

Minutes of Mersham Parish Council
Meeting held on Monday, 21st September 2020 via Skype

Present	Gavin Murphy (Chair)	Geoffrey Fletcher
	Peter Hawkins	Stewart Ross
	Melanie Wells	

In attendance: Borough Councillor Paul Bartlett and Tracey Block (Clerk)

To be actioned by:

<p>To receive and approve apologies for absence.</p> <p>Apologies had been received from Cllr Turley and Cllr Stewart.</p>	
<p>To receive declarations of interest (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Other Significant Interests). The nature as well as the existence of any such interest must be declared.</p> <p>Cllr Bartlett declared an interest in MOJO due to the proximity of his home to this site. Cllrs Bartlett, Fletcher and Ross declared an interest in planning application: 20/01213/AS and did not comment.</p>	
<p>To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 20th July 2020</p> <p>Minutes of the Meeting of the Mersham with Sevington Parish Council on 20th July 2020 were approved as a true record and were signed as such. Cllr Wells proposed approval and Cllr Fletcher seconded this.</p>	
<p>To discuss matters arising from previous minutes that are not covered by the agenda.</p> <p>Mersham Manor – Cllr Turley is awaiting a response. Cllr Murphy to contact Cllr Turley for an update, Cllr Fletcher suggested that Cllr Bartlett is to take this up directly with the Officer at ABC. The Clerk is to forward any information received since 27th August. There were some pretty strong allegations of incompetence about ABC. However, the owner is not engaging with ABC. Ultimately, ABC has powers to require the owner has to undertake some work on site. Cllr Bartlett to follow this up. Cllr Turley is engaging with ABC to ensure that we have a balanced view with input from all parties.</p>	PB
<p>Public session: To receive questions and comments from the public on any agenda item.</p> <p>There were no members of the public in attendance.</p>	
<p>To receive report from Borough Councillor</p> <p>Detailed report attached below</p> <p>Cllr Bartlett – highlighted the housing review, it is highly important that the PC replies with its own view. Very relevant to note how the land will be found to accommodate the additional houses. Need the Parish to join with others. There are 2 consultations – a review of the current planning rules – respond by 1st October. New planning system consultation closes on 31st October. These 2 consultations are of equal importance. It is important to note how the planning system will change. Planning consent would be deemed to be given if the site is in the local plan, the Village Hall site would have been given consent automatically. Had there been an issue, there would be nothing that could be done. Control will be taken away from local people or local Councils. There would be no right of appeal.</p> <p>Cllr Fletcher – the new system and change of the current system would be a free for all for development. Think this is disgraceful. Authority is being devolved in most situations but this change is taking away any power.</p> <p>Cllr Bartlett – The other point that is important that there is no designation for flooded areas but there is for AONB – so area from The Forstal to Cheeseman’s Green would not have any automatic protection in that area. Ashford Great Park could return as proposed previously – this was 4000 houses.</p>	

