

Your Parish and Town Council Bulletin

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To: [clerk@southcroxtonparish.org.uk](mailto:clerk@southcroxtonparish.org.uk)

Updating you on news specifically for Parish and Town Councils across Charnwood.

View this email in your browser (<https://mailchi.mp/55799943c6f8/your-members-bulletin-2137033?e=b7bcb27c6b>)

Welcome to the Parish and Town Council Bulletin featuring the latest news and information across Charnwood during the Coronavirus outbreak.

\*\* Welcome to your second bulletin

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Welcome to our second Parish and Town Councillors bulletin. The bulletin has been created to ensure we keep you all up to date with information and news regarding the COVID-19 response and recovery across the borough.

While things are beginning to return to the 'new' normal, Charnwood Borough Council continue to want to support our Parish and Town councils wherever possible and keep you updated with the work we are doing to support our Parish and Town Councils.

We continue to communicate with LRALC and look for their advice, guidance and information to be shared with Parish and Town Councils.

As always, we welcome your comments, feedback and suggestions so please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to raise anything

\*\* Charnwood Borough Council update

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Leicester lockdown and how it affects areas in Charnwood

Residents in Leicester and its outlying areas, including Birstall, Thurmaston and Wanlip in Charnwood, are to be asked to continue to follow stricter lockdown restrictions for at least two weeks, and non-essential shops will be closed. More information - including frequently asked questions and a postcode checker - can be found at [www.charnwood.gov.uk/restrictions](http://www.charnwood.gov.uk/restrictions).

Help available to residents in the lockdown area

Charnwood Community Action is here to help – that's the message to residents in Birstall, Thurmaston and Wanlip which are affected by the lockdown restrictions around Leicester.

The Charnwood Community Action campaign was launched by the borough council and John Storer Charnwood at the start of the coronavirus pandemic to provide support to the local community.

More information in this news story (<https://charnwood.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=01f36d70d77e2b4a55e9949e9&id=610d32d1d1&e=b7bcb27c6b>) .

Reception to open on appointment-only basis from July 13

Charnwood Borough Council will open its Customer Service Centre to customers with essential enquiries on an appointment-only basis from Monday, July 13.

Customers will be able to make appointments to visit the Customer Service Centre in Southfield Road by calling 01509 634560 from 9am on Wednesday July 8.

Appointments with a Customer Advisor will be available from Monday to Friday, 8.30am until 4.30pm, with 30-minute slots given to each customer. Reception will be closed from 12.30pm to 1.30pm daily and there will be no entry into the building during this time.

More information in this news story (<https://charnwood.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=01f36d70d77e2b4a55e9949e9&id=161c8f9b41&e=b7bcb27c6b>) .

Loughborough Market update

Loughborough Retail Market has reopened on Thursdays and Saturdays and traders are returning on a phased programme.

The stalls have been set up to allow for social distancing and signage is in place for shoppers.

The vintage market returns on Friday July 17.

The farmers' and craft market returns on Wednesday August 12.

Service updates during the pandemic

We are frequently reviewing services delivered by the Council during the coronavirus pandemic and we will update this webpage about changes to services.

More information – and constant updates – can be found at [www.charnwood.gov.uk/coronavirus\\_service\\_updates](http://www.charnwood.gov.uk/coronavirus_service_updates).

\*\* Memorial Tree Policy

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Charnwood Borough Council are looking as ways they can plant commemorative trees to remember the people that have passed away. We are aware that during this difficult time many families and friends have not been able to attend funerals to mark the loss of a loved one.

To support these residents to commemorate their loss, Charnwood have updated their tree memorial policy and are keen to work with Parish Councils to broaden the number of locations where memorial trees could be located.

While we appreciate planting the memorials at this time while strict social distancing is in place and people gathering should not be encouraged, we are looking to the future and a time when families and friends may be able to come together and want to remember a lost loved one.

