

# EPPC NEWS

Working on behalf of the community

December 2017

Dear All,

A warm welcome to our new readers, this newsletter is just one way we communicate with our residents and is not only a summary of our activities over the past month but also news on items of interest.

December is a busy month with lots of activities taking place. It's worthy of note that these events wouldn't take place without the hard work of a team of volunteer organisers. If you'd like to nominate one of these village champions for an award we'd love to hear from you.

We're often asked "What does the Parish Council do?" All our meeting agendas and minutes are posted on our website and agendas displayed on our notice board in The Pound. Residents are welcome to attend our meetings and if you look at our website you'll get an idea of the kind of things we do. You can now follow us on twitter @EastPeckhamPC and download our App.

Being a Councillor can be fulfilling. It requires dedication and hard work but in East Peckham it can be rewarding as it brings the opportunity to play a significant role in shaping our dynamic and ever growing community. Local Councils have to work within a legal and regulatory framework which can sometimes make us appear slow and unresponsive, although this can be frustrating it provides essential protection of council tax-payers interests and provides vital safeguards for Councillors doing their job. This month we received the resignation of Jenny Macdonald, Jenny served the village well during her years at EPPC and took a specific interest in environmental issues, we thank Jenny for her hard work and for leading projects such as the fingerposts, village planting and anti-litter campaigns. This presents an opportunity to welcome a new Parish Councillor to EPPC. If you are interested in joining our dedicated and hardworking team and would like to know more we would be delighted to hear from you.

Every year we set a balanced budget which reflects the services you want whilst at the same time fulfils our statutory obligations. You can find our draft budgetary proposals on our website; we invite feedback on these proposals which indicate an increase in the Parish Precept from £139,950 to £140,000.

We are noticing more flytipping around the village and as we are receiving complaints we know that you too are concerned. Unfortunately we have no powers to act but can follow up reported incidents with the Borough Councils Environmental Health Department. If you notice any incidents of flytipping, please report them to the Borough Council, our Community Warden and our PCSO's their contact details are included towards the end of this newsletter. We would be grateful if you could notify us too of any incidents so that we can make follow up enquiries and build up a portfolio of evidence.

As we approach the cold wet winter, **Your Village Needs You!!!** We would like more flood wardens to join our Community Emergency Planning Team. By becoming a flood warden you would provide a vital service helping your community should the village experience a flooding situation. Tasks could include delivering sandbags, implementing road closures and identifying vulnerable people. We would also like to hear from you if are a first aider or perhaps you have a chain saw and could help clear fallen trees or maybe you have a four wheel drive vehicle and could help evacuate people to safety.

We are expecting that a decision will soon be reached on the future of the surgery. In early December, the Working Group consisting of representatives from EPPC, the CCG and Woodlands Health Centre will meet, the outcome of that meeting will be reported at our meeting on 11 December and will be featured in the next EPPC News and on our website. We have been assured that if Woodlands Health Centre decides to close the surgery all residents registered with the practice will be notified at the same time. Full details of our package of financial support can be found in the November issue of EPPC News and on our website.



A huge thank you for supporting our Christmas Lights fundraising events, so far fundraising has raised over £2,300. This year's lights promise to be bigger, brighter and better than before but they do not come cheap. We are delighted therefore that the Christmas Lights have been chosen as one of the causes for the next round of the Co-op Community Fund. The total cost of the lights and switch on event costs more than £9,000, of which the Parish Council contributes £5,000, the Borough Council £560 and the remainder is met by fundraising and donations.

The Switch On of this year's Christmas Lights takes place from 5.00 p.m. on 01 December 2017. There will be guaranteed 'snow', Father Christmas and his elves, an entertainer, street food and a mini market. There will also be **FREE MULLED WINE AND MINCE PIES** for the adults and **FREE CHOCOLATE AND SOFT DRINKS** for the children. We will be collecting on the night towards the 2018 Christmas lights. On the night, Pound Road will be closed between 4.45 p.m. and 8.00 p.m. at its junctions with Snoll Hatch Road, Old Road, The Freehold and Fell Mead.

EPPC continues to strive to make our parish a desirable place to live. Please help all our community groups and continue to do your bit where you can for where you live. Don't forget if you'd like any information or advice on a Parish matter, please feel free to call into the Parish Office during normal opening hours. Please note however that during the Christmas and New Year break the Parish Office will be closed from 18 December 2017 to 03 January 2018. Emergency Contact details will be on our website [www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk](http://www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk) or you can send an email to [admin@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk](mailto:admin@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk).

