

Acton Burnell, Frodesley, Pitchford, Ruckley & Langley Parish Council

The Granary, Lower Farm Court, Pitchford, Shrewsbury, Shropshire. SY5 7DW.

Shropshire Councillor Report 11th May 2020

From County Councillor, Dan Morris.

- SC full council meeting last week held virtually, only one item on the agenda which was to remove the statutory obligations for Shropshire councillors to physically attend official SC meetings until CV has relented. This will be examined again later in the year.
- The next full council meeting scheduled at the moment is July 16th
- SC cabinet met 28th April in a virtual setting, the next meetings are 15th June and then 6th July.
- There is a small grants scheme available, please see link <https://shropshire.gov.uk/coronavirus/resources-and-grant-funding-opportunities-for-local-communities/covid-19-small-grants-programme/>. You will note that specifically mentioned are that the grant is available to Village Halls who have suffered loss of income as a result of the CV outbreak. The second tranche of funding of a pot of £25k shuts down with all applications in by May 22nd. There is a then further 3rd and final pot of £25k that will be opened up in June
- The 5 SC waste and recycling centres are now open for essential use only. The word essential here is used I think to discourage lots of people coming at once and overwhelming the centres
- Government has provided SC with around £18m of funding to help SC deal with the extra costs and loss of income suffered by the council as a result of CV. SC estimate the total cost to be in the region of £22m so as you might imagine there is much lobbying going on in the background to fill the gap.
- At end of April SC had processed £56.32m of business grants to 4825 businesses. £91m had been allocated to SC, ringfenced for use on business grants.
- To give an idea of the scale of what SC has dealt with in grants, there are only 13/314 local authorities in the country that have had more grants to pay out than SC
- Community resource teams were set up by SC, with staff pulled in from different areas of the council, to help facilitate help and support to the local neighbourhood self help teams that have sprung up. The contact person for Burnell is Mathew Mead, and I speak with him regularly. Please do let me know if there are any CV related matters the PC would like raising.
- There seems to have been an uptick in criminal activity and theft recently, so please do keep vigilant. Sunday night in Exfords Green a quad bike, power drills, a trailer and bike amongst other things. Also thefts from Conover Village at the weekend, and then a week or two earlier thefts from Pulverbatch.
- It has been good to see more road repairs being completed, in the month of April 4300 potholes were repaired. Much of this work has been done SC's own teams, as opposed to using Kier, and anecdotally at least it appears to me the speed and quality of work has improved.

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- Across the 6 parishes of Burnell there are formal and less formal self help groups that have sprung up. Putting it in general terms I have found that the more rural the settlements and parishes, the less formal the self help groups appear to be. This feels to me to be a function of the rural areas being more used to getting on with things themselves!
- Paul Harrison kindly accepted my request to join the Acton Burnell FB page, so please do tell people that I can be reached through that channel.
- More specific to ABPC I have had correspondences with PC chair, planning officers and the applicant over the Home Farm Barns application, with the PC chair and planning officers over the proposed new outline application at Bulkrite and also with the PC chair and adult social care team with regards to a potential vulnerable adult in the parish.