

COVID-19 Update for the Adjourned May 2021 Council meeting

1. Officers / Employees - working from home and lateral flow testing

Officers and staff are continuing to combine working both from home and at Council facilities. Family and medical requirements/needs for all employees continue to be taken into consideration when reviewing working environments. Voluntary employee Lateral flow testing has now started.

2. Hire of Town Council Facilities / Covid-19 vaccinations

Council Chambers facilities are now open to further hirers (adult exercise classes have recommenced and a physio medium hired last week) as per the Government roadmap.

The Rame Group Practice have completed the last pop-up vaccination clinic and have sent this message for the Council. *"We managed to vaccinate 446 patients at our final vaccination clinic at the Torpoint Council Chambers yesterday. Overall we have vaccinated 4311 patients and 262 Care home staff from the Torpoint and Rame Peninsula which is a very impressive amount in such a short period of time. The Rame Group Practice would like to say a massive thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers, Torpoint Town Council and our great staff and medical students who have helped run the vaccination clinics, visited the Care Homes and Housebound patients and generally supported the practice to continue to function whilst this was taking place. We would also like to thank all the patients that kindly brought in sweet treats to keep the staff going, they have been very much appreciated. Great work everyone, thank you so much for all of your support during these unprecedented times."*

3. Community Hub and Library

Increased services are being made available, with the café reopening for indoor seating from Monday 17th May.

4. Befriending Service

A meeting has been held to progress setting up the befriending service, with the social prescriber, at the Community Hub and Library.

5. Return to physical meetings / update from CALC (The Cornwall Association of Local Councils)

The Coronavirus Act 2020 and the Virtual Meetings Regulations 2020 came to an end on **7th May 2021** and the ability to hold virtual meetings has now ceased. It was reported that Cornwall Council are holding hybrid meetings where members are able to attend virtually. The CALC understand that the recent judgement in the high court confirmed the definition of 'place' – the same physical, geographical place. The legislation requires members to be 'present' to be able to vote and this means that regardless of any decisions regarding the meetings of the unitary authority, **local councils should not accommodate hybrid meetings which allow members to attend virtually and participate.**

(This will be final Covid-19 update for the council, unless further information needs to be disseminated.)