



# Making a Difference

July 2020

*Working on behalf of the community*

This newsletter is brought to you by East Peckham Parish Council



East Peckham Parish Council



@EastPeckhamPC

Hello Residents

As we write, we are still in Covid-19 lockdown, but we are encouraged that lockdown measures are gradually being eased and many of us are getting used to this new normal.

On 04 July 2020, all our outdoor equipment will be open to use again. Please note however that the equipment is not being sanitized daily and we therefore strongly recommend using hand sanitizer before and after using any of the equipment. Unfortunately, we are not yet able to open to the Jubilee Hall, we will as soon as Government guidance allows, we will open the hall. We do know that several of our regular users are already making plans to return as soon as it is safe them to do so.

New this month is the arrival of our summer hanging baskets which are looking fantastic in the village centre. The tennis court has recently been given a makeover, we have removed surface debris from the court surface, we have cut back all vegetation and we have relined the court, a massive improvement. We are looking to replace the net but for now it will be repaired.

We have recently seen a huge increase in the number of people using the playing fields for recreational use, which we absolutely welcome, and we will continue to work hard to make the facilities the very best they can be for everyone to enjoy. We have however seen a massive increase in the amount of litter being left in the litter bins and on the playing fields. Please can we ask wherever possible that you take your litter home with you. Our litter clearing service is stretched to capacity. Litter bins are being emptied and the area checked for broken glass on a daily basis, sometimes twice daily but we are finding that as quickly as bins are emptied just as much litter is appearing especially if the weather was good.

Here in East Peckham we enjoy a wonderful sense of community and there are many residents stepping up to the challenge. Thank you to you all for all your acts of kindness that are going on all day, every day to help us as a community get through this crisis. We do not attempt to offer any additional **primary** guidance to that on the Government and NHS websites.

At the end of June, our Community Support Volunteer Scheme was wound down. We thank Emma Wilkinson and Sophie North for expertly coordinating the scheme and to all our volunteers who gave up many hours to care for our vulnerable residents. Whilst the scheme has been wound down we are still here to just send us an email to [councilmanager@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk](mailto:councilmanager@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk) and we will get help and information to you.

Looking forward, once this is over, and it will be, the Parish Council will be planning a mammoth celebratory village party for everyone, if you have any suggestions for a theme, please let us know, suggestions so far include, Outdoor cinema, Cowboy and Western Theme, Circus, Funfair, Festival.

Finally, this month, we would like to advise you that we currently have a vacancy for a Parish Councillor. If you think you might be interested in joining us and would like to find out more we would like to hear from you. We expect to be advised by mid to late July if we are required to have an election or if we can fill the vacancy by co-option. If an election is called, this might not happen until May 2021.

**Stay safe, East Peckham. Our very best wishes to you and your families**  
**From us all at East Peckham Parish Council**

## COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

**Parish Council meetings:** The dates and times of our next meetings are as follows. The meetings will be held using Zoom, but you will still be able to join us. Please see our website [www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk](http://www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk) for details on how to join our meetings using Zoom.

06 July 2020	7.00 p.m.	Planning and Transportation Committee
20 July 2020	7.00 p.m.	Full Parish Council

Agendas are published on the Parish Council Noticeboard at the Village Stores and on the website at [www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk](http://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.

**Staying in Touch:** These are excellent sources of information so please keep checking  
Facebook      East Peckham Parish Council  
Website        [www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk](http://www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk)  
Twitter         @EastPeckhamPC  
Newsletter     We know a lot of you like to read our Parish Council newsletter, the next edition will be the June edition and will be published at the end of May.

Your Parish Council is still trying to carry on as normal and help our residents where we can. If you need our help you can either contact our Council Manager, Karen Bell by email at [councilmanager@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk](mailto:councilmanager@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk), our Chairman Steph Watson at [stephanie.watson@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk](mailto:stephanie.watson@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk), or you can contact any one of your parish councillors via our website [www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk](http://www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk)

**Bins, verges, green spaces:** Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council is still working as normal and there is currently no change to bin collections, or green space maintenance, although this might change depending on future levels of staff absence. Unfortunately, however, both the green waste bin collection and the Saturday bulky refuse collection have been suspended for the time being.

## Community Matters to Us

There is so much going on of interest that it is impossible to cover subjects in detail so if you want to know more about any item you can by following our Facebook, Twitter, and website. One of our aims is to deliver a greater awareness in our community of local resources and social hubs which can make a difference to all our lives.

The regular features of our newsletter include information regarding the work of the parish council and local **PLANNING** issues. Also, you will find more information of our **GRANT SCHEMES** which are available for youth projects and to groups and organisations. We are particularly interested in receiving applications from groups that aim to improve resident's health and wellbeing.

## Welcome Handbook

If you are new to the village, a warm welcome. Our Welcome Handbook is available to download from our website, a copy can also be obtained from one of your parish councillors or from the Parish Office.

