



EAST PECKHAM PARISH COUNCIL

..... *MAKING A DIFFERENCE*

MARCH 2020



East Peckham Parish Council



@EastPeckhamPC

Dear All,

Welcome to our latest newsletter. 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 or suggestions for the things you'd like to see us tackle.

We're starting to think of the village Christmas Lighting. **CAN YOU HELP?** The Christmas Light Switch On event takes many people to organise and fundraise, not something we can do on our own. The event was one of the most popular in the East Peckham calendar, and we'd like to bring it back for 2020 but we require plenty of volunteer help, if you'd like to join us in organising and fundraising, we'd be delighted to hear from you

Onto Community Resilience, thankfully we received no reports of residential property damage during Storm Dennis which occurred over the weekend of 15 and 16 February. The Man of Kent Pub near the River Bourne had water in but not too much and they were back open for business with minimal delay. The homes at Little Mill came under great threat but we don't think anyone flooded. The Coult Stream dam did a great job in holding back water that would otherwise have been in many homes along Addlestead Road, Snoll Hatch Road and Old Road. We were worried about run off – the roads were more flooded than they have been for years and many of the fields around the village were like lakes but, all was fine. The EA did a wonderful job managing the Medway. The sandbag containers remain open and will stay open for the foreseeable future. We are grateful to TMBC for replenishing our sandbag stock. Once again our Community Emergency Plan was activated well in advance of the emergency and our flood wardens were on standby. Community Resilience is firmly back on our agenda and something as a village we cannot ever get complacent about. The message we keep receiving is that as a community we should be becoming more self-reliant. This is where **WE NEED YOUR HELP**, could you be a flood warden, can we count on you to help deliver sandbags, do you have any skills or expertise we can use or would you like to join the Flood Action Group, whatever it is you can offer, we would be most appreciative.

Staying on Community Resilience, the EA has been investigating a number of options to reduce flood risk in East Peckham and Little Mill. Whilst there is a technical option, the cost is substantial which unfortunately the EA has been unable to source. They are therefore proceeding with an East Peckham Flood Resilience Scheme and has identified approximately 300 properties which might be eligible who they will be contacting. ***If you are not contacted and think your property should be considered please contact the EA for more information via email to EPFRS@environment-agency.gov.uk***

Finally, we would like you to know that the Parish Council is made up of a great group of people with a wide variety of talents and skills who all work hard to make East Peckham great. We all do our best for the community and East Peckham as a whole. Why not come along to one of our meetings and meet your Parish Councillors and find out more about the many issues that are discussed, debated and decided upon each month.

Kind regards

From all at East Peckham Parish Council



Parish Council and Committee Meetings – Have Your Say!

You're welcome to attend meetings, raise issues of concern and 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

02 March – Planning & Transportation Committee

16 March – Full Parish Council

06 April – Planning and Transportation Committee

20 April – 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

Agendas are published on the Parish Council Noticeboards (Village Stores & Playing Fields)

and on our website www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk

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

TMBC – Phase 11 Parking Action Plan

TMBC's Proposed changes to on street parking arrangements at Medway Meadows, Hale Street and Old Road by the installation of new double yellow lines to prevent obstructive parking has generated much debate. Our preferred option would be for some form of residents parking. Whilst we are not the decision making authority on this issue, we have listened to residents' concerns and have invited our Borough and County Councillors to meet with us and residents at our March meeting of the council's Planning and Transportation Committee. The meeting will be held on **02 March 2020 at 7.00 p.m. in the Jubilee Hall** and you are warmly invited to attend if you would like to comment on the proposals or will be affected by them.

2020 Annual Meeting of the Parish – Celebrate Your Village

The 2020 Annual Parish Meeting is being held on **Monday, 27 April at 7.00 p.m. in the Sports Hall**. Don't forget this is your meeting – not ours and a chance for you to come along and meet your local representatives and raise anything that affects your life in the community. Guest speakers will include the Environment Agency who will be giving a presentation on the East Peckham Flood Relief Scheme, the Heart of Kent Hospice who will be presenting the Compassionate Neighbours Scheme, Sandra Edmonds who will be presenting Dementia Awareness and Matt Boughton who will be representing Tom Tugendhat MP. After the conclusion of the formalities, we hope you will join us for a cheese and wine.

