

# EAST PECKHAM PARISH COUNCIL

## Newsletter

December 2014

Dear All,

Welcome to the December 2014 newsletter. We produce our newsletter to keep you informed about council activities and news. Our newsletter is also available on our website. If you have any comments about the newsletter we'd love to hear from you.

We currently have a vacancy for a Parish Councillor which we are able to fill by co-option, this was the vacancy created by the resignation of Mrs. Holly Carey. If you are interested in becoming a councillor please register your interest with the Parish Office or visit our website. The webpage <http://www.beacouncillor.org.uk/default.htm> also has more information. It would be wonderful to maintain the wide breadth of views and experience on the Council and we would be delighted to hear from you.

Community interest has been shown in Speedwatch a scheme which is aimed at reducing traffic speeds. The success of the scheme will rely on volunteers. If a sufficient number come forward then we will look at funding the equipment needed. The more people involved the less of a burden it will be on any one person. Can you give an hour or so of your time each month to help lower traffic speeds in our village? Please don't assume someone else will do it; speeding affects us all and is a real problem that we need to tackle.

We are very proud that East Peckham continues to be a very social village with many activities taking place. If you are organising an event that benefits the community and would like it included on the Parish Council's online calendar, email details to the Parish Office. Don't forget that our website is a useful tool to find out more about East Peckham and your Parish Council.

We would like to take the opportunity to thank Mr Philip Easom the East Peckham Group Scout Leader for organising this year's Remembrance Parade. We know a lot of you look forward to seeing the parade march from the village centre to Holy Trinity. Unfortunately, as the Police will no longer provide marshals, it is up to us, as a community to provide them, without a sufficient number of marshals to safely marshal the parade there is a risk that future parades will not be able to go ahead which would be a great shame. If you are able to offer your help for the 2015 Parade in any way do please let us know. Representing the Parish Councils at this year's Remembrance Service were Karen Bell, Peter Crawford, Jenny Macdonald, Peter Street, and Steph Watson. In terms of number attending the service this year, we think there were about 500 people counting all the children as well. There were 90 in the balcony alone! This year we were honoured by a visit from 11 representatives including the Mayor from our French twinned town Chéreng who joined in the service, took part and laid a beautiful wreath. Alongside our own National Anthem the French National Anthem was played so it was all rather 'continental' and extra special for us. Clive Mansell the Ven. Arch Deacon for Tonbridge has sent the following message, 'What a splendid occasion for you all. Congratulations to all involved and "felicitations" to our French friends. I do think that this joint occasion is worthy of a report in the local paper! Thank you to all who had a part in this event.' On 11 November 2014, Karen Bell, Peter Street and Ray Bearman represented East Peckham when they took part in remembrance commemorations in Chéreng which including laying a Poppy wreath on behalf of the East Peckham Community.

The preparation of our 2015/2016 budget is at an advanced stage and is due to be consideration by the Finance Committee in January 2015. It is unlikely that our projected expenditure for 2015/2016 will exceed £163,876 which will require a precept of £111,189, an increase of just under 2% on 2014/2015. It is likely that our special projects for 2015/2016 will include the safety surfacing repairs of the toddlers play areas, provision towards emergency planning, village planting, Phase 3 of the jubilee Hall redecoration, Phase 3 of the environmental enhancements, village minor maintenance fund, notice boards in the Little Mill and Peckham Bush areas, contribution towards the 2015 Summer Playscheme and the delayed renovations of the War Memorial. We aim to set a balanced budget that reflects the services you want whilst fulfilling our statutory obligations.

We love seeing you all in our office and look forward to your visits. If you have an important matter which you wish to discuss, please make an appointment so that we can make sure we are available. We would hate any of you to make the effort to come to the office only to find it closed. An email or a phone call will suffice. Karen is sometimes at external meetings and therefore not always available, so ring or email first. Don't forget to visit [www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk](http://www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk) for regular updates and for details of all Parish Council meetings and links to agendas, consultations and other information relevant to the whole village. You can also view this newsletter and our new Welcome Pack on the website.

