**RDC Councillors' report June 2020.**



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| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Bank holiday weekend - an update**  Bank holiday Monday was a busy one for all of our coastal towns but in particular, Camber Sands. The car parks at Camber were full and had to be closed shortly after midday on Monday and Sussex Police who were also in attendance closed the junction into Camber from the A259 for part of the afternoon.  The high volume of visitors to the beach meant that for some of the afternoon coastal staff had to withdraw from the western end of the beach ​as they were unable to social distance from the crowds of visitors. They did however maintain a presence at the eastern end of the beach and worked with the coast guard to ensure that a truck was positioned at the western end in order to assist members of the public.  With the warmer weather continuing this week and most children remaining off school for the foreseeable future we anticipate visitor numbers will remain high. It has therefore been agreed with our partners that we will continue to coordinate our efforts to ensure the level of resources available to support operations at Camber are maximised; however, the public are reminded that the ability of the partnership managing the beaches in Rother to do so effectively under Covid-19 conditions is restricted.  Inevitably the toilet block in Camber Central was well-used by the public under the close supervision of RDC’s toilet facilities contractor who offered a limited service in a demanding environment. This service remains under review whilst we monitor the situation at Camber Western.  We are expecting a limited lifeguard service to commence at Camber Sands from this Saturday 30 June but don't expect the RNLI to be able to provide a service at Bexhill beach this season. | | | | |  | | --- | |  | | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **The return of retail**  Subject to being COVID-19 secure - outdoor markets and car show rooms can open from 1 June, followed by other non-essential shops, including clothes shops, betting outlets and charity shops from 15 June. All businesses wishing to reopen will need to complete a [risk assessment](https://www.hse.gov.uk/simple-health-safety/risk/index.htm) and there will be spot checks to ensure social distancing is happening.  There are other suggested measures to protect customers such as storing returned stock for 72 hours before putting it back out on the shop floor.  Should local businesses require further advise on preparing risk assessments or if you are concerned about how a business is operating please contact [foodhs@rother.gov.uk](mailto:foodhs@rother.gov.uk) | | | | |  | | --- | |  | | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Reopening the high street safely**  Rother has been allocated £85,837 from the Government’s ‘reopening the high street safely’ fund.  This additional funding, although limited, is a welcome contribution and its allocation will be considered by the Economic Recovery steering group to be established following Cabinet on the 8 June. | | | | |  | | --- | |  | | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Useful links**  [Coronavirus information and guidance for councillors](https://www.local.gov.uk/our-support/coronavirus-information-councils/covid-19-councillor-resources)  [Information on COVID-19 business grants](https://www.rother.gov.uk/business/information-for-businesses/)  [Service disruption due to COVID-19](https://www.rother.gov.uk/accessing-council-services/service-updates/)  [Get help from the Rother Community Hub](https://www.rother.gov.uk/news/coronavirus-covid-19-community-support/)  [Financial help for Rother residents](https://www.rother.gov.uk/business/financial-support-for-residents/) | | | |

Northern Rother District Councillors Tony Ganly & Martin Mooney.