

TALK *of the* TOWN

Issue 87 June 2020

'Helping Make Dunstable a Better Place'

Together



COVID-19
RESPONSE
SPECIAL EDITION

Let's make Dunstable
a safer place



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DUNSTABLE
TOWN COUNCIL



Meet the Councillors

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Dunstable Town Council Committee Membership

Finance and General Purposes

Councillors Peter Hollick (Town Mayor)
Gloria Martin (Deputy Town Mayor)
Sid Abbott (Chairman)
Philip Crawley (Vice-Chairman)
Wendy Bater
Matthew Brennan
Mark Cant
Alan Corkhill
John Gurney
Kenson Gurney
Liz Jones
Cameron Restall
Lee Roberts
Johnson Tamara

Community Services

Councillors Peter Hollick (Town Mayor)
Gloria Martin (Deputy Town Mayor & Chairman)
Cameron Restall (Vice-Chairman)
Sid Abbott
Wendy Bater
Lisa Bird
Phillip Crawley
Greg George
Pamela Ghent
John Gurney
Lee Roberts
Gladys Sanders

Grounds and Environmental

Councillors Peter Hollick (Town Mayor)
Gloria Martin (Deputy Town Mayor)
Liz Jones (Chairman)
Lisa Bird (Vice-Chairman)
Matthew Brennan
Mark Cant
Alan Corkhill
Greg George
Pamela Ghent
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COVID-19 RESPONSE SPECIAL EDITION

Welcome

...to this special edition of Talk of the Town, produced especially to update our residents on what the Town Council is, and has been doing, throughout the Covid-19 Pandemic and associated lockdown period.

At the time of writing this introduction, the Council has been in lockdown for ten weeks. During this time many of the Council's staff have been at work as normal. The grounds team and Dunstable Cemetery staff have been working hard to keep Dunstable's parks and open spaces looking beautiful and all Cemetery services have been maintained as normal. The Town Rangers have been out and about making sure the town centre and neighbourhoods are kept in good order. Staff have also been able to continue working from home and I am sure that many of you are now as familiar as we are with Microsoft Teams and Zoom meetings as shown below.

Your Town Councillors have been able to use Microsoft Teams to continue having 'virtual' Council meetings including meetings to comment on planning applications and holding its Annual Council Meeting that has ensured the Town Mayor is selected and important Council procedural matters are addressed.

Many of our staff have also been involved in supporting Central Bedfordshire Council and their voluntary sector partners in efforts to provide essential emergency services to vulnerable households in Dunstable. This has included collecting shopping, prescriptions, delivering food parcels and making over 200 phone calls per week to vulnerable households to make sure shielded and isolated residents are fully supported, having access to food and medical supplies and, of equal importance, having someone to talk to during this very difficult period.

The Council is now looking to re-start some of its service provision in line with Government guidance and whilst we have had to take the enormously difficult decision to cancel our summer events and activities programme, we are able to announce that some of our services will soon be available again. This includes our markets on Middle Row and the re-opening of Priory House. Further details are given later in this edition and please note that all services will be operated following the completion of full Covid-19 Secure Risk Assessments, details of which will be published on our website.

Everyone at Dunstable Town Council hopes that our residents remain safe and well and we all look forward to life returning to some form of normality. We especially hope that the town centre can be revitalised over the next few weeks to ensure that Dunstable's economy bounces back as soon as possible.



Stay safe everyone.

Dunstable Town Council Management Team in an online meeting
Clockwise from top right: David Ashlee (Town Clerk & Chief Executive),
Lisa Vincent (Sports & Leisure Facilities Manager), James Slack
(Head of Community Services [Acting]) and John Crawley
(Head of Grounds & Environmental Services)



Mayor's Welcome

Councillor Peter Hollick

I do thank my colleagues for proposing me to be the Town Mayor 2020/2021 and Council for electing me to this position. My Mayoress is former Town Councillor, Ann Sparrow, (who was also a South Bedfordshire District councillor and once Chairman and a former Central Bedfordshire councillor). The Deputy Mayor is Councillor (and former Mayor) Gloria Martin, her Consort is former Town Councillor and Mayor, Terry Colbourne. I also thank The Revd. Rachel Phillips, Team Rector of Dunstable at the Priory Church of St. Peter, who has agreed to be my Chaplain.

I would like to thank the outgoing Mayor, Councillor Sid Abbott, and his Mayoress and wife, Heather. They had been very busy with many engagements both in Dunstable and in the wider community, ably representing the Council, right up to the time when restrictions came into play.