<p>Cllr Murphy to meet up with Cllr Fletcher, Cllr Turley plus any available, to produce a response and circulate to all. Cllr Ross explained that KALC have undertaken a lot of work on this, this would be most useful. This was circulated by the Clerk on Friday.</p>	<p>GM/ GF/PT</p>
<p>To discuss the latest position with regard to the MOJO site</p> <p>Cllr Bartlett explained that since we last met there have been 2 meetings, the first was a briefing from the Minister for the Borough Council.</p> <p>Highfield Lane will not be realigned – AXA were going to make it easier to use but this is not going to happy now. This was to be used as a distribution road and the DfT say they do not have to do this BUT Highfield Lane will be used as an emergency blue light access to the site in the event of an emergency.</p> <p>They are dropping the MOJO name but are calling it the Sevington Inland Border Centre.</p> <p>The public engagement will start in about 2 weeks time, this will be virtual. There will be a website open for comment for 2 weeks so once it opens we will need to be rapid with our response.</p> <p>There will be important documents available and hard copies will be available at Information Points.</p> <p>There is probably value in dividing the documents up to work through as they will be too much for one person.</p> <p>We will need to help people to be made aware of the documentation when it is available for them to comment.</p> <p>DEFRA – is not going to be on-site until July 2021.</p> <p>The site is going to be different but it is not that different between AXA plans and the DfT plans. Once we have the proper consultation document made available, we will be able to see these better.</p> <p>Cllr Bartlett to email the plans. Councillors have seen these, there are no documents regarding how electric points will be in place to assist refrigerated lorries to run to save engines running overnight.</p> <p>If documents are not available, questions need to be asked.</p> <p>When putting together the public engagement pack they may not include the information – the consultation is the time to request.</p> <p>Imagine there will be a detention centre on site as there is at Eurotunnel site.</p> <p>It was interesting to hear that there are already quite a lot of checks on lorries already, trading standards for example, are very busy at Dover Port. Just because they are made in Europe does not mean they are adequate for UK standards.</p> <p>Custom duty and VAT is self-assessed and only applied by hauliers and undertaken on trust. They believe they will only need an HMRC centre for 5 years because hauliers will either be honest or they won't by then. Penalties to be implemented are draconian, any haulier not complying will be banned from using Eurotunnel for 3 weeks. This would hit someone like Eddie Stobart very hard.</p> <p>Don't know yet how many lorries will be called in to the site, this could be 1 in 50 or even 1 in 500. This could be only 80 lorries. Cells will be required as will sniffer dogs. Staff car park is 300 spaces, this is a large operation.</p> <p>They have promised that we would be invited for a tour of the site prior to it opening, think a look around would be very interesting.</p> <p>3 months to opening, do you think this is going to happen in 2 weeks? They are late already following the meeting. They are fearing a Judicial Review so PB is sure there will be a stakeholder engagement. Do not think they will make a mistake because this will damage the BREXIT process. Minister can just say thank you and not take notice of the requests from the Minister. Request re: the buffer zone, could request planting for woodland etc. Maybe put in a leisure area and a trim trail for runners etc. If parish is clear this</p>	<p>All</p> <p>All</p>

<p>may be considered. Need to put together a plan.</p> <p>Cllr Bartlett has asked for Churchyard in Sevington to be cleared .</p> <p>Cllr Fletcher and Cllr Murphy in agreement with Cllr Bartlett re: planting woodland etc. Need to introduce a positive. Perhaps put this idea together.</p> <p>Cllr Fletcher noted that the site is 27 hectares not 27 acres, proposing 13-1500 lorries now.</p> <p>Cllr Bartlett feels that the plans are now a lot clearer.</p> <p>Cllr Murphy thought that the plans are looking slightly more palatable now.</p> <p>Cllr Bartlett – might be worth thinking about what might be acceptable beyond the 5 year term – suggest getting ABC/KCC involved to undertake a joint venture with DfT to provide local accountability. Now that the infrastructure is in place, could be a warehouse but could, equally be housing. Look for exit strategy involvement. AXA mooted the idea for 35 executive properties like Rectory Close. Time moves quickly, so the planning would be applied for in 3-4 years time.</p>			
<p>To receive an update regarding position of the broadband project for Mersham</p> <p>OpenReach are to come back with figures within the next 3 weeks, Cllr Turley had suggested that Cllr Fletcher head up a working group and Cllr Turley is to discuss further with Cllr Fletcher.</p>			PT/GF
<p>To receive an update on the Highways Improvement Plan</p> <p>The Clerk explained that she has submitted the request to Kent Highways, and they are busy elsewhere but will provide the costings as soon as possible.</p> <p>Cllr Ross stated that the comment regarding the speed reduction by parked cars is ridiculous. The road at the back of the hospital is being resurfaced but the A20 is not – It was agreed that the Clerk will report to Clair Bell and Kent Highways. Make a request for resurfacing of A20. Cllr Bartlett said this is about the number of nearby domestic properties. A20 is a major issue.</p> <p>The Clerk is to report and follow up with Clair Bell. Others to log on the website, The Clerk will share the link to the website with the minutes.</p>			TB
<p>To discuss funding options for a Speed Indicator Device</p> <p>The Clerk is to apply for a grant from Paul Bartlett and Clair Bell to be able to purchase SID for £7000 +VAT. The PC will also part-fund (approx. £1500).</p>			TB
<p>Planning matters: to authorise a response to any application(s) and to note any recent planning decisions by Ashford Borough Council or any correspondence on planning matters.</p> <p>A list of Planning Applications was circulated as Appendix A with the agenda, those requiring a response were:</p>			
20/01068/AS	10 Glebelands, Mersham	Single storey rear extension	
<p>No objections raised, however, Council requests that comments by the neighbours be taken note of.</p>			
20/01094/AS	3 Oaklands, Mersham	Dormer window and roof lights to facilitate loft conversion. Single storey wrap around extension	
<p>No objections raised, however, Council requests that comments by the neighbours be taken note of.</p>			
20/0018/GPDE/AS	6 Long Row, Flood Street, Mersham, Ashford, Kent, TN25 7HD	Notification of a larger homes extension - single storey rear extension (depth 6.0m x ridge height 3.7m x eaves height 3.0m)	
<p>No objections raised, however, Council requests that comments by the neighbours be taken note of.</p>			

