

Eythorne Parish Council

February 2018 Edition

Bus Pass Renewals

The English National Concessionary Travel Scheme, also known as the older person's bus pass is a statutory national scheme providing free bus travel for individuals of a pensionable age or some pass holders who qualify on the basis of disability. Passes are issued with a 5 year expiry and as a consequence, every 5 years KCC experiences a significant peak in renewals which needs to be managed. In March 2018, 195,000 passes currently in circulation expire.

To manage this process efficiently with the minimum disruption on pass holders, it has been agreed that KCC will adopt an approach of 'intelligent auto-renewals' whereby the majority of existing pass holders, if using their pass recently, will automatically be sent a new pass in advance of their current one expiring i.e. the pass holder does not need to reapply. However, it has been identified that a significant proportion of passes have not been used in the last year and so these will not be automatically renewed. It should be clearly understood that this is in no way the removal of a right to hold a pass but KCC will be seeking confirmation from the pass holder that they still wish to be issued with one. Instead therefore, these pass holders will be written to and advised of their continued right to hold a pass together with instructions as to how to renew.

Letters will be sent out throughout January, February and the first week of March and all automatically renewed or renewals applied for on time will be sent to pass holders before the expiry of current passes on 31st March.

RH Ovenden

RH Ovenden have asked the Parish Council to inform residents that they take it very seriously if one of their lorries takes the wrong route or causes disruption to the local community. The HGV's have dash cams and computers which record the route, so if you see a lorry which you think is in the wrong place, please contact RH Ovenden and they will investigate appropriately.

To contact RH Ovenden please ring 01304 804395 or email enquiries@ovendens.com
Please note: RH Ovenden is separate to Ovenden Plant Hire.

Precept

The Parish Council have been looking at the running costs for the financial year 2018-2019 in order to calculate the precept figure which is used to pay for them. Running costs include, staff, equipment, training, insurances, memberships, repairs and maintenance etc. This is different to capital projects which are paid for from reserves; defibrillators, play equipment and bus shelters for example.

The costs associated with running a Council increase annually while the grant received from KCC to offset those costs has decreased every year to the current situation where the grant has stopped completely for 2018-2019. Additionally, DDC and KCC are reducing services due to their own budget limitations, so in order to maintain the environment, Parish Councils are having to find ways to fill the void in services which are being cut. Thus running costs are constantly increasing for all Parish Councils including Eythorne.

The repairs and maintenance for this financial year is almost double the budgeted amount due to the vandalism, which has been regularly detailed in previous magazine articles. By paying for repairs to damaged property, the PC cannot spend that money on more beneficial projects for the Community.

In order to meet the financial responsibilities for 2018-2019 the Councillors have made the decision to increase the precept this year. The annual increase will be £4.22 which works out at 8p per week for a Band D property. This has been calculated to just cover the predicted running costs of the PC next year. It is worth mentioning that the precept is dependent on the type of house ownership, the Council does not receive a precept amount from any properties rented through a housing association.

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Online Reporting and Non-injury Collision

The public can now report crimes and incidents as well as non-injury road traffic collisions online directly to Kent Police (www.kent.police.uk). Once a report is made online, the user will receive a unique reference number and a return email confirming receipt. This is a test/pilot at this stage. At the end of each form is the opportunity for the public making a report to give feedback on using the system.

The overall aim is to provide another choice for how the public can report crime or incidents as well as try to reduce the number of people calling 101 on non-urgent issues that could easily be dealt with through digital contact.

Fly Tipping and Duty of Care Campaign

Since January 2017, DDC has received over 1000 reports of fly tipping. In around 70% of cases the waste found fly tipped was household waste. Under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 householders have a duty of care to ensure that their waste is only transferred to an authorised person. In the majority of cases investigated it was identified that waste had been collected by cold callers who were offering cheap removal of the waste. In almost all of these cases the householders had not been aware that they had a duty to ensure that their waste was only transferred to an authorised person and had made no checks to ensure this.



**#DontDump
inDoverDistrict**

WOULD YOU DO THIS? DON'T CARE? FINE!

You have a responsibility to ensure that anyone you ask to remove rubbish from your home is a licensed waste carrier.

If you fail to do this, and your waste is found fly tipped, you could be held responsible and fined!

All tradesmen who dispose of waste must hold a waste carriers licence.

Always ask to see this and check their licence number is valid by visiting:
www.environment-agency.gov.uk
or by calling 03708 506 506

DOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL
For further information please contact the Environmental Crime Team on 01304 872289



**#DontDump
inDoverDistrict**

REMEMBER:

It is **YOUR RESPONSIBILITY** to make sure your rubbish is disposed of legally. Always remember:

- SUSPECT**
Beware of rogue waste collectors.
- CHECK**
Ask for their waste carrier registration details.
- REFUSE**
Do not be tempted by offers to take your rubbish away.
- ASK QUESTIONS**
Where is your rubbish going?
- PAPERWORK**
Make sure you get a proper receipt listing the rubbish removed and the waste carriers details.
- REMEMBER** – If your waste is found fly tipped YOU could be liable to an unlimited fine.

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For further information please contact the Environmental Crime Team on 01304 872289

USEFUL CONTACTS

Eythorne Parish Council website: www.eythornepc.kentparishes.gov.uk

Eythorne Parish Clerk: clerk@eythornepc.kentparishes.gov.uk or 01304 832449 to leave a message

Community Warden – Juliette West: 07969 584174

Non-emergency crime – ring 101

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Vandalism of the Teen Shelter on Elvington Recreation Ground

With thanks to Linda for allowing the Parish Council to print the following article at late notice.

It was reported to the Parish Council that the teen shelter on the Recreation Ground had been targeted with paint. This happened on or around the 15 January 2018. Paint has been thrown onto the back of the shelter and has splashed onto the tarmac around the area. The names "Sherrie and Casey" as well as "BEFL" have been written in paint on the sides. There is an active CCTV on the shelter and the footage will be viewed to try to identify the perpetrators of this damage which has been reported to the police.

