

EAST PECKHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

ISSUE NO 9

01 June 2013

This newsletter focuses on our activities over the past month as well as providing useful and relevant information. Feedback good or bad is appreciated so please do tell us what you think.

Chairman and Deputy Chairman for 2013/2014: At the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, Peter Street stood down as Chairman. Graham Haycock was elected Chairman and Tim Roper as Deputy Chairman. Peter Street is continuing as a Parish Councillor. We would like to thank Peter for steering the Parish Council and for his Chairmanship and are delighted that he is remaining a Parish Councillor.

CASUAL VACANCY: Following the resignation of Mrs Eddie Kemsley a casual vacancy exists in the office of Councillor. On receipt of a request in writing to TMBC from ten electors for East Peckham, an election to fill the vacancy will be held. If no such request is made the vacancy will be filled by co-option. If you are interested in joining the Parish Council then we look forward to hearing from you.

COUNCILLOR AREAS: Councillors areas are as follows, you can contact a Parish Councillor by either contacting the Parish Office or via our website www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk:

Hale Street, Bardsley Close, Hale Court, Medway Meadows & Cates Court	Tim Roper
Smithers Lane, Pattenden Gardens, Hop Bine Close, Smithers Court,	
Beltring Road & Branbridges Road, Maidstone Road (A26)	Peter Street
Old Road, Strettitt Gardens, Pinkham & Pinkham Gardens	TBC
Addlestead Road, Chidley Cross Road, Caysers Croft & Tonbridge Road	Holly Carey
Pound Road, The Old Dairy & Snoll Hatch Road	Nikki Kearns
The Freehold, Red Roses, Marvillion & Crown Acres (Odds)	Colin Silver
Whitebine, Golding & Henham Gardens & Crown Acres (evens)	Penny Graham
Fell Mead, Stockenbury, Bramley Road, Pippin Road & Russett Road	Steph Watson
Hatches Lane, Bullen Lane, Bells Farm Road, Grove Close & Stanford Lane	Jenny Macdonald
Westwood Road, Drage Road, William Luck Close & Cotman Way	Graham Haycock
Court Lodge, Roydon Hall Road, Seven Mile Lane, Bush Road, Martins Lane & Church Lane	Lorraine Baseden

Local Organisations & Groups: Council representatives for 2013/2014 are as follows:

Allotment Panel	J Macdonald and S Watson
KALC	G. Haycock & T. Roper
Action with Communities in Rural Kent	G. Haycock
Village Tree Warden	L. Wright (Co-option)
Community Resilience	TBC
Parish Partnership Panel	G. Haycock & T. Roper
Village Transport Representative	C. Silver
T & M CRP	P. Street
Website	N. Kearns & P. Street
Parish Plan Steering Committee	P. Street
Twinning Association	G. Haycock, C. Silver & S. Watson
Skatepark Project	L. Baseden, N. Kearns & S. Watson
Community Voluntary Groups	H Carey
CCTV	G. Haycock, T. Roper, C. Silver, P. Street & S. Watson
Library Keyholder	P. Graham
CAMEO	P. Graham
East Peckham Primary School Governing Body	G. Haycock
Carers Group & Surgery	Rota basis (All Councillors)
Jubilee Hall	C. Silver

STREETLIGHTS: Our maintenance contractor has looked at the concrete columns and found them all to be in reasonable **visual** condition, and no need for any immediate action. However concrete columns are very hard to inspect, therefore for safeties sake we will be commissioning a professional testing company who will come in and test all of the concrete columns using proven and guaranteed results.

PLANNING: Colin Silver has been elected Chairman of the Planning Committee for 2013/2014. We would like to thank Steph Watson for chairing the planning committee for the past two years. During the month we have considered the following planning applications:

TM/10/01870/FL Proposed static metal container to replace existing snack bar van on site of car park at rear of Branbridges Industrial Estate **NO OBJECTION**

TM/12/03407/FL Change of use of (A3) restaurant to two dwellings including alterations to building and external areas at 53 Old Road **NOTED**

TM/13/00006/FL Conversion and extension of existing annex to provide a 4 bedroom dwelling with a detached garage at 27 The Freehold, East Peckham **NOTED**

