

EAST PECKHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Newsletter

August/September 2014

Dear All,

The warm weather following the earlier wet weather has resulted in fast growing during the early summer season. We are working with our landscape maintenance providers to ensure the playing fields and the Parish Council owned land at The Pound is kept tidy and up to the usual standard. We remain concerned with our overgrown village footpaths; however, it is not the Parish Council but Kent County Council who is responsible for maintaining the public rights of way. Here is an extract from a recent email '.... all paths on our cutting schedule have started and are due to be completed (for 1st cuts) by mid-July. Next cut by end September...'. If you have any queries regarding the rights of way, please let Kent County Council know by telephoning 0845 345 0210, for emergencies or report the fault online at <http://webapps.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccesscams/issues/default.aspx>

Thank you to everyone who returned one of the Parish Plan questionnaires which were inside this years Annual Report. We have analysed the responses and feedback can be found later in this newsletter and on our website www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk. The Parish Plan members are continuing their good work and we urge you again to get involved to help lighten the load and bring as much knowledge and expertise to this exercise as possible – your views and input really do matter.

On 4th August, there are commemoration events for World War one, being the centenary year. At St Michaels Church at 11.00 a.m. the names of the men sent to war in 1914 will be read out. A group from Exeter College Oxford will be at the commemoration representing the many fallen young officer's whose photographs hang in the college, including John Norwood VC who was from East Peckham. A wreath will also be laid by his memorial in St Michaels Church. Then at 11.00 p.m. at Holy Trinity Church there will be a candle lit vigil and service around the Village War Memorial. With regard to the War Memorial, it will be cleaned and the lettering renewed on the bottom panel in time for 04 August 2014 when it will look new and pristine. Naturally we are disappointed that the full renovation works will not be completed by 04 August 2014. The set back is due to the work on the planned bronze panels requiring the services of a very specialised craftsman and that there are very few of them around with the relevant skills. The work could be done using an alternative material such as brass but it would not look as good and in the long term it is better to wait a little longer and have the work done properly.

Our village historian Mrs Margaret Lawrence has advised us that only 34 more copies of her book The Lives They Left Behind written as a tribute to the East Peckham men who lost their lives in the two world wars need to be sold until all publishing costs have been covered after which proceeds from future sales will go to the charity Help for Heroes. If you would like a copy, the book costs £10.00 and is available from the Parish Office, the Village Stores, Brookside Garden Centre and other outlets within the village

Please look out for our Welcome Pack which will be available shortly. Within the Welcome Pack there will also be a copy of our Annual Report and courtesy of the East Peckham Magazine a back issue and a contact card. We hope that the Welcome Pack will be useful whether you have just come to live in the village, or if you have lived here most of your life. It is inevitable that some information will change, so we'll try to keep the important items up-to-date via our newsletter and our website. We have tried to gather as much useful local information as possible, but would be pleased to hear any suggestions you might have about what should be included in the pack.

On 06 August 2014 at 1.30 p.m. we have an exciting event taking place on the Playing Fields. In association with Play Innovation the company behind Street Snooker we have a workshop taking place which will be led by Olympic Handball Player and Captain Bobby White. This unique event will be **FREE OF CHARGE** and open to all ages.

We love seeing you all in our office and look forward to visits from our residents. If you have an important matter which you would like to discuss with us, it is probably wise to make an appointment with us in the first place, so that we can make sure that we are available for you. We would hate any of our residents to make the effort to come to the office to find that it is closed. An email or a phone call will normally suffice. Karen is sometimes at external meetings and therefore not always available, so do ring us or email first.

We would like to set up a Customer Panel which will provide the opportunity for local tax payers to formally comment on the Council's activities, we would also like the Customer Panel to consider and comment on budget proposals via a budget questionnaire and question and answer session. If you would like to be invited to participate, please let us know.

From 22 July 2014 to 07 September 2014, there will be no meetings of the Parish Council or the Planning and Transportation Committee. Similarly the Parish Office will be closed during the school summer holidays. This does not mean that the Parish Council stops work over the summer, business continues as usual. During the Summer Recess however emails and telephone calls will be monitored so please send emails to admin@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk or telephone 01622 871309/07804 143224.

Our next newsletter will be available at the beginning of October. We wish you all a pleasant summer holiday, whether at home or away.