## Twinning

East Peckham is twinned with Chéreng in the Nord de Pas de Calais. Twinning activities are funded by those taking part with no use of parish funds. For information on Twinning and how to get involved please email [councilmanager@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk](mailto:councilmanager@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk).



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. We realise that not all of the retailers are available too you right now but do please look out for the leaflets at participating retailers and pick up your loyalty card. The next draw will take place during the summer.



The village now has 3 public access defibrillator. They can be found on the outside wall at the Parish Office at the Jubilee Hall, in the former BT kiosk in Little Mill and on the outside wall of the Merry Boys, please note however that this defibrillator will soon be relocated to the information hub in the village centre. **Anyone can use the defibrillators, no training is needed, the defibrillator will talk you though how to use it.**

### 2020 Garden Competition

The 2020 Garden Competition is going ahead. Despite the Covid-19 restrictions in place, but with more time on our hands hopefully we are all keeping out gardens up – to – scratch and many of you will want to enter this year's competition. This year there will be three categories for you to enter. Competition entry forms are available on our website or you can send us an email with your name, address, telephone number to [councilmanager@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk](mailto:councilmanager@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk). The entry form is also been printed at the end of this newsletter.

### Christmas Lighting

The Parish Council will be providing Christmas lights in the village centre again this year. If you would like to see bigger and brighter Christmas Lighting and the return of the fabulous Switch On event do please join us in fundraising and organising the event.



### VJ Day 2020 (Victory over Japan)

15 August 2020 is the 75th anniversary of VJ Day, marking both the surrender of Japan and the end of the Second World War. The commemorations for VJ Day will be the central part of our national remembrance and will bring home the scale of the service and sacrifice made by the entire Second World War generation. As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, it is expected that national commemorations will be scaled back but details of the commemorations, and how we will be able to take part in local activities, will be provided shortly. It is likely that we will be able to fly a flag and participate in the Cry for Peace reading.

## 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](mailto: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 are also the venue for the weekly Parent & Toddler Group and the monthly carers group. Other amenities include WIFI, well-equipped kitchen, changing rooms, a projector, and a screen. Our facilities are perfect for most events. If you are looking for a venue, please contact us for details of availability and hire charges. Please note that at the present time all of our regular activities are currently suspended.

### Playing Fields

The playing fields are a beautiful open space and are open to all. We are very fortunate to have over 15 acres of land in the centre of the village which is openly accessible to everyone. We are abiding by the new social distancing guidelines and our contractor is able to continue with our regular maintenance programme which ensures that the fields provide a wonderful place for you to exercise during the lockdown period. Whilst the Playing fields are currently open and accessible 24/7. We have however cordoned off the outdoor play equipment which should not be used during the current coronavirus pandemic emergency.

### Bike Track

The new bike track at the Playing Fields is taking shape and looking amazing. There is plenty more to do. All manual help gratefully received or if you would like to donate soil for the construction work and plants for the landscaping we would be delighted to hear from you. Just contact Parish Councillor Craig Matthews by email to [craig.matthews@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk](mailto:craig.matthews@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk).

### New Outdoor Equipment

A new item of outdoor play equipment will be installed later this year. Parish Councillor Mark Williams suggested that the new item of equipment be an accessible item, possibly a swing net, which will be fully accessible to all. Whilst we have the contractors on site, they will be carrying out minor repairs to the play surfacing.

### Textile Bank

Installed in the Jubilee Hall Car Park is a purple textile bank which is proving to be popular. We hope it will help in our campaign for a 'greener' village.



There has been a noticeable increase in dog fouling in the parish 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. The maximum fine for dog fouling is £1,000. 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

### Planning and Transportation Committee

On 08 June 2020, Dale Fairless was elected Committee Chairman for the 2020/2021 Meeting Cycle. The Committee has recently considered the following planning applications:

**TM/20/0716/FL** Demolition of existing building and erection of replacement building for East Peckham Church Community Centre with car parking, access, and landscaping at East Peckham Methodist Church  
**AGREED IN PRINCIPAL SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS**

**TM/20/00836/FL** Single storey rear extension at 186 Tonbridge Road **NO OBJECTION**

**TM/20/00909/RD** Details of condition 2 (Gate details) pursuant to planning permission TM/19/02971/FL at The Orchard, 186 Hale Street **NOTED**

**TM/20/00903/LB** Variation of condition 2 (works set out in Design & Access Statement) pursuant to Listed Building permission TM/19/03014/LB at The Orchard 186 Hale Street **NOTED**

**TM/20/00942/TNCAT1** Walnut – Reduce crown of the tree at Walnut Cottage, 4 Bullen Lane **NOTED**

**TM/20/01039/TPOC** Sycamore on right boundary - remove epicormic growth; Mature Lime tree- remove major dead wood and reduce two laterals from upper to crown to bring into profile of crown- thin lower crown to tidy appearance of tree at 22 Old Road **NO OBJECTION**

**TM/20/01063/FL** First floor extension to form an additional bedroom at 20 Orchard Road **NO OBJECTION**

On 06 July 2020, the committee will be considering the following planning applications

