

Rough Close Update

July 2020



COVID-19

With Government restrictions starting to ease slightly we are starting to look at how we can re-open Rough Close.

Scout Adventures are issuing the guidelines along with the National Youth Agency. Members of the Rough Close Committee have been part of the webinar discussions.

It is apparent that Residential Experiences will not start until we are deemed to be in the Green Phase of recovery. Although activities can start outside for limited numbers.

Until then we anticipate that Rough Close will not open for any activity until schools return in September and residential activities until January 2021.

A large number of our groups use third party premises for their meetings. These Churches, Schools etc. may not be able to accommodate third party activities immediately. The County are working on ways we can help overcome this potential problem. We are considering how we can keep to the social distancing guidelines of the day plus keeping common areas (toilets, buildings etc) safe. Enabling the use of buildings for meetings.

In the last update we asked for volunteers to help get the Close ready for visitors, this request also went out on social media and I am pleased to say that we have had a great response.

As soon as we can get more information on social distancing we will be organising working parties to accomplish the tasks.

Planning for the Future

Hopefully during this period of inactivity sections are planning their activities for 2021. Rough Close and the Trading post are invaluable assets to the County. They bring in a great financial resource that enable us to keep the County Levy to a minimum. Please plan to use these facilities as much as possible following resumption of activities.

Work Continuing

Thankfully the Service Crews are active working to maintain and improve Rough Close.

The fields are being mowed regularly and the woodland areas being kept safe, clean and tidy.

The Training Field toilets are just waiting for the partitions to be erected in the gents before being ready to open. The water and electric are connected.

The new Dome is now watertight and work is due to start on insulation and lining the interior. Porthole windows have been installed. The Dome will be an exciting addition to the accommodation at the top end of the site.

As we have previously reported the main Flag Pole as having to be replaced. The holes have been dug for new poles to be installed the next step is pouring the concrete.

Over the summer we have had a squirrel infestation in the ceiling of the Retreat. The insulation has been recovered and the area made secure.

The George Sheppard kitchen has been repainted and a new central heating boiler is to be installed.

Work is due to start on the kitchen in the Guild Cabin with the installation of a new cooker.

Trading Post

In case you missed the original announcement the Trading Post is open on a Saturday morning. If you intend using it please keep to the safety guidelines. The Badges and Things web site ordering is still in place.