

EPPC NEWS – FEBRUARY 2019

Working on behalf of the community

This newsletter is brought to you by East Peckham Parish Council



East Peckham Parish Council



@EastPeckhamPC

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Parish Council Meetings

Parish Council Meetings are held at 7.00 p.m. on the first and third Monday of the month (except August) and always at the Jubilee Hall

Meetings are open to the public who are encouraged to attend

Agendas are published on the Parish Council Noticeboard at the Village Stores and on the website at www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk

Minutes of meetings are available to the whole community, they can either be downloaded from our website or you can request a paper copy, or you can visit our office and view the current years minutes and those which we have archived.

The next meetings will be on
Monday 04 February – Planning & Transportation Committee
Monday 18 February - Full Council
Monday 04 March – Planning and Transportation Committee
Monday 18 March – Full Council
Monday 25 March – Annual Meeting of the Parish



Dear All,

We start February by looking ahead to 2019 and the busy time that lies ahead.

Budget

In January, we set our budget at £194.164 which requires a precept of £142,000, this is the amount that will be collected on our behalf by Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council as part of the Council Tax. Our precept is only 1.43% more than it was in 2018/2019. Each year we set a budget which reflects the services you want, whilst fulfilling our statutory obligations. Our 2019/2020 budget has been challenging but we've been able to make some budgetary reductions whilst including funding for new projects, initiatives and services in our 125th Anniversary..

Elections

On May 2019, there is to be a Parish Election. If you're interested in joining the Parish Council and would like to find out more please contact us for more information. You will also find more information on our website. Being a Councillor can be fulfilling. It requires dedication and hard work but in East Peckham it can be especially rewarding as it brings the opportunity to play a significant role in shaping our dynamic and ever-growing community. We 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 for council tax-payers interests and provides vital safeguards for Councillors doing their job.

Annual Parish Meeting

We're looking forward to the 2019 Annual Parish Meeting. Details are currently being finalised, but the date for your diaries is 25 March 2018. This is your meeting and usual formalities are relaxed, we hope you will join us for the meeting and afterwards for a cheese and wine evening.

125th Anniversary of the Parish Council

2019 is a special year for the Parish Council as we turn 125. As you can imagine we have many ideas for new projects, events and services for the year ahead and will be focussing on as many of the following that we can.

- Making East Peckham a dementia friendly village
- East Peckham Red Box Project
- Photography Competition
- Revamp of EPPC Grant Scheme to local community groups and not for profit organisations and new grants for Sporting Endeavour and an Education Support Fund
- Community Companion Scheme
- Playing Fields (More obstacle course equipment, New Tree Planting, Heavy duty outdoor umbrellas and New Picnic benches
- Summer Festival with live music, comedy, games, funfair and stalls

We continue to strive to make East Peckham a desirable place to live. Please help all our community groups and continue to do your bit where you can and don't forget that if you have any interesting photos from in and around the village we'd love to see them and if you'd like any information or advice on a Parish matter, please feel free to call into our Office during normal opening hours. Coming soon will be our new Parish Council Facebook as a means of communication alongside our existing media methods the website www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk, Facebook, twitter @EastPeckhamPC, monthly newsletters, annual report and our notice board.

2019 Annual Report

Do look out for our 2019 Annual Report which will shortly be published. We no longer hand deliver a copy to each residential property, but it will be available to download from our website and a small number of hard copies will be available from the Parish Office, Library, Post Office and Village Stores.

2019 Annual Parish Meeting

Plans are at an advanced stage for the 2019 Annual Parish Meeting. Don't forget this is your meeting – not ours and a chance for you to come along and meet your local representatives and raise anything that affects your life in the community. Guest speakers will include Christine Parker who will be giving a presentation on how East Peckham can become a dementia friendly village, our Borough Councillors who will be giving a presentation on TMBC's New Waste Services Contract and Matt Boughton who will be representing Tom Tugendhat MP. After the conclusion of the formalities, we hope you will join us for a cheese and wine evening.

2019 ELECTION

We have the Parish Elections on **Thursday 2 May 2019**. For more information about standing as a Candidate please visit <https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/candidate-or-agent/local-elections-in-england>.