All of us at the Parish Council wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

Kind regards  
Chairman, Councillors and Clerk

#### **COUNCILLORS AREAS**

Parish Councillors represent the village collectively but for administrative and Emergency Planning we have divided the village into areas and an area assigned to each councillor. The areas are:

Hale Street, Bardsley Close, Hale Court, Medway Meadows, Cates Court & Maidstone Road	Serina Page
Smithers Lane, Pattenden Gardens, Hop Bine Close, Smithers Court, Beltring Road,	
Branbridges Road & Maidstone Road (A26)	James Hockey
Old Road, Strettitt Gardens, Pinkham & Pinkham Gardens	Penny Graham
Addlestead Road, Chidley Cross Road, Caysers Croft & Tonbridge Road	Lynton Wright
Pound Road, The Old Dairy & Snoll Hatch Road	David Roberts
Orchard Road, The Freehold, Red Roses, Marvillion & Crown Acres (Odds)	Colin Silver
Whitebine, Golding & Henham Gardens & Crown Acres (evens)	Mick Barton
Fell Mead, Stockenbury, Bramley Road, Pippin Road & Russett Road	Steph Watson
Hatches Lane, Bullen Lane, Bells Farm Road, Grove Close & Stanford Lane	TBC
Westwood Road, Drage Road, William Luck Close & Cotman Way	Heidi Harratt
Court Lodge, Roydon Hall & Bush Roads, Seven Mile, Martins & Church Lanes	Michael Ferguson

#### **FINANCE**

Our draft budget for 2018-2019 has been published on our website [www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk](http://www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk). Included within our budget will be provisions for two new projects one will be the introduction of an East Peckham Parish Council funded Loyalty Scheme which we hope will encourage more residents to shop local and the other is the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Parish Council which will be celebrated in 2019.

#### **CUSTOMER PANEL**

We'd like to set up a Customer Panel to provide an opportunity for residents to comment on EPPC activities and budget proposals. If you'd like to participate, please let us know.

#### **EAST PECKHAM BUSINESS COMMUNITY**

We'd like to see East Peckham have a business forum and would be delighted to hear from you if you'd like to be involved.

### **PLEASE USE OUR LOCAL SHOPS – THEY NEED YOUR SUPPORT**

Please support our local village shops and businesses – they do need our custom. If we don't use them we might lose them. The village shop, pub or post office is often the beating heart of a community so when one is threatened with closure, we will pull out all the stops to keep it going. This is not about propping up failing businesses; it's often about providing temporary financial assistance or putting new community-run facilities in place, so vital services that people rely on are maintained and every option explored to keep them running for the benefit of local people. An example of our work in this area is our campaign to keep the surgery open; you will find more on this issue later in this newsletter.

### **WOULD YOU LIKE TO SPONSOR A COMMUNITY PROJECT?**

There're many projects you could help. If you're interested please let us know.

### **COMMUNITY GRANTS**

If your group or organisation would like to apply for a small grant please visit our website where you will find details of our grants policy and an application form. So far this year we have been able to help East Peckham United Youth Football Club and the Village Hall who both received grants of £500.00.

### **ALLOTMENTS**

Allotments are provided on land adjacent to the Playing Fields. The annual rents are very reasonable and we currently have a few vacant plots.

### **EAST PECKHAM VILLAGE CENTRE**

The paved area in the village centre does not belong to us but we are aware that it needs some maintenance work. Over the years we have helped where we can by arranging and paying for work to be carried out to eliminate trip hazards. We want to be proud of our village centre and are making enquiries with Kent County Council with the view to ascertaining the feasibility and costing implications of the land being transferred to us. We have also asked the County Council to carry out a risk assessment and to repair all identified risks such as trip hazards and decaying trees.

### **COMMUNITY DEFIBRILATOR**

The defibrillator is housed in a secure box attached to the wall of the Jubilee Hall, it's an intelligent item of medical equipment which 'talks' to the operator and gives easy to follow instructions. SECAmb know of the location of the defibrillator so when someone dials 999 about a possible heart attack, they can immediately see if there is a defibrillator near the caller, give them the access code and direct them to it.

### **FREE - First Aid Training**

We are delighted to be able to offer residents and users of the Jubilee Hall FREE defibrillator training. Please contact the parish office to express an interest or find out more



### **TWINNING**

East Peckham is twinned with Chérenge in the Nord de Pas de Calais. Twinning activities are funded by those taking part and fund-raising with no use of parish funds. For more information on Twinning please contact Karen Bell by email to [admin@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk](mailto:admin@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk).

