

EAST PECKHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

ISSUE NO 3

01 December 2012

This is the third of our monthly newsletters, a new initiative to inform the community of East Peckham of our current activities. This newsletter focuses on our activities over the past month as well as providing useful information which we hope you find interesting and relevant. We are delighted with the positive feedback we have received regarding the newsletter and pleased that it is being so well received.

PLANNING: This month we have submitted the following comments to Tonbridge and Malling BC.

TM/12/02971//FL Demolish porch kitchen & wc's on north side of public house and form pitched in place of flat roof, and convert to a dwelling. Convert oast to a dwelling. Construct 3 detached dwellings with access, car barns and landscaping at the Blue Bell Inn, 1 Beltring Road, Paddock Wood
NO OBJECTION

TM/12/02594/FL Proposed redevelopment of existing sheltered housing site for 4 flats, 12 houses & associated works at Marvillion Court, The Freehold, East Peckham
Amended plans submitted
NO OBJECTION in principal to the redevelopment however the PC's OBJECTIONS to the proposal were reiterated.

TM/12/03213/TNCA Fell old Norway Spruce at 11 Addlestead Road, East Peckham
NO OBJECTION

TM/12/03270/TNCA Remove Ash and crown reduce and thin Beech and Poplar at 86 Snoll Hatch Road, East Peckham
NO OBJECTION

PLANNING DECISIONS: **TMBC has APPROVED** the following:

TM/12/02514/FL Single storey side extension with a mono pitched roof & folding doors at 1 Crown Acres, East Peckham

TM/12/00481/FL Retrospective application for miniature driving school at The Hop Farm

DRAINAGE REPAIRS TO POUND ROAD CAR PARK: Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council has identified that a buried soakaway in one of the shrub beds requires cleaning. In order to gain access it is necessary for the borough council to cut a small access path to the cover through the shrubs. As this would entail the removal of some shrubs, TMBC has been asked to access the site from the rear.

REDEVELOPMENT OF MARVILLION COURT: Cllrs. Mrs Graham & Silver recently attended a meeting of TMBC's Area 2 Planning Committee, where Cllr. Mrs Graham spoke. Although the minutes from the meeting have not yet been received the decision regarding the planning application was deferred pending the completion of an Independent Housing Needs Survey of East Peckham.

CASUAL VACANCY: There is currently a casual vacancy; if you would like to be considered for this please contact the Parish Clerk who will provide you with more information. Applications are to be submitted to the Parish Office by 05 December 2012.

LOCALISM: We are studying the Localism Act and the Government's Open Public Services agenda, both of which aim to devolve more power and decision making to Parish Councils. We are keen to promote good practice and will be identifying areas where we can put "Localism in action" and where the new legislation will allow us to act for the benefit of the village. We will also be considering the strategic direction for East Peckham over the next 5 – 10 years. If you would like to share your thoughts on this subject we would be very pleased to hear from you.

JUBILEE HALL AND PLAYING FIELDS: East Peckham is fortunate to have some splendid halls including our own Jubilee Hall which comprises of a Sports Hall and Meeting Room. Activities taking place each week include keep fit, Zumba, French, gym, Tai Chi, badminton, bowls, Mini Music, Parent & Toddlers, Carers Group and the Children's Centre. East Peckham Juniors use the football pitches and there is play equipment for all ages. If you are looking for a venue for a sports event, book club, birthday party or a meeting then please contact our Clerk who will provide details of availability and can arrange for you to have a tour of the facilities.

ALLOTMENTS: There are currently a few vacant plots on the East Peckham Allotments (adjacent to the Playing Fields), if you are interested in having an allotment please contact our Clerk.

DOG FOULING: We continue to receive complaints about dog fouling and dogs off leads especially on the playing fields and within the vicinity of the Primary School. Dog fouling is nasty, unpleasant, irresponsible and antisocial. We would urge you to notify us, the borough council's dog warden or the community warden if you witness any incidents of dog fouling. We do have dog bags in the parish office which we are happy to provide free of charge.