It is undeniable that this role is taken on at a challenging, uncertain, and generally worrying time for us all, families, friends, and businesses. I will be limited in what I can do since social distancing and limits on functions will be continuing for some while. Once restrictions are lifted, I will be pleased to visit schools, businesses, local groups, charities, clubs, and societies

As a Council we have been as active as we can be observing the rules around lockdown, especially keeping in telephone touch with many of our elderly population, sourcing prescriptions, shopping, and befriending to help relieve that feeling of isolation. Our award-winning gardens are being kept tidy and the town centre areas are being kept clean. Many staff have been taking on different duties to meet the situation in which we find ourselves. I do sincerely thank all our staff for their unstinting work at this unique time.

Council meetings are being held virtually. Since these are public meetings you can observe them on your lap-top or computer screen by contacting the Town Clerk and Chief Executive. It is a new way of working for most of us. We will be holding our next full Council in June using the Microsoft Teams platform. It is hoped that by the time we get to October we will be able once again to meet in the Council Chamber.

We need to be prepared for when we can return to more 'normal' circumstances. I look forward to bringing back an events programme, now sadly curtailed for the obvious reasons. I would like to engage with as many of the shops and businesses in the town as I can, recognising their contribution to Dunstable and encouraging managers and staff to take a greater part in our events.

There are a number of projects to improve the appearance of our town, starting in and around Ashton Square and High Street North. These will start as soon as circumstances allow.

In 2021 the Town will be competing in Britain in Bloom having been put forward as a result of our successes in Anglia in Bloom. It is an honour for the town to be part of this national competition. This is in fact a year's delay since there will be no judging for either competition this summer.

I know we are all looking forward to the town's shops and other businesses being fully open again. Let's support them to the full.

I trust you are all staying healthy. My very best wishes.

Councillor Peter Hollick
Town Mayor of Dunstable



David Ashlee

Town Clerk & Chief Executive

As I write this introduction to our special Covid-19 edition of Talk of the Town, the Government has just announced arrangements to try and slowly unlock measures that have been taken to mitigate the damage this terrible virus is causing.

Since the end of March, when the lockdown was announced, the Town Council has been doing all it can to keep services running as normal as possible and to help in the local effort to support vulnerable households in Dunstable. This edition features some of the work that the Council has been engaged in.

We are now looking to the future and following the most recent Government announcement, we are planning to do all we can to re-introduce services on a phased basis in a way that keeps our staff and service users as safe as possible. This edition features those services that we hope to be able to re-introduce and how and when this will be possible.

We have unfortunately had to take the decision to cancel our summer programme of events and activities as well as the opening of the popular Bennett's Splash and Splashside Café. As you can imagine, this has been a difficult decision for the Council, but public safety has to be paramount in everything that the Council does and all of our events and activities attract significant crowds and most are free and easily accessible and therefore are too problematic to continue with whilst ensuring social distancing measures. More is explained about this later.

During this period, the Council has still managed to 'virtually' meet on a number of occasions. We have been able to do this because of a change in legislation that now allows Council meetings to go ahead on a virtual basis. Using Microsoft Teams, meetings have been able to take place whilst also allowing members of the public to virtually attend. On 18 May, the Council held its Annual Council Meeting which not only established the membership of all our Committees for the year ahead but also meant that the new Town Mayor, Councillor Peter Hollick, could be elected. Please see our website for all future Council meetings that will take place in this way.

I hope you find this edition of Talk of the Town informative and please feel free to comment on any of the Council's services using the comment form at the back of this edition or by visiting our website www.dunstable.gov.uk or following us on Twitter and Facebook.

Please continue to adhere to Government guidance on remaining safe during this Covid-19 pandemic and I hope that all Council services will be back up and running as soon as it is safe to do so. I also hope that residents and visitors to Dunstable can soon begin to visit the town centre again as our local economy is so important to us all.

Stay safe.

David Ashlee
Town Clerk and Chief Executive



My Year in Office

Councillor Sid Abbott

2019-2020 Town Mayor

My year as Mayor of Dunstable has now come to an end and it has truly been an honour and privilege to fulfil this historic role. I hope I have served the people of Dunstable with dignity, pride, and integrity.

Heather and I have met some wonderful people while carrying out our Mayoral engagements. We have attended many celebratory, community groups, businesses, services personnel, and charity events and have been made to feel very welcome. It has been a most memorable year.

