



EXTRA SEDFIELD

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SEDFIELD PARISH HALL UPDATE

As reported in our last edition, we have spent considerable time over recent months preparing the Parish Hall to welcome back regular users. We had made sure the Parish Hall was COVID-19 secure and compliant with central government guidance and were excited to welcome back several of our regular users at the beginning of September. The situation regarding COVID-19 continues to be fast changing and following the introduction of more stringent local restrictions across the North East from Friday 18th September 2020, the Parish Hall has once again been closed to the public. We are in contact with all our regular groups and intend to get the hall re-opened as soon as permitted in full compliance with government guidelines. This information is correct at the time of writing this article, but circumstances can change quickly, so please keep an eye on the news and our Twitter feed (@SedgefieldTC) for the latest information. If you have any enquiries relating to the Parish Hall, please email town.clerk@sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk.

We would like to express our thanks to all our regular Parish Hall users and others who have expressed an interest in the hall. Your cooperation and understanding during this time have been much appreciated and we look forward to a time where we can welcome you all back under more familiar circumstances.

We'd also like to take this opportunity to say farewell to two of our regular groups, Dance for Joy and Tai Chi, who will not be returning to the Parish Hall. We wish you all the best for the future.

TOWN COUNCIL OFFICE REFURBISHMENT UPDATE

The new interior wall in the reception area has now been built and plastered. Likely the most noticeable alteration for our visitors, this partition wall separates reception into two distinct sections, the reception office for staff and a small foyer for visitors. All services will now be provided through a secure glass screen hatch with no entry into the rest of the building without prior appointment. We understand that this will be quite a drastic change for many of you, but we hope you can appreciate the need for these upgrades and the benefits of this new way of working, for staff and visitors alike. We are optimistic that the remaining work, including installation of new flooring and the decoration, will be completed throughout October.



FLORAL DISPLAYS

With summer drawing to an end, we hope that many of you were able to enjoy the beautiful floral displays throughout the town. Take a look at our Twitter feed to see some of the beautiful tubs planted and maintained by our gardening staff, Stephen Young and Ben Gray, over the last six months. A big thank you, as always, for your hard work!



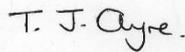
NOTICE OF CASUAL VACANCY

Notice is hereby given that by reason of councillor resignation one vacancy has occurred among the members of the town council. Any persons willing to fill this vacancy should request from the Town Clerk an application form and return this on or before Sunday 15th

November 2020. The applicant's name must appear on the current register of the voters' list or the applicant should during the whole of the 12 months preceding the relevant date resided in or within three miles of the parish or the applicant's only place of work during the whole of the 12 months preceding the relevant date is in the parish.

The applicant must not be debarred from standing as a councillor.

PUBLIC elections cannot be held until the year 2021 but for the interim period, election to the aforesaid council will be voted for by the present sitting number of councillors.



Dr Jane Ayre, Town Clerk

town.clerk@sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk

16th September 2020

COMMUNITY EVENTS UPDATE

Please watch out for the November edition of Sedgefield Extra which will contain more information regarding a festive celebration for the town and Remembrance Sunday. We had hoped to provide this information now, but as we're sure that you can appreciate, restrictions have recently changed, and we expect that more changes will be implemented over the coming months.

BUTTERWICK RD CEMETERY UPDATE

As you may be aware, the town council has been working for some time on the project of expanding Butterwick Road Cemetery. Now that all necessary land has been purchased, a planning application has been submitted to Durham County Council. Once the outcome of that planning application is known, we will be able to provide more details about the next steps in this project.

DOG BAG SALES REMINDER

Dog bags continue to be sold from the Parish Hall while the council office undergoes the final few stages of refurbishment. Packs are 60p (50 bags per pack) and can be purchased from the side entrance of the hall between 10-11am on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Please follow the procedures outlined on the door and bring the correct change if possible.

VIRTUAL COMMITTEE MEETING: OCTOBER

This month's Monthly Meeting and P&R Committee Meeting will take place on Monday 12th October 2020 at the time of 7pm. We're pleased to report that we had several members of the public observing and participating in our virtual September meeting. If you would like to attend the meeting, please familiarise yourself with the Virtual Meeting Public Participation Guidance document over at <http://www.sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk/procedures>. Our monthly meeting agendas are published on Twitter and on our website <http://www.sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk/category/meeting-minutes> when ready. October's agenda will contain a meeting link which you can click on at the specified time to request access to the meeting. If you wish to take part in public participation, we'd appreciate if you could send your question/query to town.clerk@sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk in advance of the meeting date to ensure the meetings run as efficiently as possible.

COMMUNITY CHEST

Do you know of any local groups who require additional funding to support their work? If so, Sedgefield Town Council's Community Chest fund may be able to help. The fund awards small donations of up to £100 to good causes, local groups and organisations.

For eligibility criteria and details of how to apply to the fund, please visit <http://www.sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk/community-chest>.