

Hail Weston Parish Council Meeting – February 2021

COVID 19

The County Council would like to remind people that if they need help during this pandemic, they should go onto either the County or District website's or phone the Countywide Hub on 034504552. Free school meals will be provided to those eligible during the February Half term

The County Wide Co-ordination Hub for the Covid 19 pandemic, which was set up last year, has provided support to those who need it most. The Hub coordinated the redeployment of 420 members of staff from CCC and PCC to support the response to the pandemic.

To date the hub has:-

Provided regular support to almost 8000 clinically vulnerable people

Worked closely with the British Red Cross to provide 3590 people with food parcels

Responded to 19433 requests for support, which ranged from practical support to offering advice and guidance

Supporting 32,000 children and young people with access to food over the Christmas Break

Helped 46 people to self- isolate where the national scheme was unable to assist

Assisted almost 3500 households by providing information and support

Providing 23 people with access to transport for vaccinations, who otherwise would not have the ability to get there

The National Lockdown is underway you must not leave or be outside home your except where you have a reasonable excuse, ie for Work which cannot be undertaken at home, ie critical national infrastructure , construction or manufacturing, volunteering . Essential activities such as food shopping or obtaining services, Education or Childcare, Meeting others and care, you can leave home to visit people in your support bubble , to provide informal childcare for children under 14 as part of a childcare bubble, Exercise, Medical reasons, Compassionate visits ie to visit someone who is dying or for you to accompany them to a medical appointment or to avoid injury or harm ie domestic abuse, Animal Welfare reasons and Communal worship, funerals and weddings.

To obtain more information about the vaccination programme in Cambridgeshire , please go to the following website :-

www.cambridgeshireandpeterboroughccg.nhs.uk/news-and-events/latest-news/covid-19-national-vaccination-programme

In the last seven days up to the 10th February the number of new people tested positive for Covid 19 in the Kimbolton & Hail Weston area was 17, which gives a rate of 261.7 per 100,000 of population.

The latest information I have on the Coronavirus in Huntingdonshire for the period from 8h February to 15th February, there were 246 new cases over the last seven days. Which equates to 159 cases per 100,000 of population. This is a decrease of 20% compared to the previous seven days. There were 16 more deaths in the last seven days, which were within 28 days of a positive test.

The County Council has approved its budget for the next financial year, which will see 20 million extra spent on footpath maintenance of which 50% will be spent on surface treatments, such as footway repairs and 50% on resurfacing and reconstruction. An additional 2.73million extra will be spent on measures to prevent flooding and improve local biodiversity. This will include new measures such as rapid gully cleaning at all known risk sites and better verge maintenance on rural roads avoiding peak flowering times. Plus a series of initiatives to provide both active and practical support for local communities to address flooding.

The County Council proportion of Council Tax will rise by a 1.99% with an additional 1% increase on Adult Social Care precept. The remaining budget gap is proposed to be filled by deploying 3.8million from the Councils Transformation Fund, thus keeping the increase to a minimum for all residents.

With regard to Flooding HDC & CCC are engaging with other organisations to review the recent flooding events. To identify what could have been done better to support our communities in the event of a flood and what actions can be taken to reduce the risk of flooding

The West Huntingdonshire Demand Responsive Transport scheme (Buses) is due to commence once lockdown has ended and once public messaging no longer discourages use of public transport. I will keep the PC updated regarding the scheme.

If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact me

Kind regards

Ian

Cllr Ian Gardener

County Councillor for Alconbury & Kimbolton