**TM/20/01129/FL** Change of use from A1 (retail shop) to A4 (café / wine bar) and bifold doors to replace existing shop front at 1 Pound Road, East Peckham

**TM/20/01134/FL** Change of use from redundant public house to single dwelling with car port at The Merry Boys, 2 Pound Road, East Peckham

**TM/20/01178/FL** Proposed demolition of existing dwelling and replacement with pair of semi-detached dwellings at 7 Chidley Cross Road, East Peckham

### Planning Decisions

**TMBC HAS APPROVED the following**

**TM/20/00552/FL** Demolition of two existing agricultural buildings and erection of two new detached dwellings with associated parking, bin storage and access at Crowhurst Coldstore, Bells Farm Road, East Peckham

**TM/20/00771/FL** Single storey rear extension and internal alterations. Pursuant to larger former proposal (application no. TM/18/01912/FL) where permission was granted on 30 August 2018 at 95 Pound Road, East Peckham

### Planning Enforcement Investigations

**Land Opposite September Cottage:** No new information received from TMBC.

**Land at Branbridges Road, East Peckham (proposed fishing lake and café):** Whilst works to the café can commence prior to the facility being opened, it cannot open to the general public until the car parking detail has been approved by TMBC and that planning conditions have been complied with in respect of the fishing lakes.

**14 Hale Street:** TMBC are investigating unauthorised work to the listed building.

### Highway Improvement Plan

Our Highway Improvement Plan has been submitted to Kent Highways. It details the priorities that we want taken forward during 2020. Given the finite budgetary resources not all priorities are likely to be funded however Kent Highways we look forward to discussion with Kent Highways who will provide technical advice for the best way to deliver improvements and then using this information, we will consider whether we are willing to provide funding and work with Kent Highways to deliver them. Our highway priorities for 2020 are as follows:

1. dropped kerbs along the entire length of Church Lane
2. A Highway Safety audit of the traffic calming measures in Hale Street..

The following issues have been placed on our holding list for possible inclusion in our Highway Improvement Plan for 2021

1. Additional Streetlighting – Hale Street, Medway Meadows
2. Zebra Crossing – Hale Street/Medway Meadows
3. Wider Footway – Hale Street

### OTHER ISSUES YOU MIGHT FIND OF INTEREST

**Streetlights:** As part of our village enhancement programme, during 2020 we will be considering the installation of new streetlights. If you have any suggestions where streetlighting could be improved please let us know, similarly, if you notice any problems with the existing streetlights then let us know about those too.

**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](mailto: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:** 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.

**Highways Repairs (including potholes):** Report a problem to [www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem](http://www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem). Funding cuts have reduced regular patrols to identify problems so KCC relies on us all to report them.

## Parish Emergency Planning

**What If?** Most of us do not want to think about emergencies, but they happen. What if we are 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](http://www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk).

**How Can I help?** Do you know anyone who might need help in an emergency? If you are 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 car parks will be opened by any Parish Council Representative or Flood Warden if we believe that residential areas are threatened with flooding.

**Flood Warnings:** To receive warnings register on the website [www.environment-agency.gov.uk](http://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.

### Get in touch

- Clerk to the Council, Karen Bell, Parish Office, Jubilee Hall, Pippin Road, East Peckham, TN12 5BT
- Telephone: 01622 871309,
- Email: [councilmanager@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk](mailto:councilmanager@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk)
- Your Councillors – through the website [www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk](http://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](http://www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk)

#### **Parish Councillors**

Mick Barton (Deputy Chairman)

Dale Fairless (Planning & Transportation Committee Chair)

James Hockey

Sophie North

Mark Williams

Jonathan Bates

Michael Ferguson

Craig Matthews

Steph Watson (Chairman)

Emma Wilkinson

This newsletter is available on the parish council's website,  
all enquiries to Karen Bell, Council Manager



# EAST PECKHAM PARISH COUNCIL



## GARDEN COMPETITION 2020

The Parish Council are delighted to announce that the Garden Competition will take place again this year, despite the many COVID-19 restrictions still in-place. But with more time on our hands hopefully we're all keeping our gardens up-to-scratch, and that many of you will want to enter this year's competition. Entry is free (*max. 1 prize per entry*).

There will be 3 different categories for you to enter:

1. Best front garden.
2. Best hanging basket.
3. Best free standing container.



Judging will take place in late July / early August.

To enter simply complete the entry form below and return to any Parish Councillor or take to the parish office. You can also e-mail your entry to Mike Barton ([mbarton1943@btinternet.com](mailto:mbarton1943@btinternet.com)).

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**Please accept my entry for this year's East Peckham Parish Council  
Garden Competition.**

NAME:

ADDRESS:

TEL. NO:

CATEGORY: BEST FRONT GARDEN

BEST HANGING BASKET

BEST STAND ALONE CONTAINER

  
  


*Please tick box for category entered*