

EPPC NEWS – JANUARY 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 21 January – Full Council
Monday 04 February – Planning and Transportation Committee
Monday 18 February – Full Council

Dear All,

Happy New Year.

A huge thank you for supporting our Christmas Lights Switch On. The lights were spectacular, and we've been overwhelmed by your wonderful complimentary messages. We're currently planning the 2019 Christmas Lights and would welcome your suggestions. The 2019 display and Switch On event costs almost £10,000. The Parish Council contributes half of this money; TMBC contributes £560 and the remainder – almost £4,500 we have to find by fundraising and donations.

Following the resignation of Colin Silver, we are one councillor down. As we are so close to the 2019 Election we are unable to fill the vacancy which must remain vacant until the 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 and we will be adding to this information as more information is released. Being a Councillor can be fulfilling. It requires dedication and hard work (unpaid of course,) but in East Peckham it can be especially rewarding as it brings the additional 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.

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 our 125th Anniversary which we shall be celebrating in 2019. Our provisional budget requires a precept of £142,000 which is an increase of £2,000 on 2017/2018.

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.

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.

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 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.

East Peckham Parish Council Mission Statement

We seek to foster true community spirit. We aim to encourage full co-operation between councillors - parish, borough & county and to residents & local businesses, thereby promoting a better quality of life for residents and visitors alike, whilst improving local relationships to the betterment of all in East Peckham. Our Core Values are Open, Inclusive, Representative and Fiscally Sound.

DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES

Democratic processes run both ways and is not only a channel of information from the Council to residents but can also be used for residents to communicate with the council or with other residents. Provided letters or copy sent to us are legal, they can, at our discretion be published on our website; we will however not publish names, addresses or any contact information. Whilst it is not our policy to edit written submissions, we should point out that we are not responsible for any inaccuracies, errors or questionable implications in submissions from private correspondents.

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. If you would like to find out more, please contact us.

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. This month we have supported the Primary School PTA by purchasing glow products which they used for fundraising at the recent Fireworks Night, we also donated £250.00 to the Poppy Appeal.

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: The East Peckham Flood Action Group was set up to identify and 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. To achieve this the Group will be supported by the [National Flood Forum](#) which is a charity organisation to help, support and represent people at risk of flooding. If you are interested and would like to find out more, please let us know.

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. SECAmb know its location 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 there. Thanks to funding support from our County Councillor Matthew Balfour we plan to install another defibrillator, hopefully we will be able to find a suitable location in the village centre.

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, BodyPump, Keep fit, badminton, table tennis and Zumba; we're also the venue for the monthly carers group and the twice monthly Carers Café. Outside clubs include East Peckham United Football Club. 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?

For details of activities in the Jubilee Hall and the activity organisers, please look at our website 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/17/02634/FL Details of conditions pursuant to planning permission TM/18/00832/FL (Demolition of existing building & change of use of land to car sales yard and use of building as an office) at 51 Branbridges Road **NO OBJECTION**

TM/18/02729/FL Variation of condition 3 pursuant to planning permission TM/16/03734/FL (extension over existing single storey structure with two new ground floor window openings) at 30 Snoll Hatch Road **NO OBJECTION IN PRINCIPAL**

Planning Decisions

TMBC has granted permission for the following

TM/18/01685/RD Details of condition 7 pursuant to planning permission TM/18/00273/FL (Erection of 8 No. two storey terraced dwellings and associated car parking and landscaping) at Former Rose and Crown, 2 Branbridges Road

TM/18/01742/FL Demolition of part of existing dwelling and erection of a new detached two storey dwelling including parking and turning at Harps End, 218 Hale Street,

TM/18/01775/FL Detached timber framed double garage at The Granary, Stilstead Farm

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.



Some residents have voiced concerns about excessive speeds on our roads. To address the problem and with the help of a grant from our County Councillor, we're considering purchasing a Speed Indicator Device. As we have to ascertain if there is community support we need your help. We need to prove the need for the scheme by identifying suitable locations and a team of volunteers who will be responsible for coordinating the scheme, the periodical relocation of the Speed Indicator Device and battery charging and changing. If you are interested and would like to find out more we would be delighted to hear from you. A decision will be made shortly.

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.

Community Awards 2019

It's not too late to nominate a village hero. In the autumn of 2018, we launched our community awards scheme for 2019 and would be pleased to hear from you if you would like to tell us about a special person or group in East Peckham who has made a significant contribution to the local community. Whilst there are no pre-determined criteria for what the contribution to the community might be, in submitting the award nomination, we would be pleased if you would provide 30 words that would explain the reason for the nomination.

All nominations to be received by 18 January 2019 and the awards will be presented at the 2019 Annual Village Meeting.

**EAST PECKHAM PARISH COUNCIL COMMUNITY AWARDS 2019
NOMINATION FORM**

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

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

Your Name

Your Contact Details

Nominations to be returned to the Parish Office, The Jubilee Hall, Pippin Road, East Peckham, Tonbridge, Kent, TN12 5BT by 18 January 2019. Entries by email also accepted by email to councilmanager@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk