



YATELEY, FROGMORE & DARBY GREEN NEWS

MAY 2020

Online edition

Mayor's Message

By Councillor Gerry Crisp



I'd like to thank everyone in the community for working together in this challenging time. Many of us will never have faced such disruption to our daily lives, and to see everyone pulling together is testament to the fantastic community that we have in Yateley, Frogmore and Darby Green. Thanks to everyone's efforts to stay at home to keep one another safe, there is certainly light at the end of the tunnel. The kindness and charity of our community has always been evident, including before lockdown, on Saturday 14th March, where 50 people enjoyed a wonderful evening of music, cabaret and cocktails at Yateley Village Hall in aid of the Mayor's Charity. With a theme based around New York, Fred Gardner performed his tribute to the music of Frank Sinatra, while a range of cocktails were mixed and served to order – the sale of each cocktail including a £2 donation to the Mayor's charity. With an incredible menu of stone oven pizza, salad, cheesecake and apple pie provided, on site, by Ethic Street Pizza, the evening proved an incredible success. A huge thank you goes to all the local shops and businesses that so generously provided raffle prizes (over 30 in total) and to everyone who attended and supported the evening. £397 was raised on the night, which will go to the Mayor's charity Vision4Youth. Thank you again.

Annual Meeting of the Town Council

The Annual Meeting of the Town Council will take place virtually on Monday, 22nd June. Please visit www.yateley-tc.gov.uk or more information.



COVID-19 Support

There are many organisations providing help and support in a variety of forms to those who need it. From collection of medicines and groceries to mental health support and crime prevention. These are some of the services available:



- For the latest information, visit www.nhs.uk and www.gov.uk/coronavirus.
- **The Coronavirus Hampshire Helpline** - 0333 370 4000 - Available at 7 days a week from 9am-5pm for vulnerable residents with no support who urgently need assistance.
- **Hart District Council** has information on local services, visit www.hart.gov.uk/covid-19.
- **Hart Voluntary Action** - 01252 815652 - For those self-isolating at home with no means of getting help. Visit www.hartvolaction.org.uk.
- For advice on **cybercrime**, or to report suspicious emails, visit www.ncsc.gov.uk/cyberaware or www.actionfraud.police.uk. To report fraud call 0300 123 2040.
- **TalkPlus**, a free NHS mental health service is still open for referrals. Visit www.talkplus.org.uk.
- **The Darby Green Foodbank** (Hart Foodbank - Trussell Trust) is operating at St. Barnabas Church, Brinns Lane, Darby Green, GU17 0BT. Open at 1.30pm – 3.00pm on Mondays and Thursdays. Find out more at www.hart.foodbank.org.uk/locations/
- **Young Minds** offers mental health help and advice for young people - www.youngminds.org.uk. Parent helpline - 0808 802 55 44.
- **Beat Eating Disorders** has advice for those with eating disorders, and The Sanctuary, an online chatroom to connect with others sharing the same experiences. Visit www.beateatingdisorders.org.uk
- **OCD UK** has support and COVID-19 related tips - www.ocduk.org/ocdand-coronavirus-survival-tips.
- **Shout** Text service, for anyone in a crisis - text 'Shout' to 85258.
- **Childline** - www.childline.org.uk - 0800 1111
- **NSPCC** - www.nspcc.org.uk
- **Anxiety UK** have a helpline open from 9.30am - 10pm - 03444 775 774.
- **Emerging Minds** have mental health resources for young people at www.emergingminds.org.uk/resources.

A huge thank you to everyone who has come together to help their neighbours and to those who have shown leadership in coordinating the fantastic local effort in Yateley and surrounding areas.

Domestic Abuse Support

If you are living with an abusive partner, try to keep a mobile phone on you at all times and call 999 in an emergency. If you can't speak after calling 999, use the Silent Solution system. Press 55 on your phone and the police will know it's an emergency.

- The Domestic Abuse helpline for female victims, available 24/7: 0808 2000247 - www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk.
- Male Advice line: 0808 8010327 - www.mensadviceline.org.uk
- Mankind Initiative: 01823 334244 - www.mankind.org.uk
- LGBT+ Domestic Abuse helpline: 0800 9995428 - www.galop.org.uk
- Respect National helpline (perpetrator help): 0808 8024040 - www.respect.uk.net

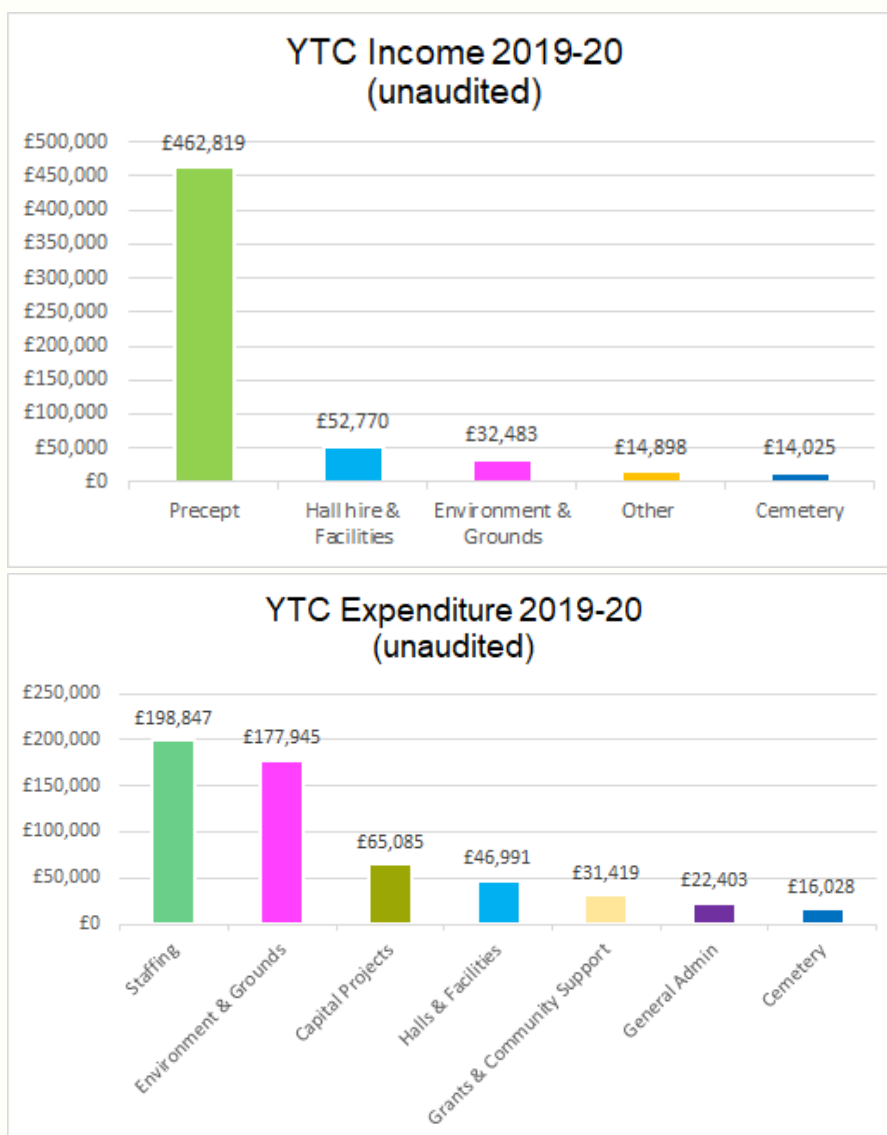
Council Finances 2019-2020

The Council receives the majority of its income through the precept, collected by Hart District Council as part of your Council Tax. Additional income is also generated from the Council's various facilities, such as the three community halls, cemetery fees, allotments and sports pitches. This additional income helps to keep the precept element of your Council Tax as low as possible.

All of the Council's income is used to support the Council's services to the community and running costs, such as maintaining open spaces, playgrounds, staffing and our community halls and facilities. In 2019-20, the Council completed the following scheduled capital projects: the resurfacing of the Darby Green Centre car park; renewing the paths at Heathlands Cemetery and new security fencing at the Swan Lake allotments.

The Finance & Policy Committee is responsible, along with Full Council, for the Council's overall financial management. Finances are monitored on a day to day basis by the Responsible Financial Officer (the Town Clerk). The Council's income and expenditure is subject to both internal and external independent audits annually. Please visit the Council's website to view further financial information: [Council Finances](#)

A summary of the Council's unaudited income and expenditure for the 2019-20 financial year can be found below.



Grant Aid

The Council provides financial assistance for various community and not-for-profit organisations through its grant aid and support programme. The table below shows the grants awarded by the Council during 2019-20.

Organisation	Project	Amount
Yelabus	Community transport	£11,500
Vision4Youth	Summer programme & schools' youth clubs	£2,940
Yateley Lions	May Fayre arena acts	£1,000
Yateley Camera Club	New projector	£500
Yateley Men's Shed	Dust extractor	£500
Yateley Society	Information display boards	£450
Hampshire Lakes Association	Christmas event	£400

Yateley, Darby Green & Frogmore Neighbourhood Plan

Thank you to all those who took the time to reply to our recent Neighbourhood Plan survey - we really value your input. During this difficult time, the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group has paused its activity and will resume once it is considered safe to start again. At that point, we will complete a detailed evaluation of the survey results and use the information to help shape the emerging policies in the Neighbourhood Plan. We hope that once life is looking a bit more normal, we will be able to work on taking the Neighbourhood Plan to



the next, more formal drafting stage and will engage in further public consultation exercises so that you have the opportunity to input into this important planning document. In the meantime, if you would like to find out more about the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group's progress to date, please visit <https://ydf-np.org.uk/> If you're interested in taking an active role in shaping our Neighbourhood Plan, please contact the Town Clerk – rochelle.halliday@yateley-tc.gov.uk to find out more about joining the Steering Group.

