

COLLIER STREET NEWS

JUNE/JULY 2025

A vibrant, colorful poster for a Summer Fair & Pet Show. The background is a light blue sky with white clouds and a green grassy field. At the top, a string of colorful triangular bunting (pink, purple, blue) hangs across the frame. In the center, the text 'Collier Street School' is written in a white, slightly shadowed font. Below it, the words 'SUMMER FAIR & PET SHOW' are written in large, bold, white capital letters with a blue drop shadow. A blue ribbon banner below the title reads 'SATURDAY, 21ST JUNE' and 'MIDDAY TO 3PM' in white capital letters. At the bottom, there are two realistic images: a black and white dog's head on the left and a brown chicken's head on the right. Between them, a list of activities is written in a green, sans-serif font: 'Fun pet show classes', 'Games and stalls', 'Gifts and shopping', 'Food and drink', and 'Raffle and entertainment'. The overall design is festive and inviting, with a mix of bright colors and clear typography.

Collier Street School

SUMMER FAIR & PET SHOW

SATURDAY, 21ST JUNE
MIDDAY TO 3PM

Fun pet show classes
Games and stalls
Gifts and shopping
Food and drink
Raffle and entertainment

COLLIER STREET

PAPER DELIVERY

There is a paper delivery service to the village at around 6am every morning. It is supplied by Jackie's News Limited based in Tenterden, they can be contacted on 01580 763183. Cost of delivery is £3.51 a week.

Waste and Recycling Service

From Monday 25th March, Maidstone Council has made changes to some waste and recycling collections and your bin day may have altered.

Collection weeks may have altered too.

For more information, please visit 'bins and recycling' on the MBC website.

www.maidstone.gov.uk

CUTE PET OF THE MONTH - Dora



Defibrillators

There are defibrillators available at St Margaret's Church, Collier Street and The Woolpack, Benover Road. These are life saving devices so it is important that as many people as possible are able to use them.

Defibrillator training is available for anyone to undertake via the website below:

<https://vimeo.com/557677120/e7524918c5>



Village What's App Information Group



To keep up to date with beneficial information, news, advice, crime / incidents, you are welcome to join the Resident's What's App group.

If you would like to be part of this group, please send an SMS / iMessage to:

CLlr Deborah Papas on 07960 754641 stating "Sign up for CSWA Group" and Deborah will add you to the group.

Terms and Conditions

By signing up to the group, you accept these conditions and also understand that the messages are only for urgent and important details only and not for general chit-chat. You also are in agreement to receiving information considered to be of benefit to the group such as community safety and highways bulletins. The Parish Council will not tolerate any rude or inappropriate messages, photographs or videos and reserve the right to remove such material and also the participant from the group.

COPY DEADLINE 20TH OF THE MONTH

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15 Years Ago...

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

CONTACT DETAILS FOR OUR MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Please contact her if you have any issues:

katie.lam.mp@parliament.uk

01580 388 344

FLY TIPPING AND POTHoles

Did you know that anyone can report pot holes or fly tipping in the village.

Please go to the Maidstone Borough Council website and click on the "Report It" tab.



Strength through weakness

I'm a self-confessed book snob, so I was sceptical when my wife suggested I read Rebecca Yaros's Fourth Wing Series. It turns out it's not just my wife who is a fan - Fourth Wing Hysteria has led the books to be very successful, selling millions of copies and topping bestseller lists.

Despite being snobbish originally, through listening to the audiobook like many I too am gripped. (A word of warning though – I'm advised by my wife that some of the later content can be described as NSFC - Not Suitable for Church - so please approach with caution. You have been warned!)

The book is about Violet Sorrengail, a young woman who is forced to join a dragon rider academy after being ordered to do so by the commanding general, who also happens to be her mother. The book explores themes of survival, friendship, and of overcoming adversity.

While not explicitly stated, Violet suffers from a disabling condition shared with the book's author. Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome is a condition which affects the body's connective tissue. We see this in Violet's hypermobility, prematurely greying hair, joint pain, and brittle bones.

We seem to be living in times where leaders seem more interested in emphasising strength than showing compassion for weakness, and where empathy seems to be in short supply. This is mirrored in these books, where Violet is seen by others as being weak and fragile. As a result, during her training her peers are keen to kill her off as she is seen as holding back her division or "wing". Her resilience is captured in her frequent statement "I won't die today".

Violet is a compelling character because her weaknesses are often the source of her strength. Paradoxically, her achievements often come from her weaknesses.

