

**25 June 2020**

# **Councillors' Connection**

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**All the latest information for residents is available at [www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/coronavirus) or over the phone on 0115 981 99 11.**

## Increased enforcement patrols in public spaces and meeting held about 10 Acre Field



Increased enforcement patrols from the police will continue at Bridgford Park, Bridge Field and 10 Acre Field to decrease instances of litter and anti-social behaviour at the parks and other public spaces with local rules.

All officials and Police have powers to enforce Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) rules which means public space users and West Bridgford town centre visitors must give up alcohol when asked

to do so by an official.

Failure to comply can lead to a fixed penalty notice or prosecution at court and a fine of up to £1,000.

On Monday the borough council announced the closure will be from 7 pm at Bridge Field and 9 pm at Bridgford Park, instead of 9.30 pm each evening, until further notice. Extra security fencing was also installed around their entrances and perimeters to prevent unauthorised access when closed and access to Bridge Field will continue to be through a single controlled access point.

The number of park users will be monitored so the areas can still be used safely in conjunction with government advice and all park users will be requested to leave the areas at the stated closing times.

Public Space users and town centre visitors are advised to approach officials or call Nottinghamshire Police on 101 should they need to raise any future concerns.

Today (Thursday 25th June) there was a meeting with police, the Lady Bay Primary School school head teacher, councillors and residents about the problems on 10 Acre Field/Adbolton Lane Playing Field. This is a school playing field for Lady Bay Primary School - please do not use the field as a place to meet. **Barbecues and fires are not permitted. If you go on the field please remove all litter and take it home** - the excellent volunteer litter pickers are having to go there twice a day to remove the huge amounts of glass, cans and plastic waste. **Go home at dusk and at all times keep noise to a minimum. If the anti-social behaviour on the field continues access will have to be prevented.**

## Reach Rushcliffe provides funding for virtual music café



A Lady Bay charity that provides virtual music cafes to combat social isolation and loneliness has received vital funding from Reach Rushcliffe.

Musicworks is receiving funds as part of the borough council's initiative which was launched in May aiming to tackle loneliness

The charity will use the funds to hold weekly virtual Heron Music Cafes, online musical sessions to help residents who are socially isolated,

have disabilities or mental health conditions including those with dementia to stay in touch with their communities.

The project is one of four successful applications that have benefitted from over £6,000 to help those in need.

During the sessions those attending are encouraged to communicate with each other while the singing is taking place and the words of the songs are also streamed allowing participants to sing along.

If you know of any organisations also looking to reduce social isolation please apply for funding through Reach Rushcliffe by visiting <https://www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/>

John Osborne said: "It is brilliant to receive funding through Reach Rushcliffe and the Borough Council.

"We know it is incredibly important to maintain the links our Music Cafes have developed throughout the community.

"We will now be able to hold a live virtual session once a week which will help maintain the momentum of the café and ensure that connections are not lost for members of the group."

## BUSINESS RECOVERY

### Changes to COVID-19 guidelines from July 4

**MANY BUSINESSES AND VENUES IN ENGLAND CAN REOPEN FROM SATURDAY 4 JULY IF THEY ARE COVID-19 SECURE:**

- Hotels, B&Bs, holiday homes and campsites
- Restaurants, cafes, pubs and bars
- Cinemas, museums and galleries
- Hair salons and barbers
- Libraries and community centres
- Places of worship
- Outdoor playgrounds and gyms
- Funfairs, theme parks and amusement arcades

STAY ALERT • CONTROL THE VIRUS • SAVE LIVES

On Tuesday (June 23), the Prime Minister announced a new range of changes to COVID-19 guidelines that will see further businesses reopen and a greater scope of activities available for residents across England.

The borough council will continue to respond to any concerns raised about businesses and workplaces that may not have implemented

the necessary steps to support their staff and customers and reopen in line with Government guidance.

Rushcliffe business owners are encouraged to visit [www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/businesscoronavirus](http://www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/businesscoronavirus) for links to the latest updates and information they need to reopen and ensure their business is COVID-19 Secure.

These pages also include guidance on the new range of businesses who can prepare to reopen from next month, as well as practical tools to help them do so, guidance on financial support and a grant finder to help them secure applicable grants for their industry or sector.

Residents are also invited to familiarise themselves with the changes from July 4 to ensure they know what they can and can't do throughout the Borough from this date. The full list of exempt and accepted activities from the Government is available at [www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/coronavirus/](http://www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/coronavirus/)

### Plans to ease guidance for those shielding from July 6



Millions of people shielding from coronavirus (COVID-19) can spend more time outside their homes from Monday July 6.

