

To: All Cherwell Town Councils, Parish Councils and Parish Meetings – 21 September 2020

Dear Colleagues

Please find below my fortnightly update on a range of issues that will be of interest to you or your residents.

Please note - this bulletin was written with the most up to date information to hand. With further communication from the government updated daily, some information may be out of date before long.

As ever, please do forward this update to your councillors and encourage them to forward to any group or individual who might benefit from the information.

Best regards

Steve Jorden

Corporate Director for Commercial Development, Assets and Investment, CDC and OCC

Launch of the NHS Test and Trace App

On 24 September, the new NHS COVID-19 app will launch in England and Wales. This is part of the NHS Test and Trace service, which will be used alongside traditional contact tracing to help trace individuals who may have come into contact with a confirmed case of coronavirus. The app allows people to check into venues by scanning a QR code. It also provides them with an alert if they have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive, and helps them check if they have symptoms and book a test. You can find out more about the app [here](#).

Community Halls – Updated Guidance

From this Thursday (24 September), it will become **a legal requirement** for all community halls (along with a wide variety of other venues) to display an official NHS Test & Trace QR poster. Venue-specific QR Codes can be generated via the [NHS Website](#).

On 14 September the government issued updated [Guidance for the safe use of multi-purpose community facilities](#)

The guidance includes revised advice on applying the 'Rule of Six', and what types of activity are acceptable in a community hall. Local support and advice is available from [Community First Oxfordshire](#)

Sport and Recreation – Updated Guidance

On 18 September the government issued updated [Guidance on the phased return of outdoor sport and recreation](#)

The guidance includes revised advice for a number of named sports and activities. Local support and advice is available from [Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association](#)

Election Dates

Due to the coronavirus, the Government postponed all elections scheduled to take place on 7 May 2020. The Government has now confirmed that in England no by-elections or Neighbourhood Plan Referendums will take place until 6 May 2021.

Cherwell District Council's democratic and elections team have already begun planning for the polls that will be taking place in the district on 6 May 2021:

- Police & Crime Commissioner
- elections to one seat in each district ward
- 12 scheduled parish council elections plus two by-elections
- Oxfordshire County Council all out elections
- Weston-on-the-Green Neighbourhood Plan Referendum.

CDC Council and Committee Meetings

Virtual meetings currently scheduled for this month are:

- Monday 07 September, 5.30pm – Executive
- Monday 07 September, 6.30pm – Special Council
- Thursday 10 September, 4.00pm – Planning Committee
- Wednesday 23 September, 6.30pm – Accounts, Audit & Risk Committee
- Tuesday 29 September, 6.30pm – Budget Planning Committee

To view a CDC council meeting– go to the [Browse Meetings Page](#) of our website, select the relevant committee and the meeting date. Click on “View the webcast” on the agenda webpage.

Staying Up To Date

For the latest information about the council's response to Covid-19 regularly check your emails, visit the [council website](#) and follow our social media accounts.

This is a briefing emailed to all Cherwell Parishes

