ringwood.gov.uk)