The Parish Councils Commitment to You!..... We 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 involvement of residents in our decision making process and will consult important issues

Sustainability Policy – East Peckham Parish Council

- Is committed to preserving and protecting the environment by adopting an environmental and sustainability policy.
- Is committed to protecting the environment and natural heritage of the Parish and recognises the importance and value of this environment and its contribution to quality of life for the village and wider community.
- When carrying out our own activities will strive to make a positive contribution to protecting the local and wider environment.
- In conjunction with businesses, community groups and the general public, will aim to help meet the needs of today's society without compromising future generations' ability to meet their own needs.

2020/2021 Budget

Our budget is £197,555 which requires a precept of £146,000, it has been set at a level to reflect the services you want, whilst fulfilling our statutory obligations. Whilst we've been able to make some budgetary reductions, we've also been able to include funding for some exciting new projects, initiatives and services. Our precept is 2.8% more than it was in 2019/2020 and will be collected by TMBC.

Welcome Handbook

If you're 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.

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 delighted to have helped:

- Scout Group - Funding towards new windows
- Summer Holiday Arts and Crafts Club - Craft materials
- East Peckham Primary School - Mini Medics First Aid Training to Year 6
- East Peckham Primary School PTA - Glow products for fireworks event, raffle prize for Christmas Fayre & hall hire for fundraising event
- Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal - Donation
- Singing for Memories - Song books
- East Peckham Baby and Toddler Group - Free Hall Hire until 31 December 2019 & 2 free hours per month from January 2020
- Carers Group - Free Hall Hire until 31 December 2019 & 2 free hours per month from January 2020
- Community Defibrillator at Little Mill - Donation
- East Peckham Village Hall - Funding towards new flooring
- East Peckham Table Tennis Club - Funding towards new table tennis table
- Paddock Wood Community Advice Centre - Donation

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.



We have installed 2 defibrillators in the village which are accessible 24/7, these are in secure boxes on the outside wall of the Parish Office at the Jubilee Hall and at the Merry Boys Pub. SECAMB know their locations so 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. We have also part funded a defibrillator for Little Mill which will be installed shortly



The Parish Council will be participating in the VE Day - 08 May 2020 commemorations. We hope you'll join us from **7.00 p.m. on Friday 08 May at the Jubilee Hall** when we will be lighting the beacon, reading The Tribute to the Millions followed by The Nations Toast. We have registered our participation with the national event coordinators. Our commemorative project will be the installation of a specially commissioned plaque to honour our fallen heroes from East Peckham who lost their lives in WW2.



East Peckham has been recognised by the Alzheimer's Association as a community working towards becoming dementia friendly and now has over 190 'Dementia Friends' who can be identified by their special forget me knot badges. We hope you've noticed the stunning planter in the village centre which we've turned into a sensory garden and the former BT kiosk which we've upcycled into an Information Hub. If you'd like to find out more or would like to become a dementia friend please let us know. We also hope you'll join us on **May 16 on the Playing Fields where we will be holding a Family Fun Day** to raise awareness of dementia. More details can be found at the end of this newsletter.



Shortly and in association with the Heart of Kent Hospice, we hope to launch the East Peckham Compassionate Neighbours Scheme. The Scheme will provide community-led support for anyone living with a long term or terminal illness, is elderly or frail, socially isolated or nearing the end of life through age or illness. The role of Heart of Kent Hospice will be to support and enable people to become Compassionate Neighbours in their community. They help harness their skills and experience to provide social and emotional support. The hospice will receive referrals for people in the community who would like a Compassionate Neighbour who are then matched with someone who shared similar interests. Please contact us if you would like to find out more.