We would like to ask all councillors to consider having locations on Parish Council land where memorial trees could be planted. We would welcome any comments, feedback or questions.) .

More information can also be found including the new policy at:

[www.charnwood.gov.uk/open\\_spaces\\_memorial\\_provision](https://www.charnwood.gov.uk/open_spaces_memorial_provision) (<https://charnwood.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=01f36d70d77e2b4a55e9949e9&id=22e0964d76&e=b7bcb27c6b>) .

\*\* High streets reopening in most areas

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More businesses have opened up in the past few weeks across the borough, except for those included in the Leicester lockdown area.

The Council has been proactive in supporting the high streets, with staff offering advice about managing queues, particularly where there are narrow pavements, identifying potential hot spots and installing floor markings.

Staff have also delivered the leaflets to businesses offering support and guidance to help them re-open.

\*\* Cycle racks

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We have now installed cycle racks in 6 locations across the Borough. Many thanks to the clerks who helped and supported us find suitable locations.

\*\* Consultation webinar on the LGA draft Model Member Code of Conduct

Wednesday 29 July 2020, 11.00am - 12.00pm

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This webinar is one of a series of webinars that will provide attendees with the opportunity to find out

about the background and reasoning behind the drafting of the consultation version of the LGA's Model Member Code of Conduct.

Attendees will be invited to ask questions, give their opinions and make suggestions for alterations to the draft code. The views from these webinars will complement the online consultation questionnaire the LGA is undertaking on the consultation draft Model Member Code of Conduct. We would like to encourage members and officers to participate.

During the webinars, we will also reflect on how COVID-19 has impacted on how councillors undertake their role. As more communication is taking place remotely and online between members and residents, particularly through social media, there may be more difficult and heated discussions as some seek to express the fear, frustration and heightened emotions they are experiencing at this time.

However, abuse, threatening and intimidatory communications continue to be unacceptable, and we have sought to address these issues in the draft code.

Speakers include:

- \* Cllr Marianne Overton MBE, LGA Vice-Chair
- \* Paul Hoey, Co-Director, Hoey Ainscough Associates
- \* Thelma Stober, Head of Legal Services, LGA
- \* Abigail Gallop, Senior Policy Adviser, LGA

To book a place please follow this link (<https://charnwood.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=01f36d70d77e2b4a55e9949e9&id=45f3e91f98&e=b7bcb27c6b>) .

\*\* Public toilets

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The borough council has reopened toilets in Market Place and Queen's Park in Loughborough, We are keen to see all public toilets re-opening across the borough. We have now issued some information as well as the Government's guidance to help Parish and Town Councils open their public toilets however if we can be of any more help or assistance please get in touch.

\*\* Play parks reopened from July 6

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The 44 council-owned play areas across Charnwood opened from Monday July 6.

The Government has issued new guidance for the re-opening of playparks which can be found on their website (<https://charnwood.us12.list->

[manage.com/track/click?u=01f36d70d77e2b4a55e9949e9&id=0a7aba8265&e=b7bcb27c6b](https://manage.com/track/click?u=01f36d70d77e2b4a55e9949e9&id=0a7aba8265&e=b7bcb27c6b)).

\*\* Community Centres

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As you are preparing to open your buildings during the easing of restrictions (outside of the Leicester lockdown) our team are here to help and offer you support and guidance. We have emailed all Parish and Town clerks extensive information from our Environmental Services team around opening community buildings safely and have included template risk assessments, links to the HSE website, links to You Tube videos for PPE training and reminded staff that a lack of flow of water supplies could result in the formation of legionella bacteria in a water system.

You are legally responsible under health and safety law to manage risks arising from use of the building. As such, you will need to put together a Covid-19 risk assessment and detail all of the control measures being put into place to protect the safety of your staff, customers and anyone else affected by your work activity.

If we can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us or alternatively LRALC are also able to provide you with information and advice.

Kind regards,

Victoria Coomber

Charnwood Borough Council

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