20/01213/AS	1 Alexandra Terrace, Flood Street, Mersham, Ashford, Kent, TN25 6NU	Erection of a timber garage																			
No objections raised, however, Council requests that comments by the neighbours be taken note of.																					
20/01216/AS	6 Long Row, Flood Street, Mersham, Ashford, Kent, TN25 7HD	Single storey rear extension																			
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Financial matters:																					
a. To note/authorise the following:																					
i. To note the Parish Council's Financial position																					
<i>The Parish Council bank balance as at 31/08/2020 of £9645.51</i>																					
ii. To authorise any payments																					
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Cheque No:</th> <th>Payee</th> <th>Amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>502027</td> <td>Ashford Borough Council – printing</td> <td>£ 1.97</td> </tr> <tr> <td>502028</td> <td>HMRC</td> <td>£ 153.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>502029</td> <td>Village Caretaker Account</td> <td>£ 2515.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>502030</td> <td>Ian King</td> <td>£ 118.31</td> </tr> <tr> <td>502031</td> <td>T Block</td> <td>£ 321.96</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Cheque No:	Payee	Amount	502027	Ashford Borough Council – printing	£ 1.97	502028	HMRC	£ 153.40	502029	Village Caretaker Account	£ 2515.00	502030	Ian King	£ 118.31	502031	T Block	£ 321.96
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A copy of the budget v expenditure was distributed to all Councillors.																					
Any Other Business (for information purposes only):																					
Cllr Wells does not like the new cycle lanes in Ashford. Cllr Bartlett encourages comments re: these lanes to be sent to activetravelfund@kent.gov.uk . This is really dangerous, the taking away of the traffic lights is very dangerous.			All																		
Cllr Hawkins noted the stiles at the back of the school have been reported, lots of parents are using these now. TB to contact PROW Officer if no action.			PH/TB																		
Cllr Fletcher noted that as we await the update from PM re: Covid 19, this might affect how we discuss the issues raised in the meeting, if necessary this will be virtual.																					
Cllr Murphy raised the matter of issue of litter being left, the litter being collected has receipt with card number, date and time etc. Cllr Fletcher took the issue up with ABC but was advised to contact Clair Bell. The Borough Council have much greater powers now, take photograph and submit. Credit card slip is not necessarily useful, if address can be pursued through the QR code and details. This may be followed up, Cllr Murphy to follow this through.			GM																		
Determining the time and place of ordinary meetings of the Council up to and including the next annual meeting of the Council.																					
Monday 19th October 2020																					
Monday 16th November 2020																					