The Election Timetable has been agreed. TMBC will be publishing the Notice of Election on **Monday 18 March** and delivery of Nominations will start on **Tuesday 19 March**. The nomination papers must be hand delivered to the Elections Team at the Gibson Drive Office between **10am – 4pm, Monday - Friday between 19 March and 3 April**. Due to the number of nominations TMBC anticipate receiving, please call the elections team on **01732 876022 to book an appointment**. If you do not make an appointment you may have a long wait.

There is going to be a change to the nomination papers and although the Electoral Commission website says you can download the latest version, they are not available yet. We have heard they should be available by the end of January. The Electoral Register to complete your nominations forms will be available after the update on 1 March 2019.

2019 Community Awards

We have 2 awards which are presented at the Annual Parish Meeting. It gives us great pleasure to announce that this year the awards will be presented as follows:

KALC Community Award To Margaret Lawrence for being the long-standing village historian and for documenting the history of East Peckham in many publications the most notable being *The Lives They Left Behind*

EPPC Award Jointly to Michael. Barton, Gary Barton and Michael Ferguson for their volunteer work at St Michaels

Christmas Lighting

We can reveal that following the receipt of the invoices for the Christmas Lights and Switch On event (at the time of writing we are just waiting for the invoice relating to the energy costs) that the 2018 Christmas Lighting Scheme cost £9,535, and that we will be carrying forward to the 2019 Christmas Lights £2,272 this together with the Parish Councils grant of £5,000 and the Borough Council Grant of £560 give us an operating budget without fundraising of £7,832.00. If you would like to see more, bigger and brighter Christmas Lighting in 2019 please join us in fundraising.

Communications

We like to keep residents informed and engaged with our work. By issuing physical newsletters means we're not forgetting those who aren't digitally connected. In each newsletter we highlight issues which we hope you find interesting. If there are other issues you'd like us to cover, let us know. Our website www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk, amongst other things, serves as a repository for agendas, minutes of meetings, standing orders, newsletters, annual reports, member's information and is updated regularly with other matters that may be of interest. There are also links to the KCC and TMBC. You can also follow us on twitter @EastPeckham PC and on Facebook.

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. If you would like to find out more, please contact us. One activity of note is that on 11 May 2019 a large group from Chereng will be visiting Canterbury and then East Peckham where there will be a Pétanque tournament at the Bush, Blackbird and Thrush. They would appreciate some local support. More details to follow.

Would you like to sponsor a Community Project?

There are many projects you could help such as Christmas lights or village planting. If you're interested let us know.

Councillors Areas

Hale Street, Bardsley Close, Hale Court, Medway Meadows, Cates Court & Maidstone Rd	Serina Page
Smithers Lane, Pattenden Gardens, Hop Bine Close, Smithers Court, Beltring Road)	James Hockey
Branbridges Road & Maidstone Road (A26)	
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)	Vacant
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	John Page
Westwood Road, Drage Road, William Luck Close & Cotman Way	Heidi Harratt
Court Lodge, Roydon Hall & Bush Roads, Seven Mile, Martins & Church Lanes	Michael Ferguson

Community Grants

If your group or organisation would like to apply for a small grant, please visit our website where you'll find details of our grants policy and an application form. We still have a little money which can be allocated towards a youth activity. During 2018/2019 we helped the Primary School PTA by purchasing glow products which they used for fundraising and we made donations to the Poppy Appeal (£250), Kent, Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance (£150) Paddock Wood Community Advice Centre (£250) and to the Lost Words Campaign (£100).

EAST PECKHAM LOYALTY SCHEME

Our Loyalty Scheme is growing in popularity. Participating retailers include Khan Spice, the Post Office, Village Butchers and Store, Pam's Pantry, Headlocks Hair Design, Heavenly Glaze, Irelands Bakery, Pound Fish Bar, Field Pharmacy and County Fires. Do look out for the leaflets at participating retailers and pick up your loyalty card. The next draw will take place in March, completed cards can be given to participating retailers or you can drop them into the Parish Office.