Kind regards
Chairman, Councillors & Clerk

Street Snooker™

Free Community Event
Refreshments provided free of charge

6th August 2014
1.30 p.m.

at the East Peckham Playing Fields,
Pippin Road, East Peckham

Trophy's and prizes will be awarded

ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENTS

The next phase of the village environmental enhancements has begun with work commencing on the refurbishment of the fingerpost at the junction of Bush Road and Church Lane which will have a renewed cast iron finial with the lettering CHIDLEY CROSS, inset with a red Invicta prancing horse and three oak fingers, one pointing south will show VILLAGE CENTRE and JUBILEE HALL, one will point north and show VILLAGE HALL and MEREWORTH and the third will point east towards Church Lane and will show MAIDSTONE and PADDOCK WOOD. With regard to the five new posts which will be installed in the autumn, the general idea is to direct traffic to the village centre and amenities, but to discourage through traffic as that's the kind of vehicle that is more likely to be speeding through.

JUBILEE HALL AND PLAYING FIELDS

We own and manage the Jubilee Hall complex situated in Pippin Road which comprises of the Playing Fields, a Sports Hall and Meeting Room with separate kitchen, changing rooms and toilet facilities. These are your facilities and we want you to enjoy using them. Activities which take place each week include keep fit, Zumba, gym, badminton, bowls, Mini Music, Parent & Toddler group, East Peckham and Hadlow Children's Centre, a goalkeeping school and a monthly Carers Group.

Our football pitches are used by The East Peckham Football team and we have super fitness and play equipment. The Playing Fields have a Youth meeting point, street snooker, multi sports pitch, outdoor gym equipment, playing fields and play equipment for children of all ages. The playing fields are used by the North Kent goalkeeper's school for practice and by East Peckham football teams for practice and matches. We do not allow teams from outside the village to play football on our pitches. If you are looking for a venue for an event or a meeting then please contact us for details of availability and hire charges we can also arrange for you to have a tour of the facilities. Our latest programme of activities and the contact details of the activity organisers can be found on our website.

The playing fields are an ideal location for a picnic on a sunny day and we have installed some picnic benches.

We will continue to develop the facilities over a period of time so that the village is well equipped with leisure areas for everyone to enjoy. We are currently considering, subject to funding being available, purchasing a purpose built youth shelter and an outdoor table tennis table. We would be pleased to receive your comments on these proposed new facilities and would be particularly pleased to receive letters or emails in favour or against the new equipment.

There has been some vandalism, littering and anti-social behaviour on the playing fields and the allotments. Over the past few weeks the picnic benches have been vandalised on at least two occasions, holes have been dug using tools stolen from the allotments and we are collecting sacks full of litter on a daily basis from the car park. The incidents have been referred to Kent Police and CCTV footage is being examined. It is a great shame that time and money, your money, has to be spent on dealing with the aftermath of anti-social behaviour and carrying out repairs. If you know or witness anything please let us know or report it to the police on 101 or to our Community Warden on 07969 584183.

WANTED!

A NEW LEADER for MINIMUSIC MAKERS!

Jenny Macdonald is on the look-out for a willing successor to take over her weekly MiniMusic sessions in September. Are you the one? No specific musical qualifications are necessary, but some experience with Pre-schoolers or Infants would be essential. One happy hour on Wednesday mornings in the Meeting Room of the Jubilee Hall. If you would like to discuss the possibility, Jenny would love to hear from you by email or by telephone. 01622 871801 rosevilla1@btinternet.com

COMMUNITY DEFIBRILATOR

We have worked with the South East Coast Ambulance Service and have obtained a defibrillator for the village. The defibrillator is housed in a secure box attached to the wall of the Parish Office. This has allowed the defibrillator to be stored securely but enabling access by all residents. This facility is considered vital to the village and an ongoing training programme is offered to anyone who wants to learn how to use the device. There is no charge for this training so do please if you are interested let us know.

ALLOTMENTS

Allotments are provided on land adjacent to the Playing Fields. Whilst there are currently no vacant plots, the allotment rents are due for renewal in September and it is at this time of the year that some plots might become available. If you are interested in an allotment and would like to join the waiting list please contact the Parish Office. The annual rents are very reasonable at £15.00 for a small plot and £20.00 for a large plot.

