

Dear Members,

What a year we have had with Greystones's closure due to COVID restrictions. I am sure none of us thought this time last year we would have a full year of disruption. However, with vaccines being rolled out we can now see light at the end of the tunnel. With that in mind we are looking to get back up and running as near to the Government date allowing us to do so.

This means we will be opening for membership renewals relatively soon. The membership year will move to 1st May through 30th April to bring it in line with the CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) accounting year, reducing the accounting burden of nonaligned year ends. Additionally, there will be a new colour coded annual membership card.

There is a new option to renew via BACs (online) available. This information is detailed in the newsletter, on the web site, via e-mail and in the membership renewal letter sent to those that don't use e-mail. We will be opening the centre from 2pm to 4pm Mon-Fri from Monday 21st June to Friday 2nd July for cash/cheque payment renewals and distribution of new membership cards. Please note that due to their newly automated systems the bank is insisting cheques MUST be made payable to 'Highcliffe Community Association' with no abbreviations allowed. **PLEASE DO NOT POST CASH THROUGH THE DOOR**

On the above dates we hope to open the Coffee bar and offer the opportunity to see the building improvements made during lockdown. There will also be a chance to sign up for sections on sign-up sheets laid out in Room 1. Please come along and bring your friends, New membership will be available too.

We intend to fully open for Business on Monday 5th July (subject to changes in the government plans) although some sections have decided to delay their start date until later.

This year (2021/22) will be a 'short' membership year but bearing in mind we have fixed costs of approx. £28,000 per annum whether we are open or not and it has been necessary to spend approx. £50,000 on repairs to the roof, Room 1 bay window and other sundry repairs the Membership renewal will remain at £10. However, given the circumstances we will not have an August closure this year. You will also recall we did not charge a fee for 2020/21.

Finally, you may be aware that Christchurch Housing Society have imposed new parking restrictions at Greystones. This will not affect HCA members, anyone that needs a car park pass will be offered one free of charge on renewal of membership.

I Look forward to seeing you all soon.

Cliff Putterford

Acting Chairman (On behalf of the Management Committee)