The story of Jesus is a story of paradoxes. His teachings emphasise humility and service, yet he performs miracles and has divine authority. His death is the foundation of our belief in eternal life and redemption. He reverses the traditional values of the world and challenges society's hierarchies and conventions.

Ultimately the cross is both a punishment, a painful death, and a source of new life. Jesus's strength comes in part through his weakness; that while God he experienced being fully human, and through this he can save us.

Fortunately for us, none of us (as far as I'm aware) have been forced to join a dragon rider academy. Most of us don't suffer from debilitating diseases. However, we all have our challenges to overcome.

We are approaching the end of the Easter season and getting closer Pentecost in early June where we celebrate the Holy Spirit empowering believers to fulfil God's will for us. I hope we can bring compassion here others emphasise strength, seek peace where we see wars, and let what the world sometimes sees as our weaknesses be our strengths. Where we see darkness, let us hold onto, celebrate and bring forth the light of Christ.

Justin Elks

Licensed Lay Minister

“The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom.” (Isaiah 35:1)

Eastertide is the season of Blossom – Apple, Cherry, Quince, and Hawthorn, or whatever grows near where you live. The branches burst into life to bring joy to bare black twigs, and the petals drift slowly on a light breeze to rest on the surface of the roads and the rivers to make a swirling carpet in the Spring sunshine.

Then comes the “greening” when the blossom gives way to leaf, and the hedges come alive to make our narrow roads even narrower, the Horse Chestnuts unfold on the green in Yalding, outside the school in Laddingford, and in the churchyard in Collier Street. If you get the opportunity, this is a good month to get to know the trees of Yalding churchyard (leaflet available in the church) and find ancient yews and a tulip tree, birch and beech, walnut, cedar, and the second tallest wild cherry in Kent.

There is new life in the season of the Resurrection.

It’s all around us, even within us, our spirits lifted by warmer weather and longer days and the hope of a glorious Summer to come. Everything will be all right; the past is behind us. We have learned our lessons and we shall not repeat our mistakes. Salvation has come at a cost, for which we are sorry, but Redemption has been won and we shall not waste the opportunity or forget the life given for our sake.

This month we celebrate the 80th anniversary of VE day, the end of the Second World War in Europe and the prospect of a brighter future. As time passes and we move from generation to generation like trees blossoming year after year, it’s easy to forget how we ended up in such a terrible situation, and assume that such things will never happen again. Think on. If we do not keep alive the lessons that our ancestors learned with their sacrifice, we are in danger of suffering the same fate. This anniversary is more than just an excuse for a party.

Maybe it is important that nations get a taste of political extremism from time to time so that they can be reminded about where it leads and feel the danger they might be in if it is allowed to flourish. Global tensions and economic hardship provoke a desire for simple political solutions. But there is nothing simple about the destruction of society and a cherished way of life, nothing simple about hatred of neighbour and a willingness to see others suffer, nothing simple about losing freedom to fear and oppression.

The future of our villages, our county, our nation and our world is in our hands. Don’t just throw them up in despair like dead branches. Use them to do good, to offer kindness, and to make peace among your neighbours. Build relationships that matter, give of yourself for the sake of others, and stand up for what is right. Then you, too, will blossom like the trees, and others will be inspired to follow your example.

Now would be a good time to start.

“People will dwell again in his shade; they will flourish like the grain, they will blossom like the vine.” (Hosea 14:7)

St. Paul

Collier Street Pop-In Get Together 2025

St Margaret's Church

Margaret, Jacki, Christine, Jo and Lorna
invite you to come along and enjoy: home-made cakes and savouries, friendly company and a raffle.

2 - 4pm the second Wednesday of the month:

The dates for this year are:

11th June, 9th July, 13th August,
10th September, 8th October, 1
2th November and 10th December

CRASH CLOSES ROAD



An early evening crash on 15th April resulted in the B2162 being closed overnight. A lorry being driven by a drunken driver veered off the road and ended up in the neighbouring field. It hit a post en route which was broken in half, resulting in live power cables dangling beside the road and causing a loss of power to one property. Amazingly the driver escaped unhurt and very soon left the scene.

The police attended and closed the road, putting a diversion in place. The diversion signs caused some confusion the next morning!



SOLAR POWER PROJECT UPDATE



On Behalf of Friends of Collier Street School, we wanted to say a big thank you for the kind donations to our Solar Panel Project via the Aviva Community Fund.

