

PADSTOW TOWN COUNCIL



I hope this finds you well. I know that we are feeling trepidation as the lockdown lifts further and we are all stepping into the unknown together.

Tuesday saw our first virtual Council meeting and we were delighted to welcome so many members of the public. Councillor Buscombe spoke passionately as a Padstonian and Councillor for both Padstow and Cornwall. His view, which was supported by me and fellow Councillors, is that we should adopt a “wait and see” approach. We have established a key contact list which includes the police and other key organisations so we can keep in touch and then review how things have gone and if necessary, look at where things could be improved.

Currently we have put in place the following:

- Social distancing signage
- Sanitation stations on our bandstand, Cory and White Shelters
- Railway toilets extended open hours from Saturday until 8 pm
[NB: Both North Quay and Cory still under refurbishment. Should be completed soon, assessment to be made as to which conveniences can be opened safely]
- Toilet attendants regularly monitoring/cleaning our public toilets
- Extra safety measures in our car parks, sanitiser stations on cash taking machines and regularly wiping them down
- Extra weekend cover to help with bins/litter, clean down shelters and stock up the sanitation units.

For such a small team they are doing the best they can so please do bear with us.

The truth of the matter is that we don't have any powers to instruct or to enforce social distancing, face masks or stopping people/or trying to reduce the number of people coming into our town. The police have few powers too. Ultimately this is down to each and every one of us – social distance, wash your hands.

As we all move forward and learn together, businesses are trying to re-open with their staff and customer safety at the forefront of their minds. This a trying time for us all and a learning experience, with us all feeling our way. Please be tolerant of any issues that need to be addressed, and as Councillor Flide outlined at our meeting “be nice to one another”. I would like to welcome anyone visiting our town and hope they enjoy their stay but urge them to act responsibly.

Thank you all so much for the support you give to one another, our community, for keeping us fed and watered. I think our community is terrific, I love Padstow and the people that make it the place it is, I know that my fellow Councillors feel the same. Take care and keep safe

Councillor Charlie Watson-Smyth
Mayor/Chairman Padstow Town Council
