



VERWOOD VISTA

The Town Council Newsletter for *Verwood* and *Three Legged Cross*

Issue No. 62
MAY 2020

28 Vicarage Road, Verwood, BH31 6DR
Office Hours: 9am - 1pm Monday - Friday

MAYORS REPORT

As I write this report we are in the midst of lockdown and some members of our community are in total isolation. This is a very distressing time for everyone and we are all having to learn to live with our changing situation.



As usual, Verwood residents have responded in their hundreds to help and a highly successful Coronavirus Community Support Group has been established. These volunteers go shopping, collect prescriptions and keep in touch with the very vulnerable in our town. Our thanks go to everyone involved especially to all those who are keeping our services functioning: Doctors surgeries, Post Offices, Care Homes and many, many others. Morrisons and all their staff deserve a special mention for their friendliness and helpfulness.

The Town Council has continued to work virtually. The Town Clerk and Assistant Town Clerk are contactable by phone and email as are your Councillors.

Hopefully by the summer some of the restrictions will have lifted, we will all be able to be out and about, children will be able to play together again and enjoy the summer weather.

I am very proud to live in Verwood and to be its Mayor. It is a beautiful and friendly place and we are so lucky to have many open spaces to take our daily exercise.

I have not been able to do much to help but my sincere thanks go to every one of you for all that you have done.

Councillor Mrs Pat Morrow – Verwood Town Mayor.

VERWOOD TOWN COUNCIL OFFICE IS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC due to the Coronavirus-Covid 19 lockdown requirements but service will continue as usual.

TO CONTACT TOWN COUNCIL STAFF:

Either email:
towncouncil@verwood.gov.uk

or phone between
09.00am to 13.00pm

Town Clerk –
07935 994825

Asst. Town Clerk –
07897 220251

FOR RECYCLING BINS:

Please email:
towncouncil@verwood.gov.uk
or telephone **01202 820880**
and leave a message to book a collection slot.

Irish Blessing...
May the road rise up to meet you
May the wind be always at your back
May the sun shine warm upon your face
the rains fall soft upon your fields
and until we meet again
May God hold you in the palm of His hand

FOR COVID-19 INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT:

Government Website:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>

NHS Website:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19>

Dorset Council Website:

<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/home.aspx>

VERWOODIANS ON WASTE

Verwoodians on Waste have created a Plastic Pet Food recycling bin which is located in the car park at Cedar Veterinary Clinic, Vicarage Road.

All proceeds from the recycled plastic will go to the Cats Protection League. There are also recycling bins at The Hub and a baby food pouch bin at the children's nursery in Coopers Lane.



A MESSAGE OF THANKS FROM YOUR LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM

These are unsettling times and COVID-19 is clearly impacting our personal and professional lives, as well as the lives of those that we love.

We just wanted to say a huge thank you to all of you who are adhering to the regulations as well as those helping and supporting vulnerable members of our community.

By following regulations, we are confident that we will overcome the effects of this outbreak and our community will bounce back stronger than ever.

Please be assured that your local police team continues to patrol and where appropriate, follow up on reports of breaches of COVID-19 regulations. We will also 'challenge' people out and about when needed.

While it will seem alien to many to stay at home and 'do nothing' to help, this is exactly what you should do.



Phone **101** for a non-emergency call.

Phone **999** in an emergency.

You can also report on line at:

www.dorset.police.uk

Stay safe

PS 1451 Jane MOORE,
PC 1292 ROBERTSON and
PCSO 5104 Adam FITZWALTER
Neighbourhood Policing Team
Verwood and Rural East Dorset



Verwood Town Council YEAR END REPORT 2019-2020

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE REPORT

The Finance and General Purposes Committee consists of 12 members and meets eleven times a year. It is responsible for looking at the finances of the council, its administration and organisation. We deal with relevant correspondence and monitor the activity of the Council as well as highway matters.

The end of this year has been particularly challenging in terms of the COVID-19 response and adjusting accordingly.

We have dealt with the year on year matters including the insurance provision, pension policy, effectiveness and outcome of the Internal Audit, Annual Audit, Grant Aid, Financial Regulations and the Risk Management Statement. It is important that these are reviewed on an annual basis to make sure they remain fit for purpose. We have looked at different Councillors being involved in these matters so that different viewpoints can be considered. On a monthly basis we continue to review the budgets and accounts.

During the year various consultations have been considered and responded to by the committee, being recommended to the Full Council for submission to the relevant body. These include:

- Installation of the new play area in Three Legged Cross;
- Working on the Youth provision for Verwood and Three Legged Cross including negotiations with Dorset Council to take over the youth centre at Emmanuel School to protect youth provision in the parish;
- Reviewing and off-setting the Council's carbon footprint;
- Responding on the proposed Dorset National Park;
- Becoming members of the Rural Services Network.