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

We own and manage the Jubilee Hall complex comprising of the Playing Fields, Sports Hall and Meeting Room. The complex hosts many regular activities such as East Peckham United FC, pre-school music, table tennis, step and bodypump, boot camp, keep fit, badminton, bowls and Zumba, we're also the venue for a twice monthly carers group and regular first aid training. The facilities are perfect for any occasion such as a children's party, sports activity or business function. A programme of activities and the contact details for the activity organisers can be found on our website. Our aim to widen the number of indoor and outdoor activities on offer and we would be pleased to hear from you if there are any activities you would like us to provide or if you would like to start up a new activity.

**Children's Party Packages:** We have some fantastic packages, offering hassle free solutions to make your life easier and your event a great success.

**Business Event Solutions:** We 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.

The playing fields are a beautiful open space, available all year round and free to use. We want them to be a safe haven for everyone to enjoy and will continue to develop the facilities so that the village; is well equipped with leisure facilities for everyone.

### **FANTASTIC VENUE AVAILABLE IN EAST PECKHAM VILLAGE CENTRE?**

The Jubilee Hall has two rooms available, a large sports hall and a small meeting room. It can cater for most activities such as sports activities, children's parties, book clubs, meetings, group gatherings



Surrounded by 15 acres of playing fields we offer very competitive hire rates, a large car park, FREE WIFI, kitchen, projector and screen

Whatever your activity we look forward to receiving your enquires.

Please email [admin@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk](mailto:admin@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk) for more information

### **BLOOMING IN EAST PECKHAM**

We'd like to form an East Peckham in Bloom group, it will have our endorsement and comprise of residents whose aim is to enhance the appearance of the village. The Group's first step would be to become a member of 'Britain in Bloom' an organisation set up by the Royal Horticultural Society. We'd also like to encourage residents and retailers to keep their frontages clean and tidy. If you're a local business and would like to sponsor this project or make a donation, please let us know. Similarly, we'd like to hear from you if you're interested in becoming part of East Peckham in Bloom. We're looking for garden enthusiasts, carpenters/DIY'ers, artists or just residents who want to be involved.

### **LOCAL WINTER MANAGEMENT POLICY**

We have no statutory duty to prepare for and deal with snow and ice (except around our own property) and although we don't have resources to make a commitment to provide a snow clearing service we'll assist where we can. Our plan has been created to clarify what can be expected from EPPC.

**LEGAL ADVICE:** People have been hesitant to clear snow because of fears of litigation if someone should slip on the treated area. The prospects of a person who volunteers to clear snow from a pavement being successfully sued for damages by a person who subsequently slips on the cleared area and is injured are very small. Don't be put off clearing paths because you're afraid someone will get injured. Remember, people walking on snow and ice have a responsibility to be careful themselves. Follow the advice below and don't believe the myths - it's unlikely you'll be sued or held legally responsible for any injuries if you have cleared the path carefully.

**Clear the snow and ice early in the day:** It's easier to move fresh, loose snow rather than hard snow that has packed together from people walking on it. If possible, start removing the snow and ice in the morning. If you remove the top layer of snow in the morning, any sunshine during the day will help melt any ice beneath. You can then cover the path with salt before nightfall to stop it refreezing.

**Preventing slips:** Pay extra attention to clearing snow and ice from steps and steep pathways

**Use salt or sand - not water:** Don't make pathways more dangerous by causing them to refreeze. If you use water to melt the snow, it may refreeze and turn to black ice which increases the risk of injuries. You can melt snow or prevent black ice by spreading some salt on the area you have cleared. Don't use salt found in salting bins – this will be needed to keep roads clear. Be careful not to spread salt on plants or grass as it may damage them. If you don't have enough salt, you can use sand or ash, they won't stop the path icing over as effectively as salt, but will provide good grip underfoot.

**Take care where you move the snow:** When shovelling snow, take care where you put it so it doesn't block people's paths or drains. Make sure you make a path down the middle of the area to be cleared first, so you have a clear surface to walk on. Then shovel the snow from the centre to the sides.

**Offer to clear your neighbours' paths:** If your neighbour has difficulty getting in and out of their home, offer to clear snow and ice around their property as well. Check that any elderly or disabled neighbours are alright in the cold weather. If you're worried about them, try contacting their relatives or friends.