Christmas is fast approaching and some splendid events have been planned. I hope you will enjoy this year's Christmas lights which were switched on at the end of November. Finally we would like to wish you all a very **Merry Christmas and a peaceful New Year.**

Kind regards  
Chairman, Councillors & Clerk

## **LOCAL WINTER MANAGEMENT POLICY**

The Parish Council does not have a statutory duty to prepare for and deal with snow and ice (except around our own property). It is the role of Kent County Council to carry out such precautionary salting and snow clearing, as far as reasonably possible, to keep the precautionary salting network free from ice and snow, permit the safe movement of vehicular traffic and pedestrians and minimise delays and accidents directly attributable to the adverse weather conditions. Although we do not have the resources to make a commitment to provide a snow clearing service we will endeavour to assist where practicable. Our plan has been created to clarify what can be expected from the Parish Council. During periods of severe/persistent frost, ice or snow we will ENDEAVOUR to treat the following locations:

- Entrance to the Jubilee Hall and Council Office, Pippin Road, East Peckham
- Jubilee Hall Car Park, Pippin Road, East Peckham (main walkway from car park only)
- Path to the Primary School via the Playing Fields

It should be noted that in extreme weather conditions where transport is difficult or dangerous it may not be possible to treat the above named locations as we may have difficulty in reaching the locations. It is also to be noted that in very low temperatures the effectiveness of salt is significantly reduced. Property which will NOT be gritted by the Parish Council includes the following;

- Playing Field Allotment site – not a priority area
- Orchard Road Post Office – responsibility of owner
- The Village Centre - responsibility of owner/tenant
- Bus shelters – owned by Parish Council at various locations in the Parish – access difficult in severe weather therefore gritting cannot be guaranteed

Our complete winter maintenance plan can be viewed on our website [www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk](http://www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk). In addition to this, Kent Highway Services will be providing two jumbo bags of a salt and sand mix; these will be available from the Curran Hall and Jubilee Hall car parks.

## **COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PLANNING**

**Flood Warden Scheme:** Following the flood events of Christmas 2013, the Parish Council has set up a system of volunteer Flood Wardens for areas of the village at risk from flooding. If your area is covered by the flood warden scheme your flood warden will be introducing him/herself to you shortly to discuss any specific needs you might have in any potential flood situation. The flood wardens will be working on our behalf to:

- Identifying vulnerable residents and their special needs should a flood situation arise.
- Encouraging residents to get prepared before an event.
- Giving information and advice to residents.

They have also been directed to ask each household some specific questions about medical needs and welfare. These answers will enable us to help you better should you find yourself in an emergency situation. Of course this information is purely to be used in an emergency and for no other purpose and will be kept safe in the Parish Office. You would expect to see your Flood Warden when Flood Alerts are issued, we do not expect our Flood Wardens to put themselves in danger when flood water is already on the ground.

If you have not already done so, we encourage you to register with the Environment Agency for their Floodline Warnings Direct service. Receive Flood Alerts and Warnings by phone, mobile or email. Register by phone on 0345 988 1188 or online at: <https://fwd.environment-agency.gov.uk/app/olr/home>. There are three levels of Flood Warnings:

- **Flood Alert:** Flooding is possible; be prepared.
- **Flood Warning:** Flooding is expected; immediate action required.
- **Severe Flood Warning:** Severe flooding; danger to life

**Can you help your community?** If you are able to help your community in any way during a flood emergency, then please complete one of our questionnaires which you will find at the end of this newsletter.

## **YOUR COMMUNITY NEEDS YOU!**

- Are you concerned about your local area?
- Do you want to represent the views of local people?
- Do you want to contribute your business or personal skills and expertise
- Are you passionate about services provided to your local community

If you have answered yes to all of these questions why not consider becoming a Parish Councillor and make a difference. Reductions in Local Government funding may see services you take for granted reduced in the future. Your Parish Council can step in and fill the void in your community – to do this it will need your skills & enthusiasm. A Parish Council election is to be held in May 2015. If you would like to make a difference and be involved in shaping the future of the local community, why not stand for election?

## **ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENTS**

Do look out for the refurbished fingerpost at the junction of Bush Road and Church and the installation of the five new fingerposts. The fingerposts have been designed to attract traffic to the village centre and amenities, but to discourage through traffic.

