

Cherwell Parishes Update Bulletin - 14 April 2020

Dear Colleagues

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

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

Councillor Covid-19 Priority Fund Update

The [Councillor Covid-19 Priority Fund](#) is here to support the inspiring local response to the Covid-19 crisis across the district. Councillors have already awarded funding to several projects in parishes across the district.

Early grants have mainly been for food parcel services and frontline support such as childcare for key workers. These reflect the voluntary services that have needed to establish themselves quickly but as time moves on you will no doubt also want to be thinking about activities that can support wellbeing more broadly during the current crisis. You may also wish to think ahead to future activities that will help your communities as we recover from the lockdown. Get in touch with your councillor(s) to talk through your ideas before making an application

The application form and guidance on how to apply for the [Councillor Covid-19 Priority Fund](#) are on cherwell.gov.uk. All applications should be sent electronically to grants@cherwell-dc.gov.uk

Activity & Wellbeing Hub – All In One Place

[Cherwell's Activity and Wellbeing Hub](#) is a one-stop-shop for ideas on how to boost your physical and mental health without needing to leave your home.

It offers a range of resources for people of all ages and abilities, from exercise videos and helpline numbers, to educational resources and tips to stay connected with loved

ones, helping residents stay well during COVID-19 and beyond. There are links to national resources as well as bespoke local content and contacts.

Additional Support for Vulnerable Residents

The last couple of bulletins have encouraged you to register local community support groups on [Oxfordshire All In](#). This is still important for any new or unregistered groups.

Alongside the local responses, officers in CDC's wellbeing team are working with community partners to identify and offer support to anyone who needs it. Not only those residents on the governments shielded list (who have been asked to isolate for 12 weeks) , but also residents who could normally manage their own affairs but need some additional support because of the lockdown.

A combination of proactive calling, leafleting and cross organisation collaboration is identifying individuals and families who need greater support. Everyone who has an assisted bin collection will shortly be receiving a leaflet detailing contact numbers for various sources of support.

Community First Oxfordshire

Community First Oxfordshire offers support and guidance on many topics of interest to rural communities, including **community halls, community transport and strategies for community action**.

Please visit <https://www.communityfirstoxon.org> for more information. You will also find an easy to navigate digest of key local and national sources of information and guidance on a range of themes: national and local covid-19 advice, communities and charities; community halls and retail, business and employers.

Keeping 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.