

EAST PECKHAM PARISH COUNCIL

..... *MAKING A DIFFERENCE*

NOVEMBER 2019



East Peckham Parish Council



@EastPeckhamPC

Dear All,

Welcome to our latest newsletter.

Our newsletters are just one of the ways we interact with you. We want you to know what we're up to and our current projects. We also welcome your involvement – be it with comments, ideas, questions or suggestions for the things you would like to see us tackle. We'd like to know your views on the future of East Peckham and invite you to take part in our Community Survey which you'll find at the end of this newsletter. The information you provide will help us shape the future of East Peckham.

I would like to publicly thank all of the Councillors for the intense workload they have shared in order to bring some of our 2019 projects to fruition. Projects of note include our dementia hub which is a brilliant new use for the redundant telephone kiosk, our dementia friendly planter which has been fabulously upcycled and our brilliant new bike track which is taking shape and will constantly evolve. We thank our wonderful volunteers who have helped us this year and for the fabulous support we have received along the way. Your feedback is welcomed on all of our activities.



The Parish Council is made up of a great group of people with a wide variety of talents and they have all been working hard to make East Peckham great. We all do our best for the community and East Peckham as a whole. We have a vacancy for a Parish Councillor if you would like to join us. Could you be a Councillor? The easy answer is almost definitely. If you're interested and meet the correct qualifying criteria, please send your CV and a covering letter to councilmanager@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk detailing why you think you are suitable. This is an ideal opportunity if you care about the community in which you live or work and would like to contribute towards making a difference.

Kind regards

Karen Bell

Council Manager, East Peckham Parish Council



Parish Meetings – Have Your Say!

Members of the public are welcome to attend Parish Council Meetings to raise issues of concern or to make comments regarding any relevant matters. There is a period of time at the start of each meeting when public participation is encouraged. If you'd like to come along, here are the dates of the next few

04 November – Planning & Transportation Committee

18 November – Full Parish Council

02 December – Planning & Transportation Committee

16 December – Full Parish Council

We hope to see you there, remember this is your community

Meetings are held at 7.00 p.m. and always in the Jubilee Hall Meeting Room

Agendas are published on the Parish Council Noticeboards (Village Stores & Playing Fields) and on our website www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk

Minutes of meetings are available to everyone, they can either be downloaded from our website, you can request a paper copy, or you can visit our office where you can view them

Our Commitment to You!

The Parish council will

- Work in an accountable and transparent manner with the local community to improve the quality of life of all who live and work in East Peckham.
- Aim to protect and enhance the social and environmental well-being of the parish and its residents.
- Provide a number of services to the local population. We will seek to ensure that these services meet the needs of the local population and they represent value for money.
- Welcome the involvement of residents in our decision making process and will consult residents on issues of importance.

This is just a summary of our promises to you, you can find the full version of our mission statement, our aims and our objectives on our website, www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk

Finance

We are currently finalising our budget for 2020/2021. You will find details of our draft budget on our website. We welcome your views. Please let us know what you think of our spending plans. If you have any suggestions for future projects please share them with us and let us know if you agree or disagree with our proposals. I do hope you think you get value for money from your Parish Council, and that you feel you are supported by us. We are being asked to take on more and more services for little or no money and we are therefore adopting a more commercial approach to our activities which might include small scale projects run directly by us or by investment in support networks.

Welcome Handbook

If you're new to the village, a warm welcome. Our Welcome Handbook is available to download from our website, www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk, a copy can also be obtained from one of your parish councillors or from the Parish Office.

Allotments

Allotments are provided on land adjacent to the Playing Fields. The annual rents are very reasonable. Do please contact us if you are interested in having an allotment.

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. So far this year we've helped the following

- Scout Group - Funding towards new windows
- Summer Holiday Arts and Crafts Club - Craft materials
- East Peckham Primary School - Mini Medics First Aid Training to Year 6
- East Peckham Primary School PTA - Glow products for community fireworks event
- Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal - Donation
- Singing for Memories - Song books

We have also helped the Carers Group, Junior Football Club and the Baby and Toddler Group with discounted facility hire.

Business Community

Would you like East Peckham to have a business forum, if so we'd like to hear from you. Some of the things the forum could do include publishing a business directory and a visitor's information leaflet. We would like to invite representatives from local businesses and community groups to a networking breakfast, please let us know if this is something that would interest you.

