## ALDEBURGH TOWN COUNCIL



THE MOOT HALL, MARKET CROSS PLACE ALDEBURGH, SUFFOLK, IP15 5DS Tel: 01728 452158 Email: townclerk@aldeburghtowncouncil.co.uk

## MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR – CLLR KEVIN WEBSTER

As we approach a second Easter weekend where lockdown restrictions are in place, it seems timely to thank residents for committing to the rules which have been in place since 4 January. The majority of the town's residents will now have received their first vaccine and some of you, already in receipt of your second.

However, since the easing of some of the rules on 29 March, combined with some glorious spring weather, the town has become much busier. Visitors are urged to remind themselves of the restrictions which remain current;

- You should minimise travel where possible. This means you should avoid making unnecessary trips and combine trips where possible.
- You should not stay away from home overnight for a holiday.
- You should not stay overnight in a second home, caravan or boat, if that is not your primary residence, unless it is necessary to do so. For example, for work, moving home, to attend a medical appointment, or to avoid injury, illness or harm (including domestic abuse). You should <u>not</u> be going on holiday at this stage.
- You must not socialise indoors with anyone you do not live with or have formed a support bubble with.
- You should continue to work from home if you can and minimise the number of journeys you make where possible.
- You should get a test and follow the stay at home guidance if you have COVID-19 symptoms.

The police can take action against you if you meet in larger groups. This includes breaking up illegal gatherings and issuing fines (fixed penalty notices). You can be given a Fixed Penalty Notice of £200 for the first offence, doubling for further offences up to a maximum of £6,400. You can be fined £800 if you attend a private indoor gathering such as a house party of over 15 people from outside your household, which will double for each repeat offence to a maximum level of £6,400. If you hold, or are involved in holding, an illegal gathering of over 30 people, the police can issue fines of £10,000.

The good news is that you are able to meet friends and family members outside once again. To remind you, the guidance states;

- you can meet outdoors either in a group of 6 (from any number of households.) Children of all ages count towards the limit of 6, or in a group of any size from up to 2 households (a household can include an existing support bubble, if eligible)
- you can take part in formally organised outdoor sports with any number of people (outdoor sports venues and facilities will be able to reopen)
- childcare and supervised activities are allowed outdoors for all children
- formally organised parent and child groups can take place outdoors for up to 15 attendees. Children under 5 will not be counted in this number.

Please try to make sure you and your families stay safe this Easter. Remember the basics; wash your hands frequently, wear a face covering, observe social distancing and only meet other people outdoors.

Thank you.