EAST PECKHAM LIBRARY

East Peckham Library was closed for a month due to ceiling repairs. The Library has just reopened. The library is challenging young people to read their way through a 'Mythical Maze' as part of its summer reading challenge for children. For nine weeks, the free challenge for 4-11 year olds across Kent is to read six books and fill their Mythical Maze posters with stickers of weird and wonderful creatures as they go. As they progress, children will discover more about myths and legends from all over the world. There's a host of mythical creatures to uncover, including fire-breathing dragons, mermaids, the snake-headed medusa, and the mysterious Yeti. Children who complete the challenge will receive a brilliant certificate and medal. There's also a host of fun online activities to accompany the challenge where participants can find new books to read, recommended by other children; take part in a story writing competition and play online games. There is also a Summer Reading Challenge app, for extra fun and games.

East Peckham Library opening hours:

Tuesday	--- 10.00 am --- 1.00 pm, 2.00 pm --- 5.00 pm
Thursday	--- 2.00 pm --- 6.00 pm
Friday	--- 2.00 pm --- 6.00 pm
Saturday	--- 9.30am--- 1.00 pm

BULKY REFUSE

The fortnightly bulky service now has separate collections of Waste Electrical & Electronic Equipment and scrap metal. Items collected will be stripped down into their component materials and recycled.

DOG FOULING

We continue to receive a number of complaints about dog fouling. We would be grateful if those dog owners, who exercise their dogs around the village, could collect and correctly dispose of their dog's mess. We have just taken delivery of a supply of dog bags which we are happy to provide free of charge. Failing to clear up after your dog is an offence. The Borough Council enforces dog fouling through the Dogs Fouling of Land Act 1996 which applies to all land within the borough which is in the open and to which members of the public have access. If you have a dog fouling complaint try and obtain as much information as possible. All this information will assist the Dog Warden. The message is clear - Clean up after your dog, bag it and dispose of it responsibly. Contact information is as follows:

- For a found, lost dog or straying dog telephone 01732 876181 (also out of hours service), or
- For fouling, dangerous dog, a dog on dog attack or anything else telephone 01732 876147 or
- Email: dog.warden@tmbc.gov.uk.
- If a person had been bitten then the incident was to be reported to the Police on 101

LITTERING

Litter does not clear itself away. It can take years to degrade causing harm to the environment. The cost of clearing up litter runs into hundreds and thousands of pounds - Council Tax payer's money; your money. It is an offence to leave litter and a person is guilty of an offence if they throw down, drop or otherwise deposit and then leave it in a public place. Officers from Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council will respond to complaints and have the power to demand a person's name and address in order to issue fixed penalty notices.

PLANNING

PLANNING APPLICATIONS: We have recently considered the following planning applications:

TM/14/01960/FL Change of use of former agricultural building to a residential dwelling house with alterations to the exterior of the building including provision of additional windows, addition doorway and re-cladding of elevations
NO OBJECTION

TM/14/02041/FL Erection of 2m high fencing to part of front boundary at Crowhurst Farmhouse, 39 Bells Farm Road, East Peckham
NO OBJECTION

PLANNING DECISIONS: TMBC HAS **GRANTED PERMISSION** for the following:

- TM/14/01359/MIN** Landscaping, wildlife enhancement and public rights of way enhancement pursuant to conditions 2, 3 and 14 of TM/11/01096 (Retention of rail sidings for permanent use to import construction aggregates) at East Peckham Pit
- TM/14/01449/FL** Redevelopment of site with demolition of existing building and erection of 4 No. four bedroom detached two storey houses, with access road, garaging, and car parking at East Peckham Social Club Rear of 11 The Freehold East Peckham
- TM/14/01733/FL & TM/14/01734/LB** Replacement porch and timber windows, internal alterations to living room and extractor fan in bathroom at Goose Green Cottage, Maidstone Road
- TM/14/01540/LDP** Garage and pool house at Hextall Cottage, 67 Martins Lane, East Peckham

TWINNING

East Peckham is twinned with Chereng in the Nord de Pas de Calais. The Twinning Association is independent of the Parish Council and activities are funded by those taking part and by fund-raising with no use of parish funds. For more information on Twinning please contact Colin Silver by sending an email to colin_plus@hotmail.co.uk.