Would You Like to Sponsor a Community Project?

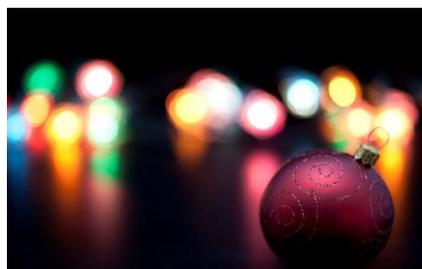
There are many projects you could help. If you are interested please let us know.



We have installed two defibrillators in the village which are accessible 24/7, these can be found in secure boxes attached to the outside wall at the Parish Office at the Jubilee Hall and at the Merry Boys Public House. SECAmb know the locations of both defibrillators 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. .

Christmas Lights

Christmas is fast approaching and you will be pleased to know that the Parish Council will again be providing Christmas Lights and a Christmas tree to East Peckham. It is however with great regret and sadness that we are not able to organise a celebratory Switch on Event this year.





The Parish Council will be participating in the VE Day - 08 May 2020 commemorations. We have a number of events and projects planned including lighting the beacon, the reading of a Tribute to the Millions followed by participation in The Nations Toast. We have registered our participation with the national event coordinators and have already had printed two commemorative certificates. Our commemorative project will be the installation of a specially commissioned plaque which will commemorate all those from East Peckham who lost their lives in WW2.



We have made an application to the Alzheimer's Association for East Peckham to be recognised as a community working towards becoming dementia friendly. We have over 80 'Dementia Friends' who can be identified by their special forget me knot badges. New this month is the monthly 'Singing for Memories' group which meets at Hale Place. On 22 November we will be co-organising a Dementia Awareness Day. Events of note will include the opening of our Information hub and sensory garden in the centre of the village and a visit by a virtual dementia tour bus. Do look out for more information and drop by for coffee and refreshments that day, we look forward to seeing you.

Loyalty Scheme

The autumn draw has taken place. The winners have been notified and received their vouchers. If you'd like to participate in the final draw for 2019 which will be in December, please look out for the leaflets at participating retailers and pick up your loyalty card. Retailers include Blossoming Nails and Beauty, Khan Spice, the Post Office, Village Butchers and Store, Pam's Pantry, Headlocks Hair Design, The Post Office, Heavenly Glaze, Irelands Bakery, Pound Fish Bar, Field Pharmacy and County Fires.



Twinning

East Peckham is twinned with Chéreng 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 councilmanager@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk.

St Michaels Churchyard

We were recently delighted when the London Institute of Business and Finance chose St Michaels Churchyard in which to spend a day doing volunteering work. 8 wonderful people spent 04 October removing ivy from the churchyard wall and clearing some of the graves. We thank them enormously for their time and look forward to their return next year.



POP UP CAFÉ – EAST PECKHAM

We have been delighted with the response to the Pop Up Café and looked forward to the monthly visits of the Coffee Caravan. Sadly the season has come to an end, however urged on by regular attendees, we have decided to keep the Café going. All welcome, come and get together with old friends and new.

Jubilee Hall 10.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.
Monday 18 November
Monday 16 December



Saturday Freighter Service Schedule

The schedule for East Peckham Pippin Road (Jubilee Hall Car Park) is:

9th November: 10:30 to 11:30
23rd November: 08:00 to 09:00

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, business events, one-to-one consultations, a training venue and exhibitions.

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



'What's On' in the Jubilee Hall?

MONDAY	9.30 – 10.30	Aerobics
	10.30 – 12.30	Pop up Café 2 nd Monday (Meeting Room)
	1.30 – 2.30	40+ Shape Up and Fitness
	5.30 – 6.45	Rainbows (Term time only)
	7.00 – 8.00	Bootcamp
	7.00 – 9.00	Parish Council 1 st and 3 rd Mondays (Meeting Room)
	8.00 – 10.00	Badminton
TUESDAY	9.30 – 10.30	Step / Circuits
	11.00 – 12.00	UBW
	7.00 – 9.00	Table Tennis
	10.30 – 12.00	Carers Support (Meeting Room)
WEDNESDAY	9.15 – 10.45	Mini Music Makers (Term time only)
	6.00 – 7.00	UBW
	7.30 – 8.30	Zumba
	8.30 – 9.30	Badminton
THURSDAY	9.30 – 10.30	Step / Body Pump
	11.00 – 12.00	Totally Shredded
	7.30 – 8.30	Dance Fitta
FRIDAY	9.00 – 10.00	UBW
	10.00 – 12.00	Baby and Toddler Group
	7.00 – 9.00	Table Tennis