**WHERE GRITTING WILL BE UNDERTAKEN BY EPPC:** During periods of severe/persistent frost, ice or snow we will **ENDEAVOUR** to treat the entrances to the Parish Office and Jubilee Hall, the Jubilee Hall Car Park (main walkway from car park) and the Path to the Primary School via the Playing Fields

**PROPERTY OR LAND WHICH WILL NOT BE GRITTED BY EPPC** includes the Allotment site (not a priority area), Orchard Road Post Office (responsibility of landowner), the Village Centre (responsibility of landowner/tenant) and Bus shelters (access may be difficult in severe weather)

**ROLE OF KENT COUNTY COUNCIL:** To carry out precautionary salting and snow clearing, to keep 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.

### **COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PLANNING**

Would you be prepared to help your community and support the Community Emergency Planning Team? There are many ways you can help, if you're interested and would like to find out more please let us know. Free training is available via Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council and all Flood Wardens are given a flood preparedness kit.

**Flood Warning System:** To receive flood warnings from the Environment Agency please visit the website [www.environment-agency.gov.uk](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk) and register with Floodline Warnings Direct. If you would prefer to register by telephone, or need help during the registration process, call 0845 988 1188.

### **POWER CUTS**

UK Power Networks own and maintain the electric cables and lines in this area of the UK making sure your lights stay on. Power cuts are rare but please keep these details safe in case you need to contact UK Power networks:

**Text POWER and your postcode to 80876, website: [www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk/powercut](http://www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk/powercut), Tel 0800 3163105 Tel (Mobile) 0333 32 32 105, facebook and Twitter @ukpowernetworks**

### **PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

The Planning & Transportation Committee aims to represent the views of the community when consulted on planning applications and to improve transportation issues in East Peckham. The Committee has recently considered the following planning applications:

**TM/17/02732/FL** Change of use from B1 (Industrial) to MOT Test Centre, vehicle service/repair and tyre centre at 104 Branbridges Road **NO OBJECTION**

**TM/17/02939/FL** Replacement roof to conservatory at 31 Smithers Lane **NO OBJECTION**

### **EAST ACRES, BRANBRIDGES ROAD, EAST PECKHAM**

On 02 November 2017, the Planning Inspectorate held an informal appeal hearing. We hope to be able to let you have the verdict within the pages of our next newsletter.

### **FLYTIPPING**

The village has experienced many acts of flytipping and littering recently. We have asked the borough council to increase the emptying of all litterbins in the village and to take a more proactive approach in identifying those responsible for blighting our village. We have also asked that they liaise and support all the landowners in order to ensure that the problems do not recur. It is everyone's responsibility to report incidents of flytipping direct to TMBC. We are pleased that the borough council has a no tolerance policy with regard to fly-tippers and that those who are identified will be prosecuted.

### **LITTERING**

Litter doesn't clear itself away. The cost of clearing up litter runs into hundreds of pounds. It's 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. TMBC will respond to complaints and have the power to demand a person's name and address in order to issue fixed penalty notices. It's such a shame that an uncaring few spoil it for the rest of us. Remember if you want to report a litter issue or fly-tipping, go to TMBC's website. To help keep East Peckham beautiful, can we please encourage residents and businesses to regularly clear up their frontages and collect rubbish along their roads. Let's keep our village tidy. We're aware of a number of residents who regularly collect litter and our thanks go to these unsung heroes - what caring citizens you are. If you would like to nominate a special village person, please let us know.

### **IMPROVEMENTS TO OUR HIGHWAYS – WE NEED YOUR HELP**

We recently asked Kent Highways to improve the junction at Bullen Lane with Bush Road and the exit on Branbridges Road near the Co-op and Petrol Station. Kent Highways responded stating that current evidence didn't justify any improvements and that they'll continue to monitor the safety records at both locations. We'd like to create a portfolio of evidence and need your help, if you are unfortunate to be involved in or witness an accident or a near miss we'd like you to send details to us, data we would like includes photographs, dates, times and an explanation of what occurred.

### **SPEED REDUCTIONS**

In response to our request for village wide speed reductions, KCC advised that all requests are reviewed and prioritised using an evidence-based approach to ascertain if they're any patterns of personal injury crash records. Having reviewed East Peckham, KCC concluded that it's difficult to prioritise East Peckham against a number of sites across the county, where a pattern of incidents is occurring and therefore KCC has no plans to undertake any changes to the highway in East Peckham.