We are delighted to let you know that through the school and community we raised a HUGE £15,330.

Thank you for your support and we look forward to welcoming you all to our Summer Fair and Pet Show at the school on Saturday 21st June from midday until 3pm.

THE RUDES ARE RETURNING TO MARDEN.

The always popular Rude Mechanical Theatre Company are returning to Marden this summer to perform a brand-new production of their smash hit musical "Gentle Harry's Farm". Described by The Times as "Such a good night", it will take place on Friday 27st June on Southon's Field.

Imagine it is July 1957. Agnes and Millie have loved their boarding school, The Gables School for Jolly Nice Girls, but before the big wild world of college and looking for husbands, they plan a blissful summer at Gentle Harry's Farm. But what's happened? Some bounders have burst into the local bank and stolen the cash. The place is swarming with handsome coppers. What bliss!! Meanwhile the cows chew and the magpies chatter. The show will buzz with hilarity, sigh with tenderness and chirrup with gentle satire.

The show starts at 7.30 p.m., but the gates will open at 6.00 p.m. so why not bring a picnic and enjoy the evening? Please bring your own low-back chairs for the show. No cars are allowed on the field, but there's plenty of parking in the near-by village car park.

Tickets are available from the company's website: www.therudes.co.uk.

Get it in your diary now!

OUR PRODUCTS, LOCALLY SOURCED, LOCALLY SOLD

JUNE 2025

Packages to Northern Ireland from May 1st. The Windsor Framework came into force for Royal Mail deliveries from May 1st. Basically, it means that all business parcels to all BT postcodes will need, what can be best described as a customs declaration. This can be done by the customer on line or by the Post Office.

US Tariffs...Some customers sell goods to the USA that may attract an extra cost due to Mr Trump's new tariff regime. Please make your American customers aware that they may be charged an extra fee for imported goods from the UK. I still await further information from UK Authorities on how this will affect small exporters. Gifts should not be affected.

International Money Orders. Since the demise of Moneygram services from Post Offices the only availability for this is the Western Union desk at the Robert Dyas store in Maidstone.

Please be aware that the mobile phone network signal is not so good in the Post Office. Many of our customers find their phones cannot download the necessary QR codes in the Post Office. So, if you are using a QR code from your phone to post off a return package it may be good practice to take an earlier screenshot of the QR code so our infra-red readers can interpret it quicker.

Shop & Local Produce. Cranbrook bakery items on sale every day. Orders taken. Sourdough bread available by special order...**Croissants, Pain Au Chocolate and Pain Au Raisin available Saturdays only.** Cold drinks, unique greetings cards by local artists, Yalding honey, Joan's jams. Bit Spicy curry mixes, stationery, Yalding mugs, fresh eggs, (from genuinely free-range local chickens), Loddington Farm fruit juices & Oakapple Farm fresh produce – all in stock now. **The Made in Yalding Emporium** is open every day and our stock is regularly restocked and refreshed by our ever-increasing army of local crafts persons. **STRAWBERRIES FROM OAKAPPLE FARM AVAILABLE DAILY.**

New stamps set this month is the **The Tales of Narnia** Collection Other Philately products in stock or can be ordered on request

Foreign Currencies. We maintain a stock of Euros and US Dollars... POL have informed us that credit on Travel Money Cards can be encashed at all branches in UK currency.

Your Post Office offers free cash withdrawals with most debit cards, pay bills, top up gas and electricity cards and keys, pay in cheques and cash to most banks using your debit card. We do phone Top-Ups... And, of course...we sell stamps and send parcels and letters all over the world. A list of nations that cannot accept mail at this time is on the Royal Mail website. **Mail to Russia and Ukraine are currently subject to restrictions**

Our opening hours are 9.00am to 1.00pm. 2.00pm to 5.30pm. Closed on Sundays.

Early closing on Wednesdays and Saturdays (12.30pm Saturdays). Telephone...01622 814327

MESSAGE FROM KATIE LAM MP

Spring is one of my favourite times of year, and there's nowhere better to enjoy this time of year than here in the Weald. It's the season of Lady's Smock, Cow parsley, and butterflies. We're really fortunate that the Garden of England has so much to offer by way of flora and fauna: the wildflowers are in full bloom and our beautiful home is teeming with insect and animal life.

As your Member of Parliament, it's my job to represent you and help solve the problems that you face on a daily basis. The most enjoyable part of my job, however, is championing our truly beautiful patch and promoting what makes it such a fantastic place to live.

