

Report to Clanfield Parish Council from District Cllr's Ken Moon and Arthur Agate March 2020

New East Hampshire Community Lottery tickets on sale

Tickets for the first ever East Hampshire Community Lottery draw go on sale on today (Tuesday 3 March) ahead of the first draw on Saturday 4 April.

Money raised from the draw will provide vital support to a wide range of local organisations and projects which benefit the local community.

Lottery tickets can be bought online at www.easthantslottery.co.uk or over the phone by calling 01730 631014. Players can select their chosen fund to support when signing up.

Along with the chance to win the jackpot of £25,000, participants will be making their district an even better place to live and work.

With every £1 ticket bought, players can allocate 50p to one of a host of participating good causes. A further 10p will go into a central community pot. This means a total of 60p from every pound directly supports good causes.

In total, 23 charities and community groups from across the district are already registered on the lottery website. Supporters can view a full list of these when choosing who they would like to contribute to.

There is still time for local charities and community groups to register for the first draw by visiting www.easthantslottery.co.uk.

Each ticket has a 1 in 50 chance to win a prize each week.

For more details on the lottery and to join visit www.easthantslottery.co.uk

EHDC approves 2% Council Tax increase to boost welfare work

East Hampshire District Council will put money raised by a two per cent increase in Council Tax towards supporting the district's most vulnerable people.

The increase was agreed by the council at its meeting on Thursday 27 February. It will amount to 5p a week for the average household but would contribute around £215,000 to the council's Welfare Fund.

The council has previously made clear that residents' wellbeing is one of its top priorities, with a particular focus on social isolation and mental health in young people.

This Council Tax increase will go a long way to providing services and opportunities for some of the district's most vulnerable people.

This is the first time in seven years the council has raised its share of Council Tax.

Alongside the two per cent increase the budget also puts money aside to support other council priorities.

A fund of £50,000 has been earmarked for environmental projects as part of the EHDC's commitment to fighting the climate emergency.

Councillors will once again have £4,500 to spend on local initiatives in their own wards. As part of the new budget, £1,000 of this allocation must be spent on green initiatives.

The budget includes £250,000 for Enhance East Hampshire, a strategy to improve key parts of the district.

A further £500,000 has been allocated to the council's property portfolio to cover maintenance or voids. EHDC has turned to property investment to replace income lost from dwindling Government funding over the last decade. The council's portfolio currently provides 33 per cent of the council's total income, and this reserve will help protect it.

For the first time, the council will review the budget in six months to assess its progress.

Councils secure funding to help rough sleepers

East Hampshire District Council and Havant Borough Council have been successful in securing further funding to end rough sleeping within the two areas.

The total amount being awarded for the next year across the two authorities is £92,774, after a successful joint bid to the government's Rough Sleeping Initiative.

The successful bid includes funds to employ two outreach workers across the both areas and a part time role that will secure accommodation.

The outreach workers will work closely with housing teams to deliver support and assistance to rough sleepers and those at risk of rough sleeping. They can help with access to homelessness provisions such as night shelters and specialist support services that can help with the journey to independent living.

The accommodation post will specifically work with private landlords and letting agents to ensure that there is accommodation available for those who have found themselves without secure accommodation.

In addition to these roles, money is also available for a personalisation fund. This can be used to purchase mobile phones, apply for ID documents or pay for deposits and rent in advance.

This funding will ensure that the actions and targets identified in the Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Strategies for both councils can be completed.

£2.6 million available for community projects

More than £2.6 million is available to help fund local projects that will benefit the community.

East Hampshire District Council is calling on community groups to come forward and stake their claim for funding that could make a huge difference to residents in their area.

The £2.6 million pot has been gathered through developer contributions. Every time a new home is sold its developer pays into the fund. The scheme only covers areas of East Hampshire outside the South Downs National Park.

The money raised by new homes is retained for use in that area and is often earmarked for a particular type of project.

Charities, community groups and local councils can apply to use the money for community facilities, sport and leisure facilities, open spaces, play areas, environmental improvements or transport projects.

As part of the planning process developers are obliged to put some money towards local facilities. Each home built in the district grows the pot of developer contributions. Now is the time for local groups with a great community project to come forward and apply for this money. Developer contributions are spent in the area where the new houses were built, so some places have more than others.

When the council opened up applications last summer 48 local organisations shared £730,000 for their various projects.

To apply for developer contributions go to www.easthants.gov.uk/developer-contributions

Are we on the right path to active travel?

Help us get more people walking and cycling more often, as part of their daily lives.

East Hampshire District Council is asking its residents and visitors to help shape the future of the district's cycling and walking infrastructure by revealing how often they travel by bike or on foot, and what would encourage them to do more.

A Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) is being developed to define and prioritise the essential infrastructure developments needed to encourage more active travel and improve connectivity between our communities and the magnificent East Hampshire countryside.

If you live or work in the district, or travel into the area as a visitor, EHDC would like to hear your views and experiences by filling out a short survey. This will help to understand more about how existing routes are currently used and how the networks can be improved.

The survey will run from Monday 10 February to Sunday 22 March 2020.

Cllr Ken Moon and Cllr Arthur Agate

March 2020