## District Councillors report to Petersfield Town Council 29/04/2021

- Elections 2021 As you are all aware there are Elections County Council and Police and Crime Commissioner on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021 here in Petersfield.
  - This has been like no other election, and East Hants are doing everything that they can to ensure the safety of everyone. At the polling stations arrangements are in place with hand sanitiser, social distancing measures and of course the requirement for everyone attending to wear a face covering. Electors are more than welcome to use their own pen or pencil whilst casting their vote. Polling booths will be cleaned regularly.

The Count will take place on the 7 May for the County Council and any By Elections that are taking place, then the PCC will follow on the 10 May. Opening of Postal Votes commenced on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April. Once again, everything will be done with safety in mind for staff, and candidates.

- Restart Grants More than 600 businesses will receive grants through the Restart grant and Additional Restrictions grant scheme from EHDC. We have emailed businesses that have already been receipt of grants in earlier rounds to invite them to apply with a special link to speed up the process for them. Also, any eligible businesses that have not previously applied for coronavirus related business grants can apply through our website. Applications for Restart grants will close on the 30 June 2021 and the Additional Restrictions grant applications will close on Monday 31 May 2021.
- Have your say on the future of our High Streets We have commissioned Heartflood to provide a Covid –19 Recovery Plan for the centres of focusing on Alton, Clanfield, Four Marks, Grayshott, Horndean, Liphook, Liss, Petersfield and Whitehill & Bordon. Heartflood are asking for views of local consumers and businesses to help shape the priority actions which will be recommended to the council. To complete the questionnaire, go to www.easthants.gov.uk/town-centres-recovery-plan-east-hampshire.
- Free Rapid Test Kits Regular rapid coronavirus testing is now available to everyone. The easiest way now to get a free test kit is by going to your pharmacy. Due to the availability now in pharmacies, some of the local collection centres will be closing from the 29 April. Go to www.easthants.gov.uk/testing-without-symptons for further information where you can collect free home test kits in your area. The Cottage at Penn's Place will be one of the centres that will be closing permanently.
- Dates for future EHDC Meetings/events coming up:
  - o 29<sup>th</sup> April Annual Council
  - o 6<sup>th</sup> May Elections 2021
  - o 20<sup>th</sup> May Planning Committee
- Just a reminder that everyone can sign up to receive EHDC email updates with the latest news

https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKEHDC/subscriber/new