MONDAY SUMMARY

Shops and Services:

...from Lloyds Bank. Please do not put any deposits/banking in the Presteigne bank postbox as we are currently closed and cannot guarantee it will be processed. If you really need to call into a bank, the nearest Lloyds branch is in Leominster open Monday - Friday 10am to 2pm (closed Saturday).

... from Presteigne Building Supplies. Closed 24th March until further notice.

....from Premier. Please note new opening hours for the Post Office Monday to Friday 9am to 3pm (weekend closed). In the shop, please help us by - only 3 customers at any one time - restrict your visit to 7-10 minutes - avoid touching any items you are not buying - note we cannot accept any returns or exchanges in the current circumstances. Thank you for your support.

.... From Spar. Social Distancing I We are now asking all customers to keep their distance where possible in-store, as per the government's latest social distancing recommendations. Staying at least 2 metres away from us will help keep both you and our staff safe. Thank you for your support and understanding at this unprecedented time, Your local SPAR team. We're changing our store opening hours to $rac{1}{2}$ 7 AM to 9 PM, Monday to Sunday $rac{1}{2}$ with immediate effect. This will give our staff more time to re-stock and clean the store and will help us to continue to be there for you and our local community.

...from Shepherds Ice Cream. We will be doing a delivery to Presteigne this Friday with free delivery for 4 x 1/2 litre tubs. Order latest Wednesday by email to enquiries@shepherdsicecream.co.uk. Visit their Facebook page for flavours and details <u>https://www.facebook.com/Shepherds-Ice-Cream-140233879427552</u>

...from Hobsons Brewery. We will be delivering to Presteigne this week and are offering free local delivery. Polypins available - 18 pint (£25) or 36 pint (£50). Call them on 01299 270837 to order. Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/ HobsonsBeers

...from BW Roberts & Son. If you need urgent repairs on your vehicle, please get in touch with us on 01544267365 between 10am and 4pm or 07918714716 out of these hours. We will do our best to get you roadworthy again providing that we can get any parts needed. If you need an MOT, there will be six months exemption for any due after today (30 March 2020) It does state however that your vehicle must be in a roadworthy condition. If you are unsure, please call and we can check for you. You can still have your MOT done if you wish - please call to book it in. Forecourt open after tomorrow between 10am-4pm Thanks everyone. If you can <u>#stayhome #staysafe</u>

Llangunllo Support - if anyone needs any help or support in the Llangunllo area please contact one of the following volunteers - Karen - 01547 550246 or kjedgar01@gmail.com

Anne - 01547 550599 or newton_anne@btinternet.com Isabel - 01547 550689 or mramorris@btconnect.com Ryan - 07748188222 or davisheyope@gmail.com

Powys County Council:

Economy:

We've paid out £11,700,000 worth of support to 792 local businesses so far! Our Finance Team have been busy bees today! If you don't already know, we're awarding £60m worth of reliefs & grants to local businesses in response to COVID19.

Powys County Council's cabinet will meet with county and regional politicians to discuss the council's response to the Coronavirus outbreak.

Cabinet members have invited the county's two MPs, two AMs and regional AMs to an online meeting on Friday (April 3) to discuss the pandemic.

Council Leader, Councillor Rosemarie Harris; "We want to share with our colleagues in the Assembly and Westminster all that we are doing to protect and care for Powys residents during this pandemic. The council has acted quickly invoking its business continuity plans so that we could direct our efforts towards supporting social care and other business critical services such as refuse collection, homelessness and childcare provision for key workers. "Friday's meeting will give colleagues an opportunity to ask questions about the council's response and raise any concerns. We will also consider how best we can work together over the coming months to do all that we can for our residents, businesses and communities during these challenging times. It is important at this time of national crisis that as politicians from all tiers of government we all work together. I hope Friday's meeting will be the first of many such events."

Emergency Childcare Specialist Hubs:

Two special schools in the county are to become Emergency Childcare Specialist Hubs, Powys County Council has said.

Ysgol Cedewain in Newtown and Ysgol Penmaes in Brecon will operate as specialist hubs from Monday, March 30 to help support critical / key workers whose children usually attend special schools or pupil referral units.

These hubs operate from Monday to Friday, during normal school hours.

The council has already established emergency childcare hubs at 13 school sites across the county. These hubs became operational on Friday, March 27 and will operate seven days a week from 8am to 6pm.

Cllr Phyl Davies, Cabinet Member for Education and Property, said: "The advice from the UK and Welsh governments to parents is very clear - if your children can stay safely in their home, they should.

"However, we are providing emergency childcare provision for children of critical / key workers through a number of hubs located in Powys schools.

"Our hub network has expanded to included two of our special school sites. This will ensure that our most vulnerable children are cared for safely while critical / key workers support the Covid-19 efforts."

A cap will be in place on the number of pupils attending each day. This is to ensure that there are enough appropriately qualified staff on site as well as enough space for children, in line with government guidelines.

"Our special school and pupil referral unit headteachers will determine which children will require access the specialist hubs. This will be done one a priority basis and dependent on available staff and we will update parents, carers and our children's services team as required," explained Cllr Davies.

"If necessary, a weekly rota system could be developed for families so that more children have access to the specialist hubs over time. We appreciate the patience and understanding of our families as we make these arrangements.

"For those pupils who are not attending the specialist hubs, the special schools and pupil referral units will continue to keep in regular contact with the families and will provide learning opportunities for the pupils while they are at home."

The council will work closely with special schools and pupil referral units and regularly review the situation in order to make sure that the best possible support for the most vulnerable young people in the county can be provided.

"I want to thank all professionals at all our schools for their commitment during this extremely difficult period," added Cllr Davies.

For the latest updates and information about coronavirus (COVID-19) from the council, please visit <u>www.powys.gov.uk/coronavirus</u>