COMMUNITY GRANTS

In our budget for 2014/2015 we allocated a funding provision of £1,000, £500 each towards donations to groups and organisations and community grants. If your group or organisation would like to apply for a small grant please visit the website www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk where you will find details of our grants policy plus the application form, alternatively you may contact the Parish Office for more information.

EAST PECKHAM BUSINESS COMMUNITY

Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council has approved our funding bid for £7,500 towards start-up costs of an East Peckham Business Forum, a visitor's leaflet, litter bins and signage. We really would like to see East Peckham have a business forum and would be delighted to hear from you if you would like to be involved. Our website www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk has more information.

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PLANNING

Work is continuing and there are a few things which we would you to know about:

Parish Emergency Plan: A draft document is being prepared which will be considered over the coming months. It is our intention that the document will be approved during September 2014.

Flood Warden Scheme: We hope to have a new scheme in place by September/October 2014. If you would like to become a flood warden or find out more please let the Parish Office know.

Flood defences

- The Environment Agency has submitted funding bids for schemes identified by Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council. The offer of financial support by the County Council and in-kind contributions from Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council will increase the chances of funding. If the schemes are approved at a local level, they will then be prioritised and we should know which ones will get funding in October 2014.
- Funding has been allocated this financial year to two capital projects designed to reduce flooding in the Tonbridge and Malling area (£80,000 to Danvers Road and Avebury Avenue and £200,000 towards investigation and construction of a bund to reduce flood risk in Hildenborough) and £50,000 to the updating of the modelling for the River Medway through East Peckham with a further £400,000 for 2015/2015 to help with construction costs. The works will begin once the remodelling has been finished with a completion planned for the end of 2016.

HIGHWAYS

Did you know that highway problems can be reported directly to Kent Highways? The preferred way to let highways know about faults such as potholes or overgrown vegetation is through the website www.kent.gov.uk/highwayfaults where details can be easily uploaded and locations pinpointed on an interactive map. Providing this information will help speed up the rate of repairs. In the event of an emergency or if you don't have access to the internet, residents should call 03000 41 81 81.

There is no need for the Parish Council to refer highways issues direct to Kent Highways as this often gives the impression to customers that they need to come back to the Parish Council in the future, instead the easiest way of reporting highways problems is via the Kent highways website.

You might be interested in the roadworks.org website which gives details of all planned works for the village, on this website if you type in the web address it will come up with a map, in the search field type in the location and it will zoom in on all the works for the area

Every year throughout the spring and summer KCC Highways & Transportation receive numerous complaints regarding trees, hedges and other vegetation, which overhang the highway from private property. This matter can pose a number of problems for people trying to use the footways, especially if they are trying to pass with buggies, wheelchairs and scooters. It would be greatly appreciated if you could ensure that any trees and hedges that are bordering the Highway are maintained and cut back to your boundary. This action would benefit all Highway users, will help keep the highway safe and prevent the need for KCC Highways & Transportation writing to you requesting that you cut back your vegetation.

On 4th August, there will be a temporary road closure on the B2162 Hampstead Lane Yalding for up to 1 night in order to enable tamping to the level crossing to be carried out by Network Rail. Then on 01 September 2014 for up to 2 days there will be a temporary Road Closure affecting Gravelly Ways, Yalding where the road will be closed between Lees Road and Woodfalls Cottages. The alternative route is via Lees Road, B2162 Hampstead Lane, B2015 Maidstone Road, A228 Boyle Way and Beltring Road, this closure is to enable repairs to Laddingford Bridge after damage by a vehicle to be carried out by KCC Highways.

With regard to some current issues, Kent Highway Services has confirmed that the yellow road markings near the bus stops in Old Road will be repainted shortly and our request for double yellow lines at Chidley Cross Road and the junction of Pound Road/Church Lane to ease parking problems around the East Peckham Primary School has been forwarded to Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council.

CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES

Village Christmas Lighting

We are looking at ways in which we can improve the Christmas lights and bring back the popular village Christmas tree; however this is not an easy task given that we do not have a power source in the village centre. Nevertheless we are looking at all available options one of which is the installation of solar powered Christmas trees.

Village Christmas Event:

The Street Singers and the East Peckham Silver Band will be entertaining residents on 17 December 2014 with Christmas Carols and Songs in the village centre with a visit from Father Christmas himself. They hope the central village businesses will join in with the festivities.

