



Speldhurst Parish Council

*Working for the whole community*

# NEWSLETTER

## Council matters

The last Newsletter advertised that there were two vacancies on the Parish Council. We are pleased to announce that the positions have been filled by John Kerby, from Groombridge, and Judy Price from Speldhurst. Both took up their positions at the April meeting.



Judy Price



John Kerby

Cllr Julia Soyke from Ashurst, who is also a Tunbridge Wells Borough Councillor, has been elected as the current Deputy Mayor. She will take on the role of Mayor next May.

## Planning matters

TWBC is under huge pressure from the Government to increase the number of new houses built in the Borough. To this end TWBC is embarking on a new Local Plan, and consultations start this year.

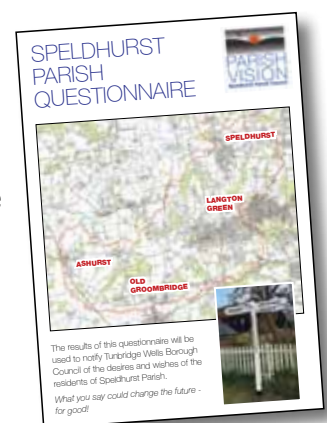
Note: from 4th July residents will be able to view planning applications on TWBC's own website.

## Parish Plan

Following the household survey conducted last November, the Parish Plan Working Group has been busy developing a Plan for the Parish for the next 5 or more years.

It is anticipated this will be completed soon and made available to residents in the autumn.

Ken Howes,  
Working Group  
Chairman



## Air Traffic news

Following the Independent Arrivals Review and its recommendations, Gatwick has announced that it will act on all recommendations. The first step is the creation of the Noise Management Board and High Weald Councils Aviation Action Group, of which SPC is a member, has secured a seat on the Board. We will as SPC and HWCAAG continue to monitor developments closely and keep you informed.

The fight between Heathrow and Gatwick to secure Government approval for additional runway capacity has stepped up several gears. SPC is actively involved through HWCAAG and in cooperation with other local groups in trying to ensure this decision does not go against us with the consequent future impact on our environment.

## Community planting

Nicky Earwaker of Speldhurst has led a small team of local residents to plant some flower beds to highlight the millennium sign. She applied to Speldhurst Parish Council for a grant which was approved and she has done a splendid job.

She is now inviting volunteers to sign up for a rota to maintain the beds.



## Diary date

The Autumn Open Meeting will take place on Monday October 10th at the Langton Green Village Hall starting at 7.30pm for 8pm. The Council will report progress on activities but it is an opportunity for you to talk to councillors about your concerns.

# Highway issues

## SID

The mobile speed device is now in operation and is currently in Groombridge, having been in Ashurst and Langton Green over the past few weeks.

We have encountered a problem on Speldhurst Hill. The undergrowth and hedgerows are now too overgrown to make the SID effective. Once they have been cut back it will be installed.



## Langton Green Recreation Ground

New cast iron posts have been installed outside the Village Hall following an accident last February when an unoccupied parked car rolled backwards knocking over a wooden post and hitting the wall of the hall. Good job nobody was standing around at the time!

## Cars parking on pavements

Councillors want to do something about cars that park in an anti-social manner blocking pavements and forcing pedestrians onto the road. There is also the added concern of the impact of inconsiderate parking on people who use mobility scooters or are partially sighted. The Council will place notices on serial offenders' cars and inform the Police and authorities responsible for monitoring the streets.

### REMINDER

The Parish Council has been keeping a record of the number of accidents in the parish over the last couple of years and relies on information from residents, so please keep us informed. We can lobby for road improvements where they are needed, but without the accident statistics we cannot mount a successful campaign.

# Langton Green Sports Pavilion

This summer sees the completion of the new pavilion on the Langton Green Recreation Ground. The new building has been funded by the FA and Langton Green Charity Sports Association and will provide spacious modern facilities for all the sports clubs using the Recreation Ground. There is also a large multi-purpose function room which will be available for hire, alongside a well-equipped kitchen. Booking arrangements have yet to be finalised, but anyone interested in using this brand-new facility can contact the Parish Council Clerk for further details.



## Defibrillator training

There have been three training sessions since the defibrillators were installed last year which were held in Speldhurst, Langton Green and Ashurst Village Halls. We will be conducting more over the course of the year so if you are interested in learning how to use one please contact the Clerk.



FOR REGULAR UPDATES ON ALL OUR ACTIVITIES GO TO OUR WEB SITE  
[www.speldhurstparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.speldhurstparishcouncil.gov.uk)

## Speldhurst Parish Council

Neil Barrington-Johnson  
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This newsletter will be available, as will future issues, on the Parish Council web site.

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