## **HELP SET THE COUNCILS BUDGET FOR 2015/2016**

Every year we aim to set a balanced budget that reflects the services you want, whilst fulfilling our statutory obligations. We need your help to set the priorities for our discretionary services so please email us your views to [admin@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk](mailto:admin@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk). A copy of our draft budget can be found on our website.

### **ALLOTMENTS**

Allotments are provided on land adjacent to the Playing Fields. We currently have a few vacant allotment plots, if you are interested, 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.

### **COMMUNITY DEFIBRILATOR**

The community defibrillator is housed in a secure box attached to the wall of the Parish Office. This allows the defibrillator to be stored securely but enabling access by all residents. The defibrillator is vital to the village and an ongoing training programme is offered to anyone who wants to learn how to use it. There is no charge for this training so do please if you are interested let us know. The defibrillator is an intelligent and affordable item of medical equipment which 'talks' to the operator who can be any member of the public and gives easy to follow instructions on where to place the electrode packs on the chest, how to administer Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and when to press the 'shock' button. An operator cannot 'shock' a patient that does not require it and cannot make a bad situation worse. SECAmb know of the location of the defibrillator so that when someone dials 999 about a possible heart attack, they can immediately see if there is a defibrillator nearby to the caller, give them the access code and direct them there.

### **TWINNING**

East Peckham is twinned with Chereng in the Nord de Pas de Calais. Twinning activities are funded by those taking part and by fundraising with no use of parish funds. For information on Twinning please visit our website [www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk](http://www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk). The East Peckham Twinning Association is currently free to join and everyone who joins the association will be sent a monthly letter by email. To join the association please send your email your details to [admin@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk](mailto:admin@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk) or contact the Parish Office.

### **COMMUNITY GRANTS**

In our budget for 2014/2015 we allocated a provision of £1,000. If your group or organisation would like to apply for a small grant please visit the website [www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk](http://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**

We 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.

### **CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES**

We hope that this year's Christmas lights added to the festive feel to the village, our lighting consists of the motifs attached to the streetlights in Old Road and Pound Road, 6 solar powered trees in The Pound, the village Christmas tree and the lights at the parade of shops and the Village Stores in The Pound. The Street Singers and Silver Band have joined forces and will be entertaining residents with Christmas Carols and Songs in the village centre. Please look out for further information.

### **JUBILEE HALL AND PLAYING FIELDS**

We own and manage the Pippin Road Jubilee Hall complex which comprises of the Playing Fields, Sports Hall and Meeting Room with kitchen, changing rooms and toilet facilities. The complex has many regular activities and events for adults and children and is buzzing with excitement. From the under-fives toddlers' afternoon and gym sessions to activities for adults such as Keep fit, badminton, bowls and Zumba, we are also the venue for a monthly carers group. Outside clubs include the East Peckham Junior Football Team and a goal keeping school. We have a hot drinks machine and a snack machine too for your comfort or for your event. The facilities are perfect for any occasion be it a children's party, sports activity or business function. If you are looking for a venue for an event or meeting, please contact us for details of availability and hire charges. Our latest programme of activities and the contact details of the activity organisers can be found on our website

**Children's Party Packages:** We have been working hard to develop some fantastic new booking packages, offering hassle free booking solutions for events to make your life easier and your event a great success. We are now able to offer a variety of levels of service for children's parties.

Bronze	3 hour exclusive use of the Sports Hall, Tables and chairs, Kitchen and toilet facilities, free parking, Free Wi-Fi £45 (£50 non East Peckham residents)
Silver	All of the above, plus exclusive use of the meeting room, Paper plates, cutlery and napkins £70 (£80 non East Peckham residents)
Gold	All of the above plus cleaning after the event £100 (£115 non East Peckham residents)

**Business Event Solutions:** We can offer solutions for business events such as one-to-one consultations to a classroom or meeting venue. We can provide a great space for training, meetings and exhibitions at a low cost. We also offer the following:  
Hot drink station, Class room for 12 – 30 people, Consultation Room, Board Style meeting for 25  
Free Wifi, Projector Screen, Free parking

The playing fields are a beautiful village open space and are open to all residents. We want them to be a safe haven for residents to enjoy the peace and quiet and for children to play safely, families to picnic, joggers to run securely, play rounder's, kick a football, fly a kite or just a place to sit and contemplate. We will continue to develop the facilities so that the village is well equipped with leisure facilities for everyone to enjoy. Coming soon will be the installation of a youth shelter. There has been some vandalism and anti-social behaviour on the playing fields, the incidents have been referred to Kent Police and CCTV footage is being examined. It is a great shame that time and 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 either let us know, report it to the police on 101 or to our Community Warden on 07969 584183.

