HORSMONDEN PARISH COUNCIL - ARTICLE FOR PARISH NEWS OCTOBER 2017 EDITION

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING

At their meeting on 4th September the Parish Council voted in favour of supporting the development of a Neighbourhood development plan for Horsmonden. This followed support for the project from over 70 people who emailed and contacted the clerk to say that they would put themselves forward to act as volunteers for the project.

The Parish Council is willing to give its support to a Steering group of volunteers who will lead the project and potentially work with consultants to develop a plan. Funding for the project will come through the council and will depend upon any potential grants which can be claimed by the council for this purpose with the rest of the funding being raised through the annual parish precept.

If you are interested in becoming more involved with this project contact the clerk who will put you in contact with other volunteers/the steering group once it is formed.

PLEASE KEEP AN EYE ON THE NOTICEBOARDS AND WEBSITE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING AS THERE WILL BE MORE SOON!

LOVE WHERE WE LIVE AWARDS 2017.

The Love Where We Live Awards 2017 have now closed for nominations. There were seven categories open for nomination this year, plus the Love Where We Live Award, to be chosen from the category winners and announced at the awards ceremony in October.

The parish Council nominated the following candidates this year and are currently awaiting the results from this year's awards.:

Heath Pharmacy – Ethical Business Award Horsmonden Knitting group – Best Group Award Sara Foster- Individual Hero Award.

HORSEFAIR- SUINDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER 2017

The Horsefair was quite a small event this year compared to events in the past and seemed to run smoothly. Some damages did occur to the village shelter which was hit by a horse during the event, but luckily this was reported to the council by vigilant parishioners and repairs were soon underway to make the shelter safe again. The Council take a deposit cheque from all those hiring the green for events, which is for use when damages occur to the green or parish owned furniture/object situated on the green.

TRAFFIC SOLUTIONS PROJECT

Over the past year the Parish Council have been working with Kent Highway services and traffic consultants MLM , to try and find solutions which may help to slow down the traffic moving through the village and make things safer for all.

Some useful suggestions which seemed viable were put forward and the Council has been working towards a plan to implement these.

Please see below the notice regarding these measures:

Horsmonden Parish Council Traffic Calming Measures Notice to Stakeholders

You are advised of the following measures to be introduced in Horsmonden to reduce traffic speeds and improve safety. The scheme is being developed in conjunction with KCC.

- 1. Relocation of limit of 30mph zone on Brenchley Road 240m to the west of its current location (to coincide with the existing Horsmonden name board).
- 2. Modifications to white lining at the cross roads to improve sight distance for traffic arriving from Lamberhurst Road.
- 3. Installation of gateway features at the limits of 30mph zones on Goudhurst, Lamberhurst, Brenchley and Maidstone Roads.

Detailed drawings covering the above works can be found on the Parish Council website.

Please note that item 1 above will be the subject of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO).

The above will be included in the agenda for the Parish Council meeting on 6 November 2017. Objections should be lodged with the Parish Clerk prior to 27 October 2017.

RECENT PLANNING IN THE VILLAGE

The Parish Council has recently been asked to comment on a couple of quite large planning applications for the village.

TW/17/00763/FULL Land West Of Maidstone Road Horsmonden- for 17 dwellings. 17/01451/OUT - Land rear of Kirkins Close, Horsmonden - for 35 dwellings.

The Parish Council recommended refusal for both applications with different reasons given for their recommendations on each, and we still await the final decisions on these applications from TWBC.

Application TW/17/00763/FULL was discussed by TWBC's planning committee on 30th August having been called in to the committee by Cllr March as our Borough Councillor. This meant that a recommendation was made by TWBC's Planning Committee instead of the decision being made solely by the individual planning officer .The committee listened to Cllr March 's reasons for recommended refusal as well as parishioners who had asked to speak,

however their final recommendation was still to accept the proposal in the absence of a five year supply for housing and because of the position of the land which is located right next to the limits to built development with pedestrian links into the village centre.

The Parish Council also asked for application TW/17/01451/OUT for 35 new homes to be 'called in' to the TWBC planning Committee for recommendation rather than a planning officer decision.

The comments from the planning committee and parish council (as well as all other parties invited to comment) can be read on the TWBC website:

www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk

– follow the planning tab and put in the planning application numbers as above.

AUTUMN FESTIVAL 7TH& 8TH OCTOBER.

Our great team of HoVEC volunteers have again organised a weekend of entertainment with the Autumn Festival for 7th & 8th October.

The event will include a fundraising coffee morning at the social club, a petting zoo on the Village Green, a scarecrow competition on the green with scarecrow trail, a flower festival at St Margaret's church and a guided walk to the Church on the Sunday. There will also be an apple, cider and beer tasting festival at Heath Stores during the weekend.

So, please keep your eyes on village boards and websites for all the timings and details.

FORTH COMING MEETING DATES

Parish Council Meeting – Monday 2nd October Planning Meeting - Tuesday 17th October Parish Council Meeting – Monday 6th November Planning Meeting - Tuesday 21st November Parish Council Meeting – Monday 4th December

<u>Finance Committee Meeting Monday 11th</u> December

Please note that any change to meetings will be publicised on our notice boards and website as below together with the full meeting schedule for 2017.

WWW.horsmonden-pc.gov.uk FOR ANYTHING YOU WISH TO KNOW ABOUT THE COUNCIL OR ITS ACTIVITIES. There is also a lot of other useful information on the site, such as dust cart timetable, local road works etc. You can sign up for email alerts which will let you know when a news item has gone on site!

Please feel free to contact the clerk, as below.

<u>Lucy Noakes (clerk) on (01892) 724989</u>

Clerk to Horsmonden Parish Council

Telephone: 01892 724989

mobile: 07484904765

E-mail: <u>clerk@horsmonden-pc.gov.uk</u>

Office open to the public: Mon & Wed 9am-3pm, Fri
9am -12pm.

USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS:

Kent Highways services 03000 418181
Tunbridge wells Borough Council 01892 526121
Environment Agency 24 hour Flood line:08459881188
PCSO Jenkins - 079769584279
Non emergency Police line – 101
Emergencies only - 999
UK Power net works – Power cut -0800 31 63 105 on a landline or 0333 32 32 105 (if calling from a mobile)