

Dorset County Council December 2016 Report

Community Transport Grant

Dorset County Council are offering grants of up to £5000 to support communities who want to set up their own transport scheme. Grants are also available to existing schemes. The Community Transport Grant will fund costs associated with starting up and operating a scheme. These include vehicle purchase costs, IT software that supports effective operation, marketing of schemes and training of staff or volunteers. The grant is a match funding grant, and applicants will need to demonstrate a clear outcome and show that at least 50 per cent of costs are met from other sources.

More details are available on the Community Transport Grant application form. You can request an application form by e-mail at: a.j.evans@dorsetcc.gov.uk or by post: Community Transport Grant, Dorset Travel, Environment & Economy Directorate, Dorset County Council, County Hall, Dorchester, DT1 1XJ. The deadline for submission of applications is **Friday 13 January 2017**. The funding will be released in **February 2017**.

Ironman ‘Call to account’

Dorset County Council is to hold a special meeting to look into concerns about traffic management during the recent IRONMAN triathlon – and is inviting local people to take part. The IRONMAN 70.3 Weymouth event took place on 11 September across south and central Dorset. Competitors and spectators largely viewed it as a success. However, many people contacted the county council – Dorset’s highway authority – about delays and confusion on local roads due to problems with signage, stewarding and information. The council’s Audit and Governance Committee will hold a ‘call to account’ meeting on Wednesday 7 December to investigate what happened and recommend ways to avoid problems with similar events in the future. The committee will look at a range of evidence, including complaints received immediately following the event. It is also inviting local residents, businesses and groups who would like to give their views as part of the inquiry, either in person or in writing, to get in touch. Organisers IRONMAN UK, the county council and other agencies recently held a joint ‘wash-up’ meeting to learn lessons about this year’s event. The organisers have since announced plans for a scaled-down IRONMAN 70.3 race in Dorset in 2017. The call to account will be a formal opportunity for councillors to investigate and address these issues on behalf of the public. The Audit and Governance Committee meeting is at 10:30am on 7 December at County Hall in Dorchester. If you would like to ask to make a written or spoken statement to the committee, please contact the council’s democratic services team by emailing d.hunt@dorsetcc.gov.uk or calling 01305 224878.

Surgery

Surgeries are held on the first Saturday of every month. These are held at the communal Lounge in Turberville Court in Bere Regis from 09.30 a.m. to 10.00 a.m. If you cannot make one of these please email me and I will arrange to come round to see you. If you have any questions or queries related to the business of Dorset County Council please come along. If anyone wants to contact me and can not get to the surgery my email address is peterwharf@hotmail.com.

Peter Wharf
County Councillor