

District Councillor Monthly Report
Lawford, Manningtree & Mistley
April 2021

This report can be circulated as you wish, but if Parish Clerks upload to their websites the amendment of any text style to ensure Digital Inclusion Compliance is their responsibility.

Coronavirus Update

The Shield helpline can be contacted on 01255 686700.

COVID-19 Infection cases (per 100,000 of the population) are reducing significantly in our district and in Essex generally. The below is an edited table showing how we compared with our neighbouring district and the Essex figure.

Week Ending	Tendring		Colchester	Essex
31.12.2020	767.4	755.0	1,069.0	
28.01.2021	392.2	328.2	296.6	
25.02.2021	96.2	94.0	72.3	
18.03.2021	34.1	41.1	35.7	

Our positive Infection rate from the number of tests carried out remained at 1.3% in Tendring at the end of March. It is 1.4% for Colchester. Ours is an average rate for Essex.

The NHS has advised that supplies of the vaccines to Essex will be impacted from the 29th March, but this will not affect 2nd doses or the delivery of vaccinations to the priority groups.

Whilst all this is really positive news, we must all remember that COVID has not gone away. The advised restrictions, set out in the Recovery Roadmap must still be respected.

Leisure Centres - Road Map for re-opening

Leisure centres in Tendring have set out how they will re-open, in line with the government roadmap.

From 29 March outdoor grass sports pitches are available to book in line with the requirements of each sport's national body.

In keeping with the gradual relaxation of restrictions, the re-opening of further leisure services is subject to the roadmap 'not before' dates and may change depending on the situation.

Tendring District Council's (TDC) leisure centres are set to re-open from 12 April, offering gym sessions, lane and family swimming plus junior swim lessons, and youth or disabled club activities. Racket sports are also permitted for single households or bubbles, with the exception of squash.

Subject to the roadmap, from 17 May fitness classes will resume as will adult swim lessons, and the flume at Walton-on-the-Naze Lifestyles can be used again. Racket sports are expected to be open under the rule of six, except squash - where national body guidance is awaited.

Kieran Charles, TDC Sports Facilities and Business Manager, said the leisure team could not wait to get people back in the centres.

"It has been a very strange time for our staff, particularly while carrying out cleaning and building checks on empty pools and sports halls," Mr Charles said.

"Hopefully we will be able to re-open soon, and all of our Covid-secure measures remain in place - but please do check the signage in case of any changes made. In particular, I'd like to remind leisure centre users that sessions must be booked in advance, and of the need to wear a mask unless you are exercising.

"Until we can re-open our online fitness classes are continuing, which I know have been popular with many people looking to keep fit during lockdown."

Existing leisure memberships will be free for April and May, as the January payment taken before lockdown was introduced will cover the costs. From June, memberships will be at 75% rate. Annual memberships have been extended to account for the months of closure.

People looking to sign up for a membership can now use the TDC Leisure Centres new website at <https://sportstendring.leisurecloud.net/joinathome/>.

District Local Plan

The hearing to examine part two of the Local Plan was held between Tuesday 23rd February and Thursday 4th March 2021.

There was some opposition from landowners and developers to various policies contained in the plan. However I believe that the Planning Inspector was understanding of what the council was attempting to achieve and the hearing went well (we hope)....!

The Planning Inspector has taken away our draft policy on Building Standards and Renewable Energy, in order to further consider the content and its compliance with National Planning Law. We await the result of the examination.

As previously reported - All sites in which had been proposed for development in Lawford, Manningtree and Mistley have now secured planning permission, and the only exceptions which will be considered for development, will be any "Affordable Housing" proposals, or any "Special Regeneration" schemes.

Local Planning Applications

- (1) 2 High Street, Manningtree - Change of use to Dwelling. This application is before the Planning Committee on the 13th April. The Mayor of Manningtree, Carlo and I will be speaking against the application.
- (2) Land South of Harwich Road, Lawford - Erection of a Flexible Electricity Generation Facility with associated ancillary infrastructure, access and boundary treatment. This application has been "called-in" and is awaiting the Planning Committee Agenda Date.

On the 29th March Carlo and I had a socially distanced outdoor meeting with some of the concerned neighbours to further understand their concerns and look at the view towards the proposed site.

- (3) Mistley Place Park - Between the 2nd and 16th February McCarthy & Stone conducted an on-line consultation exercise regarding their ambitions for a development at this location.

McCarthy & Stone stated that it was their intention to submit a Planning Application in late February or early March. At the time of writing this application is yet to be submitted.

- (4) Tops'l House, High Street, Mistley - Two applications for change of use. The first floor to a dwelling and the ground floor to a restaurant. This application has been "called-in" and is awaiting the Planning Committee Agenda Date.

- (5) Telephone Kiosk - Near to the Anchor Public House, Mistley - We are now in a period of consultation until the 14th May regarding the proposed removal of the kiosk. A planning application will likely follow that period of consultation.

- (6) Land to the South of Long Road & to the West of Clacton Road, Mistley - The Reserved Matters application for 485 dwellings, two hectares of Employment Land, Public Open Space and Infrastructure. This is a substantial document which will require careful consideration regarding, not least, the provision and type of Affordable Housing, Renewable Energy Provision and Amenity Land & screening etc.

Kind Regards

Alan Coley - District Councillor

District Report on Behalf of:

Alan Coley, Carlo Guglielmi & Val Guglielmi

1st April 2021

In an emergency which requires TDC's assistance residents can contact the council's Control Centre on 01255 222022, available 24/7.

General Information: If anyone witnesses any fly tipping occurring, please contact TDC's Waste Management Team on 01255 686768.