Contact details of bookings / opportunities

Should you wish to get in touch with us about room hire and costs, activities, clubs or classes please call 01622 871309 or email councilmanager@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk

YOUR JUBILEE HALL NEEDS YOU

Do you have a particular skill which you would like to pass onto others? Such as crafts, dress making, drawing, oil or watercolour painting, patchwork, quilting or knitting and crocheting. We are looking for people who could facilitate sessions in a range of different craft or art based activities who feel they would have the time, energy and enthusiasm to show others how they 'do it'. If this sounds like something you would like to get involved with, please do get in touch with us.

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, a tennis court and phase 2 of the new bike track.



We are aware of an increase in dog fouling. If you witness dog waste not being picked up by the owner you can report this to the Community Warden or to Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council. 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. The borough council can act against irresponsible dog owners. We have asked the borough council to carry out additional patrols of the village particularly of the playing fields and to organise a Bag and Flag Event.

Dog and Litter Bins

We've received many complaints regarding the emptying of the dog and litter bins. We're equally dissatisfied and have asked the borough council to address the problems as soon as possible.

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 one after another from a moving vehicle. We've also seen fly tipping, with fridges and freezers decorating our beautiful countryside. If you notice great amounts of litter or fly tipping that needs urgent attention report it to Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council who have dedicated response teams **01732 844522**.

TMBC Waste & Recycling Service – The latest news

The new service went live on 30 September 2019, there were a few teething problems which are expected to be resolved over the next few weeks. At the time of writing the Christmas and New Year 'catch up' dates have not been finalised, but they are expected to follow a similar pattern to previous years and will be published as soon as they have been agreed with the contractor and KCC. Please contact TMBC with any concerns you might have regarding the new service.

Streetlamps

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

Planning Planning Applications

We have recently considered and commented upon the following

TM/19/02060/PDVAF Change of use of agricultural building (storage purposes) at Barn East of Yew Tree Cottage, Bells Farm Road, Hadlow **NO OBJECTION**

TM/19/02153/FL Extension to 1 Chidley Cross Road, East Peckham **NO OBJECTION**

Planning Decisions

TMBC had **GRANTED PERMISSION** for the following:

TM/19/01447/FL Replacement of outbuilding at 153 Branbridges Road, East Peckham

TM/19/01613/FL First floor rear extension at 7 Old Road, East Peckham

TM/19/01697/LB External Works and Internal Works at 78 Pound Road, East Peckham

TM/19/01700/FL Extension at Unit 2 Arnolds Business Park, Branbridges Road, East Peckham

TM/19/01739/FL Extension at 12 Medway Meadows, East Peckham

TM/19/01905/FL **Two bay** timber garage with rear workshop at 134 Bush Road, East Peckham

TM/19/01842/FL Porch over back door on side of property at 7 Medway Meadows, East Peckham

TWBC Local Plan - Parish Councils Response to proposals for 'Garden Village' at Capel and Tudeley

We have chosen to be an active respondent to the Draft Local Plan published by Tunbridge Wells Borough Council. As a council, we are of the opinion that:

- There would be a detrimental impact on East Peckham if so many homes were built in the neighbouring parishes of Capel and Tudeley.
- It would be unfair that all of the Council Tax and Business Rates would be received by Tunbridge Wells Borough Council and yet the Borough of Tonbridge and Malling would bear the brunt of any problems.
- Insufficient information has been provided regarding the 'exceptional circumstances' that were used to justify the proposal for building on green belt
- The negative impact a large scale development would have on the existing infrastructure, flood plains, transport, air, light and noise pollution.

Parish Emergency Planning

What If? Most of us don't want to think about emergencies, but they happen. What if we're cut off because of snowfall or flooding? What if water, electricity or telephones are cut off for more than a few hours? How would you cope in these sort of emergencies? To help the community we have put together a Community Emergency Plan which is available from our website, www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk.

How Can I help? Do you know anyone who might need help in an emergency? If you're able and willing to offer that help, talk to them and plan the best way to do this? You could become a **Flood Warden**, over the summer 2 flood wardens resigned from this voluntary community role and the village now only has 11 flood wardens, if you're interested and want 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.