Emergency Planning

Flood Wardens: More flood wardens are needed in the village - if you are interested and would like to find out more, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Sandbag Containers: The containers located in the Pound Road and Pippin Road (Jubilee Hall) car parks will be opened by any Parish Council Representative or Flood Warden if we believe that residential areas are threatened with flooding. It is worth remembering that sandbags are not for the protection of outbuildings or garages and the first line of defence in any emergency is to be self-sufficient.

Community Emergency Plan: The latest version can be found on our website.

Flood Warnings: To receive flood warnings from the Environment Agency, register with Floodline Warnings Direct on the website www.environment-agency.gov.uk or telephone 0845 988 1188.

Drain Cleansing: Kent Highway Services has advised that gully cleansing is carried out on Strategic and Locally Important routes every 12 months and that each road's classification is determined by the maintenance hierarchy in the National Street Gazetteer. All other roads and drainage assets, including soakaways, highway ditches, highway ponds, culverts and grips, are maintained on a targeted basis which means that cleansing is arranged in response to enquiries and reports of flooding. Cleansing is prioritised at sites where there is a risk to road safety or homes.

East Peckham Flood Action Group: This is a sub group of the Parish Councils Community Resilience Team who is currently working with the National Flood Forum to prioritise the many flooding problems across the Parish area and liaise with and encourage the various Flood Risk Management Authorities to undertake the work that is necessary to resolve these flooding problems.

Community Defibrillator

The defibrillator is stored in a secure box attached to the wall of the Jubilee Hall. It is an intelligent item of medical equipment which 'talks' to the operator and gives easy instructions. Ambulance Control know it is there so when someone dials 999 about a possible heart attack, they can immediately give them the access code and direct them there. Thanks to funding support from our County Councillor Matthew Balfour we have acquired an additional defibrillator which will shortly be installed in the village centre.

SPEEDING

You may recall that the council has been looking at acquiring a Speed Indicator Device and starting a Speed Watch Scheme in East Peckham. We would like to thank you all for your interest in this issue. Sadly, though we only received three expressions of interest from outside the council from people interested in helping to run and coordinate either scheme. Reluctantly we have therefore decided to take no further action at this time. However, if there is renewed interest and more volunteer support, we will revisit the issue.

JUBILEE HALL - FANTASTIC VENUE AVAILABLE IN EAST PECKHAM

We have two rooms available (sports hall and a smaller meeting / committee room)

We can accommodate most activities such as children's parties, book clubs, craft groups, meetings, group gatherings.

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

Please email councilmanager@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk for more information



Jubilee Hall

We own and manage the Jubilee Hall complex consisting of the Playing Fields, Car Park, Sports Hall and Meeting Room. The complex hosts many regular activities such as Bootcamp, Gym Box, BodyPump, Keep fit, badminton, table tennis and Zumba; we're also the venue for the monthly carers group. Other amenities include WIFI, a well-equipped kitchen, changing rooms, a projector and a screen. Our facilities are perfect for most events. If you're looking for a venue, please contact us for details of availability and hire charges. We're proud of the fact that the Jubilee Hall continues to provide a wide range of classes and facilities for residents and that our Playing Fields are in excellent condition. 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 outdoor activities you would like us to provide or if you would be interested in starting up a new activity

'What's On' in the Jubilee Hall?

We have attached a list of regular activities and contact information at the end of this newsletter. This information is also on our website and on or the noticeboard in the Jubilee Hall foyer which is open during our office hours.

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 Events: 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.

Playing Fields

The playing fields are a beautiful open space and are open to all. We want them to be a haven for you 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. Our outdoor equipment consists of an obstacle course, outdoor gym, ball court, play areas, street snooker and a tennis court.

Textile Bank

Installed in the Jubilee Hall Car Park is a bright orange textile bank which is proving to be very popular. We hope it will be a welcome addition in our campaign for a 'greener' village.



Planning & Transportation Committee

We aim to represent the views of the community when consulted on planning applications and to improve transportation issues in East Peckham.

Planning Applications

The Committee has recently considered the following planning applications:

TM/18/02882/FL Installation of a red-light safety camera at Beltring Level Crossing together with ancillary signage at Gravelly Ways, Paddock Wood
NO OBJECTION

TM/18/02999/FL Use of land as a residential caravan site with ancillary access, bases and services for the stationing of 4 mobile homes at Caravan, 76 Church Lane, East Peckham
EPPC whilst acknowledging that the land had permission for the stationing of 4 mobile homes by way of a CSL Licence, OBJECTED to the change of use.