There have been so many highlights starting with the Town Council's summer programme of free outside events in Grove House Gardens and Priory Gardens, concluding with our Christmas Torchlight Procession, all achieving record attendances. I enjoyed the opening of the new Bennetts Adventure Play alongside Bennetts Splash and Splashside Café and our outstanding successes in the Anglia in Bloom awards in 2019. I am extremely proud that Dunstable has been selected by the Eastern Region to represent them in the prestigious Britain in Bloom Awards that will now take place in 2021. The moving Armistice Day Parade on Remembrance Sunday was also a particular honour for me to be involved in.

It's fair to say we are in challenging and exciting times which will affect Dunstable, with major housing development in and around the surrounding areas. We also have a growing, diverse population with ever growing demands for local services. At the heart of our decision-making, residents will be listened too and we as a Council will consider their valid opinions and will endeavour to implement them, subject to budget constraints and practicality, to improve our thriving town.

I have received tremendous support in raising funds for my chosen charities which were Autism Bedfordshire, Signpost, Alzheimer's and Minds2Gether. We had a very successful charity night at the excellent Little Theatre production of The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940; many thanks to them. My charity quiz night at The Dunstable Conservative Club; thanks to those who helped and attended on the night, which raised in excess of £500.

I have, throughout my year, endeavoured to positively promote Dunstable and have, as Mayor, seen many changes evolving in our town in which we are striving to make Dunstable a better place. We will work continuously with voluntary groups and partner organisations to get the best value and quality to the benefit of our residents who are the most important aspect of a successful town.

Heather and I would personally like to thank all the people we have met who have made our roles such an enjoyable experience; one which will live with us forever. We both hope that the Covid-19 pandemic will come to an end soon and that Dunstable will very quickly get back on its feet.

Destination

Keeping you abreast of town centre news, initiatives and developments

DUNSTABLE



Ashton Day SQUARE

Saturday 29 August 2020

Ashton Square Day is a tribute to the past, present and future events in the Square. Small areas of the Square and Middle Row will showcase our past and present events and those we would like to hold in the future. As Middle Row is the home of our Middle Row Markets and independent retailers, they will also be showcasing their products. Buskers and entertainers will provide live music and some historic entertainment on the stage in The Square. The event will take place throughout the day from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm on Saturday 29 August 2020.

Dunstable Town Council Coronavirus Event Statement

This event will be held in line with all Government guidelines; social distancing measures will apply and the event will be fully risk assessed. This event is subject to any changes in Government restrictions which would not allow the event to continue.

COVID19 Business Support Finder

A full range of measures have been made available to support businesses, public services and individuals during the coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic at www.gov.uk/coronavirus/business-support

The Business Support Finder is a good place to start for local firms. This easy to use online questionnaire guides you to the programmes that have been created for your type of organisation.

Central Bedfordshire Council has been administering the two Covid-19 business grants schemes;

Small Business Grant Fund

This is a £10,000 grant for all business in receipt of small business rate relief or rural rate relief.

Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Grant Fund

This grant scheme offers companies in these sectors:

- a grant of £10,000 available for businesses with a rateable value of less than £15,000
- a £25,000 grant for those businesses with a rateable value of £15,000 or more, but less than £51,000

More than £32m has been distributed through these schemes in Central Bedfordshire and we are proactively contacting eligible businesses which haven't applied yet.

If you think your business is eligible for either of these schemes please apply at:

www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/26/public_health/737/coronavirus_-_covid-19/7



Central
Bedfordshire
Council



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Middle Row MARKETS

Saturday 13 & 20 June 2020

Following the recently announced Government guidelines for re-starting the economy, we will be holding our two monthly markets in Middle Row starting in June. The first market will be held on the Saturday 13 June followed by the next on Saturday 20 June. Both markets will be a mix of farmers and craft traders. To help out local retail in the town, we will also be offering market stalls to our local shops and businesses. All market stalls will be covered apart from the front entrance, which will have a two metre line marked out to aid social distancing. To support the safety of the traders and the staff with extra health and safety measures, the markets will operate from 10.00 am to 3.00 pm on both Saturdays. In July the markets will be open on Saturday 11 July and Saturday 18 July from 10.00 am to 3.00 pm. Stalls will include our popular bread and cake stall as well as our flower stall, candles and cards, jewellery, wood craft, bags and gifts.

