

EPPC NEWS – SEPTEMBER 2019

Working on behalf of the community

This newsletter is brought to you by East Peckham Parish Council



East Peckham Parish Council



@EastPeckhamPC

Dear All,

Welcome to our latest newsletter, which we hope you find interesting and informative. It is our intention for the newsletters to provide information about issues of interest and concern to you and your life within our community. We welcome feedback so if you'd like us to include items on different topics do please tell us.

The recent co-options mean that we have only 2 Vacancies for the role of Parish Councillor in East Peckham. If you're interested in becoming a Parish Councillor 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.

We hope you have enjoyed our summer planting; our summer hanging baskets will soon be replaced with arrangements which will take us through to Spring/summer 2020.

New this month is our fabulous new bike track which we have installed on the mound adjacent to the street snooker. We have installed three specially chosen pieces of equipment that being a cheese jump, balance bridge and rumble steps with room for more items in the future.



Our priority about the Playing Fields is to maintain them to a high standard. The Playing Fields are a beautiful open space and available to use by anyone in the village 24 hours a day. They're also available for private hire and it would be wonderful if various village events took place there. The Playing Fields are kept as a haven for families and for children to run around safely. They're a wonderful village asset. 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 safety inspection and all equipment was declared good and safe to use.

The East Peckham 10k Charity Run which was organised by the Tonbridge and Paddock Wood Lions Club and took place on 04 August was a great success with over 200 runners completing the course including our very own Mick Barton in just over 53 minutes, we are delighted that our facilities have already been booked for the 2020 East Peckham 10K, the date for your diaries is 02 August.

We would like to know your views on the future of East Peckham and invite you to take part in our Community Survey which you will find at the end of this newsletter. The information you provide will help us shape the future of East Peckham.

Kind regards

Chairman, Councillors and Council Manager, East Peckham Parish Council

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 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

The next meetings will be on

Monday 07 October 2019 – Planning & Transportation Committee
Monday 21 October 2019 - Meeting of the Full Parish Council

FINANCE

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.

COMMUNICATIONS

Take a moment and visit our website www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk. It serves as a repository for agendas, minutes of council and committee meetings, standing orders, newsletters, annual reports, member's information etc. and is updated regularly with matters that may be of interest. There are also links to Kent County Council and Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council. You can also follow us on twitter @EastPeckhamPC and on Facebook. One of the main purposes of EPPC News is to keep you informed of our work. We are aware that there are many people in the locality who either do not have access to the necessary equipment or who do not wish to read in that way, and we are happy to provide paper copies of our minutes and other information when asked.

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 will find details of our grants policy and an application form. So far this year we have been able to help the East Peckham Scout Group with funding towards new windows and we purchased arts and crafts materials for the Summer Holiday Arts and Crafts Club. During the Autumn we will be taking our popular mini medics course into the Primary School so that all Year 6 children can receive basic first aid training.

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. Whilst there are currently no vacant plots we do operate a waiting list. 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.



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. A defibrillator is an intelligent item of medical equipment which 'talks' to the operator and gives easy to follow instructions on where to place the electrode packs on the chest, how to administer Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and when to press the 'shock' button. An operator cannot 'shock' a patient that does not require it and cannot make a bad situation worse. 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.

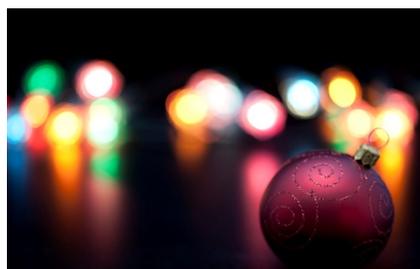


The Red Box Project

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. Our Community Warden can also accept donations. We are asking for donations of sanitary items. This is a very simple, no frills project and is entirely funded by community kindness, woman to young woman. When the boxes are full we will take them into the local schools. We hope this project really makes a difference. We are sponsoring three Red Boxes at East Peckham Primary, Mascalls Academy and Hadlow Community College. We have received some amazing donations this month and have taken in supplies so that hopefully any young woman in need of sanitary items is able to collect what they need to last them over the school summer holidays.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

We are delighted to confirm that 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 prior to 01 December.





We're excited to begin exploring how we can make East Peckham a Dementia Friendly Community and delighted that in East Peckham there are now over 70 'Dementia Friends' who can be identified by their special forget me knot badges. We believe it is vital that the community works together on this project. Following the success of our first two Dementia Friendly Awareness Sessions, we would like to hold more, if you would like to attend one please let us know and we will arrange as many sessions as there is demand for. Contact councilmanager@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk or Sandra.edmonds@kent.gov.uk for more information.

We also have some exciting plans for the village centre where we are planning on installing a dementia friendly sensory garden and we our application to BT for the adoption of the telephone kiosk has been successful. Following the removal by BT of the telephone equipment we will be converting it into an information hub which will include dementia awareness.

LOYALTY SCHEME

The third draw for 2019 will be taking place during September. If you would like to join in 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.



Spotlight on Volunteering

We are very lucky in that there are lots of amazing groups and organisations in the village. A lot of these groups are really keen to recruit new volunteers. Did you know that volunteering can bring huge benefits for the volunteers as well as the people you are helping? Benefits such as counteracting the effects of stress, anger, anxiety, combatting depressions increased self-confidence, a sense of purpose, making new friends as well as helping you stay physically healthy?

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, Body Pump, various Keep fit classes, badminton, table tennis and Zumba; we're also the venue for the weekly Parent & Toddler Group and the monthly carers group. Our facilities are perfect for most events. If you're looking for a venue, please contact us for details of availability and hire charges.

'What's On' in the Jubilee Hall?

You'll find a list of regular activities and contact information on our website and on our noticeboard in the foyer.

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.

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 Car Park 10.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.

Monday 19th August

Monday 16th September

Monday 14th October

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.

Saturday Freighter Service Schedule

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

14th September: 10:30 to 11:30

28th September: 08:00 to 09:00



VE DAY – 08 MAY 2020

We were delighted to have been asked by the national event coordinators to participate in the VE Day 2020 Commemorations. We have accepted the invitation and our participation has been registered. We will be flying a special commemorative flag from the village flagpole, lighting a beacon which will be accompanied by a reading of a Tribute to the Millions followed by our participation in The Nations Toast. Please contact us for more information.



There has been an increase in dog fouling in the village recently. 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 in your community 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**, 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.

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

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**.

Streetlamps

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

Abandoned Vehicles

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

Allotments

Allotments are provided on land adjacent to the Playing Fields. The annual rents are very reasonable. Whilst there are currently no vacant plots, we have opened a waiting list and welcome enquiries.

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 to KCC by telephoning 0845 345 0210, or online at <http://webapps.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccesscams/issues/default.aspx>

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

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