

Cllr Whitby – Beacon Hill Focus Group / Charter Fair

There are no reports from the Beacon Hill focus group (no meetings due to COVID- 19).The Haslemere Charter Fair unfortunately had to be cancelled, but has been organised for next year.

Cllr Dear – Haslemere Hall

The staff remain on furlough and whilst cinemas can now open again, the problem the Hall has is that there are currently no new releases available as most of the films were held back from release until later on this year.

With the new social distancing rules in place, the Hall can accommodate 120 seats (10 x 12 rows), spread out with another 30 on the balcony.

The plan is to start showing films again from the week commencing 17th August – subject to final confirmation and re-training of volunteers to take account of the Covid requirements.

The bar should reopen for sweets and ice creams but there will no longer be coffees and teas until further notice.

The plan will be to open 45 minutes before a performance to allow everyone to come in and order their drinks for the interval and pay by card and then all drinks will need to be consumed sitting in the seats rather than in the Annexe. Numbers in the Annexe will be limited to ensure everyone is socially distanced and at the end of each performance, customers will be guided row by row to ensure a safe and uncrowded exit.

The Hall has applied to Waverley for planning permission to allow for the replacement the old signage with new ones featuring a new logo, generously contributed by the Town Council!

These are non illuminated signs and will certainly brighten the exterior and help lift the appearance of the Hall as it approaches the hoped-for re-opening.

Cllr Lloyd – Love Haslemere Hate Waste

LHHW activity has been slow during lockdown, following cancellation in March of the well planned Love Style Hate Waste clothes swapping event which will now be reorganised for early 2021. The committee are now getting things rolling again and are keen to support a “build back better” green recovery for life and business across Haslemere. LHHW is also in talks with Margate to expand the initiative through a collaborative pilot scheme.

Cllr Weldon – Haslemere Health Group

The Haslemere Health Group had a meeting over Zoom, with the main topic of discussion the impact of COVID on local health services.

The biggest change in services was a restructuring of the three hospitals (RSCH, Milford and Haslemere), with our own MIU taking on additional responsibilities, with extended opening hours. Also of interest, was the information that the "COVID Assessment Unit", located behind the hospital in the building just off the outpatients, has been in place for some time, administering COVID tests. With the widespread reporting of how difficult it has been for some people needing them to get tests, I was surprised that this facility has not been better publicized, locally.

The other main point of discussion, was how health services could be changed, moving forward. We have now seen how many services that have traditionally been done face to face, have now been done quite effectively by telemedicine. This is clearly cheaper, easier for patients in terms of travel time and cost, and some clinicians are finding they can get through more patients in the time available, so it all helps to ease pressures on the system. It is likely that to some extent, this will become part of the usual pattern, in future. On the other hand, it also means that much of earlier planning will now be discarded for a fresh approach - and that means that we are probably back to the drawing board, regarding the Haslemere Minor Injuries Unit.