



EXTRA SEDGEFIELD

PUBLISHED BY SEDGEFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

No. 111 SEPT 2020

SEDGEFIELD PARISH HALL RE-OPENING

Questionnaires have been sent out to all regular Parish Hall users and those with bookings originally scheduled in for the remaining months of this year, in order to re-book these groups into the Parish Hall diary in a way that complies with the regulations and restrictions still in place. As long as no further measures are implemented by central government after the date of writing this article, the Parish Hall is due to re-open on Tuesday 1st September 2020.

To comply with the precautions and safety measures laid out by central government, new booking forms and hire agreements have been created, bringing with them new procedures to be followed by staff and visitors. These include: A one-way flow throughout the building resulting in a new exit point for all Parish Hall bookings; limited and monitored access to toilets on both floors; restrictions on rooms to be hired in order to keep the Fletcher Room free as an isolation zone at all times; temporary closure of both kitchens; hand sanitizer stations at the entrance and exit; distancing markers in the foyer, exit area and on the external ramp to allow distanced and staggered entry; masks to be worn at all times by attendees over the age of 11 (exemptions apply), and more. The building is now being adapted to meet these requirements.

Parish Hall users who have indicated that they would like to return to the hall this year will be contacted directly with booking dates and any new documentation required to complete their bookings. If you have not received a questionnaire but feel that you should have, or if you have any queries in relation to hire of the Parish Hall, please contact town.clerk@sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk as soon as possible.

SEDGEFIELD ALLOTMENTS

While the town council relaxed the inspection rules this year as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are delighted with how well both our allotment sites have been maintained and that plot holders have been able to work efficiently and safely whilst abiding by all the social distancing rules. A big thank you goes to all of our allotment holders for your efforts and compliance during this time. We hope that you are soon reaping your rewards with a great harvest!

The boundary fence at Winterton Allotments has now been replaced following the recent fire in the Winterton Cottages car park. We apologise for the disturbance that the absence of a fence has caused and thank our Winterton tenants for the patience. Shortages of materials as a result of the pandemic were the reason for this delay.

To join the waiting list for an allotment, please visit our website www.sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk/allotments.



SEPTEMBER'S VIRTUAL MEETINGS

September's virtual Monthly and P&R Committee meetings will take place at 7pm on Monday 14th September 2020. We'll issue the agenda and information on how to join the meeting via Twitter and our website in the near future.

Reminder - all Community Development & Engagement Committee and Environment Committee matters will be on the P&R agenda so there will be no second set of meetings during the month. Our virtual meetings public participation guidance can be found at www.sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk/procedures.

COMMUNITY EVENTS 2020

The effects of COVID-19 continue to have an impact on everyone's daily lives and it is important that we all continue to play our part in adhering to government advice in order to reduce the spread of infection and our risk of exposure. On this basis, it is with regret that the town council will not be hosting its annual fireworks display in the grounds of Ceddesfeld Hall this year. This is a decision which has not been made lightly, but after much careful thought and in the context of our responsibility to play our part in keeping people safe. Due to the compact layout of the site which we use for our display, it is not possible to put in place the necessary social distancing measures that are required. Please be assured that in future years, the town council is very committed to continuing to provide this much enjoyed annual fireworks display in the grounds of Ceddesfeld Hall. Next year's display and Halloween Howler competition will take place on Friday 29th October 2021 – please save the date!

2020 has been a very difficult year for people and we are looking forward to far happier times in 2021. The town council's Snow Party is an event which is much loved and well attended by people of all ages, as it provides us with the starting point for an enjoyable build-up to the festive season. Unfortunately, this year COVID-19 means that it is not possible to run our usual Snow Party with an array of activities around the town, predominantly due to the fact that we cannot ensure social distancing. Our traditional event, with all of its usual features such as Santa in his grotto, activities for children in the Parish Hall and the lights switch on, will return in 2021. In the meantime, we are now looking at what we can safely do to provide a festive celebration for Sedgefield, in a way that is safe in the current times. Please look out in our forthcoming editions of the Sedgefield Extra for more information about this.

Further announcements regarding Remembrance Sunday and other events will feature in our next edition of the Extra.

BUTTERWICK RD CEMETERY UPDATE

The town council's project to expand Butterwick Road Cemetery has now reached the stage at which a planning application has been formally submitted to Durham County Council. The county council, as the Local Planning Authority, is considering this application and will issue all relevant public notices as part of its work.

SEDGEFIELDEXTRA

Sedgefield Extra will continue to be published in the current one-page (double sided) format until the December 2020 edition, following which it will revert to its traditional two-page (double sided) format and quarterly schedule, starting with the February 2021 edition. We are grateful to the team at Sedgefield News for agreeing to deliver the Extra each month.

COUNCIL OFFICE REFURBISHMENT UPDATE

Progress continues on the refurbishment of our council offices. All windows and external doors have now been replaced and plastering work completed. We are aiming to re-open to the public as soon as the building is in an appropriate state for staff to work in and will let you know once this is the case. In the meantime, you can get in touch with the us in the following ways:

For all enquiries relating to **Sedgefield Parish Hall, Butterwick Rd Cemetery** and any general questions and concerns, please direct these to the Town Clerk via email at town.clerk@sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk.

If you wish to speak during public participation at any of our **virtual monthly meetings**, please email the Town Clerk.

Dog bags continue to be sold from the side entrance of Sedgefield Parish Hall between 10am-11am on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Please bring the correct change where possible (60p per pack of 50 bags).

Cllr Allan Blakemore	01740 621820
Cllr David Brown	01740 622894
Cllr Mark Cant	07818 243774
Cllr Vanessa Carmichael	07889 219195
Cllr Ann Carr	01740 629070
Cllr Melvyn Carr	01740 629070 / 07530 315331
Cllr Chris Lines	07971 868329
Cllr Leo McCormack	01740 621037
Cllr Julie Towler	07979 376997
Cllr Alf Walton	01740 620640
Cllr Mavis Wayman	01740 620337
Cllr Gloria Wills	01740 622447
Cllr Stephen Winter	01740 629408