### **PLANNING**

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

**TM/14/02871/FL** Change of use of premises from (B1) to manufacture of automated packaging systems (B2) (Retrospective) at 9 Archers Park, Branbridges Road, East Peckham **NO OBJECTION**

**TM/14/03458/FL** Provision of storage container for storage associated with adjacent allotment site at East Peckham Playing Fields **NO OBJECTION**

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

**TM/00/1599/R26A** Request to extend the period of cessation of operations pursuant to condition (26) at Stonecastle Farm Quarry, Whetstead Road, Five Oak Green

**TM/14/02405/FL** Loft conversion to dwelling including velux windows, pitched dormers to front and rear of South Hale, 7 Hale Street, East Peckham

**TM/14/02564/FL &** Single storey rear extension at 51 Chidley Cross Road

**TM/14/02708/RD** Details of materials, landscaping and boundary treatment, storage and screening of refuse and measures to include sustainability pursuant to condition 2, 3, 6 and 7 of planning permission TM/14/01449/FL (Redevelopment of site with demolition of existing building and erection of four 4 Bedroom detached 2 storey houses with access road, garaging and car parking) at East Peckham Social Club Rear

**TM/14/02780/FL** Replacement garden room and alterations at West Wing Stilstead House 283 Tonbridge Road

**TM/14/03044/FL** Conversion of integral garage and front extension at 33 Crown Acres, East Peckham

**TM/14/03306/PD1** Prior notification for residential extension: Single storey rear extension (conservatory) at 15 Pippin Road,

**TW/14/00870/FULL** Solar park for generation of low carbon renewable electricity to the local distribution network at land off Sherenden Road, Tudeley

### **DOG FOULING**

Sadly we still have the ongoing disgusting problem of dog fouling particularly on the Playing Fields. Dog deposits provided it is bagged up can be put into any bin in the village. If you spot anyone failing to clear up after their dog please contact the Community or Dog Wardens. We have a supply of dog bags which are available free of charge from the Parish Office. Please be aware that failing to clear up after your dog is an offence and 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 the public have access. If you have a dog fouling complaint try and obtain as much information as possible as it will assist the Dog Warden. There have also been reports from residents about dogs off leads and our Community and Dog Wardens are seeing what can be done.

- For a found, lost 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](mailto:dog.warden@tmbc.gov.uk).
- If a person had been bitten then the incident is to be reported to the Police on 101

## **PUBIC RIGHTS OF WAY**

We have been concerned with our overgrown village footpaths; however, it is not the Parish Council but Kent County Council who is responsible for their maintenance. Regardless of the growing season the majority of the rights of ways will be cut twice each year. Please report any problems to Kent County Council by telephoning 0845 345 0210, or report the fault online at <http://webapps.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccesscams/issues/default.aspx>

## **LITTERING**

Litter does not clear itself away. The cost of clearing up litter runs into hundreds of pounds. 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. The 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.

## **HIGHWAYS**

Did you know that the preferred way to let highways know about faults such as potholes or overgrown vegetation is through the website [www.kent.gov.uk/highwayfaults](http://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 you 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. You might be interested in the roadworks.org website which gives details of all planned works for the village, on this website, 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.

## **PARKING ON PAVEMENTS**

With the problem in the village of inappropriately parked vehicles on pavements, we have registered our interest with 'Guide Dogs for the Blind' who are campaigning against pavement parking. It is being proposed that motorists should be banned from parking on pavements because the practice forces vulnerable pedestrians to walk in the road and blocking the pavement, is inconsiderate and dangerous. There is already a ban on parking on footways on most London streets and a recent poll suggests that most people want restrictions for the rest of the country. If you spot a vehicle wrongly parked, please call 101 and our PCSO's will try and attend, contact the owner and get the vehicle moved on. Whilst the PCSO's cannot issue tickets they can issue advice notices.

