



# Hailsham

## TOWN COUNCIL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

### **Hailsham Street Market Cancelled Until Further Notice**

24 March 2020

Due to the ongoing Covid-19 situation, Hailsham Street Market has been cancelled until further notice.

The decision, which was not made lightly, has come as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic and the most recent "delay phase" measures and social distancing advice given by Public Health England and government agencies.

"The Hailsham Street Market is a popular regular event and we haven't taken the decision to close it lightly," said Deputy Town Clerk & Business Enterprise manager, Mickey Caira.

"Nevertheless, government agencies have put into place crucial measures and advised that all individuals, regardless of their age or any underlying health conditions, should where possible avoid gatherings and public spaces."

"Of course, we fully appreciate the concerns market traders may have regarding any potential loss of business. Even though we operate a small market, because the market attracts people in close proximity, we feel that temporary closure is the best option for the health and wellbeing of both traders and local residents."

"We all have a responsibility to ensure government advice and guidelines are followed, to help reduce the spread of this virus."

Hailsham Town Council has also decided to postpone the Annual Town Electors' Meeting scheduled for Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April and has cancelled all Council and Committee meetings until further notice. New dates will be publicised via the Town Council's social media and website ([www.hailsham-tc.gov.uk](http://www.hailsham-tc.gov.uk)) in due course.

Please note that the Town Council has also decided to close the James West Community Centre to help restrict the spread of the Coronavirus and will not accept hall bookings until further notice. Additionally, youth services have been temporarily cancelled, with the temporary closure of the Square Youth Café, Friday Night Project and Monday Youth Club sessions.

"It is our duty as a parish council to look after the health, safety and wellbeing of members, staff and visitors to our office building and community halls, as well as to our public events," said Town Mayor and Chairman of Hailsham Town Council, Cllr Paul Holbrook.

"This is a very challenging time for us all, and we are trying to balance the public's access to required services and properties with the need to promote public safety by reducing social interaction, which can spread the Coronavirus."

"I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the public for their understanding of these necessary precautions as we take every step possible to ensure their wellbeing and safety - and that of our members and staff."

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