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BROADSTAIRS & ST. PETER'S  
TOWN COUNCIL



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## Broadstairs & St. Peter's Town Council Newsletter



Danielle Dunn  
Town Clerk

I had hoped to publish this issue of the Town Council

Newsletter much earlier in March. However, the rapidly changing situation with the Covid-19 pandemic has meant that every time I start to write it, within 24 hours the information within it has changed. Following the holding of an Extraordinary Council meeting last week, I am now able to provide up-to-date and relevant information to the community on how the Town Council will provide services over the coming months.

*Danielle Dunn, Town Clerk*

### Town Council Offices

After many years of being located in the wing of Pierremont Hall, the Town Council has now moved to the top floor Cockerell Suite, within the main part of the building.

The factors behind the move have been the financial savings to the Town Council and having better access to the hireable facilities, we will also be able to offer longer opening hours to the community.

The office move has given the Town Council a better basis for dealing with the current Covid-19 situation, as a new phone system was installed which enables home-working capability. Therefore, the face-to-face service offered by the Town Council is currently unavailable. But, we are still able to provide the majority of our services remotely. Should you wish to contact us, please telephone the main office number or email us using the details which are at the top of this newsletter.

Once our full service is up and running again and you need to meet us in person, please enter Pierremont Hall via the double black doors and press the intercom buzzer 5 labelled: Broadstairs & St. Peter's Town Council, The Cockerell Suite.

### Covid-19 Cancellations

Despite the best efforts to keep disruption to Town Council service provision to a minimum. The Town Council has now decided to suspend all Town Council meetings until further notice. This will include the postponement of the Annual Council Meeting (ACM) due to be held at the Broadstairs Pavilion on the 18<sup>th</sup> May 2020. It is hoped that a new date can be

convened for the Annual Council Meeting later in the year.

We thank Cllr Paul Moore, the Mayor of Broadstairs & St. Peter's for the Civic Year 2019-2020, who has agreed to stay in office until a new ACM can be called.

The VE day celebrations due to be held in Pierremont Park on the 8<sup>th</sup> May, have also been cancelled.

### Covid-19 and Social Media

The Town Council are currently managing a social media album, collating all of the offers of help for the community and what services are available during the outbreak. If you wish to search for the album please use the hashtag #befriendbroadstairs

Thanet District Council is coordinating the district response. All details can be found on their website.

<https://www.thanet.gov.uk/service/s/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic/>

Members of the community are asked to follow the national guidelines on disposing of used tissues:

"Anyone who is asked to self-isolate, either as a precaution or because they are confirmed to

have Coronavirus, must follow this advice when disposing of their household waste:

Put tissues, cleaning cloths, and disposable wipes in a plastic rubbish bag, which should then be tied when full

The plastic bag should be placed in a second bin bag and tied

The bag should be put in a suitable and secure place (away from children) and stored for 72 hours (3 full days)

After the 72 hour period has elapsed it is safe to treat the bagged tissues wipes etc as general waste even if anyone living at your address thinks they may have COVID-19

You should NOT put your waste in the communal waste areas until the waste has been stored for at least 72 hours. After 72 hours outside the body, the virus is no longer viable and the double-bagged waste can be put in the general rubbish collection as normal.

Only waste that is heavily contaminated, such as tissues that have been coughed into and disposable cleaning cloths, need to be treated in this way. Regular household recycling and waste should be treated as normal."

### Pierremont Hall bookings

The timing of the pandemic has meant that the hiring and booking of facilities at Pierremont Hall have been temporarily affected. But, gaining positives from this situation, it has given us more time to arrange the relevant licenses and get our background booking system in place. A new dedicated website for bookings and events at Pierremont Hall has now been set up and is available directly from the Town Council website or through a Google

search:

<https://pierremonthall.co.uk/>

The first wedding has already been booked for 2021!

Pierremont Hall has two rooms available for hire, the Council Chamber, which holds 70 people and The Mayor's Parlour, which can accommodate 16 people.

The rooms are available for conferences, meetings, family parties, weddings, christenings, theatre etc. and are priced as follows:

Council Chamber:

Mon to Fri 08:00 – 22:00 £40/hr

Sat to Sun: 10:00 until midnight £55/hr

The Mayor's Parlour is available to hire on weekdays for £20/hr.