Chez Jerome

Chez Jerome is a family run restaurant situated in the heart of Dunstable serving French contemporary food since 2007.

Due to Covid-19 impact on our small business, we are not sure when we are going to be able to re-open. Please do not book any tables before Monday 3rd August, when we will be able to better know the situation.

We are open Tuesday to Sunday for take away food and homemade frozen food to go. We take social distancing very seriously and all the precautions are taken for your safety. You can order at any time, collection from 12.30 pm until 2.00 pm or 5.30 pm till 8.30 pm.

Menus are changed on a weekly basis please check our website www.chezjerome.co.uk for the take away menu or like us and follow us on Facebook Chez Jerome. Please phone us for your take away order on 01582 603310.

Lina & Jerome wishes to take this opportunity to thank everyone that has supported us for the last 12 years and a special thanks to those that have been supporting us during this time.



Takeaway Orders: 01582 603310
www.chezjerome.co.uk

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Dunstable LU6 1JE

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Dunstable Town Council 2020 Events Update

Dunstable Town Council has been closely monitoring the latest Government advice concerning the spread of Covid-19 and the latest social distancing advice to limit the spread of the virus. Over the years our free events programme has become an established part of the community, attracting more and more visitors from wider areas.

In accordance with Government guidelines, we have taken into account the scale of these events and despite efforts to postpone them to later dates, we regret to announce that we are unable to host the events as planned. The decision to cancel the programme has not been taken lightly, but our duty to ensure the health, safety and wellbeing of the public, our staff, artists and contractors continues to be our priority during this challenging period.

The following events have now unfortunately been cancelled:

Classic Motor Rally | Saturday 13 June

Dunstable Live | Saturday 20 June

Sunday Band Concerts | Saturday 28 June,
Saturday 12 & 19 July, Saturday 2, 9 & 23 August

Priory Pictures | Saturday 4 July & Saturday 15 August

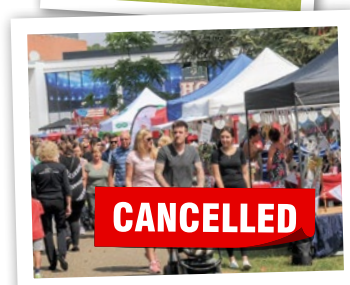
Party in the Park | Saturday 25 July

Priory Proms in the Park | Saturday 12 September

(To be confirmed nearer the date)

Dunstable Fireworks Display | Thursday 5 November

*(This is not only due to Covid-19 Pandemic, but also
planned construction work at Creasey Park)*



For all event enquiries, please contact Gina Thanky on 01582 891407 or email gina.thanky@dunstable.gov.uk

Football's Coming Home

...sometime soon - and when it does, we'll be ready for it

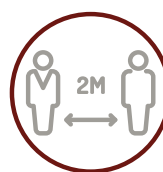
At Creasey Park Community Football Centre, we are eagerly awaiting news from the FA and Government on when adult and youth training and matches can resume. In the meantime, our Grounds Team have been working hard preparing the main stadium pitch and all youth pitches to make sure they are in the best condition possible for when football does make a return. We are currently working on measures to adapt the Centre in line with the Governments 'Working with Covid-19' guidelines and regulations to make the centre as safe as possible for the public and staff for when we can re-open our doors. Staff are also working on a full risk assessment to conform to these Government guidelines. Please keep looking at our Facebook pages for updates. We hope you are keeping safe and look forward to seeing all our teams, parents, hirers and users of the Centre back with us soon.





Priory House

Prepares For Your Return



All the staff at Priory House have been missing our customers and friends and hope that all are keeping safe and well.

The Management Team here are taking measures to re-open areas of the house in a safe and sensible manner, which protects both our staff and customers.

The first area to open, from 15 June, will be the TIC and Gift Shop; things will look very different as we have already had the safety screens installed courtesy of our fantastic Town Rangers and we will be putting a one way system and social distancing markings in place. The pretty faces and handsome features will be hidden behind protective facemasks but you will no doubt recognise them if you're one of our regular visitors!

Screens for the Tea Rooms will be installed in the next few weeks ready for when we can reopen, hopefully from 6 July. It is likely that initially there will be a limited menu and service to start with.

Both the Gift Shop and the Tea Rooms will accept card payments only, in order to protect both staff and customers there will be no cash handling. In order to make this easier we have had our card machines updated so that the contactless payments have been increased to a maximum £45 per transaction.