Thank you to everyone who has shopped locally and entered the loyalty scheme draws. The next draw will take place in March. Please look out for the leaflets and pick up your loyalty card. Retailers include Blossoming Nails & Beauty, Khan Spice, the Post Office, Village Butchers & Store, Pam's Pantry, Headlocks Hair Design, Heavenly Glaze, Pound Fish Bar, Field Pharmacy and County Fires.

Allotments

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

JUBILEE HALL - FANTASTIC VENUE AVAILABLE IN EAST PECKHAM

We have 2 rooms available (sports hall and a smaller meeting / committee room) and 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 (Monthly, check for dates)
	1.30 – 2.30	40+ Shape Up and Fitness
	5.30 – 6.45	Rainbows (Term time only)
	7.00 – 8.00	Bootcamp
	8.00 – 10.00	Badminton
TUESDAY	9.30 – 10.30	Step / Circuits
	7.00 – 9.00	Table Tennis
	10.30 – 12.00	Carers Support – 1 st Tuesday in each month (Meeting Room)
WEDNESDAY	11.00 – 12.00	UBW
	6.00 – 7.00	UBW
	7.30 – 8.30	Zumba
	8.30 – 9.30	Badminton
THURSDAY	9.30 – 10.30	Step / Body Pump
	11.00 – 12.00	Totally Shredded
	7.30 – 8.30	Dance Fitta
FRIDAY	9.00 – 10.00	UBW
	10.00 – 12.00	Baby and Toddler Group (Term Time Only)
	7.00 – 9.00	Table Tennis
SATURDAY		Tai Chi (Monthly)
		East Peckham United Football Club (Seasonal)
SUNDAY		AFC Valour (Seasonal)

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. After a few years absence we will shortly be welcoming the return of the Weald of Kent Gym Club who will be using the Jubilee Hall on weekends in May and June, we hope they will enjoy the facilities and they extend their hire.

YOUR JUBILEE HALL NEEDS YOU

Do you have a skill you'd like to pass onto others? We're looking for people who can facilitate sessions in a range of craft, sport or art based activities who have the time, energy and enthusiasm to show others how to 'do it'. Please get in touch with us if this sounds like something you'd like to get involved with.

Playing Fields

The playing fields are a beautiful open space and 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, tennis court the new bike track.

POP UP CAFÉ – EAST PECKHAM

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

Jubilee Hall 10.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.

Monday 16 March

Monday 20 April



If you witness dog waste not being picked up, please report it to the Community Warden or 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 telephone 01732 876147 or email dog.warden@tmbc.gov.uk. If a person has been bitten report the incident to the Police on 101.

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.

*Saturday Freighter Service Schedule – Jubilee Hall Car Park

14th March: 10:30 to 11:30 and 28th March: 08:00 to 09:00

**The service is operated by TMBC. Please note - garden waste is no longer accepted*

TMBC Waste & Recycling Service

Please contact TMBC with any concerns you have about the new service.

Streetlamps

We are responsible for the 66 footway lights within the village. Our policy with regard to the streetlights is that they are all necessary for the safety of highway users, pedestrian and the community in general, we will not therefore consider switching any of them off. Where individual streetlights are a problem for residents we will liaise with our contractor to see if they can be modified or adapted.

We are currently compiling a list of requests for new streetlights, in order that we can assess and prioritise any new streetlight works, we would like to invite you to provide us with your recommendations.