In addition, this year we have also considered the following areas:

- Reviewed all policies;
- Agreed changes to the funding received from Dorset Council;
- Road and pathway safety improvements and accessibility, including Speed Indicator Devices;
- Supporting the Verwood Local Action Group by funding the meeting room;
- Review and are implementing Improvements to financial procedures.

We have been pleased to support various Grant Aid requests during the year where the sum of £16,820 was granted amongst 14 bodies.

In terms of finances, the committee continue to monitor the finances of the Council and its spending. We have set a budget for next year of £341,512 spread across the various funds. The finances remain in good shape for Verwood and Three Legged Cross moving forward.

I would like to thank everyone on the committee for their time and considerations of the various items during the year, as well as Val, Joyce, Michaela and Jan for all their efforts.

Cllr. M Parker – Chairman

AMENITIES COMMITTEE REPORT

It has once again been a very busy year this year, with many projects being achieved. Our Cemetery has seen the making up of the unmade part of the road along with maintenance around the garden of Remembrance. The cost of Cemetery charges was discussed, and it was decided that there would be no increase for this coming year.

The surfacing under the Cable Way in the Verwood Memorial Ground play area has now been replaced by a bonded rubber mulch which is durable and safe. Our next project was to replace the play area equipment at Three Legged Cross (Doorstep Green 12+). There was a lot of discussion regarding the equipment, but I think our young people will enjoy it. This has just been finished and is awaiting the official opening.



The three small play areas previously owned by Dorset Council are now in the ownership of Verwood Council these are Kiln Way, Ebblake Close and Crane Close.

Expenditure was discussed for the maintenance of our play areas and open spaces to ensure they are kept up to safety standards required by the Inspectors.

We always look forward to our Brass Band performing 'picnic in the park' and permission was given for three performances this year. Sunday 7th June, Sunday 12th July and Sunday 13th September. *Please note these dates might have to be revised due to the present climate.*

A request has been made to change the motorbike inhibitor on the right-hand side of Verwood Recreation Ground to a disabled gate, to make it accessible for wheelchairs. It was discussed and the Town Clerk will investigate costs and liaise with the Police to ensure there are no risks involved.

The Allotment Holder Association asked if there was a possibility that a small wildlife pond could be constructed within the allotment site. The council has asked if a risk assessment could be carried out by them before agreement.

Our lovely Town Sign on Ferrett Green is in need of some work as the crest is coming away, our Town Clerk is contacting contractors.

Councillor Sandra Grove – Chairman

PLANS CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Verwood and Three Legged Cross continue to be the subject of a substantial number of Planning Applications which this Committee has to consider, and comment upon where necessary. There have been a number of applications we have been asked to look at which were of particular interest to a large number of local residents, and some of our meetings have been packed with those objecting.

In general terms, we meet once every 3 weeks so as to comply with the statutory time limits for consultation that an applicant for planning consent is entitled to rely upon.

So far this year, we have considered ninety-eight applications, out of which we have only objected to twenty-two. The ethos of the Committee is to try and approve applications wherever we can for the benefit of the local community.

I would like to make it clear, mainly because of certain comments that have been seen in social media posts, that we are only an unpaid consultation body, on an advisory basis, and not a designated statutory consultee. As such, we have no power to refuse an application, as that power rests with the Local Planning Authority only. All we can do is advise and give our opinion where appropriate and notify our objections.

The other point that needs to be made is that we only can object to a planning application on statutory planning grounds as set out in the planning legislation and regulations (mainly Policy HE 2) and even if we do not like an application and do not wish to see it implemented, we are unable to express an objection if no planning grounds are transgressed. Just because we do not object does not mean that we approve of the application either, as we may not be able to find any valid planning grounds to do so.



I would like to remind all local residents that they can access and make their views known on any planning application currently being considered by the local planning authority on-line at www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

As always, this Committee would not function without the superb loyal support and help of our Town Clerk, Val Bright and her hard-working assistants, Jan and Michaela.

