

RDC Councillors report May 2020.

The actions of residents and businesses, community groups, volunteers, colleagues in town and parish councils and the RDC's own staff and members are heartening amid the tragedy and uncertainty caused by the ongoing crisis.

Nearly 300 people have so far contacted the community hub, a one-stop shop for advice and help, set up by the district council as part of a national effort.

With greater focus on testing key workers, the district council has now closed Wainwright Road car park to the public and made it available to the NHS as a drive-through testing facility.

The district council is also playing a vital role in ensuring local businesses can access the grants they are entitled to, having already distributed a total of £13.4 million of Government funding to 1,120 businesses across the district. The authority is currently sending out information to eligible businesses who have yet to apply.

While the majority of council services continue to run with little disruption, decisions have had to be made to safeguard some services and protect staff and members of the public.

Following a large number of visitors to Camber Sands in March despite Government warnings to social distance, all car parks serving the beach remain closed. All other car parks, with the exception of Wainwright Road, remain open with parking charges suspended.

Parks remain open for residents' daily exercise, but they are being reminded to observe social distancing and not to meet with anyone not in the same household.

Garden Waste collections.

Collections will resume from Monday 4 May and collections will take place on customers' normal scheduled day.

Levels of garden waste are expected to be significantly higher than usual due to the service suspension, but our staff will work hard to ensure they can deliver as full a service as possible. Due to the expected waste levels, residents are asked not to put additional waste out for collection, but to hold it over and add it to future collections. If there is any delay to collections customers should leave their bin at the collection point until crews are able to get there.

Existing customers who are currently being asked to renew their subscriptions, will be charged £35 instead of the increased charge of £40 due to take effect this year. The £5 discount is in recognition of missed collections and any disruption as the service re-establishes.

Councillors Tony Ganly & Martin Mooney
Rother District Council. Northern Rother Ward.