If you notice any problems with East Peckham Street lights please report them to the Parish Office

Planning Applications

We have recently considered and commented upon the following

TM/19/03017/LB Internal alterations at The Barn, 26 Church Lane	NO OBJECTION
TM/19/03018/LB New en-suite room in existing annexe at The Barn, 26 Church Lane	NO OBJECTION
TM/19/03013/LB Roofing works & replacement skylights at The Orchard, 186 Hale Street	NO OBJECTION
TM/19/03014/LB Window works at The Orchard, 186 Hale Street	NO OBJECTION
TM/20/00026/FL Demolition of existing rear extension and construction of new full width extension extending the front porch to be square with the building at 25 Bramley Road	NO OBJECTION
TM/20/00117/POC T1 Oak to crown reduce by 25%, deadwood and remove single lower limb to maintain balance at Orchard End, 174 Hale Street	NO OBJECTION

Planning Decisions

TMBC HAS APPROVED the following

TM/19/02642/RD Details of conditions pursuant to planning permission TM/18/02623/FL (Change of use from seasonal to permanent residential) at No 4 Caravan site, Pinkham, East Peckham

TM/19/02768/FL Single storey front extension to residential dwelling to accommodate hall and sanitary facility at 28 Snoll Hatch Road, East Peckham

TMBC HAS REFUSED the following

TM/19/02773/LDP 2 new dormers to rear elevation at Manna court, 11 Hale Street, East Peckham

TMBC HAS NO OBJECTION TO the following

TM/19/02958/TNCA Tree works at Three Points Cottage, 122 Addlestead Road, East Peckham

Planning Enforcement

TMBC is investigating the following

20/00009/USEH Unauthorised caravan at Branbridges Industrial Estate

20/00018/COH Breach of condition 8 (dormer windows) of TM/89/1555/FL (detached bungalow) at Aveling Lodge, Pinkham, East Peckham

20/00028/WORKM Unauthorised satellite antenna at 22 Addlestead Road, East Peckham

20/00029/USEM Unauthorised change of use to storage of scrap metal at The Merry Boys

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

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

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

Parking on Pavements: 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.

Potholes: Report a problem to 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.

Highways Repairs

The Parish Council is often the first port of call for residents who have suffered as a result of poorly maintained roads and unfilled potholes. Research has revealed that 36 shire councils who took part in a recent survey had £20,885 per mile to spend on repairs, pothole filling and construction new junctions and networks whereas 31 London councils were able to spend £62.350 per mile over the same period and 36 urban metropolitan councils spent £41,929 per mile and the 8 'core cities' were able to spend £57,241 per mile.

Lower Hale Street Traffic Calming

We are being consulted by KCC on the removal of the lower Hale Street Traffic Calming hump by the former Harp Pub. If you have any thoughts on the matter, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Coult's Stream Footpath (MR538)

We are becoming more and more concerned with the condition of the Coult's Stream Footpath. The footpath is a public right of way and is therefore the responsibility of KCC in terms of upkeep and maintenance. KCC are aware of the issues regarding the width of footpath and had considered closing it on the grounds of it being unsafe, but, having spent some time looking into the historic condition of the path where it appears to have been in this or a slightly worse condition since 1994 it was decided to keep the path open. With regard to the section very close to the newly installed bridge, KCC are considering what they might be able to achieve to give that section more stability and potentially add a bit of width. At this stage they do not have a timeframe as it is very much dependent upon on the solution they are able to implement. If there are major concerns about the safety of the route there will be no alternative but to place a temporary closure on the path until works had been completed.

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 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 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
- 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)

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

Tel: 01622 871309

Email: councilmanager@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk

Let us help you feel



Safe and Well



Your fire service needs your help

Len Goodman, of Strictly Come Dancing fame, has been working with us here at Kent Fire and Rescue Service to spread the word about our FREE [Safe and Well home visits](#) - because we want to help more Kent residents to stay safe at home.

For more information, please contact kentfirerescue@public.govdelivery.com



VILLAGE FUN DAY

Saturday 16th May 2020

IN support of

EAST PECKHAM DEMENTIA AWARENESS

Where: Playing Fields, East Peckham

When: 12 noon – 4 p.m.

What's occurring?

Music

Stalls

Competitions

Demos

Refreshments

Games

Dementia awareness information and learning

**PLEASE COME ALONG, HAVE FUN,
OR JUST RELAX AND ENJOY THE DAY**

For more information and to enter competitions:

East Peckham Library, The Pound, East Peckham

Sandra Edmonds, Community Warden 07969 584183