EAST PECKHAM POLICE CONTACT POINT

This is your opportunity to discuss any policing issues with a neighbourhood officer, get expert crime prevention advice, have your say on policing in Kent and pick up a free crime prevention item (subject to availability). The Police Contact Point will be available outside the Co-op, Branbridges petrol station, Branbridges Road, East Peckham, TN12 5WH between 4.30pm – 5.30pm on 07.08.14, 21.08.14, 04.09.14, 18.09.14 and 01.10.14. For Further information; visit the Kent Police website www.kent.police.uk, follow Kent Police on twitter @kentpoliceton, find Kent Police on Facebook, call 999 in an emergency, if you are deaf or speech-impaired, text 'Police' and your message to 60066 or you can call 101 to report a non-urgent crime or contact your local officer.

MESSAGE FROM TONBRIDGE AND MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

YOUR VOTE MATTERS: THE WAY YOU REGISTER TO VOTE IS CHANGING - MAKE SURE YOU'RE IN

The way you register to vote is changing. A new voter registration system has been launched throughout the country. If you are already registered, Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council will soon be writing to you to tell you whether you need to do anything. You may have seen adverts on the radio, television, newspapers and on posters to tell you about this. If you are not registered, there is a new way to register to vote.

If you are already registered: You need to move to the new register. The borough council will be matching the details of every registered elector against central government databases. Where there is a match, you will be moved to the new register. The borough council will write to you by early August to tell you that you have been successfully matched. There is nothing else you will need to do. If your details do not match the borough council will let you know. You will need to tell them your National Insurance number and date of birth in order to stay registered to vote. You will be sent a form to do this, or you can complete a form online. If you do not complete the form and move to the new register, you will not be able to vote by post or by proxy but will have to vote in person at a polling station.

If you are not already registered: You can apply to register to vote by completing the form at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote. Registration is quick, free and simple. You do need to have your National Insurance number and date of birth to be able to register. If you do not have internet access, you can ask the borough council to send you a paper form by calling them on 01732 876022.

Household forms: A number of households will have already been sent a Household Enquiry Form. The borough council sends this to you to find out who is living in your property so they can invite them to apply to join the register of electors.

Reminders and visits: The new rules about registering to vote mean that if you are sent a form, you must fill it in by law. If you do not they will have to send you a reminder and then, if they still haven't heard from you, they send someone to visit you to help fill in the form. Please help keep costs down by filling in any form you receive quickly. If you need any help please do not wait for a visit, but email or call using the details on the form.

Elections: The next scheduled elections are taking place on 7 May 2015. On that day, we will be voting in borough, parish and a parliamentary General Election. To be able to vote, you must be registered. If you receive a form, please fill it in promptly. If you have not heard from the borough council by mid-August (either to say you have been moved to the new register, or asking for you to complete a form), then you are not registered and will not be able to vote. Visit www.gov.uk/register-to-vote to apply.

More information: More information can be found at www.tmbc.gov.uk/voting. You can contact the borough council by sending an email to voting@tmbc.gov.uk.

SEPTEMBER 2014 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

02 September 2014 Carers Group, 12.00 p.m. in the Meeting Room at the Jubilee Hall
08 September 2014 Planning & Transportation Committee. Proceedings commence at 7.30 p.m.
14 September 2014 Surgery, 10.30 a.m. – 12.00 p.m. in the library.
22 September 2014 Planning & Transportation Committee followed by a meeting of the full Parish Council. Proceedings commence at 7.15 p.m.

EAST PECKHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council, Karen Bell, The Parish Office, East Peckham Jubilee Hall, Pippin Road, East Peckham, TN12 5BT, Telephone/answerphone: 01622 871309, Email: admin@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk. The Parish Office is located in the Jubilee Hall, Pippin Road, East Peckham and is open weekday mornings during term time except Wednesdays. If you would like to speak to a Councillor please write, phone or email and a Councillor will contact you; alternatively you may contact a Councillor via our website www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk.

SUMMER 2014 EVENTS AT THE HOP FARM

Extreme Torque Show (Monster Trucks, freestyling, super bikes and much more!)

16-17 August

Tickets from £7

www.extremeeventseurope.com

Summer Fun at the Farm!

