

EAST PECKHAM PARISH COUNCIL

..... *MAKING A DIFFERENCE*

OCTOBER 2019



East Peckham Parish Council



@EastPeckhamPC

Dear All,

Welcome to our latest newsletter. At the Parish Council we do our best for the community and East Peckham as a whole. 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.

The recent co-option of Dale Fairless means that we only have 1 Parish Councillor Vacancy. 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.

Phase 1 of our new bike track has caused some controversy, but we are committed towards working with our village youth and completing the project to provide them with the facility they have asked for on what was a redundant piece of land at the edge of the playing fields. We've installed three specially chosen pieces of equipment with room for more items and have made available additional funding for the next phase of the project. We thank Steph Watson for leading this project helped by James Hockey, our Community Warden and former Parish Councillor Dave Roberts. We also thank the village youth for engaging with us on this project and the many offers of volunteer help and use of equipment.



Our priority of course for the Playing Fields is to continue to maintain them to a high standard. They're a beautiful open space and a wonderful village asset which are available to use by anyone in the village 24 hours a day. They're also available for private hire – wouldn't it be wonderful if various village events took place here. If you've any thoughts on what you'd facilities you'd like, please do let us know. The outdoor equipment has recently had its annual ROSPA inspection and all equipment has been declared good and safe to use.

Kind regards

Chairman, Councillors and 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

07 October 2019 – Planning & Transportation Committee

21 October 2019 - Full Parish Council

04 November – Planning & Transportation Committee

18 November – 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 the 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

HAVE YOUR SAY

As always, the Parish Council is here to listen so please have your say, we're happy to share information that affects other residents though our various media sources and provide advice on who to contact with non-Parish Council related issues.

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

Our external audit for 2018/2019 has been concluded. Our external auditor has certified that 'On the basis of our review of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, in our opinion the information is in accordance with proper practices and no other matters have come to attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regularity requirements have not been met.' In accordance with legislation the Conclusion of Audit Notice and the 2018/2019 AGAR has been published on our website and noticeboards. Autumn is when we sit down and study the budget for the next financial year. I do hope you think you get value for money from your Parish Council, and I also hope 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.

EAST PECKHAM WELCOME HANDBOOK

If you're new to the village, a warm welcome to East Peckham. Our Welcome Handbook has just been updated and 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 if you contact our Parish Office, we will arrange for a copy to be delivered to you.

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 been able to help the Scout Group with funding towards new windows and we purchased materials for the Summer Holiday Arts and Crafts Club. On 14 October, we'll be taking our popular mini medics course into the Primary School so that all Year 6 children can receive basic first aid training, the children will also receive a special pen in the shape of a syringe, a certificate and a first aid activity book.

EAST PECKHAM BUSINESS COMMUNITY

Would you like East Peckham 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?

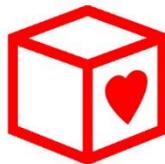
There are many projects you could help. If you are interested please let us know.

ALLOTMENTS

Allotments are provided on land adjacent to the Playing Fields. The annual rents are very reasonable. The annual renewal of the allotment tenancies is in progress and it is at this time of the year that a couple of plots usually become available. Do please contact us if you are interested in having an allotment.



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. Our defibrillator at the Merry Boys was recently used to save the life of an East Peckham resident.



The Red Box Project

The idea behind the Red Box Project is to quietly ensure no young woman misses school or suffers embarrassment because she has her period. We know that schools already do what they can in this area, but the Red Box Project is all about giving young women in need - whether for financial or social reasons - the reassurance of enough sanitary pads for their entire period plus a couple left over for next time. We currently have three donation points; they are the Jubilee Hall, Blossoming Beauty and Touch of Perfection at The Hop Farm. The Government has announced that schools will soon be able to apply to receive sanitary items so we will soon be winding down the East Peckham Red Box Project. Our project is entirely funded by community kindness. When the boxes are full we take them into the Primary School, Mascalls Academy and Hadlow Community College.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

This year we will again be providing Christmas Lights to East Peckham. It is however with great regret and sadness that we are not able to organise a celebratory Switch on Event. The Christmas lights will be switched on by 01 December. We understand that the Methodist Church are organising a Christmas Fayre in the village centre for 30 November which will include a mini lights switch on and that they will be inviting local groups and organisations to participate. Do please keep a look out for advertising posters.



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.

We will soon be installing a dementia friendly sensory garden planter and now that we have adopted the telephone kiosk in the village centre we will be converting this into an information hub which will include dementia awareness.

LOYALTY SCHEME

The fourth draw for 2019 took place in September. 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. Participating 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.

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
	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
	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	Parent and Toddlers
	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.

POP UP CAFÉ – EAST PECKHAM

Come and get together with old friends and new, have a cuppa and a slice of cake. Everyone welcome.

Jubilee Hall 10.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.

Monday 14th October

Monday 11th November

Monday 09 December

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 rounders, 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 1 of the new bike track.