That's why I'm excited to announce my brand-new Weald of Kent Awards, recognising the very best of our wonderful corner of Kent.

This summer, I hope you'll join me in celebrating the unsung local heroes who help our communities thrive. I want to shine a light on the Weald's favourite places to eat and drink, the very best Kentish produce, and the individuals, businesses and volunteer groups that go above and beyond to bring people together.

Can you think of someone in your area who deserves to be recognised? If so, I'd love to hear from you!

I'm inviting everyone in the Weald to nominate a winner from one or more of the following six categories:

1. The Weald of Kent Pub, Restaurant or Café 2025
 2. The Weald of Kent Local Business 2025
 3. The Taste of the Weald of Kent 2025
 4. The Weald of Kent Local Hero 2025
 5. The Weald of Kent Young Local Hero 2025
- The Weald of Kent Heart of the Community 2025

If you know a worthy winner from your corner of the Weald, please do nominate them. Once the shortlist is decided, the finalists will be voted for by you, the people who know the Weald better than anyone else. I'll then announce the winner in August, and present them with a fabulous Weald of Kent Award.

Nominations will open on my website on Monday 2nd June 2025 at www.katieforkent.com/weald-of-kent-awards, and will be advertised across my social media pages over the summer.

As ever, if there's anything you'd like to speak with me about, don't hesitate to get in touch. You can email me at katie.lam.mp@parliament.uk, or speak to me on 01580 388344.



A FLORAL ARRANGEMENT

A CONCERT TO MARK THE OPENING
OF THE
YALDING CHURCH FLOWER FESTIVAL

SHOWCASING A VARIETY OF OUR VILLAGE
MUSIC GROUPS, INCLUDING THE RELATIVE
MINORS, VILLAGE VOICES, YALDING
CHURCH CHOIR AND OTHER TALENTED
LOCAL MUSICIANS



FRIDAY | 27 | JUNE | 7PM

TICKETS £5

TO INCLUDE ENTRY AND A GLASS OF WINE/SOFT DRINK

GET YOUR TICKETS FROM THE POST
OFFICE, ON THE DOOR, OR EMAIL ANNA AT
OFFICE@YALDINGCHURCHES.CO.UK

PROCEEDS TO BE SPLIT BETWEEN YALDING CHURCH AND THE
KENT AND SUSSEX AIR AMBULANCE



Jacqui Bakes

Dubai Pistachio Cream Cookies

We wanted to see what all the fuss was about, Dubai cookies! We weren't disappointed, soft and gooey chocolate chip cookies stuffed with pistachio cream in the middle. Enjoyed warm for the best texture experience. You can find pistachio cream in Aldi or online from Amazon.

Ingredients

150g pistachio cream
180g SR flour
1 tbsp cornflour
1/2 tsp baking powder
1/2 tsp bicarbonate of soda
115 g butter, melted
100g brown sugar
50g granulated sugar
1 large egg
1 tsp vanilla extract
100g white chocolate
50g unsalted pistachios



Method

Freeze the pistachio cream, spread onto greaseproof paper and ideally freeze overnight.

In a bowl combine flour, cornflour, baking powder and bicarbonate of soda.

Whisk melted butter, and sugars, add egg and vanilla, whisk until thick and smooth.

Mix the flour and butter mixtures together, until just combined, leaving some flour patches.

Fold the chocolate chips and pistachios into the dough.

Divide the dough into 12 balls and chill in the fridge for 1 hour.

Preheat the oven to 180 degrees.

Divide the frozen pistachio cream into 12 equal parts. Press a chilled dough ball flat, place 1 part of the frozen pistachio cream into the centre and enclose with the dough.

Place on a prepared baking sheet with at least 2" in between to allow for spreading. Bake for 12 minutes, remove from oven allow to cool for 5 mins then drizzle with melted pistachio cream and melted white chocolate.

ENJOY!

Earth Day 2025 at St Margaret's Collier Street

On Tuesday 22nd April, the school turned our attention to Earth Day. Earth Day is an event that takes place annually and each year the focus changes. It is recognised around the world and is a day to help people think about our planet and how we can help look after it. The theme this year was 'Our Power, Our Planet'.

The day began with an assembly introducing Earth Day and why the day was established over 50 years ago. It was impressive how much the children already knew regarding climate change and how the burning of fossil fuels is harmful to our planet. We discussed the different ways that our world could be powered. The children in Discovery were able to recall some of the renewable types of energy, such as solar and wind power. We discussed FOCSS's efforts to raise a large sum of money in order to invest in solar panels for the school.