### **DOG FOULING**

We take the issue of dog fouling, particularly in the Playing Fields, very seriously. We can't overstress the dangers dog faeces poses – Toxocariasis is found in dog faeces and can cause partial blindness. It's a shame that just a few uncaring dog owners spoil things for others. Dog deposits provided it's bagged up can be put into any street amenity bin. Please ***don't*** use private household bins. If you see anyone failing to clear up after their dog contact the Community or Dog Wardens. Failing to clear up after your dog is an offence and TMBC enforces dog fouling through the Dogs Fouling of Land Act 1996 which applies to all land within the borough which is open and to where there is public access. If you have a dog fouling complaint obtain as much information as possible as it will assist the Dog Warden. For a found, lost or straying dog telephone 01732 876181, 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 has been bitten then please report the incident to the Police on 101

### **DOG AND LITTER BINS**

Complaints regarding overfull dog/litter bins or related issues should be reported to [waste.services@tmbc.gov.uk](mailto:waste.services@tmbc.gov.uk) or using the online forms at [www.tmbc.gov.uk](http://www.tmbc.gov.uk). There are 18 dog waste bins around East Peckham, so specific locations for the ones that may have been missed would assist.

### **PARKING ON PAVEMENTS**

With the problem in the village of inappropriately parked vehicles on pavements, we've joined Guide Dogs for the Blind who are campaigning against pavement parking. It's 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. This is a far too common problem across the county partly because many of our roads were built in the days before motor cars and partly because of inconsiderate drivers who wish to park as close as possible to where they live. In areas where there are no parking restrictions the borough councils Civil Enforcement Officers will not be able to help and the police can only enforce against dangerous parking. 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.

### **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](http://www.kent.gov.uk/highwayfaults) where details can be uploaded and locations pinpointed on a map. In the event of an emergency you should call 03000 41 81 81. You might be interested in the [roadworks.org](http://roadworks.org) website which gives details of all planned works for the village.

### **ABANDONED VEHICLES**

These can be reported via <http://www.tmbc.gov.uk/services/environment-and-planning/abandoned-vehicles>, this info is contained in TMBC's Street Monitor Guidance booklet available on our website.

### **ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR**

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

### **PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY**

KCC is responsible for maintaining public rights of way. Regardless of the growing season most rights of ways will be cut twice each year. Please report any problems to KCC by telephoning 0845 345 0210 or online at <http://webapps.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccessscams/issues/default.aspx>

### **POLICE**

In an emergency, if a crime is in progress or life is in danger, call 999 For non-urgent issues call 101 If deaf or speech impaired, text „Police „and your message to 60066 For news and advice visit [www.kent.police.uk](http://www.kent.police.uk) Follow on Twitter @kent\_police or @kentpoliceton Find Kent Police on Facebook.

### **COMMUNITY WARDEN**

Michael Head will be responding to East Peckham call outs however as he already covers many areas he will be prioritising issues. Michael can be contacted by email to [michael.head@kent.gov.uk](mailto:michael.head@kent.gov.uk) or telephone 07811271307.

### **SATURDAY BULKY REFUSE SERVICE**

The Saturday bulky waste service provided by Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council is for the disposal of household waste, including bulky items. The service can also collect electrical items and scrap metal for recycling. Please note that the schedule runs on a 4-week cycle. When a month has five Saturdays, the service is not normally run on the fifth Saturday.

**Location:** Pippin Road (*Jubilee Hall Car Park*)  
**Dates and Times:** 09 December: 10:30 to 11:30  
23 December: 08:00 to 09:00

**DECEMBER 2017 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

01 December 2017 Christmas Lights Switch On, 5.00 p.m. – 7.00 p.m.  
04 December 2017 Planning & Transportation Committee, 7.00 p.m. in the Jubilee Hall  
11 December 2017 Meeting of the full Parish Council, 6.00 p.m. in the Jubilee Hall

**TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURES**

Bullen Lane (Outside No. 396): From 27 November 2017 for up to 4 weeks in order to enable a dual service to be carried out by SGN.  
Pound Road: 01 December 2017 Christmas Lights Switch On event  
Beltring Road, East Peckham & Gravelly Ways, Yalding From 03 December 2017 for up to 1 day in order to enable soil and vegetation clearance to be carried out by FGS and AGRI.  
Pound Road: 15 December 2017 Roving Nativity

**CONTACT DETAILS**

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).