July 19 – September 2

Free entry! Bring the kids for a fabulous day out – indoor and outdoor attractions, NEW Megablaster arena, children's rides, Hopper's Animal World, live entertainment, face-painting, 4D cinema and

Big 7 Scooter Rally (weekender (day entry available too) of classic scooters, live music, DJ's, shows, food and markets)

1-3 August

From £15

Grill 'n' Chill (For fans of all things VW a weekend of classic car shows, music, food, stalls)

19-21 September

From £10

Disclaimer: *This notice is for information purposes only and should not be regarded as an advertisement or promotion by the Parish Council in respect of the Hop Farm.*

THE INNOVATION IN WASTE PREVENTION FUND

This is a £800,000 scheme that will run for two years with grants being awarded in three phases. Funded by Defra as part of their [Waste Prevention Programme for England](#), the scheme aims to generate more action to prevent waste. It specifically supports communities to take forward innovative waste prevention, re-use and repair activities in their local areas, working in partnership with local businesses, councils, charities and voluntary groups. The scheme can be used to help introduce a new business idea or to increase local re-use rates. Grants of up to £50,000 (minimum £5,000) are available to partnerships with the most innovative ideas. Applications are open from two or more parties working together. They can be from existing partnerships or ones newly formed. You simply need to have an innovative idea to prevent waste, and be able to match the funding that you are seeking to secure. The next deadline for applications is September 1st. For more information on this fund, go to the WRAP website at www.wrap.org.uk/lwp.

BRITISH FOOD FORTNIGHT

To find out how you can take part in The British Food Fortnight, download promotional material, sign up for monthly updates on the latest British food news and for details of what is happening near you, see www.lovebritishfood.co.uk or email info@lovebritishfood.co.uk.

NEW EUROPEAN MONEY WILL HELP THE JOBLESS IN KENT

Almost £400,000 of EU grant funding is now available to support charities and social enterprises that help people get back to work. Action with Communities in Rural Kent will be managing the European Social Fund (ESF) Community Grants scheme and awards of up to £15,000 will be available. The Community Grant funds small organisations and community groups that have been in receipt of less than a total of £300,000 income over the last financial year and who have no more than 9 full-time equivalent staff. The last deadline for applications will be at 1.00 pm on 1st September. Up to 10% of a total grant request can be for training costs, either related to the project that is the focus of this grant application or for broader issues around the long-term sustainability of your organisation. This could include fundraising, business development, social media, or anything that will build your organisation's capacity. For more information and an application pack, contact info@ruralkent.org.uk or ring 01303 813790 and speak to Kathy Bugden or Becky Williams.

Do you value your local shop or are they the hub of your community?

If so nominate them for the chance to be named **Community Rural Retailer of 2014** and win a haul of prizes worth over £2,000

Community Rural Retailer is not about being the biggest or smartest retailer but about being part of the community, local produce, great customer service and the role the retailer plays in supporting their local community.

The **closing date** for nominations is the **31st August 2014**, the 6 finalists will be announced by 1st October and the winner will be announced in the first week of November.

You can nominate your local shop by downloading a nomination form at **www.ruralretailers.co.uk** or to request a form call **Rebecca on 01303 813790**

You will also find a nomination form on the Parish Councils website **www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk**

Alive and Well?

The Challenge

"People's need for care, and their lives, has changed radically. But the health service largely operates as it did decades ago, when the predominant need/expectation was treating episodic disease and injury rather than providing long-term, often complex care. The health and care system needs to redesign services so that care becomes more integrated, person-centred, co-ordinated, community based, and focused on supporting people's well-being and preventing crises."

The 2015 Challenge

Declaration - NHS Confederation

What is happening nationally?

The Care Act (2014) makes key provisions for

- An overarching "well-being principle";
- Well-being covers a range of outcomes such as physical and mental and emotional well-being. It also covers participation in work, education and training and social and economic well-being;
- Services, facilities and resources which will reduce, prevent or delay the development of need for care and support;
- New duties on local authorities to promote the wellbeing of individuals, promote integration between health and social care services, and manage and develop the market for care in their area.

Local authorities will have to:

- Consider what services, facilities and resources are already available in the area (for example local voluntary and community groups), and how these might help local people;
- Identify people in the local area who might have care and support needs that are not being met;
- Identify carers in the area who might have support needs that are not being met.

In taking on this role, local authorities will work with their communities to get the support that helps to keep people well and independent.

Final regulations and guidance will be published in October 2014 ready for implementation in April 2015.

What is happening in Kent?