## **TRANSPORTION ISSUES**

**Bus Routes:** We have been advised that there is a risk that some of the less frequented services will be withdrawn.

**Aircraft –Overflight and noise:** The whole of West Kent has experienced increased over-flight and noise this summer, which we are told by Gatwick Airport Ltd, is due to it being one of the airports busiest ever summers with air traffic having increased substantially this year due to the economic recovery after many years of traffic reduction during the economic downturn. This year there has been an above average occurrence of prevailing westerly winds, while last year these were above average easterly winds, resulting in the majority of arrivals passing over Kent. We have been assured by Gatwick Airport Ltd that there have not been any changes to flight paths over Kent. Gatwick Airport Ltd and National Air Traffic Services (NATS) has run two consultations which they plan to submit to the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) which is part of a wider de-design of the London Airspace system which will come into place by 2020 and will affect all London airports (Heathrow, Gatwick, Stansted, London City, and Luton etc.). All of this is being implemented as part of the UK's Future Airspace Strategy (FAS) to modernise the whole of the UK's airspace to create more capacity (the skies are very busy), improve safety, reduce carbon emissions through improved efficiency and to try to reduce the number of people affected by aviation noise. It is now only possible to implement these changes due to advances in aircraft navigation technology. Current airspace design was based on aircraft navigation using ground beacons which has been in place many decades. However, UK airspace cannot operate in isolation as it is an integral part of the wider European airspace system. It is therefore important that changes to national airspace systems are compatible with European airspace as a whole; therefore the UK's Future Airspace Strategy is aligned with the EU's Single European Sky airspace initiatives. KCC has made representations for all areas of Kent in both phases of the airspace consultation and these can be viewed at <http://www.kent.gov.uk/about-the-council/news/campaigns-and-events/aviation-strategy>. You may be interested in the website <http://flighttracking.casper.aero/lgw/> which shows where aircraft were flying. While there is a time delay of about 20 minutes, you could use the calendar and time control at the top left of the screen to see what happens on different days.

## **EAST PECKHAM POLICE CONTACT POINT**

This is your opportunity to discuss policing issues with a neighbourhood officer, get crime prevention advice, have your say on Kent Policing and pick up a free crime prevention item. The Contact Point will be at the Co-op, Branbridges Road, East Peckham, TN12 5WH. For Further information including dates of the Police Contact Point visit the Kent Police Website [www.kent.police.uk](http://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.

**ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR – VILLAGE CENTRE**

If you witness any incidents of anti-social behaviour, anywhere in the village, or know who is involved, please can you let us, our community warden or the police know. Anti-Social Behaviour can affect everyone’s quality of life and should not be tolerated.

**DECEMBER 2014 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

- 01 December 2014 Planning & Transportation Committee. Proceedings commence at 7.30 p.m.
- 03 December 2014 Carers Group, 12.00 p.m. in the Meeting Room at the Jubilee Hall
- 10 December 2014 Surgery, 10.30 a.m. – 12.00 p.m. in the library.
- 13 December 2014 Bulky Refuse freighter, Jubilee Hall Car Park 8.00 a.m. – 9.00 a.m.
- 15 December 2014 Planning & Transportation Committee followed by a meeting of the full Parish Council. Proceedings commence at 7.15 p.m.
- 20 December 2014 Bulky Refuse freighter, Jubilee Hall Car Park 8.00 a.m. – 9.00 a.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](mailto:admin@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk). The Parish Office 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](http://www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk).