TM/13/00953/FL Side extension including extension to roof and conversion of roof space to habitable accommodation at 98 Snoll Hatch Road **NO OBJECTION**

TM/13/01057/LB Removal of internal walls to enlarge kitchen, formation of new opening with double doors to garden. Creation of WC and utility room in garage, replacement windows and door; new garage door and new window in first floor bathroom at The Old Farmhouse, 4 Old Road **NO OBJECTION**

PLANNING DECISIONS

TMBC HAS REFUSED TO PERMIT the following:

TM/13/00173/FL Single storey link between main dwelling and games room built onto existing garden wall at Hextall Cottage, 67 Martins Lane

TMBC HAS APPROVED the following:

TM/12/02971/FL & TM/12/02972/LB Demolish porch, kitchen & WC's on north side of property & form pitched instead of flat roof & convert to a dwelling. Convert oast to dwelling. Construct three detached dwellings with access, car bays and landscaping at Blue Bell Inn, 1 Beltring Road

TM/13/00234/LB Demolition of chimney and insertion of new beam to allow alterations to bar area at The Bush, Blackbird and Thrush, 194 Bush Road, East Peckham

TM/13/00301/FL Conversion of an integral garage into a home office at 30 Medway Meadows

TM/13/00337/LB Removal of section of existing wall between formal dining area and breakfast area at The Well house, 147 Hale Street, East Peckham

TM/13/00565/LB Installation of Sky TV satellite dish at Yew Tree Cottage, 437 Bells Farm Road, East Peckham

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING

Parish Plan: During 2013/2014 the Parish Plan Steering Committee will push ahead and complete the Parish Plan. All of the parish councillors will be involved in the completion of the plan and we would welcome community involvement as well. If you would like to be involved please contact Peter Street. The Steering Committee will comprise an agenda of issues which working groups will tackle over the autumn and winter including looking at our nine separate hamlets. A draft Plan will then be made available in the New Year and the final document will be launched at the 2014 Annual Parish Meeting.

Neighbourhood Plan: We have considered whether to commence work on a Neighbourhood Plan. Although there is genuine interest in starting such a plan we are going to complete the Parish Plan first and then consider a Neighbourhood Plan when more information about them becomes available.

THE HOP FARM LICENCE APPLICATION: The licence hearing was held on 17 May 2013; in brief approval has been granted for 7 “music” days in 2013, and 10 thereafter if they behave, no consecutive music weekends, no more than 3 consecutive music days, 2300 hours shutdown, noise Management plan to include more rigorous limits covering music and non-music events and shutdown procedure. All music in Core area to be indoors. Threat of instant review in case of breaches.

THE HARP LICENCE APPLICATION: We have opposed the licence application and the matter was due to be determined by TMBC at a Licence Hearing on 30 May 2013.

BRANBRIDGES ROAD LATEST UPDATE (*Rose & Crown Public House & Mobile Home*): We have received no new information; however we are becoming increasingly impatient with the lack of action and are in constant liaison with Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council over this issue.

NEW VILLAGE SIGNS: Our 3 newly commissioned village signs to mark the twinning of East Peckham and Chereng have been installed. The new cast iron signs show the Kent Invicta white horse together with the British and French crossed flags. We hope you like them; please look out for them at the following locations; Tonbridge Road (Just after Pierce Mill Lane), Just off Boyle Way, grass verge on the left on the approach into Branbridges Road and Hale Street, opposite the Farm House, Boroughs Oak.

TWINNING: On 18 May approximately 30 adults and children from our twinned village visited East Peckham. The coachload were met by members of the East Peckham Twinning Committee. After a visit to nearby Hever Castle, la Cherengois visited The Bush, Blackbird and Thrush Public house to take on our Bat & Trap team. They entered into the spirit of our mutual friendship and gave the East Peckham team a good game. The Hartley Morris Men then entertained with their unique Morris Dancing. After a typical English meal, the French left for the return shuttle crossing, tired but very happy. Whilst here the Chairman of the French Twinning Association, Olivier Wecxsteen and Veronique Pereira a Councillor from the Chereng Town Council were shown the new village signs. This weekend was a great opportunity to show our French Friends the wonderful village of East Peckham. We hope that more residents will want to get involved and become members of the Association. Future trips to France will include a visit to the war graves, Lille and the Belgian city of Tournai. The next event will again be held in East Peckham when on 14 June 2013; approximately 60 children from the schools in Chereng will be visiting East Peckham Primary School for the day. There will hopefully be a return visit in September when children from East Peckham Primary School will visit the schools in Chereng. For more information on Twinning please contact Karen Bell the Secretary of the East Peckham Twinning Association by email to admin@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk.