Planning Decisions

TMBC has granted permission for the following

TM/18/01818/FL Change of use of the land from recreational use for the creation of an enlarged fishing lake with secondary habitat pond with associated hard and soft landscaping at Recreation Land West of Branbridges Industrial Estate, Branbridges Road

TM/18/02541/FL Single Storey front extension. Party single storey, part two storey rear extension and Porch at 2 Drage Road, East Peckham

TM/18/02160/FL Change of use of premises to class A5 Hot food takeaway with associated new shop front and extraction system at 9 Old Road, East Peckham

TM/18/02729/FL Variation/removal of condition 3 (windows) pursuant to planning permission TM/16/03734/FL (First floor extension over existing single storey structure with two new ground floor window openings) at 30 Snoll Hatch Road

Noise Disputes!

Neighbour noise such as barking dogs, DIY, music and parties can impact on daily life. And, although a noise may sometimes be annoying, it may not be a nuisance as far as the law is concerned. Many disputes are best settled by people talking and showing consideration for each other. For information on 'What you can do if you are suffering from noise nuisance' and 'What the Council can investigate' visit the East Peckham - Make it Better page on our website: www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk

Parking Disputes!

Many parking disputes arise over the failure to observe parking 'etiquette' and can be a source of tension between otherwise friendly neighbours. If you have a separate driveway then there isn't a problem, if you park on it, but issues do arise when people park their cars on the road upon which they live. Etiquette and the law are two totally different issues the websites www.gov.uk www.problemneighbours.co.uk www.highwaycodeuk.co.uk might suggest solutions or at least help sort things out:

Roads and Potholes

Report a problem to www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem. This is an easy way to report any issues on our roads from potholes, overhanging hedges, broken signs, blocked drains and flooding. Funding cuts have cut back on regular patrols to identify problems and KCC relies on us all to report them.

Street lamps

Please report any problems with East Peckham Street lights to the Parish Office

Dealing with litter

You may have noticed how much litter there is on our roads. Our village highways are often strewn with litter and there have been occasions when bags and larger items have been, it would seem, thrown from a moving vehicle. We've also seen flytipping, with fridges and freezers decorating our beautiful countryside. If you notice great amounts of litter or flytipping that needs urgent attention report it to Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council who have dedicated response teams **01732 844522**.

Public Rights of Way

KCC is responsible for maintaining public rights of way. Regardless of the growing season most will be cut twice each year. Problems can be reported to 0845 345 0210 or <http://webapps.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccesscams/issues/default.aspx>

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.

Dog and Litter Bins

Complaints regarding overfull dog/litter bins or related issues should be reported to waste.services@tmbc.gov.uk or using the online forms at www.tmbc.gov.uk.

Dog Fouling

It's a shame that a few uncaring dog owners spoil things. Dog deposits provided it's bagged up can be put into any amenity bin – not household bins. If you see anyone failing to clear up after their dog contact the Community or Dog Wardens. Please be aware that failing to clear up after your dog is an offence which TMBC enforces through the Dogs Fouling of Land Act 1996 which applies to all open land within the borough to which the public have access. If you've 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, dog on dog attack or anything else telephone 01732 876147 or Email: dog.warden@tmbc.gov.uk. If a person has been bitten report the incident to the Police on 101

Parking on Pavements

This is a common problem in our village partly because many roads were built before cars and because drivers wish to park as close as possible to where they live. If you spot a vehicle wrongly parked, call 101 and our PCSO will try and attend. Whilst PCSO's can't issue tickets they can issue advice.

Saturday Freighter Service Schedule

TMBC's fortnightly bulky refuse service schedule and more information can be found at <http://www.tmbc.gov.uk/services/environment-and-planning/recycling,-rubbish-and-waste/household-waste-special-collections-for-large-items/saturday-household-waste-service>.

Anti-Social Behaviour

If you witness any incidents of anti-social behaviour, please tell the community warden or the police.