From this date, those shielding will be able to meet a group of up to six people outdoors, including those outside of their household, while maintaining social distancing.

Alongside those who live alone or are single parents with children, people shielding will also be able to create a 'support bubble' with one other household of any size, following the same rules already in place for the wider population.

From August 1, the guidance will be relaxed so clinically extremely vulnerable people will no longer be advised to shield, but support will remain available from NHS volunteers and local councils. People will retain their priority for supermarket delivery slots, and still be able to access help with shopping, medication, phone calls and transport to medical appointments.

To read the full update please visit: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/plans-to-ease-guidance-for-over-2-million-shielding>

## Car park charges and restrictions to resume from Monday



A reminder that Rushcliffe's car parks are resuming all regular charges and restrictions from Monday, June 29 to help balance the needs of businesses, shoppers and visitors to town centres, villages and parks.

Structured daytime parking rules at Bridgford Road, Gordon Road and Nursery Road car parks in West Bridgford, Bunny Lane in Keyworth, Needham Street in Bingham and Rushcliffe Country Park will return,

once again ensuring a healthy turn over of spaces to help support local economies in these locations.

Contactless payment for parking can be made quickly and easily using the RingGo app, by call, text or online at [www.myringgo.co.uk](http://www.myringgo.co.uk) across the borough's five Pay and Display car parks.

## Framework to reduce risk for workers in adult social care



The Department of Health and Social Care has [published guidance](#) for anyone who employs people who work in adult social care.

It provides a framework for how employers should assess and support members of their workforce who may be at an increased risk from coronavirus.

It covers:

- the risk assessment process
- having conversations with workers who are identified as being at increased risk
- measures employers could put in place, both across the workforce and for individuals
- useful guidance and resources

## Nottinghamshire Coronavirus Community Support Hub



Nottinghamshire County Council are coordinating the Community Support Hub and they are continuing to work closely with all seven District and Borough Councils to further their COVID-19 Community and Support Volunteering Hub.

Details are available

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

on <https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/> which welcomes emails or phone calls from volunteers, as well as those seeking support for free between 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday: **0300 500 8080**.

## Applications for the COVID-19 Community Fund



The County Council's COVID-19 Community Fund is among the places that volunteer groups and community efforts should apply to for funding during the pandemic.

To date, the fund has assisted 17 initiatives in the Borough, with over £51,000 distributed.

Applications can be made on [the Nottinghamshire County Council website](https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/) <https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/>

**Rushcliffe Councillors' Community Support Grants can also now be used to fund COVID-19 related projects. Please email or call Richard and Sue Mallender to apply:**  
**[susan.mallender@googlemail.com](mailto:susan.mallender@googlemail.com) [mallender1968@gmail.com](mailto:mallender1968@gmail.com)**  
**0115 914 (Home) 0529 07976775619 (Richard) 07788 736468 (Sue)**

## Extension for planning applications due to expire during COVID-19 restrictions

Central government have confirmed planning application's expiry dates in Rushcliffe will be extended to April 1 next year in line with national guidelines.

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government confirmed the new time frames in place for all applications given consent in the last three years set to that lapse between March 23 and December 31 will receive the extension.

The new guidance introduced will mean that residents and businesses with applications recently expired or due to expire, do not have to re-submit their plans.

For more information regarding the planning process in Rushcliffe, visit <https://www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/>

## **Canal & River Trust reassures communities along the Grantham Canal following prolonged dry period**



**Canal &  
River Trust**  
Making life better by water

The Canal & River Trust is writing to communities along the Grantham Canal to reassure them about water levels in their local stretch of canal following a period of prolonged dry weather.

With below average rainfall in March and April, and the Met Office recently recording the driest May on record in England, the Trust has received a number of reports of low water on some parts of the Grantham Canal – specifically at Lady Bay and Kinoulton.

Water supply on the Nottingham end of the canal is particularly challenging, with the stretch from Cotgrave to Lady Bay only having one significant source of water supply – the Cotgrave feeder - which enters the canal near Skinners Lock Cottage. This means that the water levels in the canal are very much affected by rainfall, and do tend to drop during the summer, particularly in the downstream end at Lady Bay. These water supply issues have been compounded by low flat culverted bridges which have been built across the canal since it was closed to boat traffic in 1929.

With such low rainfall the charity's expert ecologists have been regularly visiting the canal to monitor the potential impact on wildlife and have recorded no immediate threats.

**People wanting to help improve their local stretch of canal for people and wildlife can find out more from the Friends of Lady Bay Canal Facebook**

**page <https://www.facebook.com/friendsofladybaycanal/>**

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