

WALTON PARISH COUNCIL

Dear resident

We are all certainly in unknown, worrying and rapidly changing times.

The purpose of this letter is to let you know that the Parish Council and your Borough Councillors are ready to work with you in whatever capacity is needed as things develop. We are happy to act as a link between yourselves and the Borough Council if, and when, difficult situations arise. We are here to offer you our support as appropriate.

Help and support in the community

We are aware that many local residents are showing tremendous community spirit and several local groups have formed through social media platforms to provide practical help to vulnerable residents and the over 70's. Whilst we do not want to discourage this, we are also aware that this brings about several safeguarding issues which might put older people at risk. These new groups and individuals are completely unregulated and whilst we recognise their tremendous efforts, we would ask that there is a degree of caution when it comes to sharing personal information, handing over money and ensuring that the help offered is appropriate.

Warrington Voluntary Action is collating information to help coordinate activity safely and support residents. Please encourage local groups to register on the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/VQQKD2V>

Keeping yourself safe

The latest public health advice is that *everyone* should be doing it, not just those whose age and health puts them into the vulnerable category. That advice may be useful to you, your family and your residents, and can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-social-distancing-and-for-vulnerable-people/guidance-on-social-distancing-for-everyone-in-the-uk-and-protecting-older-people-and-vulnerable-adults>

Warrington Borough Council

Warrington Borough Council has been working tirelessly to produce sensible guidelines for all areas of our Warrington community and are closely following government guidelines as they change.

Council Officers are mostly working from home to ensure that as much Council business as possible continues. Please check the Borough Council website for updated information

<https://www.warrington.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19-warrington>

The Contact Centre is still operating and residents/Parish Councils will be able to contact the Borough Council via telephone, email or internet but not in person. Similar arrangements are also being made at the Register Office. In the coming days, you may also see the suspension of organised sports activities on Council pitches along with closures of facilities operated by LiveWire and Culture Warrington. All libraries in Warrington have now closed.

A main priority of the Borough Council is to ensure that services provided by Adult Social and Children's Social Services is remain uninterrupted and safe.

Warrington's Own Buses

From Monday 23rd March 2020, Warrington's Own Buses will be making changes to a number of services. These changes are as a result of the steep decline in passenger numbers that have been seen over the last 7 days due to Covid-19 pandemic. These changes are necessary to ensure that buses continue to trade throughout the duration of the pandemic.

Community Groups

If you have set up a new Community Group can you let us know. In addition who is your leader/co-ordinator and your contact number. Community groups should also register with Warrington Voluntary Action.

Walton Parish Council

Ray Hallam Parish Clerk will continue to work remotely and respond to emails and phone calls

07801 472083; waltonpcclerk@yahoo.co.uk

Your safety

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We sincerely hope that this unprecedented situation passes quickly and that the residents in Appleton remain safe and healthy.

On behalf of the staff and all Parish Councillors, I wish you all the best and please contact us if you need us.

Denise Karalius

Chair of Walton Parish Council

01925 747737; 07753 798982; denisekaralius@gmail.com