

# PARISH NEWSLETTER

April 2020 | COVID-19 | Issue 2



## Enforcement Site Visits

Officers will continue to make site visits for critical services after assessing the situation and following government guidance.

Only visits that are considered to be critical, essential or urgently necessary will be carried out by a visiting officer but this will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

Should a visit be considered critical, essential or urgently necessary and cannot be postponed or rescheduled, the officer will attempt to establish details electronically. If details cannot be established electronically and a site visit is required, officers will discuss with individuals whether access to the rear of buildings can be obtained without needing to go through the property or meeting anyone.

Officers will follow the government guidance in relation to social distancing; if the guidance cannot be followed then the site visit will not go ahead.

## Planning & Development Control

Planning and Development Control are continuing to process planning applications as instructed by the Government.

Parishes are being consulted in the normal way, via an email to the Clerk. You are able to request an extension on planning applications as normal but we cannot allow for an indefinite extension.

Any application which is called into Planning Committee (PC) will be considered in the usual manner. Whilst PC in April and May are cancelled, we are looking at virtual meeting in June and we will let you know how this progresses and how to link in.

Major applications that are called in or controversial will be take to PC. Currently no printing facilities are available at this time.

## HS2 Update

Work on HS2 is still progressing, and the go-ahead for the whole project was given by the government earlier this year. Phase 2b is under review, with the results expected in the early autumn. It is now unlikely that the Hybrid Bill will be deposited before 2021 – but – this buys valuable time for discussion and negotiation.

Both the district and the county councils are preparing an extensive list of undertakings and assurances which will help us get the mitigation that we need.

Parishes will play an important part in this and following the meetings in February, we are working on how we can best help you through this process. We will be in touch in due course with a plan for working online until such time as lockdown measures are lifted and it is possible to run face-to-face meetings again.

Kym Smith is still working for us, [kym.smith@slcraill.com](mailto:kym.smith@slcraill.com).

## Fly tipping and charity banks

The removal of fly tips from public land has been unaffected and will continue as normal. Enforcement will continue to investigate all cases where evidence/information has been obtained that could lead to the persons responsible. Anyone found guilty will be issued with a Fixed Penalty Notice of £400 or prosecuted.

Due to recent fly tipping issues and some charities not being able to service and empty their bins we have had to close the following bring sites: Whitwick Retail Park, Coop Castle Donington, High Street Measham, Coop Ashby De La Zouch, High Street Ibstock and the Coop at Ibstock.

## Bonfires

**\*During the coronavirus pandemic, we ask local residents to please refrain from burning garden waste\***

There is some advice from the Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service (LFRS) that you may wish to share on your facebook and twitter accounts as the fire service has seen a significant increase in bonfires across the district.

LFRS recommends that, wherever possible, you should bag and store garden waste safely – such as in an outbuilding or shed - until the recycling centres reopen or we resume garden waste collections.

Burning waste should be a last resort. If you are still going to have a bonfire, please contact your local **Fire Control team on 0116 263 4180** to let them know. This will stop them from mobilising crews to you unnecessarily. For the safety of yourself, your neighbours and wildlife, bonfires should be kept away from sheds, trees and fences and avoid the use of any accelerants, such as petrol. Do not leave fires unattended and

**LEICESTERSHIRE**  
**FIRE and RESCUE SERVICE**

## Welcome Ryan Ludlam



Sgt Ryan Ludlam has recently taken over from Sgt Booth with assisting Inspector Jackson with

leading the North West Policing area.

He has been a police officer for nearly 17 years, spending the last 10 years as a Sergeant. Recent posting was at Charnwood, working in our Force intelligence Bureau and custody suite.

Keen to help tackle the problems that matters most to the community and work with various agencies and partners.

In recent months one of the key changes has been an additional 50 Neighbourhood Police Officers to investigate and respond to incidents. These officers work very closely with the local police community support officers and traditional beat officers. This allows officers to tackle the community concerns, whilst managing those that cause most harm in communities.

The current pandemic has put not only policing but normally daily life in unchartered territory. Stay safe and remain healthy.

## News from Community Focus



Julie Summerton, the Community Focus Support Officer who manages the district council's small, green & coalville

special expenses grants and coordinates and manages the Free Tree Scheme and the bulb scheme, is taking early retirement to support her mum. Julies last day with NWLDC will be Tuesday 28 April 2020.

She will be terribly missed by the team and many of you. If you would like to say anything to Julie before she leaves you're welcome to email her at [julie.summerton@nwleicestershire.gov.uk](mailto:julie.summerton@nwleicestershire.gov.uk). Any communication after 28 April of best wishes will be forwarded on to her personal email.

We will be looking at recruitment soon to cover the role Julie leaves but for the moment all our grants are still suspended and we are looking at potentially delaying the delivery of the free tree scheme to early 2021.

### Other news...

Emma Trahearn, Community Focus Team Leader is pregnant! If all goes well her due date is 11 October 2020.

## Community matters...

[CRUs \(Community Response Units\)](#) across the district are continuing to do some fantastic work and making a difference in their communities. We know some of you are also doing this so thank you and keep up the good work!



**If you know someone who needs support please contact NWLDC on**

**01530 454 337**

**[support@nwleicestershire.gov.uk](mailto:support@nwleicestershire.gov.uk)**