ADDITIONAL DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT, CLIVE ARTHEY, FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON THURSDAY 7TH MAY 2020

Mrs Maybury appears to have covered most of the current BDC issues/updates. There are a few additional points below.

Planning.

Work on the JLP continues relatively unaffected. This is the stage where we are considering responses and reviewing the proposed policies and site allocations, and working toward the preparation of the submission document.

We are continuing to deal with planning applications, and the first virtual Planning Committee meeting was held last week. There has inevitably been some prioritisation of applications, but Government advice is that we should continue as close to 'normal' as possible. CIL payments have ben deferred for three months.

Business Support Grants.

Around 70% of funding has been paid out to those eligible. There has been a slow uptake from Village Halls and Sports Clubs.

Waste and recycling.

HWRCs are closed and garden waste collections suspended, so we have been alert to the possibility of an increase in fly-tipping. So far there has been no identified increase. We have seen an increase of around 5% in both dry recyclable and residual waste collections. There has also been a reduction in Trade Waste collections with 30% of businesses suspending collections. Both the MRF (dry recyclables) and the EfW (residual) continue to operate as normal. Garden waste collections will resume next week, and we are expecting limited re-opening of SCC's HWRCs later this month.

BDC/MSDC staffing.

Currently staff sickness levels are lower than normal, but SERCO, our waste collection contractor, has 7 of its 79 staff off sick. This is better than earlier in the crisis when we had some council staff helping with waste collections.

BDC Cabinet priorities.

Cabinet has been receiving weekly updates on the current situation, and is also looking ahead to how we might prioritise what we do as we move into what is being called the 'recovery phase'.

CLIVE ARTHEY
MAY 2020