## St Helens Parish Council

## Coronavirus Pandemic Update

The Parish Council recognise the extremely challenging time faced by our local Community at this unprecedented time caused by the Coronavirus Pandemic, whether as local parish members, employees or business owners.

With regard to local businesses, we would bring the following to everyone's attention;

St Helens Post Office and Village Shop opening hours and business is operating as usual, offering home deliveries for those who need them – please phone 01983 872710

Local restaurants and food establishments have now been advised by the Government to cease opening to support social distancing in order to reduce the risk of spreading the virus.

However, all of our local establishments are rapidly readjusting their Services to offer takeaway/home delivery style menus. Details (which will continue to develop over the coming days/weeks) can be found at their respective websites or you can contact them on their usual telephone contact numbers provided below;

<u>The Vine Inn</u> 01983 872337

Weblink: https://en-gb.facebook.com/thevinesthelens/

<u>Ganders</u> 01983 872014

Weblink: https://www.ganders.co.uk

No 33 01983 872303

Weblink: https://www.33-st-helens.co.uk/

<u>Hungary Bear</u> 01983 718871

Weblink: https://www.facebook.com/hungrybeariow/

Let's support our local businesses by utilising these services.

SHPC also wish to support our local businesses during this extremely challenging time and wish to remind all businesses of the Government's financial support to business, which can be found at the following web address;

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19/covid-19-support-for-businesses

The support includes the following special Grants which will be available from County Government;

- small business grant funding of £10,000 for all business in receipt of small business rate relief or rural rate relief
- grant funding of £25,000 for retail, hospitality and leisure businesses with property with a rateable value between £15,000 and £51,000

The support also includes the potential for business loans, Government guaranteed up to 80% of the loan value, with the loans provided by the commercial banks – more details available next week.

The Government has further provided business support to retain employees who may otherwise be at risk, by offering funding of 80% of the cost of employee wages up to £2,500/month.

Further details will follow from Central and County level government on all of these initiatives, and we will endeavour to provide information updates when available.

NB. Anyone seeking further guidance from St Helens Parish Council should contact the Clerk on xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx