VERDERERS’ COURT

April 2020

Announcement

THE VERDERERS’ COURT AND THE WORKINGS OF THE COURT DURING THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY

I thought I would say something about the workings of the Verderers’ Court, its Office and the Agisters in these unprecedented times.

It is obviously not possible to hold Open Courts or committee meetings at the present time, nor do we know when it might be possible to resume normal operation. However, the Court is continuing to transact as much of its normal business as possible, using a combination of email and telephone conferences.

For the time being, the Court will follow a similar pattern of operation as it would if actual meetings were being held on the third Wednesday of each month.

Presentments are invited via email. They will be considered and posted on our website. Counter presentments for consideration the following month are also invited. They will be dealt with in the same way.

Once approved, a record of discussions and decisions (Minutes) will be available on our website.

Matters that need publicity will be uploaded onto our website or publicised via the Verderers’ Twitter account.

The Verderers’ Office is closed. Staff are working from home. They are contactable by email via our website or by telephone. Our telephone number, 02380 2828052 is diverted to the Clerk or her Assistant, in rotation.

The VGS Office number, 02380 283134 is diverted to the VGS Administrator’s mobile.

The Agisters have been instructed to carry out as many of their normal duties as possible. However, they have been told they must not undertake any task which involve a breach of social distancing rules. This includes marking cattle, branding ponies, visiting commoners to collect marking fees et cetera.

Marking fees should be paid by BACS wherever possible. BACS details are available by telephoning your Agister. Anyone who is unable to pay by BACS should send a cheque to their Agister – not the office please. In respect of cattle, a marking fee receipt will not be issued unless a list of the ear tag numbers of the cattle being paid for is also provided.