Councillor Martyn R. Hudson – Chairman



YOUR TOWN COUNCIL

Dewlands North Ward

Cllr Mrs L J Clark
01202 822275

Cllr Mr M Hudson
01202 974654

Dewlands South Ward

Cllr Mrs S Bhowe
07812 569974

Cllr Mrs T B Coombs
01202 827376

Cllr Mr S G Flower
01202 821231

Cllr Mrs S Grove
01202 826449

Cllr Mr P Mann (Deputy Mayor)
01202 820866

Cllr Mrs S Rose
07855 201532

Cllr Miss K Stephens
01202 940456

Cllr Mr M D Thorpe
07483 213309

Stephens Castle Ward

Cllr Mr A Biggs
01202 821186

Cllr Mrs L Dedden
01202 824473

Cllr Mr S Gibson
01202 820822

Cllr Mrs P Morrow (Mayor)
01202 814733

Cllr Mr M Parker
07703 342039

Cllr Miss B J Salmon
07867 334841

Three Legged Cross

Cllr Ms J Russell
01202 822236

SOMERLEY RECYCLING CENTRE

Hampshire County Council announced that Somerley Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC, or 'the tip') reopened on Monday 11 May for those who cannot store waste safely at home. There are revised opening times of 10am to 4pm only, and social distancing rules will be in place.

You should only travel if the build-up of waste in your home may pose a risk of injury or to health

We request that residents limit themselves to **one visit a week** whilst a restricted service is available, please. *The following measures will be in place:*

- Use of sites is only for essential disposal of waste whereby storing such waste causes a risk of injury or to health
- As per government guidelines, residents in the specified vulnerable category (those who are clinically extremely vulnerable, people over 70 and pregnant women) are strongly advised not to visit a site
- Restricted numbers of vehicles will be permitted to access the site at any one time and site staff will enforce this at the site entrance
- We ask that one person per household visit the HWRC. Only the driver will be permitted to leave the vehicle to handle and dispose of waste. Blue Badge holders are exempt from this rule.
- Commercial vehicles are permitted as we recognise this might be the only mode of transport for some households. Vans should be bringing no more waste than that which would fit in an average saloon car boot.
- Trailers are not permitted. Enforcement of social distancing on site means severely reduced capacity for manoeuvring trailers.
- To ensure the safety of residents and site staff, no walking in of waste is permitted.
- Due to social distancing measures, unfortunately site staff will be unable to provide any assistance with unloading material or carrying material. Please ensure you only bring the amount of waste you can comfortably carry and empty into containers.
- All site users must keep a 2-metre distance from others at all times.
- For your own safety, please wear gloves.
- Most waste materials will be accepted. **Materials not accepted** at this time include **textiles and chargeable waste streams (soil, rubble, plasterboard and asbestos)**. Please do not bring these items to site.
- CCTV is in operation and body cams will be utilised by site staff.
- Reuse sales areas will remain closed. Where possible, please continue to store items of furniture or donate to local furniture charities / use online platforms. Please see the Smart Living website for more information on furniture reuse.
- Please note there is likely to be queuing at the sites, please be patient or consider visiting at a less busy time. There will be zero tolerance of abuse of site staff and staff will be wearing body cameras.
- **The start date for the HWRC vehicle registration scheme has been postponed in light of the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic.** The online vehicle registration system remains open and we encourage residents to take the opportunity to register their vehicles ahead of the scheme opening.

Find out more about Hampshire's HWRC coronavirus-related restrictions www.hants.gov.uk.



VERWOOD HUB
COMMUNITY & LEISURE

The Hub, Brock Way,
Verwood, Dorset, BH31 7QE
dorsetforyou.gov.uk/verwoodhub/

Ticket refunds: For cancelled/postponed events which customers have been unable to attend. The Verwood Hub will contact all customers who have bought tickets to either offer refunds, exchanges, or to check if customers are happy with the new event dates. All existing tickets for events have automatically been transferred over to the new dates. For any information please email: Verwoodhub@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Vocalize Choir in Concert: Originally Saturday 2 May has been postponed until Saturday 7 November

The D Day Darlings – Songs That Won the War: Originally Friday 15 May has been postponed until Friday 18 September.

Cool Britannia – The Swinging 60's Relived: Friday 22 May - Postponed.

Verwood in Tune: Wednesday 27 May - Postponed.

The big events in June

And Finally...Phil Collins Tribute Band: Originally Saturday 6 June has been postponed until Friday 11 June 2021.

An Evening of Mediumship with Dan Clarke is still scheduled to go ahead, but could be subject to change.

Comedian Nick Helm's Phoenix from the Flames Tour has been postponed and is now scheduled to perform on Friday 12 March 2021.

Fitness: All customer fitness memberships have been frozen as of the date The Hub closed and payments will not resume until the Verwood Hub is back up and operational. If customers have bought annual memberships, any lost months will be added onto the end of the memberships.

If anyone is looking for their lockdown fitness fix... The Verwood Hub fitness team are posting videos of different workouts onto the Facebook page.



Please visit either the Verwood Hub Facebook page for any updates or our website: dorsetforyou.gov.uk/verwoodhub/