PARISH COUNCIL SURGERIES: Each month we hold a surgery, the next one will be on 12 December between 10.30 a.m. – 12.00 p.m. in the Library. The Councillor on duty will be Stephanie Watson.

VILLAGE TREES: We would like to advise you of the following:

- There is a diseased tree on the playing fields. Our Clerk has met with TMBC's Tree Warden who advised that the tree was a White Beam suffering from a type of canker. The tree is to be felled.
- We are disappointed to report that the French Oak gifted to the village by the village of Chereng to mark the twinning of our two villages has been destroyed by vandalism. If you know anything about this vandalism please do let either us or our Community Warden know.
- We have taken delivery of the Free Trees Pack and now have over 100 saplings to plant at the earliest opportunity. We would be pleased to hear from you if you have any suggestions.

KCC Youth Bus in East Peckham: The KCC Youth Bus is coming into East Peckham on a Wednesday evening at 6.30 p.m. further information is available from the Kent Youth Service on

Snow & Ice Clearing on Parish Council owned land: We have a snow and ice clearing policy which will be implemented provided there are a sufficient number of volunteers to carry out the work and that Kent highway Services have been able to salt and grit the surrounding roads and pavements. In the meantime our insurer's advice is that unless we can guarantee maintaining the Jubilee Hall car park and footpath ice free it would be prudent not to do any snow and ice clearance.

2012 Christmas Lights: The village Christmas lights will be going up at the end of November, this year we will be using multi coloured bulbs. We hope you enjoy this year's festive display.

2012 Remembrance Parade: Mr Easom has thanked everyone involved in the parade which went extremely well; he was particularly pleased with the excellent marshals who had on the Parish Councils request been supplied by the Hop Farm. It was one of the better parades and people felt even safer on the road with marshals at all the road junctions. The Parish Councils contribution towards the 2012 Appeal was £130.00 and the overall total raised by the village this year amounted to £2,766.90. Our thanks go to Mrs Ann Buckland the village appeal coordinator.

2013/2014 Budget: We are currently considering our budgetary requirements for 2013/2014. Some of the projects that we will be considering include street scene environmental enhancements, Community Fund, Jubilee Hall kitchen equipment, dog bags and a contribution towards work to Lime Trees at the Churchyard. We will do our best to maintain the precept at the 2012/2013 level which will be difficult given that the amount we will receive from TMBC towards the maintenance of the churchyards, streetlights and the basic allocation will be reduced by 11.9%.

EAST PECKHAM LIBRARY – JOIN THE CONVERSATION AND GET THE MOST FROM YOUR LIBRARY: MESSAGE FROM KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

“We want you to help us modernise library services - so tell us what you'd like so that we deliver services that are right for you. We want to work with you and your community to find new and efficient ways to run local library services - do you have any ideas or comments about library services in your area. Check out our website www.kent.gov.uk/libraries for more information about Future Library Services. To join the conversation and tell us what you think: write to: The FLS Team, Kent Libraries, Registration and Archives, James Whatman Way, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1LQ, or telephone 01622 696504 or email or email us: fls@kent.gov.uk”

WINTER MAINTENANCE – MESSAGE FROM KENT HIGHWAYS SERVICES

“You may be interested to know that Kent County Council salt nearly 30% of all of Kent's roads, which need to be gritted when conditions require it. We also work with local farmers and provide them with equipment in order to clear country lanes and act as extra manpower when we are fully mobilised during a snow emergency. Please visit Kent County Councils website www.kent.gov.uk for comprehensive information on our winter service provision. Once on our home page, click on ‘Roads and Transport’ located in the left hand blue side bar, and once this page is loaded click on ‘Winter Service’. This section will provide useful information on salt Bins (including locations), gritting routes, how and when we salt the roads, clearing snow in the community and the latest weather updates. It is also worth mentioning that our website provides a wealth of information on all aspects of highway management, from our tree policy to roadwork locations. It also allows you to report highway faults online...if you spot a problem please tell us, the sooner we know about an issue the sooner we can look to resolve it!”

