



SEDFIELD TOWN COUNCIL WILL CLOSE FOR THE FESTIVE BREAK ON FRIDAY 18TH DECEMBER 2020 AND WILL RETURN ON MONDAY 4TH JANUARY 2021.

2020 Festive Celebration

2020 has been a challenging year and impacted upon all our lives. This year's festive celebrations will be different. A key change will be the festive lights switch-on which will be livestreamed and only feature those trees around the central village green area. However, we have also put together an array of alternative celebrations which we hope that you enjoy. These will commence with the livestream of the town's festive lights switch-on and a message from Santa on Saturday 28th November 2020. Please look at our website for full details of our festive celebrations and how to get involved:

www.sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk/christmas2020

This page guides you to an array of fun activities for all ages and information about the following events:

28th November — 5th December 2020

Christmas craft competition judged by the Mayor of Sedgefield.

5th December — 12th December 2020

Christmas costume competition judged by the Mayor of Sedgefield.

28th November — 15th December 2020

'Best dressed festive business window' competition. Windows will be illuminated from 4-11pm every night from Saturday 28th November. There's a map and voting online so you can choose your favourite!

16th December 2020

All competition winners will be announced on our website and our Twitter account @SedgefieldTC alongside the 2019 & 2020 Citizen of the Year and Young Citizen of the Year awards!

Thank you to everyone who has made these online events possible, with a special shout out to the local community groups who have donated their time to provide some festive recommendations and DIYs for us all to enjoy. You can find these recommendations by Sedgefield WI, Sedgefield Flower Club, Sedgefield Lyric Singers, Taste and See and Sedgefield Harriers on the Christmas activity page.

SEDFIELD EXTRA SCHEDULE 2021

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the decision was made earlier in the year to alter the production of Sedgefield Extra so that timely information could be shared with residents in a two-page, monthly newsletter. We are extremely grateful to the Sedgefield News volunteers who have distributed this on our behalf. In 2021 we will be returning to our usual schedule of producing a four-page Sedgefield Extra in February, June, September and November. As always, regular updates and news will be shared on our website and Twitter (@SedgefieldTC).

FESTIVE MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

It has been, and still is, difficult adjusting to the COVID-19 situation. Sedgefield Town Council has worked hard throughout the year, continuously adapting to fast changing restrictions and circumstances in order to deliver its services for all residents. At times, measures and systems put in place need to be changed at short notice, which adds to the challenge for all of us. The possibility of a vaccine looks promising and will hopefully allow some normality soon, releasing us from the severe restrictions that we are enduring at the moment.

Please visit the special page on our website www.sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk/christmas2020 to find the many events, activities and competitions that are planned for our upcoming festive celebrations, from switching on the lights, to numerous activities that you can participate in, and a special message to Sedgefield from Santa! Huge thanks go to the community groups and individuals who have contributed some great ideas and content.

On behalf of Sedgefield Town Council, officers and staff we wish you and your families all the very best for Christmas.

Councillor Mel Carr

HALLOWEEN HOWLER PUMPKIN COMPETITION

Thank you to everyone who took part in this year's online Halloween Howler competition. With so many amazing entries, the chairman of the council had to enlist the help of his granddaughter Isabel to judge! Five winners were chosen to receive Sainsbury's vouchers for their incredible efforts:

Sophie Stewart (Overall winner) - £20 voucher

Samantha Mitchell (Overall scariest) – £20 voucher

Jensen Allison (runner-up and most cartoon like) - £5 voucher

Amber Bell (runner-up and most creative) - £5 voucher

Alexandra Stewart (runner-up and most original) - £5 voucher

Congratulations to all our winners – you can check out a collage of all the fantastic entries on our Twitter page (@SedgefieldTC). Thank you to The Rotary Club of Sedgefield for sponsoring the runner-up prizes.



COMMUNITY CHEST FUND

Due to the implications of the pandemic, the Mayor of Sedgefield has been unable to undertake any fundraising activities this year, which means that he will not be handing out any donations to local groups and causes in May 2021. To alleviate the impact of this, the town council has increased the Community Chest fund and is encouraging local groups and causes to submit applications. The fund awards small donations of up to £100. Full eligibility criteria and details of how to apply to the fund can be found on our website at: www.sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk/community-chest

CEMETERY: HEADSTONE SAFETY TESTING 2020

We are legally required to undertake headstone safety testing annually to ensure that headstones are stable. Testing in Butterwick Road Cemetery, St Edmund's Churchyard, Beacon Lane Cemetery and Winterton Cemetery will take place very soon. Any headstones found to be unstable will be marked with warning tape and the town council will, where such details are known, contact the next of kin as well as place advisory notices on the cemetery noticeboard.