The Tea Rooms will reopen in July as long as the Government Guidelines at that time allow it and we have all necessary measures in place. Again this will involve two metre social distancing and no cash handling. Unfortunately in order for this to happen the number of tables will have to be drastically reduced but when the weather allows we will have additional tables and chairs outside.

All areas of Priory House which are open will be fully risk assessed and conform to the 'Working through Covid' Government Guidelines.

Confirmed opening dates and times will be published on the Dunstable Town Council website and also through our various social media platforms.

During the lockdown period we have taken the opportunity to upskill the staff in various ways, all the staff have completed an Introduction to Coffee course which means they will be able to better advise customers about the different whole bean speciality

coffees on the menu and little snippets of interesting information about coffee to enhance your experience.

The Catering Manager has been working on a new vegan/dairy free menu which will be introduced and our baking team have been finding, and trialling, new recipes to extend our home bakes with more gluten free and vegan options. Their families have been enjoying sampling the different options and making helpful suggestions!

One member of staff has researched and produced a crib sheet for all the staff to use about a potted history of Priory House so that they are more able to answer the various questions our customers ask about the building and the people who have owned it over the past eight centuries.

The Duty Managers have been keeping in touch with our wedding couples and the Registrars, those who have bookings for various other celebrations and our Afternoon Tea customers, together with liaising with the Town Guides about Tea Time Tales and Town Walks.

We are all looking forward to seeing each other and our regular customers very soon; until then please keep safe and stay well one and all.



In celebration of the 75th anniversary of VE Day we held a poster competition for all ages. The top three winning entries are now displayed in the windows of Priory House Heritage Centre Gift Shop.

Dunstable's Green Spaces



During the Coronavirus lockdown period the Council's grounds staff managed to keep on top of grass cutting in all the parks and recreation grounds and Dunstable Cemetery. The team also managed to empty litter and dog waste bins on a regular basis and keep most areas as free from litter as possible.

The spring floral displays were a delight to see when in full bloom and we hope that people out on their daily exercise were able to enjoy them.

Plans are still in place to install and plant this year's summer floral displays and we hope that residents and visitors will enjoy these as we emerge from the lockdown.

Our team at Dunstable Cemetery have continued to provide a burial service throughout the lockdown period and will continue to do so with dignity and respect. Families are reminded that at the moment only immediate family should attend a funeral in line with Government guidance.

Our children's playgrounds have been shut during lockdown, in line with Government regulations and will remain so until the Government eases the restrictions. However, the tennis courts at Bennett Memorial Recreation Ground are now open again and people are asked to follow the current guidelines on safe use.

The Anglia in Bloom and Britain in Bloom campaigns have been cancelled for 2020 and will resume again in 2021. The Anglia in Bloom organisers are holding a virtual competition and photographs of the town's achievements will be submitted for the judges to view.

Dunstable in Bloom are still planning to hold the local garden competition and there is still time to enter your front garden, basket, and container displays. We know that it has been difficult for some to get hold of plants, but others have grown their own whilst in lockdown and with garden centres now open again, we hope that you will still enter.

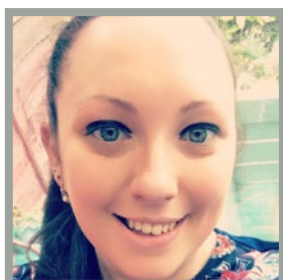
Our Town Rangers are up and running again in the town centre and throughout the town helping to keep areas tidy and weed free. They are still able to assist with most environmental issues so do call or Facebook as before.



Meet the Team

Youth & Community Services

Grove Corner, our various community projects and Older People's Lunch Clubs may be cancelled or closed at present, but we hope to be back up and running soon. In the meantime, we thought we would introduce some familiar and new members of the Youth and Community team.



Gill Peck

Youth and Community Manager

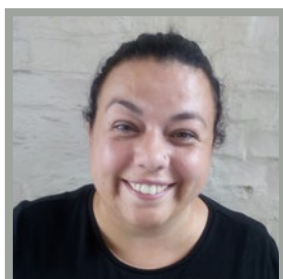
Our former Senior Community and Young People's Officer returns to Dunstable Town Council as the new Youth and Community Manager and will be re-joining the team in October. She is looking forward to being back after three years away and will be developing new and exciting provision and activities across the town aimed at young people across the community. This includes a brand-new gaming and entertainment facility within Grove Corner, which will include competitions, film nights and much much more!



