

Coronavirus Statement

Hatherleigh Carnival 2021

October 2021

As everyone is no doubt all too aware, COVID-19 has not gone away, a fact that every single member of Hatherleigh Carnival Committee has held in their minds through the many months of planning for this year's Carnival.

Hatherleigh Carnival Committee would like to reassure the community of Hatherleigh and our visiting guests that while planning for this year's carnival we have made some changes to the way we conduct this event to reduce the risk of transmission. We have taken steps to reduce the risk of opportunities for close face-to-face interactions between attendees and avoid members of the public from gathering indoors, which we hope will mitigate some of the potential risk involved and put people's minds at ease.

It has been Hatherleigh Carnival Committee's decision to suspend judging for floats, walking guys and all other entries in both the afternoon and evening processions. This removes the need to gather inside the community centre after the afternoon procession, and avoids any unnecessary interaction between judges, entrants and marshals, this includes the handling of trophies. However we are still keen to know who you think is

the stand out entrants in this year's Carnival so we will be asking the audience to vote via our Facebook page (more details to follow).

We will still be offering refreshments for holders of the 2020 or 2021 Vice President badges, however this will be held either outside The Old Schools or in The Square, so people do not need to gather inside The Old Schools. We are asking everyone to bring a mask and wear this when you feel it is appropriate.

The decision to hold this event has been made easier by the guidance available to us and following the recommendations on the Government COVID-19 website. We would encourage everyone planning to attend this event to visit the COVID-19 Government website (Coronavirus (COVID-19): guidance and support - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)) and follow the most recent recommendations.

Please do not attend if you have any COVID-19 symptoms.

Attending this event is a personal choice, and we would encourage anyone who is uneasy about being in a crowd to consider spreading out all the procession route and watching the carnival from less crowded street, as well as bringing and using your own hand sanitiser where required.

Hatherleigh Carnival Committee will continue to monitor the situation closely and follow any government guidance.