

**TENTERDEN TOWN COUNCIL
EXTERNAL COMMITTEE**

Covid 19 Sub-Committee

Notes of a meeting conducted by e-mail on Thursday, 30th July 2020

<i>No</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Action</i>
1	Present: Cllrs. M. Carter, V. Cole, Cllrs. J. Crawford, Mrs. J. Curteis, Mrs. S. Ferguson, M. Hickmott, C. Knowles, Dr. L. Lovelidge, Mrs. P. Smith and A. Sugden. Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk.	
2	Apologies. Cllrs, J. Nelson, K. Mulholland and Mrs. K. Walder. Walder.	
3	Declarations of Interest. None.	
4	Chairman. Phil Burgess.	
5	Minutes of Last Meeting. 23 rd July 2020.	
6	Matters arising. NA.	
7	<p>Individual Businesses.</p> <p>(i) <i>Ancient Boro' & Amy's Pantry.</i> Phil reported that the pavement blocking by the Ancient Boro' seems to have stopped. Canvassing of local businesses has taken place to seek their views on the closing of the layby; the confidential results were circulated. Cllr. Mike Hill has again intervened on Tenterden's behalf and the layby closure proposal has been acknowledged by the Highways team but not actioned as yet. Phil reported that it would need to be a partial closure so that the Social Hub and Potters could still have access for deliveries. We will pursue this with KCC.</p> <p>(ii) <i>French Gourmet.</i> Phil reported that they have asked for assistance, but the situation is the same as the Ancient Boro' in that they must leave 1.6m pavement clear and cannot place tables within barriers. Barriers outside the bistro would not assist. Neighbouring properties are allowing them to put tables outside their premises. The access to the rear serves several vehicles so would not be usable. Sue asked if we could put the barriers much further out so that the Gourmet could put tables in there? Phil commented that this would not solve the issue as tables cannot be put in the barriered areas. Mike suggested large Lego brick planters could be installed in that area within the barriers to protect the public if tables were permitted. Phil reported that we were still waiting for a view from KCC on the issue.</p> <p>(iii) <i>Bottega</i> – Alan reported that the trustees at Highbury Hall had allowed Bottega to use some of the car park for tables. There was no contract or payment for this, but purely to help a neighbour. The issues between a resident and Bottega over noise has been resolved. Hirers are gradually returning to Highbury Hall.</p>	PB
8	Barriers – Phil reported that the 'free parking' banners have been displayed around the High Street. We have refrained from placing them on the barriers, so people do not try and park	

	there! The coach park is being well-used. Phil reported that the Tenterden Chamber had asked for 'Love Tenterden' banners to put on the barriers which will happen on the inside. Currently 40 businesses are involved in the latest promotion.	
9	Parking – Mike asked if we can try and get the free parking extended as it is coming to an end at the end of August. Callum suggested writing to ABC with the request to extend the free parking to Christmas. This might be an issue for the Leisure Centre, but not for the Coach Park.	PB/CG
10	<p>Any other business.</p> <p>(i) <i>Xmas Market</i> – John asked whether the Xmas market was taking place this year. Claire commented that we do not know at this point but will be told by the organisers once decided. Although it has not been discussed by Council yet, Claire reported that it would not be advisable to hold our annual light switch on event, but we would still have a lovely light display.</p> <p>(ii) <i>News on other shops?</i> Demelza will be opening soon; Monsoon not sure as they had gone into administration; Hunney Beez not sure either on opening date. Jean reported that the new soft furnishings shop at the top of Sayers Lane will not be opening now until 1st October 2020.</p> <p>(iii) <i>Father Christmas</i> – Harry reported that Tenterden Garden Centre has cancelled Father Christmas this year.</p> <p>(iv) <i>Noticeboards</i> – Sue asked if we can put up visitor attractions on the noticeboards for now until the normal one-off events come through? Pam reported that the Railway were keen to put posters up as well. This was agreed. The White Stuff noticeboard is currently out of action and requires work; Phil will raise this with the Maintenance Team for action as well as replacing the Perspex at Station Road car park.</p>	<p>SF</p> <p>PB/CG</p>
11	Date of next meeting. Phil suggested we suspend the weekly meetings unless major developments occur; the barriers and parking are in force for some time yet. It was agreed to call a meeting when required.	ALL