Planning Applications

We have recently considered and commented upon the

TM/19/01613/FL	First floor rear extension at 7 Old Road	NO OBJECTION
TM/19/01697/LB	External and internal works at 78 Pound Road, East Peckham	NO OBJECTION
TM/19/01700/FL	Extension to form a covering to the yard area to be used for storage purposes at Unit 2 Arnolds Business Park, Branbridges Road, East Peckham	NO OBJECTION
TM/19/01706/TNCA	Fell spruce and conifer at 3 Addlestead Road, East Peckham	NO OBJECTION
TM/19/01739/FL	Wrap around extension to side and rear replacing the existing rear extension, structural opening up and internal reorganisation at 12 Medway Meadows	NO OBJECTION
TM/19/01842/FL	Single storey porch over back door at 7 Medway Meadows	NO OBJECTION
TM/19/01905/FL	Two bay timber garage with rear workshop at 134 Bush Road	NO OBJECTION
KCC/TW/0093/2019	Variation of planning permission TW/79/753 at Stonecastle Farm Quarry, Whetsted Road, Five Oak Green	NO OBJECTION
099/2019	Removal of Public Telephone Boxes Junction of Smithers Lane/Hale Street (Still in use) Junction of Tonbridge Road/Little Mill (not in use)	OBJECTION NO OBJECTION

Planning Decisions

TMBC has REFUSED TO PERMIT the following:

TM/19/00947/FL & TM/19/00948/LB New independent single-family dwelling in rear garden at 78 Pound Road

TMBC has RAISED NO OBJECTION to the following:

TM/19/01706/TNCA Fell spruce and conifer at 3 Addlestead Road, East Peckham

ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENTS

Hamlet Signs: One of the new Snoll Hatch hamlet signs has been installed, we're still looking for a location for the second sign. We're keen to roll out our programme of installing hamlet signs at the other village hamlets, if you know of a location that you would like us to consider, please let us know.

Public Conveniences: In early September, Michael Ferguson, Steph Watson and Karen Bell met with representatives from the borough council to discuss the future of the public conveniences in the Village centre. In short, if the Parish Council does not agree to the transfer of service then the public conveniences will be shut down by the Borough Council. The Parish Council has therefore agreed to take on the service from October 2020. In agreeing to take on the service the Parish Council will become the owner of the public convenience building and the land. Our agreement is however conditional upon the borough council ensuring that the public conveniences do not require any maintenance work immediately prior to the transfer and that the Parish Councils legal conveyancing costs were covered. We have also asked for 50% transitional funding for the first five years of providing the service.

WW2 Memorial Bench (Village Centre): We were recently saddened to discover that the bench was vandalised. We reported the vandalism to Kent Police and have since arranged for the bench to be repaired. The cost of the repairs alone will be £325, money which we would rather spend on other things for our village. If you have any information which might identify those responsible please let us, the Community Warden or Kent Police know.

SPEED WATCH FOR EAST PECKHAM

Earlier this year, we postponed setting up an East Peckham Speedwatch scheme. It has since been acknowledged that there are significant challenges around the setting up of a Speedwatch Scheme as they are reliant upon the support of volunteers; equipment is not always financially viable and active enforcement by Kent Police is decreasing. In September, we revisited this issue and decided that because of the many challenges we will not be progressing with this initiative. We have however asked Kent Police to carry out some speed monitoring in Hale Street, Church Lane, Old Road and Pound Road and we urge you to report persistent offenders to Kent Police either online or by using 101.

TMBC Waste & Recycling Service – The latest news

As we write this newsletter we are just days away from the commencement of the new waste and recycling services across the borough. Whilst TMBC has approached the end of its delivery arrangements of the new food waste bins which every household will receive it does need to know if any households were missed. Please contact the Borough Council if you have not yet received your new food caddy (this will be a small black caddy with an orange lid).

The new and improved recycling services provides the opportunity for residents to recycle more materials from their homes. By now you should have received a new recycling guide providing information on the full services including what can go into each bin. Perhaps most importantly it will include a collection calendar and clearly outline your collection day. If you have not yet received your recycling guide, please let the Borough Council know.

There was a very positive take up by Tonbridge and Malling residents of the new garden refuse service.. Residents that have signed up to this service will also be receiving a separate communication advising on further details and collection dates/weeks.

I am sure you will appreciate that the introduction of the new service is a huge logistical task, and every effort is being made in preparation for the rollout. There will undoubtedly be queries and questions from residents and in the first instance please refer to the new leaflet. There is also further detailed information and a number of Frequently Asked Questions on TMBC's website.

Saturday Freighter Service Schedule

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

12th October: 10:30 to 11:30
26th October: 08:00 to 09:00
9th November: 10:30 to 11:30
23rd November: 08:00 to 09:00



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

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 just updated our plan, a copy can be found on our website www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk. 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 a very 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 have no internet access, contact the Parish Office and we will do it for you

Streetlamps

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 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**.

Abandoned Vehicles

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

Public Rights of Way

KCC is responsible for maintaining public rights of way. Regardless of the growing season the majority of the rights of ways are cut twice each year. Please report any problems by telephoning 03000 417171 or email westprow@kent.gov.uk.

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.

Anti-Social Behaviour

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

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
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