Later that afternoon, each class took part in activities related to taking better care of our planet.



Russet Class

Our youngest children in Russet were able to recall some of the different ways that homes, schools and businesses could be powered. They focused on wind power, looking at photos and videos of wind turbines in action. They were amazed by just how large the turbines were! Russet are a creative group so decided to demonstrate their learning by making their own version of wind turbine using mostly recyclable materials.

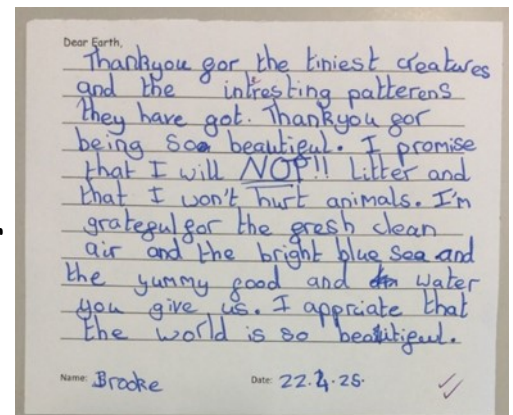


Pippin Class

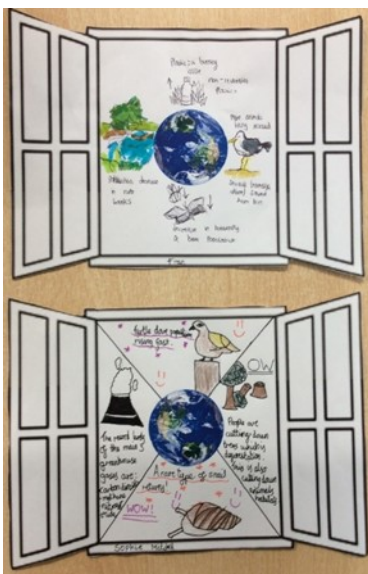
Pippin reviewed what they had learnt during the assembly and then focused on what they could do to help look after the environment, from saving energy to picking up rubbish. The ideas ranged from turning lights off when leaving a room, cutting down on using non-recyclable packages where possible and the most practical and popular option, was to turn the tap off when brushing their teeth. They each decorated a handprint and wrote five different changes someone could make to take better care of the environment.

Bramley Class

Year 3 and 4 started their afternoon by reading 'Somebody Swallowed Stanley' and 'Somebody Crunched Colin'. They discussed the message of the texts and the ways Earth provides for us. They wrote 'thankyous' to the planet which expanded into a letter with sentences such as 'thank you for the tiniest creatures' and 'I am grateful for the trees as they give me oxygen'.



Discovery Class



As part of the geography curriculum, Discovery had recently studied the changing world and focused on renewable energy and sustainability. Along similar lines to Bramley, the children wrote letters to thank Earth for its gifts. This was then linked to spirituality by 'looking through the window', considering the positives and negatives about the environment and reflecting on their own actions.

The 2025 Tractor Run



At 9am on Sunday 27th of April the sound of tractors rumbling along the lanes woke up some residents as tractor enthusiasts headed for the field behind the home of Stephane and Margaret Mackay. It was the annual local tractor run and Stephane agreed to host it again after successfully doing so 2 years ago.

Ray and I went along at 9am to help with the cooking and serving of bacon and sausage baps for the tractor drivers and their friends and family who had come along to join in the nostalgia. A few tractors were already starting to line up in the field so there were some thirsty and hungry people waiting in the garden in the early morning sunshine.

Two of Stephane's nephews were cooking bacon, helped by David Goff, while Ray cooked the sausages. Frances Goff poured all the teas and coffees while Margaret and I served the food. Stephane kept a careful watch on how everything was going and encouraged people to donate to the Air Ambulance in exchange for the food and refreshments. A total of £225 was raised for the cause.



34 tractors took part in the event with one of the oldest being the 1955 example pictured left, like many of the tractors there, it had been in the family for many years. Stephane drove his 1972 shiny red Massey Ferguson 135 which gleamed in the sunshine.

A few of them towed trailers which had seating on them to enable them to take friends and family on the fun run. One even had an old leather sofa. There were about 52 people who went out on the run, either in the cabs or the trailers. Having left about 10.45am the convoy drove along the lanes through Brenchley, Matfield, Capel, 5 Oak Green and on to the 'paddock' at The Chequers Laddingford, arriving about 1pm, where they were on display during The Chequers Beer Festival weekend. Everyone had a good time and Stephane and Margaret were grateful to their friends for helping.

Thanks also to Margaret and Stephane themselves for giving their time to host the run in lovely surroundings and for raising valuable funds for a great cause.



Woodpeckers- 'watering the new plants!'

On a chilly but sunny morning on Saturday April 5th the Woodpeckers met in the cemetery extension along Green Lane.



The main task of the morning was to water the new hedgerow that had been planted along the border of the cemetery extension. Luckily 16 helpers turned up and it didn't take that long to water each new plant with many watering cans.

Everyone was grateful to Seth from Spenny Farm for providing large water bowsers twice and for kindly delivering them to the site.

After the tea break some of the team stayed on to continue some tidying jobs.

'Mind the daffodils'

A smaller group of nine Woodpeckers met on Saturday May 3rd when the focus was upon tidying up the rapidly growing grass and weeds without touching the daffodil leaves that were still green. The grass was very tall but the strimmers and the ride on mower coped well, Liz did a great job of raking up all the grass cuttings at the front of the church. Michelle, Barbara and Jacki were weeding the borders up the central path to the church without disturbing the daffodils. At the tea break we enjoyed coffee cake, brownies and blondies. We meet again on the first Saturday in June.



12

JULY

ST PETER'S AND ST PAUL'S
CHURCH, YALDING



SAVE THE DATE

YALDING CHURCH FETE 2025



**BOUNCY
CASTLE**



RAFFLE



BBQ

AS WELL AS THE TEA
TENT, BARROW OF BITS
AND ALL THE USUAL
STALLS AND GAMES!

1-4PM SATURDAY 12TH JULY

RAFFLE TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM THE POST OFFICE,
THE VILLAGE TEA ROOMS OR ANNA AT
OFFICE@YALDINGCHURCHES.CO.UK OR 01622 814182

MINUTES
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF
COLLIER STREET PARISH COUNCIL
Orchard Room, St Margaret's School
on Monday 12TH MAY 2025
commencing at 18:45
In attendance

Cllr Andrew Papas [AP] Chair	Cllr Claudine Russell (Borough Councillor)
Cllr Jack Highwood [JH] Vice-chair	Cllr Grace Crouch (Borough Councillor)
Cllr Ben Ward [BW]	Cllr Mick Summersgill (Borough Councillor)
Cllr Charlie Cooper [CC]	
Cllr Deborah Papas [DP]	One member of public
Cllr Kelly Rigden [KR]	
Cllr Steve Barham [SB]	

25.05.01

Election of CHAIR and VICE-CHAIR

25.05.01.01

Cllr Jack Highwood proposed Cllr Andrew Papas to be elected CHAIR. Unanimous vote

25.05.01.02

Cllr Andrew Papas accepted position of office

25.05.01.03

Cllr Jack Highwood offer to stand again as Vice Chair. Unanimous vote

25.05.01.04

Cllr Jack Highwood accepted position of office

25.05.02

APOLOGIES & ABSECNCE

Parish Clerk Michelle Rumble

25.05.03

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None

25.05.04

MINUTES MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7th April 2025

Approved - Proposed [DP] Seconded [JH]

25.05.05

EXTERNAL REPORTS

BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

Due to local and mayoral elections, no reports were made by the Borough Councillors

COUNTY COUNCILLOR

A new County Councillor has been elected in this month's local elections – Cllr Brian Black {Maidstone Rural South}

25.05.06 CHAIRS REPORT

Report circulated to all Councillors and the Clerk prior to the meeting.

Planning

Councillor Jack Highwood has worked regularly, methodically and diligently researching and opining on every planning application that impacts our Parish. In addition, all councillors have contributed to viewing and feeding back prior and during meetings.

Councillor Deborah Papas has developed excellent presentations for all our meetings, and this has proved particularly useful for when planning applications are discussed, by showing plans and pictures relating to each case.

Highways

In the past year, several sign incidents have been reported and rectified as well as re-painting of various markings around the village including addition 30 roundels on the B2162.

We have also had the addition of parent and child signs along B2162 north and south approaching the school, which has been actioned from our Highways Improvement Plan. In addition, KCC have also approved and funded new weight restriction signs either side of the junction of Longends Lane on the B2162 which will be erected in May / June time.

Councillor Deborah Papas has worked very hard on our relationship with KCC Highways.

Car Park

We installed a height barrier at the entrance to the car park, to prevent large vehicles from entering.

We have recently approved and instructed works to have an electric supply to the recreation ground, so that we can install lighting, CCTV and possibly car charging.

Councillors Deborah Papas, Ben Ward, Jack Highwood and Charlie Cooper have been very involved in these activities.

Recreation Ground

Councillors Deborah Papas, Jack Highwood, Ben Ward and Charlie Cooper have worked on several fronts in the recreation ground, such as maintaining the playground equipment, repairing fences/gates, replacing signage, organising locks for the gates and barriers, sweeping the stones from the tarmac and clearing litter.

Parish Clerk

I would like to personally thank our Parish Clerk, Mrs. Michelle Rumble for her continued patience and hard work.

25.05.09

CIL MONIES

[DP] reported

£3,135.44 received on 22nd April – going forward, will document which properties the monies are credited for.

Spent £8,743 (ex VAT) to UKPN for electrical hook up in car park.

Amount to spend by 6th November 2025 £5,374.97 (after allowing for £2,014.08 for extra works re electrical hook).

Balance of CIL **£28,908.75**

ACTION: [CLERK] Advise which properties CIL monies came from

25.05.10

HIGHWAYS – HIP and GENERAL

[DP] reported

Still await weight limit signs before and after bridge for Longends Lane.

Micro surfacing planned on 20th and 21st May from school to Haviker Street on B2162. Road will be closed between 9:30am – 3:30pm. Road markings, road studs and iron works (drain and man-hole covers) will be done within eight weeks after this date.

Area signpost at end of Jarmons Lane (by B2162) reported due to being very bent over. Under investigation.

Repeater on Green Lane reported previous month has had works completed.

Two damaged reflector posts on B2162 just before Haviker Street southbound, reported due to being bent and completely off. Works being scheduled.

[DP] stated an updated of the HIP was due to be submitted and asked for any further instruction.

Three suggestions were put forward for consideration and will be added to the HIP before submitting to Kent Highways.

ACTION: [DP] Update HIP

25.05.11

FINANCE – TO APPROVE

25.05.11.01 BANK RECONCILIATION (APRIL)

Proposed [DP] Seconded [KR]

25.05.11.02 BANK STATEMENTS (APRIL)

Proposed [DP] Seconded [SB]

25.05.11.03 TRIAL BALANCE

Proposed [DP] Seconded [KR]

25.05.11.04 BUDGET REPORT YTD

Proposed [DP] Seconded [SB]

25.05.11.05 TO NOTE ANY INCOME RECEIVED SINCE LAST MEETING

[DP]detailed receipts of £23,800 precept, £3,135.44 CIL monies, £768.52 VAT refund, £5,130.50 insurance claim.

25.05.11.06 PAYMENTS FOR MAY (10 totalling £2,132,70)

Proposed [CC] Seconded [SB]

25.05.12

RECREATION FIELD & CAR PARK

25.05.12.01

[BW] reported

Awaiting date for works from UKPN to be confirmed. Need to order the green metal box / unit and other equipment and put the slab down. [JH] to take delivery. Also advised company to use for materials that work with UKPN.

[AP] discussed awaiting on further quotes, then will push on to decide and proceed as soon as possible.

25.05.12.02

[AP] reported that the ground cover for the play area was still to be looked at.

ACTIONS: [BW] Order green box, other equipment and organise slab

[AP] Obtain quotes for the ground cover for play equipment

25.05.13

FLOODING UPDATE

[JH] reported

Very dry month, nothing to report.

25.05.14

CORRESPONDENCE

KALC May Newsletter circulated prior to meeting.

Reminder

KALC AGM 19th May at Yalding Village Hall

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

[AP] confirmed that the next full Council meeting will be, in The Orchard Room, St Margaret's School on MONDAY 2ND JUNE 2025.

15 Years Ago ...

This article was featured in the July 2010 issue of the Collier Street News

Wish You Were Here!