Please take great care on the roads this winter

For many people Christmas and New Year is the time for celebration that involves travelling to see friends & family and going out for Christmas shopping and Christmas parties. Naturally we see more traffic on the roads during the period of darkness and the worst weather of the year. Highways & Transportation will be working hard to keep the roads as safe and clear as possible; however you can also help in the following ways:

- Drive to the conditions of the road at all times, especially during times of rain, ice and snow
- If we do get snow on the roads, please don't make any non essential journeys
- Please regularly check your vehicle to make sure it is road worthy.
- Don't drink and drive, or drive under the influence of any substance liable to impair judgement

HOW TO CONTACT THE PARISH COUNCIL: Karen Bell, the Parish Clerk can be contacted on 01622 871309 or email admin@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk. The Parish Office is located in the Jubilee Hall, Pippin Road and is usually 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.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

03 December 2012	Meeting of the Parish Councils Planning Committee. 7.45 p.m. in the Meeting Room at the Jubilee Hall.
08 December 2012	Christmas Carols (please check village notices for more information)
10 December 2012	Meeting of the Parish Councils Planning Committee followed by the meeting of the full Parish Council. 7.45 p.m. in the Meeting Room at the Jubilee Hall
12 December 2012	Parish Council Surgery at the Library 10.30 a.m. – 12.00 p.m. Cllr. Miss Stephanie Watson will be attending

TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

East Peckham Parish Council	01622 871309
Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council	01732 844522
Kent County Council	01622 696965
Allotments	01622 871309
Evergreens	01622 871593

Lunch Club	01622 873434
Women's Institute	01622 871303
Wednesday Allsorts	01622 872418
Ladies Pleasant Hour	01622 873030
United Choir	01622 871454
East Peckham Silver Band	01622 871820
Line Dancing	01622 813687
Ikkle Pikkles Toddler Group	01622 870154
Mini Music Makers	01622 871801
Historical Society	01622 872976
Gardeners Association	01622 871115
East Peckham Flood Group	01622 872344
Trainers Badminton Club	01622 871189
Short Mat Bowls Club	01622 871781
Apples Bowling Club	01622 871069
Rugby Club	01634 261601
Netball Club	01622 873485
Community & Police Working Group	01622 873470
East Peckham Scout Group (Beavers, Cubs and Scouts)	01622 871890
Brownies	01622 872418
Boys Brigade	01622 872372
Girls Brigade	01732 366671
Library	01622 871050
Tai Chi	07958 980280
Carers Group	01622 871381
Ladies Pleasant Hour	01622 873030
Wednesday Allsorts	01622 872418
Fit 4 U Exercise Class	01732 529654
Shape Up Fitness Class	01622 720879
Weald of Kent Gym Club	01892 835918
Paddock Wood Badminton Club	01892 836731
Zumba	07595 458272
French Lessons	01622 871226
East Peckham Junior Football	01622 873391
East Peckham Badminton Club	01622 871786

Hall Hire

Jubilee Hall & Playing Fields	01622 871309
East Peckham Club	01622 871339
The Village Hall	01622 871321
The Curran Hall & Methodist Hall	01622 872079

EAST PECKHAM PARISH COUNCIL, Clerk to the Council, Mrs. K Bell, The Parish Office, East Peckham Jubilee Hall, Pippin Road, East Peckham, Tonbridge, Kent, TN12 5BT, Telephone & answerphone: 01622 871309, Website: www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk, Email: admin@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk

This newsletter is also available on our website. If you would like a copy of the newsletter in a different format please let us know and we will do our best to accommodate any requests.

Finally thank you for taking time to read this newsletter. The Parish Councils wishes you an enjoyable festive period and a very happy New Year.