"[W]e aim for the health and care system to support individuals and communities by providing an environment to make healthier choices as easier choices. For instance Kent, the Garden of England, with miles of coastline, many country parks and green spaces, provides opportunities for improving physical activity, helping people feel connected with the environment that they live in. Public health traditionally assesses need by looking at what we lack – be it health or access to services. In Kent we want to focus on an 'asset' approach that turns this on its head and which looks at all the positive and useful things available to us – from buildings, services, communities and networks that we can use along our health journey."

The Kent Health and Wellbeing Strategy

Now is the time for you to take the opportunity to comment on the refreshed Kent Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

<http://www.kent.gov.uk/about-the-council/strategies-and-policies/health-and-public-health-policies/joint-health-and-wellbeing-strategy>

Dave Martin

June 2014



Alive and Well?

*“By 2032 the populations of 65-84 year olds and the over 85s are set to increase by 39% and 106% respectively ... If people can stay healthy for longer, they will remain engaged members of society.”**

How do we bring about a community that cares **about** and **for** itself?

Saturday 27th September 2014, 10.00 – 3.00pm, Smarden Charter Hall
Programme

9.30	Registration and Refreshments
10.00	Welcome and Introduction (Mike Barkway, Smarden)
10.10	Perspectives on age-friendly communities (Jay Edwins, KCC)
10.25	KCC's Dementia Friendly Communities Programme (Emma Hanson, KCC)
10.40	A Brighter Future; Smarden Good Neighbour Scheme (Gill Bromley, Smarden)
11.00	People United/Rural Kent (Tom Andrews/Kathy Bugden)
11.40	How do we bring about a community that cares <u>about</u> and <u>for</u> itself? What are the key ingredients? Some issues to ponder (Facilitated by Dave Martin, Wye)
12.30	Feedback from discussions
12.55	Introducing Fareshare and Lunch (Carl Adams, Communities Food)
1.00	Lunchtime
1.45	Supporting Partnership (Jane Roberts, Red Cross)
2.00	Panel discussion
2.45	Plenary: Where from here? (Mike Barkway/Dave Martin)
3.00	Depart

INTRODUCING STREETLIFE

[Streetlife](http://www.streetlife.com) is a website for local communities. Streetlife have a simple aim: to help people make the most of where they live by connecting with their neighbours.

Over 225,000 people across England currently use Streetlife, and over the past few months they have invited thousands of residents across Tonbridge & Malling to join the conversation. Conversations on Streetlife have helped to expose doorstep scammers, find lost pets, and support threatened local services. The site also encourages real-world connections, from recommending local businesses and sharing gardening equipment, to forming book clubs and social groups.

You could liken Streetlife to chatting over the garden fence, but with the benefit of being accessible wherever you are, at times to suit your routine. It's proving to be particularly useful for people who are elderly and less mobile, giving them a simple way to connect to the wider community, share their local knowledge, and find friendly neighbours willing to lend a hand.

For more information visit the website www.streetlife.com or telephone Claire Elsdon on 0203 137 5321

OYEZ! OYEZ! MEDIEVAL MERCHANTS NEEDED

The annual Medieval Fair at Tonbridge Castle is set to take place over the weekend of 13 and 14 September 2014 and stallholders demonstrating their crafts and wares from the middle ages are invited to take part.

Whether selling medieval food, arts, crafts or weapons, where better place to do it than on the bailey lawn of historical Tonbridge Castle! Organised by Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council, the Medieval Fair is now in its seventh year and has become a popular part of the Tonbridge events calendar. Every year it attracts hundreds of visitors who turn out to take in the sights, sounds and smells of life in 15th century England and brings a captivating flavour of medieval life to the town.

Organisers look to recreate the spirit of the middle ages with vivid re-enactments of fighters meeting in combat, swords echoed on armour, blades crunched on chainmail, men and women dressed in medieval costume, 600-year-old crafts in the making and medieval dishes being prepared over open fires. From calligraphy to leatherwork and metalwork to textiles – the Council is looking for a range of stalls and wares to help bring the event to life.

The Medieval Fair runs from 10am to 5pm on 13 and 14 September. Stall holders will be given access to set up from 12 noon on Friday 12 September.

For full details on the Tonbridge Castle Medieval Fair and how to get involved, visit www.tmbc.gov.uk/Medievalstallholders where a stall holder application form is available.