



Coronavirus Support in Portchester

We would like to thank everybody who has supported our residents in Portchester and all the good neighbour acts that have taken place; this proves we are a caring community. Special thanks must go to Portchester Community Association who operate out of The Hub in the precinct. The manager, Cheryl Coleman, has worked every day throughout the crisis, buying food and organising their lunch delivery service which started on the 18th March as the Lunch Club was cancelled at The Hub. From 23rd March meals were delivered every week day and then from 4th April meals were delivered seven days a week. As of 2nd July a milestone was reached of 100 days delivering 2,000 meals.

Adey Gardenier, a Hub volunteer, instigated the idea of providing meals. He was a Chief Petty Officer in the Royal Navy, who served in the Falklands War and enjoys cooking. Adey worked tirelessly in this voluntary role, achieving 100 days and 650 hours of continuous work for The Hub providing a daily cooked meal for the community. Thanks to funding from HIWF emergency fund The Hub was able to buy a new double oven enabling the cooking of up to 30 meals a day possible. Meals have been delivered to almost 50 different members of the community during this period.

The following helpers delivered meals during this period. Wendy Pyatt and her husband Mark, Lorna Young, Amanda Collins, Diane Findiater, Chris Bainbridge, Kevin and Catherine Murphy and Penny Mortimer. Between them they completed 500 hours of delivery. Sophie Madgwick and Paige Shann, staff of the Andy Pandy Pre School Team, also delivered meals during their lunch breaks. Besides delivering the meals, over 650 prescriptions for the two local chemists were delivered to local residents. The meals service currently provided is on-going.

As well as Portchester Community Association and many others, particular thanks go to Portchester AFC Football Club and Gosport & Fareham Live at Home organisation, both of which have delivered meals and prescriptions to residents during this difficult period.

As at 26th June, regrettably 98 residents in Fareham Borough lost their life to the Coronavirus: our sincere sympathy goes out to all their families.

Hampshire County Council Members' Grants

Roger, as the County Councillor, has grant money to allocate before February 2021 and would particularly like to give aid to organisations who have suffered loss due to Coronavirus. Please contact him if you need help.

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■ Fareham Housing

We are very pleased that Fareham Council are building a number of new council properties across the Borough.

They will be designed to reflect the character of the area and will be built to very high "green" standards including solar panels and very high insulation levels.

Although only a small number, it will help those on the waiting list.

SQUASH

Squash players in the Fareham area are being squeezed out. They are disappointed that Fareham Leisure Centre Management, even after a 168 signature petition, have decided to replace the squash courts with a soft play area for children.

The Executive member for Leisure and Community however, after representations refused that the matter be reconsidered.

■ Hampshire County Council

PORTCHESTER PRECINCT

In our March newsletter we advised that Hampshire County Council, in conjunction with Portsmouth, made a bid to the Government under its Transforming Cities Bid Fund for money to improve the precinct and the A27 road network. Unfortunately the Government did not grant any money, therefore we will continue to look at other ways to improve Portchester precinct.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING TO ENCOURAGE CYCLING AND WALKING

Hampshire County Council is investigating a range of measures that could be implemented across the county, to keep people walking and cycling safely while maintaining social distancing, as the country gradually moves back to travelling to work and school. These include reallocating road space, signing to encourage physical distancing and establishing low-cost temporary measures to limit access by certain vehicles in specific areas. One such scheme that is being looked at for Portchester, is the closure of the bridge in Portsdown Road to road traffic so as to allow pedestrians and cyclists easy and safe access.

SCAMS In these difficult times, many people are trying to take advantage by email, telephone, post or calling. If you have concerns, tel: CAB Consumer Advice on 08082231133

MESSAGES FROM TWO OF OUR TEAM MEMBERS



JEAN KELLY

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During the Covid crisis, thanks go to the positive attitude shown from an army of willing, caring and determined volunteers, who realised that everyone needed help if we were to survive lockdown. They became involved in tasks, simple or challenging, according to what they were able to do, to make the lives of residents and neighbours happier, safer, more bearable and less worrying.

We need more help for the dementia sufferers in hospital and care homes. Many are in isolated bays and have had little contact with the outside world. We have been asked to knit more "Twiddle muffs" so that they have something to do with their hands, hopefully easing their mental distress.