Note: *Twinning is entirely self-funded by those taking part with no use of parish funds.*

DOG FOULING: There is still a problem of dog fouling within the village. Please ensure that you pick up after your dog and do not allow them off the lead if children are playing or a football match is taking place. We do not believe anybody, should have to clear up other people’s dogs and it is very sad that a section of our community do not value our open spaces. We would urge you to notify us, TMBC’s dog warden or the community warden if you witness any incidents of dog fouling. Subject to availability, we do have dog bags in the parish office which we provide free of charge.

JUBILEE HALL AND PLAYING FIELDS: These are your facilities and we want you to enjoy using them. Activities which take place each week include keep fit, Zumba, French classes (Beginners), gym, East Peckham and Hadlow Children’s Centre, Tai Chi, badminton, bowls, Mini Music Makers, Parent & Toddler group and a monthly Carers Group. Our football pitches are used by The East Peckham Junior Football team and we also have super fitness equipment and play equipment for children of all ages. If you are looking for a venue for an activity such as 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.

We have installed two vending machines which you are welcome to use when the hall and/or office are open. The machine in the lobby dispenses cold drinks and snacks and the machine in the meeting

room dispenses hot drinks. The prices of the vended items have been set not to make a huge profit but to cover the hire costs of the machines and the vended products. Wi-Fi access is also now available.

We are aware of the anti-social behavioural issues currently taking place in the Jubilee Hall Park and we are liaising with the Community Warden and the village PCSO's who are monitoring the situation. Our janitorial team are undertaking more litter clearing of the car park and the CCTV system which will shortly be upgraded will hopefully act as a deterrent.

We are currently considering the purchase of a Community defibrillator. The equipment would be a public access defibrillator designed with the untrained user in mind which coaches inexperienced users how to exert professional standards of CPR in real time which greatly improves survival chances for a victim of Sudden Cardiac Failure.

HIGHWAYS: Potholes and other highway problems can be reported on the website http://www.kent.gov.uk/roads_and_transport/highway_maintenance/fault_reporting.aspx. If you need to report an emergency situation call them straight away on 08458 247 800.

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY: If you have encountered a problem on one or more Public Rights of Way please report it to Public Rights of Way. Contact details are as follows:

- Call us on 0845 345 0210. (Lines open 8am - 8pm Monday - Friday).
- For emergencies please call 0300 333 5538.
- Or use the online fault reporting tool on Kent County Councils website

BULKY REFUSE: TMBC has extended the collection service of Waste Electrical & Electronic Equipment (WEEE) and scrap metal items. The fortnightly Saturday bulky service now has separate collections of WEEE & scrap metal items at the same time as Veolia's vehicles are on site. Items collected will be stripped down into their component materials and recycled.

CRIME PREVENTION: Public communication remains an important part of crime prevention and a contact directory is available to join in order to receive electronic updates – the link is <http://www.kent.police.uk/enews>. New crime prevention guides are available at http://www.kent.police.uk/advice/personal/your_guide.html. It doesn't matter what the crime is, please report it either to our local PCSO on 101 or contact the Community Warden Paul Harfleet.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

03 June 2013	Meeting of the Parish Council followed by a Planning Committee. 7.45 p.m. in the Meeting Room at the Jubilee Hall.
12 June 2013	Parish Council Surgery, 10.30 a.m. – 12.00 p.m. in the library. Holly Carey will be the duty Councillor
17 June 2013	Planning Committee, 7.45 p.m. in the Meeting Room at the Jubilee Hall

COMMUNICATIONS: We are striving to improve communication. As well as regularly looking at our website www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk did you know that you can receive the newsletter by email? If you would like to receive this newsletter by email do please let us know.

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, 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. **If you would like a copy of the newsletter in a different format please let us know. We will do our best to accommodate any requests.**