Jack Adams-Rimmer

Senior Neighbourhood Development Officer

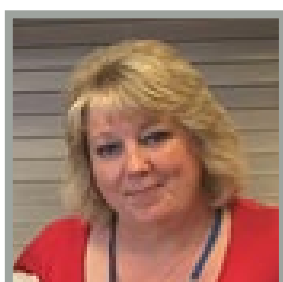
A face some might know is our newly titled Senior Neighbourhood Development Officer. Jack has worked for the Town Council for 6 years organising and supporting a number of community projects, family fun events, running Grove Corner and supporting older people's services. Jack's new role will be to continue the success of a number of community initiatives and also develop new, exciting schemes as part of the new High Street Heritage Action Zone project. Jack will also support the development of Grove Corner alongside Gill.



Joanne Hough

Community Services Assistant

Joanne is new to the team and we would like to welcome her to the Town Council. Although a few may recognise her from her previous role supporting sessions at Grove Corner and during our family friendly events season. Joanne's new role is Community Services Assistant, where she will be supporting and leading on the different projects and events aimed at all sectors of the community.



Elaine McGarrigle

Older People's Support Officer

Our current Older People's Officer Elaine, will be continuing our Older People's Lunch Clubs and events which are always very popular. These include Good Companions Club for over 75s, Creasey Park Lunch Club for over 55s, Big Lunch, Rock & a Roll and much much more. This will begin again when it is safe to do so given the current situation.



Vicky Ince

Older People's Support Assistant

Vicky is our Older People's Assistant who will be continuing her role of supporting Elaine with all events mentioned above. Mainly supporting our Good Companions Lunch Club however you will have seen her assisting with all our other events aimed at Older People. The team are very keen to continue and develop the exciting projects, schemes and events aimed at Older People, the community and young people. Keep a look out on social media over the coming months for all that's in store and when it will be launching.



DUNSTABLE
TOWN COUNCIL

Community Matters



Jack Adams-Rimmer, Senior Neighbourhood Development Officer for DTC, delivering goods to local residents



Local efforts to support the Dunstable Community

It's been a tough few months for everybody, in particular those who are having to self-isolate for a number of weeks. The Community Services Team for Dunstable Town Council are working alongside local organisations to support those in need and make it a little easier during this situation we find ourselves in.

Creasey Park & Good Companions Lunch Clubs

Our Older People's Officer and Older People's Assistant have been making twice weekly befriending phone calls to each of our 80 plus members of the popular lunch clubs. If members require anything picking up such as a prescription or essential shopping our officers are able to support and do this on their behalf.

Supporting Our Residents

Dunstable Town Council's officers have been providing daily support and be-friending calls to residents in Dunstable's local community.

Working with the Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC) COVID 19 Hub resident referral process, and in partnership with the Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity (BRCC), Town Council officers have been making daily phone calls to vulnerable residents who require some form of ongoing support.

From the CBC Covid-19 Hub, where resident's needs are initially dealt with, the Town Council then receives a list of daily phone calls to make. These calls are to provide a number of

ongoing support mechanisms such as regular shopping trips and prescription collections. A key partner in this process is the Dunstable Good Neighbours Scheme who have been assisting with many of these ongoing support needs. Calls also check on the general well-being of the residents and reassurance that they are not alone. Town Council officers will also be listening to any other concerns and problems where onward advice and support can be provided. If required residents are put on a weekly call back list, again reassurance for them that someone will be checking that they are alright or for just a regular friendly chat.

Town Council officers are making on average 100 calls to residents per week.

Dunstable Town Council's officers have also been able to respond to specific and ad hoc emergency calls for assistance from residents via the CBC Covid-19 Hub.



Central
Bedfordshire
Council



DUNSTABLE
GOOD NEIGHBOURS

THANK YOU



Volunteer Centre
Central Bedfordshire

Community Action Bedfordshire is the accredited Volunteer Centre for Central Bedfordshire, we are working in partnership with Central Bedfordshire Council, Dunstable Town Council and other partner organisations to support with coordinating the COVID-19 response.

We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has come forward offering to support volunteering efforts during COVID-19. It has been extremely heart-warming and encouraging to see so many people coming forward and volunteering their time to support their communities at this uncertain time.

To find out about the organisations and community groups currently offering support locally, please visit our website www.cabeds.org.uk/coronavirus. If you are a community group or charity looking for volunteers to support please contact us on volunteer@cabeds.org.uk.

