

MARTYN HOLLAND

Notices to the community N^o 18

25th August 2020



Those of you who live in the Eryrys and Llanarmon may have heard the Police helicopter circling for some time late on Friday night and you would have also been aware of a large police presence in the area.

The evening started with a report of a missing person but then became a man hunt after it was also reported that a local house had been broken into.

The police who had been drafted in to look for the missing person managed to apprehend one of possibly three criminals and investigations are ongoing with further arrests expected.

Sadly, the young family whose house was broken into had gone on holiday in North Wales and they were contacted by friends with the bad news. I can report that some of the stolen goods have already been recovered.

Our thoughts are with the family and it just goes to prove that if you see something suspicious please report it to the police immediately.

As part of the return to some form of normality after the Covid crisis, a booking system was introduced for Denbighshire's recycling centres.

It appears that the system has worked well and that the majority of residents have liked it. Denbighshire therefore intend to keep the booking system for the foreseeable future and you can book a slot on line or via the DCC call centre on 01824 706000.

As you know the BBC has withdrawn the free TV licences for the majority of over 75s. Sadly, scammers have seen this as yet another opportunity to relieve you of your money by posing as TV Licensing. They are e-mailing our older residents and telling them that something has gone wrong with their payments. They then ask you to make a payment and provide your banking details for future direct debit instalments. As always do not respond to any e-mails that ask you for money or your bank details. TV Licensing will contact everyone concerned by post only. If you have been contacted by e-mail please report it immediately to the police and advise your bank if you have given out any of your bank details.

To help town centres and businesses Denbighshire have introduced two hours free parking in one car park in each town. The free parking will run from 3rd August through to the 31st December 2020 and the Ruthin Market Street Car Park is included.

I have recently been advised that the Rhyl Sea Defences will be completed by December 2022. This means that we will see large lorries on the B5430 and A494 for some time to come.

Great news. The resurfacing work on the B5430 will be completed this week and Tarmac have installed a new height restriction bar at the Pistyll Gwyn Quarry walkers' car park. They have also reduced the bund so that all the car park can now be seen from the road. Hopefully this will help to stop unwanted visitors and fly tippers.

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The County has announced that they are planning to resurface a key part of the Horseshoe Pass and that the section of A542 from the Britannia Inn to just before the Ponderosa will be closed from the 14th September until 6th November 2020.

The road needs to be closed because it is narrow in parts and some major drainage works also need to be undertaken.

The diversion will be via the A5 to Corwen and then the A5104 back to Llandegla.

Welsh Government have announced an extra 260 million pounds for Local Government to help make up the shortfall in income from lost revenue from leisure centres, car parks, etc. Details have yet to be announced or how much DCC will get.

Congratulations to the Llanferres Play and Recreational Ground Committee who have won £1000 from the Calor Rural Communities Fund. They also raised approximately a further £1500 from residents and supporters as part of the process. Well done to everyone who responded and helped to get this project on the winning list. An excellent Community effort.

The County have reviewed their winter gritting policy and they are looking to stop dropping piles of grit around the County. This was not environmentally friendly and a costly exercise because much of the salt is washed away by the rain.

The plan is to target key hills and bends with grit which will be put in yellow boxes. These boxes will be numbered and when they run out residents and councillors will be able to just report which box needs refilling by referring to the individual box number.

This project will take some time to complete and so this autumn the wards within the AONB will be completed first and the new system monitored. This will include all of our ward which you all know has been prone in the past to bad weather during the winter months. Let's see how it works but let us also hope that we have another mild winter this year.

Schools meals will be back on the menu when children return to school in September.

The County and the Welsh Government are preparing for the new school term and the Welsh Government has given extra money for bus services. We believe that most of this will be used to provide extra buses to ensure distancing on the school run in the mornings and at the end of the school day.

General bus services should be fully operational by the beginning of September and new time tables produced for those services that may change. To date I have not been advised of any changes in our ward.

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I reported in my last update that during the lock down an illegal traveller site had been established on the A525 just over the County boundary in Denbighshire.

As part of the process paperwork was sent to the owner which should have been returned within twenty-one days. This was not done and so enforcement action has started and enforcement papers were delivered to the site on Monday by the planning enforcement officer and the police.

NRW and DCC are also looking into the Ty Isoe site (*cars in the woods*) which is linked to the traveller site.

You can still order books online from Ruthin Library and collect and return books by appointment. You can now also make an appointment once a week to use the public computers.

For further information go on line at <http://www.denbighshire.gov.uk/libraries>

The Police have advised that there is a gang of criminals in the area who are stealing dogs. They are normally after pedigree animals and if you witness any one acting suspiciously in your area please call the police immediately. If you live on the roadside it may be an idea not to leave your dogs out where they can be seen.

Village Halls and Community Centres can reopen as long as the hall committees complete a risk assessment which should be available in the form of a poster in the hall.

At the same time groups using the halls should also complete individual group risk assessments and ensure their members (*no more than thirty*) each have a copy along with a copy to the hall management committee. Group members attending any event should also register their names and contact details.

Halls and group members should also provide their own sanitisers but sadly no tea, coffee or biscuits for the time being!

The Welsh Government has announced that those people who have been shielding can now venture out.

Sadly, the virus has not disappeared and a vaccine is still some way off. If everyone acts responsibly and continues to follow distancing and basic hygiene rules, we can still keep relatively safe.

Please e-mail me or give me a call if I can be of any further assistance.

Keep well.

Regards,

Martyn