

Stokesley Town Council Newsletter



Markets – Following full risk assessments and the implementation of appropriate social distancing measures, both the weekly Friday markets and the Farmers’ Markets are now up and running again. The next Farmers’ Markets will be held on **Saturday 5 September 2020**, and **Saturday 3 October 2020**.

Friday Coffee Mornings –some charity groups and clubs have re-commenced these coffee mornings in the Town Hall. Please check our website / social media for weekly details.

Town Hall – is steadily re-opening with regular users progressively returning in line with government guidelines and following completion of risk assessments. Yoga and Tai-Chi classes have restarted with Slimming World and Art Classes due to recommence in September. Keep an eye on the website for further updates. Please contact Julie or Debbie on 01642 710270 for the availability of the Town Hall for one-off events.

Craft Fairs – will recommence on Saturday 5 September with a new one-way system round the building to enable safe social distancing. Customers will be asked to wear a mask in accordance with Government guidelines for shopping. Hand sanitiser stations are located around the building and we encourage people to regularly use these. The Town Hall toilets will not be open to the public, but the Public Toilets, next to the ziggurat, will be open.

Stokesley Bounce Back – A working group has been established to progress the possible use of manorial land to assist in the re-opening of hospitality businesses in the town.

Former Barclays Bank – Following complaints from the Town Council about the continuing deterioration of this prominent building on the High Street, the Planning Enforcement Team at Hambleton District Council has requested the owner to carry out a series of remedial works.

Town Council Meetings – The next meetings will be held on **Tuesday 8 September 2020** and **Tuesday 13 October 2020**. With the current COVID-19 restrictions all town council meetings are being held remotely using Zoom. If you have any questions or comments that would usually be covered in the public session, please submit these in writing to the Town Clerk via e-mail – contact@stokesleytowncouncil.gov.uk or post them through the Town Hall letter box. If you wish to participate in the meeting then please notify the Clerk in writing to the same e-mail address and you will be issued with a ‘Zoom’ meeting invitation to enable you to join the meeting remotely. Each meeting starts at 7.00pm and opens with a public session.

Surgeries – These are currently suspended because of the COVID-19 restrictions but you can still submit questions via the Town Clerk by e-mail to contact@stokesleytowncouncil.gov.uk, in writing using ‘Freepost STOKESLEY TOWN COUNCIL’ or through the Town Hall letterbox. Please include your name and contact details to enable us to respond.

Levenside Footpath – Following the preparation by our design consultants of detailed drawings for the refurbishment of the river wall and the provision of a more accessible footpath it is planned to hold a public consultation event on the proposals on Saturday 26 September 2020 in the Town Hall.

Devolution – In response to Government instructions, plans are being prepared for a unitary authority to cover North Yorkshire which would enable additional regional powers and funding to be secured. Such an authority would replace both the district and county councils, with the potential for town and parish councils to take on additional services.

Protect River Leven Crayfish - American Signal crayfish is an invasive species and carries a fungal disease specific to crayfish. This has recently been detected in the River Leven and has infected the rare native White Clawed variety. It is likely that fungal spores which spread the disease have been transferred from another river or catchment. To prevent further spread, please avoid walking or mountain biking through the River Leven and sub-streams. If you or your dog goes in a river, do not go in another one on the same day.

Healthwatch North Yorkshire – is the independent public voice for people using local health and social care services. It is urging people to share their experiences of health and social care to help services recover from COVID-19. While the NHS and social care are doing everything that they can to support you and your loved ones, they need your help to know how they can improve. Take the quick survey at www.healthwatchnorthyorkshire.co.uk or call 01904 552687.