

NEWSOME WARD

# GREEN eNEWS

Covering Armitage Bridge, Ashenhurst, Aspley, Berry Brow, Newsome, Lockwood, Longroyd Bridge, Lowerhouses, Primrose Hill, Rashcliffe, Springwood, Taylor Hill, Town Centre —



**Councillors from across the political spectrum come together to ensure council is still able to provide key services**

The coronavirus crisis means Kirklees Council is having to maintain many essential services like bin collections, adult and children's social care, schools for the children of key workers and vulnerable children.

While many Council meetings have been suspended, The leaders from all party groups on Kirklees Council are coming together each week (virtually) with the Council's Chief Executive on the Public Health Emergency Advisory Group to work together on addressing the crisis.

**Councillor Andrew Cooper** as leader of the Green Party group on Kirklees Council is represented on the group:

"It is inspiring to see political differences being put aside for the common good

"It would be good to see this sort of positive working together continue beyond this crisis.

"It's vital that we know from local people how their day-to-day lives could be improved and problems they may be having that we can help with and so I can feed this into these meetings."

## OUR FIRST DIGITAL NEWSLETTER

To protect our local leafleters, and stop the spread of the virus we have decided to suspend our regular newsletter deliveries.

To help you keep up to date with what we are doing we have launched our first eNewsletter!

Please share it widely among people you know in the Newsome Ward either by Email, Facebook, WhatsApp or Twitter.

We want to keep in touch with as many people as possible.

If you want to be added to our newsletter mailing list please email [andrew.cooper@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:andrew.cooper@kirklees.gov.uk) with your name address and email address.

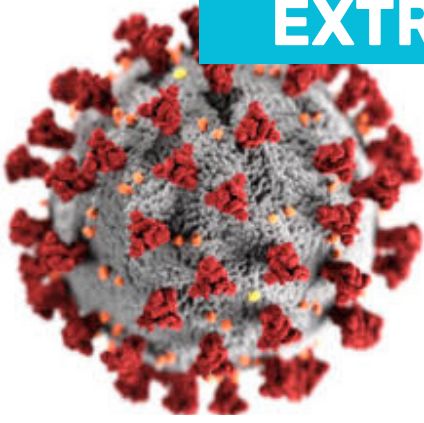
## LOCAL ELECTIONS POSTPONED

**Local elections for Kirklees Council will be postponed for a year to May 2021 due to the coronavirus outbreak.**

Councillor Andrew Cooper has said, "Delaying these elections was what had to be done.

"The health and welfare of our community and our activists absolutely must be top priority."

### EXTRA FUNDING FOR LOCAL AREAS



**Kirklees has provided £50k for each of the Council's 23 Wards to help communities deal with issues related to the current coronavirus crisis.**

Kirklees Green Party Leader and Newsome Ward **Councillor Andrew Cooper** said "This funding provided by the Council at this most difficult of time is very welcome.

"What Newsome Councillors want to do is get people to give us their ideas.

"The sort of ideas we are looking for are things that help morale in the community, provide support to vulnerable people and ensure that we come out of the crisis with local businesses intact.

"The funding is not limitless but I'm keen to harness the power of local people to help us through this public health emergency.

Karen, Sue and I have been impressed by the willingness of people to help their neighbours in this most unprecedented of circumstances.

"These are the people who can see needs that may not be being met and the things that may make life a little better."

### THREE MONTH RENT HOLIDAY FOR KIRKLEES BUSINESS TENANTS

**Following a proposal by Councillor Andrew Cooper, Kirklees Council has announced it will be giving a three month rent holiday to its commercial tenants.**

Councillor Andrew Cooper said, "I want to ensure small independent businesses across Kirklees retailers are able to survive this crisis intact.

"Many retailers, pubs, cafes and restaurants rent their properties direct from Kirklees and this will help them during this challenging time.

"When things return to normal, we will need them to bring life back to our town centres.

"There is now a challenge to commercial landlords of Huddersfield town centre businesses.

"If councils can do what is right to protect the longer-term interests of our local economy so should you.

"A three month rent holiday for your tenants now could well ensure they are your tenants in the future."



 *Councillor Andrew Cooper proposed the rent holiday to help small business across Kirklees.*

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### GREEN COUNCILLORS MEET (VIRTUALLY)



**Your Green Councillors meet regularly each week but with social distancing rules in force this has to be using video meeting software.**

Councillor Karen Allison said, "It has worked really well.

