



BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

## September Update from the Dorking BID

### **West Street Update**

There has been positive action and solutions offered for the issues in West Street. A sign has been put up on the fencing at the top of West Street advising the street is open on both sides and listing all the businesses – Thames Water are paying for the sign. The Thames Water compensation form is on the Hello Dorking website, and there has been lots of communication via email and messaging on social media. Businesses have begun completing the Thames Water compensation paperwork. Chris Coghlan MP has asked for anyone facing any difficulties with the process to contact him by email.

### **Hello Dorking Halloween Event**

The Hello Dorking Halloween event will be on 30<sup>th</sup> October at a venue to be agreed. To support the event Mole Valley District Council are offering free parking all day in Dorking town centre car parks. Following the meeting, the venue of the Halloween event was chosen as Theodore and Sephone's Sweet Shop on South Street.

### **Hello Dorking Christmas Festival**

The theme of this year's Hello Dorking Festival is A DorKingdom Fairytale. Preparations are well under way with stakeholders being contacted and festive activities being arranged. Sponsors are being sought to support the festival with different levels of sponsorship available, including the possibility of the main stage for one sponsor.

### **Dorking Masterplan**

The BID continues to represent Dorking at meetings for the Mole Valley Masterplan. The recent steering group discussed the project going forward to consultation. There will be an exhibition at Pippbrook House from 24<sup>th</sup> October to 12<sup>th</sup> November. Under discussion are the closure of West Street being used as an opportunity to gather traffic data during the consultation, cycling provision, removal of South Street parking bays and EV charging points.

### **Banking Hub**

Mole Valley District Council have submitted a further request for a Banking Hub in Dorking, following the change of rules that prevent a request being blocked due to having a Nationwide Building Society in the town. A response should be received within 12 weeks.

### **Dorking Halls**

The work at Dorking Hall is progressing well. The works to Dorking Halls in summer 2025 have been submitted to cabinet for approval. Dorking Halls will be using the ground floor of Pippbrook House for some displaced events during its closure, specifically for Applause Youth Theatre and the Comedy Club.



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**Mole Valley Arts Alive festival**

The festival runs throughout the whole of October with events across Mole Valley.

**Mole Valley District Council Events**

23<sup>rd</sup> October - funding seminar with Business Surrey at Denbies Wine Estate advising businesses on sources of funding.

13<sup>th</sup> November – Mole Valley District Council Jobs Fair at the Dorking Christian Centre

27<sup>th</sup> November – Networking Lunch at Hartfield Manor

**Meadowbank Concessions**

Applications are welcomed from businesses to apply for available spots in Meadowbank park. Mobile commercial operations, such as arts and leisure, seasonal goods and craft vendors, have an opportunity to submit their bids to MVDC for consideration. Food and drink concessions will not be considered for Meadowbank.

**Changing Places Toilet**

The changing places toilet in St Martin's Walk car park has been officially opened.