Discounts are available for CT10 residents and local community groups and organisations. Please discuss your requirements with our Events and Bookings Manager, Leanne Hadden 01843 263609 or email: [events@broadstairs.gov.uk](mailto:events@broadstairs.gov.uk)

### Renovation work - Pierremont Hall and Buildings

The Town Council is currently out to tender for the Phase 2 works of Pierremont Hall, which will include the renovation of the former Town Council offices, which will be divided in two, and the replacement of the old timber extension near The Cottage.

The bottom office, with the disabled access, will be let commercially, and the upper office will be retained as a security office for Pierremont Park, with two small meeting rooms available to hire by the community.

The Phase II works will also include the removal of the redundant fire escape and the provision of a new disabled ramp.

It is hoped that the Phase II work will begin at the beginning of the summer and will take about 3 months to complete. However, the current Covid-19 situation will be monitored to see if this is achievable.

The Town Council will consider the potential of a phase 3 renovation project, which will consist of improvements to the basement area, over the coming years.

### Successful grant applicants:

The Town Council is pleased to support the following community groups and events in the 2020-2021 financial year: Broadstairs Bowls Club, Broadstairs Dickens Festival, Broadstairs Food Festival, Broadstairs Folk Week, Broadstairs Heritage Foundation, Broadstairs Horticultural Society, Broadstairs Literature Festival, Broadstairs Summer Fireworks Events, Broadstairs Visitor Information Kiosk, Broadstairs Water Gala, St. Peter's Memorial Hall, St. Peter's Old Boys, The Friends of Mockett's Wood, The Broadstairs Society, The Chamber of Commerce Christmas Event, The Gap Project, The Sarah Thorne Theatre, The Twinning Association

A further grant of £1000 was awarded to the Thanet Citizen Advice Bureau on the 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020 to help them recruit a debt counsellor and advisor. The Town Council is aware of the difficult situation faced by many residents who have lost jobs due to the Covid-19 outbreak.

### Retort House

The opening of Retort House has once again been delayed. The work required by UK Power Networks to upgrade the

electricity supply to the sports hall has identified some additional works that will need to be undertaken before the site can open.

The Town Council is working with its project manager to resolve these issues as quickly as possible and it is hoped that we will be in a position to open when the Covid-19 situation has improved.

### Thanet District Council (TDC) Asset Disposal

The Town Council has now submitted offers for the redundant toilets in the Albion Street car park and the assets in and around Victoria Gardens, all currently on the TDC Asset disposal list.

The Town Council is waiting to hear back from TDC regarding these offers and will provide the community with updates in future Newsletters.

### Neighbourhood Development

The Neighbourhood Plan continues to be ignored by Thanet District Council, despite being submitted back in November 2018. The Planning Committee has now lobbied our local MP to see if he can put forward a case for the plan to be 'called-in' by the Secretary of State. This will mean that the plan will be taken out of the hands of Thanet District Council and a decision on whether the plan can be subject to community referendum will be made at national level. It seems likely that the Covid-19 situation will delay this, at it is low priority. However, the Town Council will continue its efforts to get the plan recognised.

### Festoon Lighting

The Town Council is currently looking at ways that the festoon lighting can be improved along the promenade area of Viking Bay and out towards Louisa Bay. The

lighting has suffered significantly from the weather and spent much of last year out of action.

To help with this, the Town Council is currently out to tender to look for a long-term solution for decorating the area beautifully, but with a scheme that has longevity and is more sustainable environmentally and financially.

For details of the tender, please visit the Government Contract Finder website:

<https://www.contractsfinder.service.gov.uk/Notice/9329dfb9-of8e-4f78-b75a-7bbde001c182?origin=SearchResults&p=1>

### Mayor's News

Due to the impending retirement of the current Mayor's Secretary, the Mayor's diary is currently being managed by Abigail Barton. Abigail has been working for the Town Council for 2.5 years since joining us as an EKC Business Administration Apprentice. We are glad that we have supported her to gain this role and through the completion of her NVQ Level 2 and imminent Level 3 qualification. If you need to contact the Mayor, the contact details remain the same.

Before the first Council meeting in January, the Mayor and Mayoress opened the newly



renovated Pierremont Hall. The event was attended by Councillors, members of the Town Forum and businesses that have made the building their home or made the project possible. The photograph shows the Mayor enjoying the new kitchen facilities onsite.

The Mayor's Spring Ball was held at the beginning of March and was well attended. £620 was raised over the evening.

The money raised across all of the Mayor's fundraising events will now be totalled and distributed to his three chosen Charities, Pancreatic Cancer, The Town Shed and the Zone Youth Club.

**All Broadstairs & St. Peter's Town Council events and meetings are postponed until further notice**