**KENT ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS COMMUNITY AWARDS SCHEME 2015**

**Supported by the High Sheriff of Kent, Chairman of Kent County Council and Mayor of Medway Council**

The KALC Community Award is to acknowledge and give recognition to a resident of East Peckham who has made a significant contribution to this Parish over a period of years. If you know of someone who has given this sort of service and merits an Award then please do nominate them. The person must live or work within the East Peckham Parish boundary. The winner will receive a certificate signed by the Kent Association of Local Council's Chairman and the High Sheriff of Kent. The Award will be presented by the Chairman of East Peckham Parish Council Chairman at the 2015 Annual Parish Meeting. A nomination form is printed below. Only **ONE** nomination per resident but all adult members of a family may submit a nomination form. Just photocopy the form or telephone Karen Bell on 01622 871309 or email [admin@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk](mailto:admin@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk) for extra forms. Forms can also be downloaded from our website [www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk](http://www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk). Completed forms in a sealed envelope should be sent to East Peckham Parish Council, The Parish Office, East Peckham Jubilee Hall, Pippin Road, East Peckham, Tonbridge, Kent, TN12 5BT. The closing date for receiving nomination forms is 17 January 2015.

**KALC COMMUNITY AWARDS 2015 - NOMINATION FORM**

I would like to nominate .....(print name) for a Community Award.

REASON: .....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

SIGNED: ..... Print Name: .....

Only one vote per resident. For details of returning this form see above.

## FLOOD WARDEN QUESTIONNAIRE

Resident's Address: .....

Name: .....

Tel:.....

Mobile:.....

**In a potential Flood Event, will you need help with: (Please Circle)**

- |   |     |    |
|---|-----|----|
| • Evacuation                                      | Yes | No |
| • Getting medicines / receiving medical treatment | Yes | No |
| • Making meals & drinks                           | Yes | No |
| • Carer(s) getting access                         | Yes | No |
| • Moving valuable items to a safe place           | Yes | No |
| • Getting Sandbags to your property               | Yes | No |

**If there is loss of Power for an extended period, will you need help with: (Please Circle)**

- |                                |     |    |
|--------------------------------|-----|----|
| • Evacuation                   | Yes | No |
| • Alternative heating (gas?)   | Yes | No |
| • Receiving medical treatment  | Yes | No |
| • Making meals & drinks (gas?) | Yes | No |
| • Communications***            | Yes | No |

\*\*\* Essential to have landline phone set not needing power, for when batteries run out.

**Can you help with 'watching out' or caring for your neighbours? Yes No**

**Are you able to deliver sandbags to other properties as well as your own? Yes No**

**Additional Comments (and other help you feel you may be able to give)**

*This information will only be used in an Emergency Situation and will be kept safe in Parish Office*

## MESSAGE FROM KENT POLICE - Burglars mess with your head not just your home

Kent Police is asking residents to take simple measures to protect themselves from becoming a victim of burglary.

Overall the force has seen a positive decrease in this type of crime, but statistics show that the number of reports can increase during the autumn months.

Most burglaries happen during daylight hours, with offences often peaking at about 11am, so while you're hard at work, burglars are too. Most burglars are opportunists, which means it is important to ensure the security measures taken at night are also taken before you leave home in the morning.

From experience, the police know burglary can leave victims feeling scared and anxious long after the crime has been committed.

To help reduce the risk of becoming a burglary victim officers are asking residents to work with them by following these key principles:

### Light it

- Light dark or hidden entrances with low wattage security lighting
- Use timer switches to turn on lights/radio – invest in a 24-hour segment timer for under £5. Remember to use an energy efficient light bulb

### Lock it

- Keep your front and back windows and doors locked (double lock uPVC)
- Keep side gates locked – burglars often break into homes from the garden where they have less chance of being seen
- If bins are emptied before you leave for work return them to your garden – they can be used as climbing aids if left on display
- Instead use bins as obstructions in side entrances
- Trim high hedging/plant growth – they could provide cover for a burglar
- Secure your garage and shed – items inside can be just as tempting and can even be used to break in
- If you get the train ensure your car is locked, windows are closed and keys are not left on display through windows
- Don't keep large amounts of money or jewellery at home. If you have to, use a safe that is stored out of sight and fixed to a solid floor

### List it

All valuable items should be registered for free on **[www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com)** – logging details helps police to return them to you if they are found or seized. These include:

- Expensive jewellery and antiques
- Bicycles
- Laptops, desktop computers and tablets
- Mobile phones and MP3 players
- Home entertainment systems including TVs and games consoles

If you would like to find out more about protecting your property, visit [www.kent.police.uk/burglary](http://www.kent.police.uk/burglary)