



WESTCOTT VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

1st March 2021

Dear Resident,

In January I wrote setting out dates for the WVA meetings for the year and had hoped that we would be able to hold an Open meeting in March (postponed from January). Corona Virus restrictions have not been lifted and the only option would have been to hold a virtual meeting on Zoom.

Having taken soundings from Trustees it is the view of the Committee that, given the ongoing restrictions, and the fact that there has been very little progress on matters which affect the whole village, we do not propose to hold an Open Meeting in March.

Step 3 of the Government's Covid-19 recovery plan allows for open air events from no earlier than 17th May, and Step 4 (the final hurdle) which removes all remaining restrictions, will be effective from 21st June. We have planned to hold this year's AGM on 24th June, which we are confident will be possible, and have decided to focus on this date as the next open event for residents.

By way of updates in the interim

- Although we are aware that the Joint Working Party for the Doctor's Surgery and Community Centre has been working hard behind the scenes, there is no further progress to report at this stage
- Surrey County Council has recently opened consultation in relation to the status of Wolvens Lane as a bridleway open to all traffic (BOAT) and whether it should continue to be open to motorised vehicles in the future. The WVA is liaising with the Wotton and Capel Parish Councils on this, and we are keen to hear from members of our community who are interested in voicing their opinions – contact@westcottvillage.com
- We have investigated the issue of fibre broadband speeds for the village but believe that most of the village have respectable speeds now that fibre has reached most parts of the village. However, the WVA would be interested to hear from anyone with a download speeds routinely less than 24 MBPS to establish where/ whether there is still a case for a Community Fibre Scheme
- The second Defibrillator purchased by the WVA is due to be installed in the old Phone Box on the corner of The Burrell and St John's Road on or around 16th March
- The WVA accounts were boosted by around £500 from Gift Aid contributions on membership subscriptions
- Although we do not have a definitive date, the new grocery store in Masters House should be open shortly

- The **National Census is due to be held on Sunday 21st March** which requires all households to submit returns. The emphasis will be to use on-line returns, but where individuals do not have access to the internet paper surveys will be provided. Every household will be receiving a letter on this subject shortly.

There are two Committee Meetings between now and the AGM date – 11th March and 13th May – and you are very welcome to put questions or concerns to the Trustees which we will answer directly, or via the WVA monthly Update, and which we will continue until the Village Magazine is back in circulation.

With my best regards,

Tim Way

Chairman, Westcott Village Association

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