

Planning

Extra Virtual Planning meetings to help catch up with the backlog of applications to come to committee continues. There has been an issue relating to an application in Steeple Morden where the deputy leader will be taking the council to court in order to quash the decision so that the application can be determined a fresh. We await the details for the review of planning committees through the greater Cambridge planning service, I really would like to encourage parish councils to take part.

Business Discretionary Grants

Government gave SCDC £1.25 million to administer a discretionary grants scheme to award grants to business that are struggling due to the coronavirus pandemic. There is a fast approaching deadline of Monday 22nd June to apply, if you are aware of a business that is struggling please do encourage them to get in touch with either myself or the district council. It is important to be aware that this grant is designed for businesses that do not qualify from other forms of COVID related grants:

Eligible businesses include:

- Small businesses in shared offices or other flexible workspaces with a minimum rent of £250 per month
- Regular market traders who are based in the same physical location with fixed building costs and registered with the Council's Environmental Health / Licensing Service
- B&Bs that pay Council Tax and are registered with the Council's Environmental Health Service
- Charities that pay business rates to the Council and would meet the criteria to receive Small Business Rates Relief if they were an equivalent sized business.

Resident Meetings

Following Covid-19 and social distancing I have been unable to hold surgeries for social distancing reasons, however I am now in a position to hold virtual resident meetings and will shortly be advertising so. I'm more than happy to do Virtual Q & A's on topics such as recycling or planning with residents and parish councils if you should wish, please do just let me know.

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