**Useful Contact Information**

**Police Contact:**

PCSO Toni Matthew 101 Email [toni.matthew@kent.pnn.police.uk](mailto:toni.matthew@kent.pnn.police.uk)

**Community Warden:**

Michael Head 07969 584183 Email: [michael.head@kent.gov.uk](mailto:michael.head@kent.gov.uk)

**Paddock Wood Community**

**Advice Centre:** 01892 838619 Email: [info@pwadvice.org](mailto:info@pwadvice.org)

**Your Local MP**

Tom Tugendhat Email [tom.tugendhat.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:tom.tugendhat.mp@parliament.uk)

**TMBC:** Flytipping, Abandoned Vehicles, Dog Fouling, Street Cleaning

01732 844522 [www.tmbc.gov.uk](http://www.tmbc.gov.uk)

**KCC**

For road & drainage issues, potholes, vegetation & Street Lighting

03000 418181 [www.kent.gov.uk](http://www.kent.gov.uk)

**EAST PECKHAM PARISH COUNCIL COMMUNITY AWARDS 2018  
NOMINATION FORM**

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

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

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

Nominations to be returned to the Parish Office, The Jubilee Hall, Pippin Road, East Peckham, Tonbridge, Kent, TN12 5BT by 15 January 2018. Entries by email also accepted to [admin@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk](mailto:admin@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk)

### **TMBC Proposals for improved recycling**

Plans to improve recycling services in Tonbridge and Malling have moved a step closer after Borough Councillors agreed to proposals for a new West Kent Joint Waste Project, which could see residents being able to add plastics and glass to the long list of items they can recycle on their doorstep.

Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council is working with Dartford Borough Council, Tunbridge Wells Borough Council and Kent County Council to consider how they might best deliver a new, joint household recycling, waste and street cleaning service for residents across West Kent. This project is being assisted by the Kent Resource Partnership, which works to improve how waste is managed across the county.

Existing collection contracts in all three Borough Council areas come to an end in 2019, which presents an ideal opportunity for the Councils to consider how a joint contract could improve services and efficiency, increase recycling rates and generate financial savings. Discussions regarding the potential new services are moving forward and the tendering process, which will include an option for a new partnership contract, will begin in December this year. If the proposed new joint contract goes ahead, residents in all three Council areas will see a number of improvements to their recycling and waste services.

In Tonbridge & Malling, the new services would begin in 2019 and would include:

- A weekly food waste collection (A new food waste caddy would be provided)
- An alternating fortnightly collection of mixed dry recyclables including plastics, metals, cartons and glass in a wheeled bin (the current green-lidded bin) with a separate container (the current green box) for paper and card.
- An alternating fortnightly collection of residual waste which can't be recycled (current black bin). This waste would continue to go to the Energy-from-waste Plant in Allington.
- A separate fortnightly collection of garden waste (A new brown wheeled bin would be provided) – Residents would be able to 'opt in' to this service for a small annual charge if they wish to do so. This charge would help fund the proposed improvements to kerbside recycling services.

It is hoped that, if the proposed new services go ahead, savings of more than £3m could be generated collectively across the four authorities and that average recycling performance could increase to over 50 per cent. However, this is all subject to the tender process and will depend on the tender submissions provided by contractors. Tenders are due to be assessed between April & June 2018, with a final decision being made in July or August.

Progress on this project will be regularly reported to the Street Scene & Environment Advisory Board, and those reports can be found on [the relevant page of T&MBC's website](#)

### **English National Concessionary Travel Scheme**

This is a national scheme by the Department for Transport in conjunction with local authorities across England. The scheme provides free bus travel throughout England. English residents, who have attained the state pension age as well as eligible disabled people, are provided with free off-peak bus travel on weekdays and all day at weekends and Bank Holidays.

There are two types of concessionary pass. The senior pass has a blue panel at the right hand side of the pass. A disabled person's pass has an orange panel. A senior pass is valid between 09:30 and 23:00 on weekdays and at any time at weekends and public holidays. A disabled pass has the same statutory validity, but some authorities allow disabled persons to travel at additional times.

Kent County Council has advised that within the next couple of months they will be reviewing all the passes, if you already have a pass and have made at least one journey then your pass will be renewed automatically. KCC will be contacting the holders of all unused passes.



**A new TV programme is looking for Grandparents who want to spend more quality time with their Grandchildren.**

**Are you a Grandparent?**

**Do you have three or more Grandchildren aged over 18?**

**Do you wish you saw them more often?  
Would you like to help them out?**

If so, a new Documentary wants to hear from you!

If you are interested, please email us on [shivercasting@shiver.tv](mailto:shivercasting@shiver.tv)  
or call us on: **0207 157 4588**

We look forward to hearing from you!