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

Community Emergency Plan: We have updated our plan; a copy can be found on our website. You will also find a link to the latest version of the Kent Fire and Rescue Resilience Toolkit.

Potholes: Report a problem to www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem. This is an easy to use website 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 to report them. If you've no internet access, contact the Parish Office and we'll do it for you

Abandoned Vehicles: <http://www.tmbc.gov.uk/services/environment-and-planning/abandoned-vehicles>.

Public Rights of Way: KCC is responsible for maintenance. The majority are cut twice each year. Any problems should be reported by telephoning 03000 417171 or email westprow@kent.gov.uk.

Anti-Social Behaviour: If you witness any incidents, please tell us, our community warden or the police. Anti-Social Behaviour can affect everyone's quality of life and should not be tolerated.

Parking on Pavements: This is a far too common problem in our village partly because many of our roads were built in the days before cars and because drivers, not unreasonably, wish to park as close as possible to where they live. If you spot a vehicle wrongly parked, please call 101 and our PCSO's will try and attend. Whilst the PCSO's cannot issue tickets they can issue advice notices.

Get in touch

- Call into the office: 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
- Your Councillors – through the website www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk
- Office hours for drop in enquiries – weekdays 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. (not Wednesdays)
- Twitter: @EastPeckhamPC
- Facebook East Peckham Parish Council

FOR REGULAR UPDATES ON ALL OUR ACTIVITIES GO TO OUR WEBSITE

www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk

Parish Councillors

Mick Barton (Deputy Chairman)
Jonathan Bates
Dale Fairless
Michael Ferguson

Rob Harvey
James Hockey (Planning Chairman)
Sophie North
Steph Watson (Chairman)

Emma Wilkinson
Mark Williams
Vacancy

This newsletter is available on the parish council's website.

All enquiries to Karen Bell, Council Manager

Tel: 01622 871309

Email: councilmanager@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk

EAST PECKHAM COMMUNITY SURVEY

We would like to know your views on the future of East Peckham. The information you provide will help us shape the future of East Peckham.

1. Traffic and Transport (Please rank in order of priority 1 highest)

How important are the following to make East Peckham more attractive for residents, businesses and visitors?

- Reducing the speed of traffic on main roads
- Installing traffic controls
- Maintaining clear cycle routes
- Reducing the speed of traffic on side roads
- Enforcement of parking restrictions
- Crossings for pedestrians
- Improving public transport
- Other, please specify

2. Amenities (Please rank in order of priority 1 highest)

How important are the following to make East Peckham more attractive for residents' businesses and visitors?

- Improving the Jubilee Hall
- Improving the existing children's play areas
- More bike track equipment
- More fitness trail equipment
- More adult recreational activities
- Increasing the number of allotments
- Improving the Playing Fields
- Improving traffic control around the school
- Other, please specify

3. Future Development (Please rank in order of priority 1 highest)

How important are the following when it comes to the future development of East Peckham?

- Village green/open spaces
- Community use buildings
- Public Transport
- GP Surgery
- Community Transport Scheme
- Play Areas 0-5 years
- Play Areas 5 – 12 years
- Youth Facilities 12 – 18 years
- Improvements to the connectivity with surrounding communities by foot and bicycle
- Improvements to the Remembrance Day Parade
- Other, please specify

4. What Sports would you like to see at the Jubilee Hall and Playing Fields Please specify

5. What activities would you like to see at the Jubilee Hall Please specify

6. What Community events would you like to see in East Peckham, and which would you sport for example, Christmas Fayre, Christmas Lights, Family Fun Day on the Playing Fields

7. Would you be willing to help organise community events?

8. Local Issues(Please rank in order of priority 1 highest)

In your view how much to the following issues affect your quality of life in East Peckham

- Landscape maintenance
- Dog fouling
- Speeding motorists
- Parking/obstruction
- Nuisance noise
- Burglary
- Vandalism
- Anti-social behaviour
- Other, please specify

9. Tell us your TOP 3 ideas to improve East Peckham over the next 5 – 10 years

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Do you have some spare time? Would you like to volunteer at the Parish Council? We would like to run more community events throughout the year so if you have a few hours to spare please contact us and we will get in touch

About You, if you would like to provide your contact details, please do so below