

Notes for April News Sheet

Budget – An increase in Council Tax of 1.96% (equivalent to less than 15p a day for an average Band D property) was agreed for 2022/23 on 23 February. The portion of the District Council tax equates to about 13% of the total bill. This increase will ensure the council continues to deliver services without any cuts. Guidance relating to the government's council tax rebate scheme has been received. Payments can only be automatically made where the council holds bank details - i.e. those who pay by Direct Debit currently. Once a solution has been finalised for refunding those whose bank details are not held by the Council then residents will be informed - there is no need to make contact with the council.

Planning - Y18/1525/FH Rear of Airport Café is likely to go to the April Planning & Licensing Committee.

Waste Collection – a gentle reminder that if bins are damaged on collection day by Veolia, this needs to be reported immediately.

More than 100 council managed homes in the Folkestone and Hythe district will benefit from increased energy efficiency, thanks to a £2 million government grant. The successful award is the result of a bid made by Folkestone and Hythe District Council under Wave 1 of The Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF). Tenants will be individually contacted and a time arranged for the work to be carried out over the next 12 months, with the funding being used for homes with the most urgent need. With an aim to create green job opportunities in the district, F&HDC will be looking to use local contractors for the insulation work where possible.

Support for Ukraine Folkestone & Hythe District Council has pledged to support local organisations trying to help those caught up in the conflict in Ukraine. Please see the following information

Lyminge centre of Age UK Hythe & Lyminge - 63 Station Road, Lyminge, CT18 8HQ Monday to Friday between 10am and 2pm is a collection point for North Downs West, although the Hythe and New Romney Community Hubs are also operating as collection centres.

Bigjigs Toys, Unit B, Kingsmead, Folkestone, CT19 5EU, is providing space at its warehouse for donations to be made, sorted and loaded onto lorries bound for Eastern Europe. The warehouse is open Monday to Saturday from 9am to 5pm to accept donations. There will be AA signs directing people to the site. The most needed supplies are: nappies, baby wipes, baby food, sanitary products, long-lasting food and drink, warm socks and hats, other clothing, medicine, toiletries, blankets/bedding.

Volunteers are needed to help sort, label and stack donations and anyone interested is asked to

join: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/HvezOoWImQM0WIeqTVGxgu>

Freight 44 of Lympne is providing the first lorry and covering the cost of the driver's wages, while Bigjigs Toys is funding the rest of the costs (fuel/duty/tolls). If you would like to donate money to pay for as many lorries as are needed, please go

here: <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/igor-kovalenko-1>

Ukraine Humanitarian Aid, Folkestone, is asking for donations to be dropped off at **Holy Trinity Church, Sandgate Road, Folkestone, CT20 2HQ**, Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9.30am to 12.30pm and 1.30pm to 3.30pm. Items needed are: dry food (rice, pasta, tinned food, especially fish and meat), medicine (Paracetamol, Ibuprofen, painkillers, Calpol, Ibuprofen suspensions for babies and children), protective clothing (helmets, bullet-proof vests, binoculars, long-range radios).