Quarantine and Us

By 'Two ever-so-slightly-bored Teenagers' from Vision4Youth

'The hardest part of quarantine so far has not been physically seeing our friends, we're just grateful for social media and being able to connect virtually. We have managed weekly quizzes, daily "house parties" and of course sharing the obligatory TikToks. In a very strange way we are missing school, the routine, friends and (never thought we would say this) school work. We were due to take our GCSE's this summer and suddenly all that work, focus and plans disappeared overnight. We felt adrift for a while, binged watching Netflix, absorbed in Instagram but slowly we have been filling our time with work set from school, online courses and still making time for lots of Netflix. So far we have been able to put to the back of our minds what this will mean for our grades and we are very much looking forward to getting back to some sort of normality when it is safe to do so.'

Lockdown Life

By Councillor Maria Pierce

'Who knew at the start of the year, by 23rd March, we'd be in lockdown and our lives would change so much. For me, this started badly with a cough that descended into suspected COVID-19 for over 3 weeks. Living with a diabetic meant self isolation was strict for both of us, I had no idea my house could look so clean! I was lucky enough to still be working so tried to keep my mind occupied and we received amazing support from friends and neighbours who I will always be incredibly thankful to. I recovered, of course, and now enjoy the sunny queues when shopping, chatting to new faces at a distance whilst I wait, being more patient and realising that flour and yeast is now more valuable than gold! I've learnt to love the slower pace and fully appreciate what I have. Accepting that Corrie is now only on 3 times a week and after 6 weeks of waiting, am now the proud owner of 3 thermometers that I kept ordered in case we got sick! Take care of yourselves, stay safe and thank you to our amazing NHS and Key Workers.'



Community in Frensham Close

By Julie Randle

'In Frensham Close, despite the lockdown we have experienced a fantastic neighbourly spirit with most homes coming out to clap for our key workers each Thursday, some neighbours even meeting and chatting from a distance for the first time after years living in the same close. We have held two 'distancing' birthday parties including our neighbour John who turned 88 on the 5th May! The star was Eve Hayter aged 10 who put together a 'distancing' football competition (the winner being John's wife Jean, aged 83!), hopscotch and drew amazing chalk happy birthday messages!'

Neighbours clapping for key workers, and a chalk 'Happy Birthday' message in Frensham Close. Images by Julie Randle.



Tennis Courts Re-Open

Following the latest government update, Yateley's tennis courts are now open. Use of the courts is subject to the following conditions:

- You must only exercise with members of your household or up to one person from outside your household, while maintaining a safe social distance of at least 2 metres at all times.
- You must ensure you maintain the suggested hygiene routine of hand washing or the use of hand sanitiser, and do not use the tennis court if you display any symptoms of COVID-19.
- Only ONE court will be open for use. This court must be booked in advance by emailing office@yateley-tc.gov.uk or calling 01252 872198.
- The cost of the courts is £5.10 per hour for adults, £4.10 for an adult and a child, and £3.10 for under 16's. Payment must be made by card over the phone at the time of the booking. Confirmation of the booking will then be sent to you.
- You must ensure that you have your booking confirmed - please do not just turn up.
- Access times to the courts are 8.00am to 9.00pm Monday to Sunday. Maximum time per session is two hours.
- If you have any queries, contact Yateley Town Council by emailing office@yateley-tc.gov.uk or calling 01252 872198.



These are the measures in place at the time of publication. The latest information can be found on our website, which is updated in line with government updates.

Virtual Council Meetings



During the COVID-19 outbreak the Council's usual schedule of meetings was placed on hold, for public safety reasons. The law was subsequently changed to allow Councils to hold meetings virtually, so we are now holding a selection of essential meetings by videoconference. Members of the public are more than welcome to take part in the Public Participation item during our virtual Council meetings by following the instructions on the Council's website (www.yateley-tc.gov.uk/Article/Detail.aspx?ArticleUid=339c5af7-0d71-4c52-809e-48d70bec4c28) or you can contact the Town Council Office with any questions you may have about the meeting agenda prior to the meeting. Our published Council meeting schedule will be resumed, with meetings held in person at The Tythings, when the Government deem it safe to do so once again. If you need to contact the Council about any matter you are concerned about, please make contact through the Town Council Office.

Join our new mailing list!

Subscribe to our new mailing list to be the first to receive our newsletters direct to your inbox, along with news on upcoming events, how you can get involved, and other Council updates. Sign up at www.eepurl.com/g3vsvyH.



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