A group of Yalding & Collier Street parishioners, young and old, visited our extended church family in Riepe, Germany at the end of May. We were hosted by local families and entertained with guided tours and barbecues all weekend. The parishioners of Riepe will be visiting us in September and we hope to match their warm hospitality and appetites! *Paul*

THE WEEKEND: *Written by Katherine, Harriet & Maya. 'Cyclones Youth Group'*

"Our trip to Germany started at 12.30pm on

Saturday 29th May. We boarded the minibus and started out full of excitement. All was going well as we headed through France, when we reached Holland, we were making good time. Unfortunately, we discovered that most of the



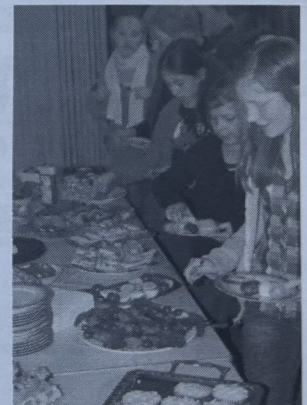
motorway in Holland was shut. Sat nav kindly directed us down a little road to the edge of a river, where a whole motorway of cars were being taken across on a ferry, 8 cars at a time!! The closed motorway had left us stranded in the middle of nowhere, and we had problems locating Germany! Luckily we found someone with a map who spoke English (none of us spoke any Dutch) and we set off again. As we got within 2 minutes from our destination the

minibus declared we were totally out of fuel, but we managed to drive into Riepe after a mere 12 hours on the road, where all our hosts were waiting for us. We were then driven to where we would stay, but since it was 1.15am in the morning we were very anti social, and went to bed.

Our first morning started with a big breakfast. We discovered that the East Freesians were fond of their tea, but not so keen on coffee. We enjoyed bread with butter, meats, cheese, vegetables and home-made jams. After breakfast, we all went to Riepe church together. The church is a very beautiful building, and is known locally as 'The teapot' because of the shape of its Spire. We noticed the graveyard as very neat and well kept. The service was about the same length as ours, consisting of a few hymns, some prayers and the story of Zaccarias complete with cartoons by the church youth group. The local people were very welcoming, a lot of hard work had gone into the service to make it bilingual.



After the service we went to the church hall to enjoy a piece of homemade cake and some more tea! We also met some new people, and did our best to talk to them (mostly in English). After church we had a lovely lunch with our hosts before heading out for an afternoon trip to a local museum. Here we watched a film about the history of Riepe and Emden. Unfortunately it was in German, so we struggled to understand it. We also looked around the museum, and saw lots of interesting photos and artefacts. After the museum, we drove to a nearby garden centre, where we browsed around the shop and were given coffee (unusual for East Freesia) and another piece of cake! After this we went back to our hosts houses for a rest and a game of scrabble before going back to the church hall for a big buffet with all our new friends. We were also given a chance to each stand up and talk about a different aspect of our own community in Kent.



USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS			
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Reverend Paul Kish	01622814182	Burgess Bank Surgery	01622 814380
	Vicar@YaldingChurches.co.uk	Marden Medical Centre	01622 831257
Church Warden tbc		PADDOCK WOOD COMMUNITY ADVICE	
Sec to PCC Evie Cummins	M.slater@outlook.co.uk		01892 838619 info@pwadvice.org
PARISH MAGAZINE		VILLAGE HALLS	
Editors Jacki Fogg	01892 730869	Yalding Village Hall	01622 814163
Emma Howard	editorparishmag@mail.com	Youth & Community Centre	01622 815498
Advertising Tracey Bentley	01892 730252	COLLIER STREET PARISH COUNCIL	
		Clerk to the Council Michelle Rumble	07938 511974
VILLAGE HALL		Parish.clerk@collierstreetparishcouncil.co.uk	
Ben Ward Chairman	07976 277189	<p>Chair – Andrew Papas Vice Chair – Jack Highwood</p> <p>Councillor – Ben Ward Councillor – Charlie Cooper Councillor – Deborah Papas Councillor – Kelly Rigden Councillor – Steve Barham</p> <p>All correspondence to be sent to the Parish Clerk:</p> <p>Michelle Rumble – parish.clerk@collierstreetparishcouncil.co.uk</p> <p>07938 511974</p>	
HELPING HANDS			
Margaret Ashworth (Age Concern Representative)	01892 730323		
SCHOOL			
Headteacher Paul Ryan	01892 730264		
Chairman of Governors Sean Randall	01892 354736/07891 927684		
Friends of Collier Street School			
Chairperson Martha Montagne	chair@focss.org.uk info@focss.org.uk		
YALDING'S WOMENS' NSTITUTE			
Chairperson Deann Stead	07920 402052		
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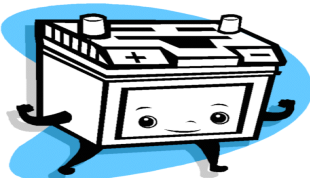
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