

EDITORIAL FOR FLEET MAGAZINE

COLLINGHAM BUSINESS CLUB UPDATE

Along with much of normal everyday life, the planned April and May meetings of Collingham Business Club succumbed to the national Covid-19 restrictions, causing its monthly members meetings to be cancelled for the first time in its 14 years or so history.

Along with the rest of the community, Covid-19 is hitting businesses hard, particularly those that operate on a self-employed basis. The Government's "furlough leave" scheme is a big help to larger businesses, and looks set to deliver what it is designed to achieve, namely the safeguarding of jobs pending the lifting of workplace restrictions. Help is also available for the self-employed, but is not necessarily straightforward to access.

Helping to bridge the gap, and making life just a little bit easier for all concerned, the District Council is offering a range of supplementary business support measures, details of which have been circulated to everyone on the Business Club mailing list. Also on offer has been a range of free training webinars, designed to hone business skills pending a return to normality. If you are not receiving this useful information, use the contact details below to be added to the list.

More broadly, the Business Club provides a network of like-minded people who may be able to assist, so give a shout if you are struggling with a business related issue. Meanwhile, individual members are volunteering their services to support the community with, for example, a local architects practice (SGA) using its 3D printer to manufacture face-shieldss to be donated to the NHS, and tentative explorations underway led by Lincoln University that might lead to free websites being offered to any local agricultural shows forced to go "virtual" this year. Member company Gusto Homes has also organised the Collingham "Community Conversation" initiative, of which many will already be aware.

The timing of the next Collingham Business Club meeting will be notified once national restrictions allow; meanwhile, make sure to follow Government guidelines designed to keep you and others safe, and to help the NHS cope with the pandemic.

For Club information, or for more details about any of the above, please contact terrynash@gusto-uk.com