Please help if you can - plain knitting a simple oblong is all it takes. For further details, please contact me.

Thank you and keep knitting!



ASHLEY BROWN

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The financial shockwave caused by the corona virus has already been sharply felt by many small businesses and individuals alike.

Whilst the government must ensure value for money, as ultimately taxpayers of today and tomorrow will pay for any support, there are still gaps in the help available especially for the newly self-employed and "gig workers". Ensuring these groups can survive the crisis is essential.

The furlough scheme has protected many jobs in the economy and has been welcomed by employers but as we return to a more normal way of life the government must keep finding ways to protect jobs in the medium term, as the emotional and financial hardship of unemployment can cause so much devastation to families.

What has been clear though, is the determination I've seen in fellow small business owners to reposition their offerings as necessary and survive.

Kudos to you all.

WORKING TOGETHER FOR PORTCHESTER

You can send us completed survey forms or visit our website at : www.farehamlibdems.org.uk

DEALING WITH CORONAVIRUS

How do you think the following organisations have dealt with the Coronavirus pandemic so far ?
(1-Very Poorly, 5-Very Well)

The NHS 1 2 3 4 5

Government 1 2 3 4 5

The Council 1 2 3 4 5

Would you be prepared to pay an extra 1p on the pound if that money went to the NHS ?

YES NO

Would you support a 'Frontline Service Award' payment (£29 per day) to NHS staff and careworkers, like our country does for the military on active duty ?

YES NO

Do you think the UK should work to become a hub for science and medicine so we can lead the fight against future pandemics ?

YES NO

OUR COMMUNITY

During the Coronavirus pandemic our community showed incredible resolve and spirit. There's no doubt that our area is special.

Are you aware of the community groups supporting people in Portchester and Fareham?

YES NO

Have you used community support ?

YES NO

Have you been able to volunteer for community support ?

YES NO

Having gone through lockdown, what changes do you think we should make for the future?

SUPPORTING HIGH STREETS

Many local businesses have struggled through Coronavirus because they have been unable to open.

With shops now opening will you be more or less likely to use our local high streets?

- MORE
- LESS
- NEITHER

Many local shops have gone above and beyond to support local people. Are there any businesses which

you think deserve recognition for their work ?

What would encourage you to make more purchases locally?

- Free parking
- Visual improvements
(e.g. More flowers, less litter)
- Better accessibility for all users
- Other, please specify below

■ YOUR DETAILS

We would like to keep you updated with campaigns and regular local information. Please provide your email and/or phone number and tick to give us your consent.

Tick if we can keep you updated by email.

YES NO

IF YES, EMAIL ADDRESS:

Tick if you are happy for us to contact you by phone.

YES NO

IF YES, PHONE NUMBER:

■ PROTECT YOUR VOTE

The past few years have seen more elections than ever. Now because of the pandemic, elections have been postponed. Thousands are now applying for a postal vote, to make sure they can vote at the next opportunity. If you would like an application form, let us know below and we'll send what you need. Would you like a postal vote form(s) sent to your house?

YES NO

Please give your postal address so we can send you the form(s)

POSTAL ADDRESS:



Published and promoted by Roger Price on behalf of the Liberal Democrats all at 49 Sissinghurst Road, Portchester, PO16 9YB.

■ GREEN SPACE

Do you think the Council is doing enough to preserve and protect our green spaces?

YES NO

What changes would you like to see in/around our green spaces?

Do you think the Council should focus on improving cycling and footpaths so we can do our bit for the environment?

YES NO

Are there any particular ideas you have for more/improved cycling routes or footpaths?

■ LOCAL DEMOCRACY

If there were a local election tomorrow how would you be likely to cast your vote?

- Liberal Democrats
 Conservative Labour
 Brexit Party Green
 Other _____

If there were a general election tomorrow how would you be likely to cast your vote?

- Liberal Democrats
 Conservative Labour
 Brexit Party Green
 Other _____

What is your number one issue you'd like to see your Local Councillors working on?



Council Surgery

Due to the Coronavirus we have been unable to hold our monthly Council Surgery in the Health Centre Library as Government restrictions do not allow more than two people to be together. As soon as restrictions are lifted we will resume our surgery on the first Saturday of the month.

Working hard all year round for PORTCHESTER EAST & WEST including DOWNEND

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