

Stokesley Town Council Newsletter



Toilets – Throughout the past months the Town Council has been pleased to keep the public toilets open. Thanks go to our caretaker, Peter Dobson, for ensuring this could take place. The provision of contactless hand-washing facilities has been appreciated by many, including delivery drivers who have noted that similar facilities have not been available in several other towns.

Posters – Hambleton District Council has produced a series of posters to support the re-opening of the High Street with the common theme of ‘Enjoy Hambleton Safely’ to help residents and visitors reduce the risk from COVID-19.

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 4 July 2020**, and **Saturday 1 August 2020**.

Manorial Land – The trustees are examining with other authorities the possible use of manorial land to assist in the re-opening of hospitality businesses in the town.

Town Hall – Following the temporary closure of the Town Hall in late March there has been a full redecoration and a deep clean of facilities. Having completed a full risk assessment, detailed plans are now in place for when the Town Hall re-opens, in line with government guidelines, including the regular cleaning of frequently touched surfaces. When it is safe to do so, we look forward welcoming back users.

Craft Fairs – Please check the Town Council website / social media for details of when we will be able, safely, to host future Craft Fairs in the Town Hall.

Town Hall Clock – By the time you read this the Town Hall Clock should (hopefully) be back in full operation. Originally planned for two days after lockdown was imposed, the re-installation had to be postponed until restrictions were relaxed.

SPIOTA – Thanks go to Stokesley Pride In Our Town Association team for ensuring the Town still looks beautiful during these difficult times. They have raised everyone’s spirits with achieving all the re-planting around the Town with limited helpers as several members have been self-isolating.

Community Care – Further thanks go to the Stokesley & District Community Care Association for all the prescriptions its volunteers have delivered and all their work to make sure those vulnerable in the community are well supported.

Former Barclays Bank – The Town Council has complained about the continuing deterioration of this prominent building on the High Street to the Planning Enforcement Team at Hambleton District Council with a view to securing improvements.

Town Council Meetings – The next meetings will be held on **Tuesday 14 July 2020** and **Tuesday 11 August 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 then please submit them 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.

Why become a Town Councillor? – The process has started for the appointment of a new Town Councillor to fill the current vacancy. As a town councillor you will be an unpaid volunteer to whom our community looks for help, guidance and support; a community leader with the power to influence decisions for the benefit of Stokesley. Seeing Stokesley change for the better, as a result of decisions you have helped to make, provides a sense of achievement and pride. You do not have to be connected to a political party. Please have a word with the Town Clerk or one of the current councillors to find out more.

Tanton Bridge – We understand from North Yorkshire County Council that they are planning to re-open the bridge to traffic in early July.