We recommend that the simplest and most effective thing everyone can do right now is to look out for their neighbours and offer to help with shopping and other errands. Remember to always stay safe and follow government guidelines when you are volunteering and helping others!



The Nextdoor App is one way you can communicate with people in your neighbourhood and offer help via the "Help Map" feature. There are currently over 3,330 residents registered on Nextdoor in Dunstable. Visit Nextdoor.co.uk to sign up and connect with your local community today!



Another way you could help is through Timebanking. Timebanking is a free exchange of time and skills and is for anyone who would like to share or exchange their time and skills with others and receive help in return. People give an hour of their time to help someone and earn a 'time-credit' that can be exchanged for an hour of help for themselves. Timebanking can be a great way to get involved in your community or to help others. It's easy, it's fun and it's free!

If you live in Dunstable, Houghton Regis or in the surrounding area you can join our new Chiltern Vale Timebank. The more members there are, the more skills there are to share, to join contact Gemma via email at gemma@cabeds.org.uk or go the Timebanking page on our website www.cabeds.org.uk



Services Dunstable Town Council Provides For You

Main Council Reception 01582 513000

For more information visit www.dunstable.gov.uk

Grounds and Environmental Services

Cemetery Management

Maintenance of grounds, grave preparation, burial and memorial arrangements
Dunstable Cemetery, West Street, Dunstable LU6 1PD
01582 891428 | cemetery@dunstable.gov.uk

Parks and Open Spaces

Maintenance of grounds, sport pitches and skate park, litter picking, dog bins, grass cutting
Freephone 0800 013 0350 | info@dunstable.gov.uk

Allotments

Plot lettings and maintenance of sites
01582 891426 | allotments@dunstable.gov.uk

Play Areas

Maintenance, inspections and cleansing
Freephone 0800 013 0350 | info@dunstable.gov.uk

Town Centre Maintenance

Maintenance of raised beds, grassed areas and floral displays
01582 513000 | info@dunstable.gov.uk

Maintenance of Priory & Grove House Gardens

Grounds maintenance, litter picking, dog bins
01582 891413 | john.crawley@dunstable.gov.uk

Town Ranger & Town Centre Ranger

Cleaning up the public places in Dunstable
Freephone 0800 013 0350

Grove Skate Park

01582 513000 | info@dunstable.gov.uk

Bennett's Splash & Splashside Café

01582 891433 | lisa.vincent@dunstable.gov.uk

Mayoral and Democratic Services

Remembrance Day Parade and Service, Mayor's Charity Events, Civic Services, Democratic Representation
01582 513000

Community Services

Town Centre Management

Economic regeneration, Christmas lights, Ashton Square public toilets and twice-monthly themed markets
01582 891436 | annette.clynes@dunstable.gov.uk

Events Programme *including:*

Dunstable Live, Fireworks, Party in the Park, Proms in the Park
01582 891407 | gina.thanky@dunstable.gov.uk | events@dunstable.gov.uk

Priory House

Heritage Centre, TIC, functions, tea rooms and gift shop
Priory House Heritage Centre, 33 High St South, Dunstable LU6 3RZ
01582 891420 | prioryhouse@dunstable.gov.uk

Grove Corner Young People's Centre

76a High Street North, Dunstable LU6 1NF
01582 891434 | info@dunstable.gov.uk

Older People's Support Service

Good Companions day care, CPCFC Lunch Club
01582 513000 | info@dunstable.gov.uk

Creasey Park Community Football Centre

Artificial/grass pitches, function room, licensed bar, BMX track
Creasey Park Drive, Dunstable LU6 1BB
01582 891433 or 07712 861618 | cpcfc@dunstable.gov.uk

Peter Newton Pavilion (Managed by Beds FA)

Century House, Skimpot Road, Dunstable LU5 4JU | 01582 565111

Downside Community Centre

Licensed to the Seventh Day Adventist Church
Suffolk Road, Downside Estate, Dunstable | 01582 666403

For any queries relating to Council Tax, Housing Benefits, Refuse or Highways please contact Central Bedfordshire Council on 0300 300 8000 or email customers@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk or visit www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

TALK of the TOWN

We Welcome Your Feedback

We would appreciate your comments on the services we provide and anything you have read in this special edition of Talk of the Town. While our offices are not fully operational to accept the usual feedback form, we would encourage you to email your comments to info@dunstable.gov.uk using the subject reference: 'TotT 87 June 2020'.