"We share information we have picked up about local concerns and issues, see how we can help with funding

local projects and keep on top of local casework which hasn't gone away during the Lockdown.

"We have had Council officers join us for meetings when we have needed them and it has gone better than I expected."



## LOCK-DOWN LITTER PICKING

Getting out and about is limited at the moment but your local councillors **Karen Allison** and **Sue Lee-Richards** have been out around where they live litter-picking.

They have been using their daily exercise time to tidy up their neighbourhoods.

Cllr Sue Lee-Richards said, "This is something we can all do to improve our local area.

"It doesn't take long and with so many of us limited about how far we can go it makes it even more important that the places around where we live are as pleasant as possible."



Councillors Karen Allison and Sue Lee-Richards litter picking (photos taken by family members).



**Your Newsome Ward councillors have asked local people to let him know of issues and concerns on their street during the crisis.**

Councillor Andrew Cooper says, "It's

## BE OUR EYES AND EARS

**Your Newsome Ward Green Councillors ask local people to survey their streets for issues.**

not as easy or justifiable for us to be out as much as we would like so we are appealing to local people to let us know what issues need dealing with on their street.

"We normally see things like potholes, blocked drains, street lights that aren't working as well as litter and fly tipping when we are out and about doing our job as councillors.

"So we need you to let us know if you see these sorts of things.

"If you let us know of things, please also give us location information (e.g. which house, street light number the issue is near) and it helps if you can send us photos of the problem".

**Please send to any of your local Councillors.**

## HELP EXERCISING PEOPLE IN YOUR OWN HOME

**Pilates Instructor Lynne Ellis of Almondbury recently extended her classes to include those who need a more gentle form of exercise.**

She converted her sessions so that the exercises can be done on a chair.

This was particularly popular with older people wanting to keep active and healthy.

These classes ran in Community Halls and were sponsored by Kirklees Council

to help those with less mobility keep in shape. Then the coronavirus stopped all group activity!

Newsome Green Party Councillor **Andrew Cooper** contacted Lynne and suggested using Zoom, a video conferencing app, to keep her Pilates sessions going virtually.

Councillor Cooper said, "I'm so pleased Lynne's classes are going so well and that she

is able to help so many people stay active even when they are confined to their homes for much of the day.

Lynne runs six sessions a week, two at each level – beginner, intermediate and advance.

Membership is just £20 a calendar month and gives access to 2 sessions per week.

For more information email Lynne – [lynneel@icloud.com](mailto:lynneel@icloud.com)



**YOUR GREEN COUNCILLORS WORKING HARD FOR NEWSOME WARD ALL YEAR ROUND**

## IMPORTANT LOCK DOWN CONTACT DETAILS

### WANT TO VOLUNTEER? OR NEED HELP?

**The coronavirus lockdown has seen many people in our community at their best.**

Local people have come forward and offered their help to the more vulnerable and elderly.

Kirklees Council has been coordinating offers of help and seeking to link those offers to the people who need it.

To volunteer or to ask for help ring the Kirklees on 01484 226919 OR follow [this link](#).



Advice from the Kirklees Citizen Advice Bureau is being delivered by staff working from home who will need to call email clients back.

Website: [www.kcalc.org.uk](http://www.kcalc.org.uk)

Telephone: 0344 848 970

*(Calls will go through to Citizens Advice call centre who can pass details back to the local team)*

They can help with issues including debt advice, housing (they are focusing resources on homelessness / other housing queries should be directed to Fusion Housing), community care, discrimination, asylum (NOT other immigration advice), EU settlement scheme and Employment

### JOIN YOUR LOCAL GROUPS ON FACEBOOK

Facebook groups have been set up to support people in different parts of Newsome Ward.

*Newsome Green Party*

*Newsome Community Ward Forum*

*Lockwood & Thornton Lodge COVID-19 Support*

*Berry Brow Community Action – Covid-19 Crisis*

*Newsome Community Kindness*

*Taylor Hill Matters*

### REPORT DOMESTIC ABUSE

**Domestic abuse or violence is a crime and should be reported to the police** – there are also other organisations who can offer you help and support.

**Call 999 if it's an emergency or you're in immediate danger.** The police take domestic violence seriously and will be able to help and protect you.

**Other organisations who can help:**

**National Domestic Abuse Helpline** – 0808 200 0247

**Pennine Domestic Abuse Partnership** – 0800 052 7222

**Men's Advice Line** – 0808 801 0327

**Galop (for LGBT+ people)** – 0800 999 5428

### GET IN TOUCH



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