Village Centre

We've submitted a complaint to KCC regarding the lack of maintenance to the paved area of land in front of the parade of shops which is in places a trip hazard. It is unfair that the only maintenance work carried out on this land in recent years has been by the Parish Council at the expense of East Peckham Council Tax payers. We firmly believe that the landowners should take their responsibilities seriously and maintain this land. We have expressed an interest to KCC regarding the acquisition of their land which is from the highway to the steps in front of the business properties, which will then enable us to maintain and develop the village centre for the benefit of the village.

TMBC New Waste & Recycling Service

TMBC has awarded an eight-year contract for a new recycling and waste collection and street cleansing service to Urbaser Ltd. The new contract will commence on 01 March and will provide improved recycling and street cleansing services. Initially services will continue as before. Information on the new service is available on our website and there will be leaflet drops to residential properties. In the run up to the launch of the new service the Borough Council will be attending our Planning and Transportation Committee on 04 March 2018 when they will be explaining how the new recycling collections would operate. Do come along to the Jubilee Hall at 7.00 p.m. if you would like to find out more

CONTACT DETAILS

Clerk to the Council, Karen Bell, Parish Office, East Peckham Jubilee Hall, Pippin Road, East Peckham, TN12 5BT, Telephone: 01622 871309, Email: councilmanager@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk. Our office is open weekday mornings except Wednesdays. You can also contact us via Twitter @EastPeckhamPC or Facebook East Peckham Parish Council. If you've an important matter which you wish to discuss, please make an appointment and we'll make sure we're available.

REGULAR ACTIVITIES AT EAST PECKHAM JUBILEE HALL (01.01.19)

<u>DAY</u>	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>
<u>MONDAY</u>	SH	1.00 p.m. – 2.30 p.m.	Shape Up Fitness Class	01622 720879 deestevenson@live.com
	SH	5.45 p.m. – 6.45 p.m.	Rainbows (After Easter 2019)	ep.rainbows@gmail.com
	SH	7.00 p.m. – 8.00 p.m.	Bootcamp	Susie Ward- Joyce 07984 831745 susiefitta@gmail.com
	SH	8.00 p.m. – 10.00 p.m.	Paddock Wood Badminton Club	07547 855917 andrew.kerr@grapesdirect.co.uk
	MR	7.45 p.m. – 10.00 p.m.	Parish Council Meet (1 st & 3 rd Mondays)	01622 871309 councilmanager@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk
<u>TUESDAY</u>	SH	9.30 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.	Step/Circuits	Susie Ward-Joyce 07984831745 susiefitta@gmail.com
	SH	11.00 a.m. – 12.00 a.m.	Gym Box	Emma Flynn emmaflynn133@gmail.com
	MR	10.30 a.m. – 12.00 p.m.	Carers Group (1 st Tuesday)	Sandra Edmonds Sandra.edmonds@kent.gov.uk
	SH	7.00 p.m. – 9.00 p.m.	Table Tennis For Fun	Serina Page 01622 872015 serina.page@btinternet.com
<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	SH	9.15 a.m. – 10.45 a.m. Term time only	Mini Music Makers	minimusicmakers@gmail.com
	SH	6.00 p.m. – 7.00 p.m.	Gym Box	Emma Flynn emmaflynn133@gmail.com
	SH	7.00 p.m. – 8.00 p.m.	Zumba	Natalie Sands 07714 429792
	SH	8.30 p.m. – 9.30 p.m.	Trainers Badminton Club	01622 871189

<u>THURSDAY</u>	SH	9.30 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.	Step/BodyPump	Susie Ward-Joyce 07981 831745 susiefitta@gmail.com
	SH	11.00 a.m. – 12.00 a.m.	Gym Box	Emma Flynn emmaflynn133@gmail.com
	SH	7.30 p.m. – 8.30 p.m.	Dance Fitta	Susie Ward-Joyce 07981 831745 susiefitta@gmail.com
<u>FRIDAY</u>	SH	7.00 p.m. – 9.00 p.m	Table Tennis for Fun	Serina Page 01622 872015. serina.page@btinternet.com

Jubilee Hall – Sports Hall & Meeting Room - Also available for private hire, enquiries to Parish Office, Tel: 01622 871309 or Email councilmanager@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk

SH = Sports Hall PF = Playing Fields MR = Meeting Room