Monday 18th January 2021 Monday 15th February 2021 Monday 15th March 2021 Monday 19th April 2021 Monday 17th May 2021	All
The meeting closed at 9.25 pm	

COUNCIL UPDATE OCTOBER 2020

PLANNING REVIEW

The Government announced ideas for delivering its target of 300,000 new homes in the UK by making changes to the planning system in England. There are 24 proposals across three “pillars”, (i) planning for development, (ii) planning for beautiful and sustainable places and (iii) planning for infrastructure and connected places. A local plan with rules, including local design standards, rather than policies will need to be in place within 30 months.

Land in the plan will be designated for (i) growth, (ii) renewal or (iii) protection. Development in growth areas will not need planning consent as this will be given in the plan. Renewal areas will only have some development permitted and protected areas will have development restricted.

Other changes include:

- digital planning
- infrastructure levy to replace s106 contributions
- a new category of affordable housing called “First Homes” with a 30% discount on the purchase price
- minimum of 25% affordable
- new mechanism of assessing local housing needs

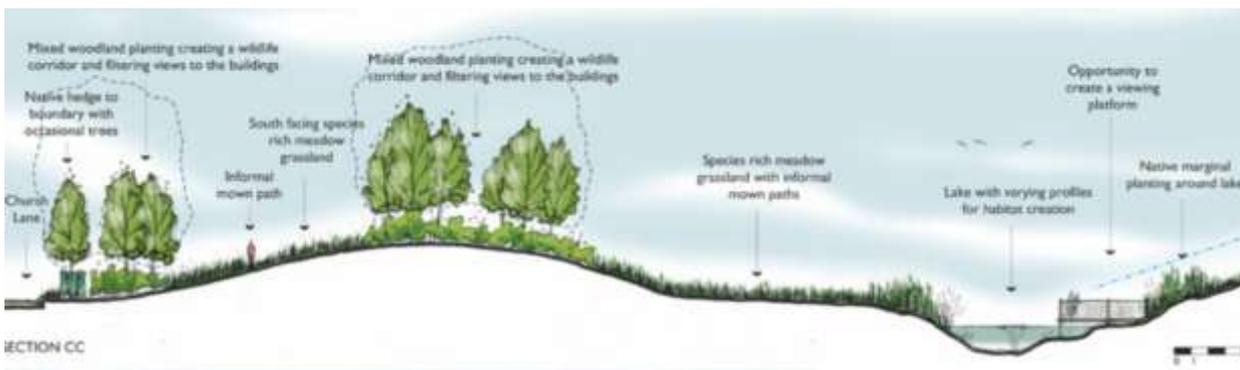
The consultation includes “Changes to the Current Planning System” closing on 1 October 2020 at www.gov.uk/government/consultations/changes-to-the-current-planning-system and “Planning for the Future” closing on 29 October at www.gov.uk/government/consultations/planning-for-the-future.

The focus for community and parish councils will clearly be on the Local Plan and not individual planning decisions. Any new system must provide local control of developments and have public participation at its heart.

MOJO

KCC has been appointed to carry out work valued up to £37m to prepare Stour Park for MOJO. This will include work on the boundaries to protect the amenity of nearby residents.

The setting of Church Road is expected to be enhanced through the implementation of a gently undulating landform created by varying profiled bunds and features in the form of ponds and shallow grassed swales. Woodland planting to be established along the slopes of the bunds and adjacent to Church Road so as to reinforce the existing sunken character of Church Road, whilst allowing for occasional filtered views across the undulating grassland / wildflower meadows and ponds. A second layer of woodland planting and landscaped bunds create a dense backdrop to these views and will filter views. KCC has the opportunity to deliver a functional environment which provides long term value for locals, visitors and wildlife.

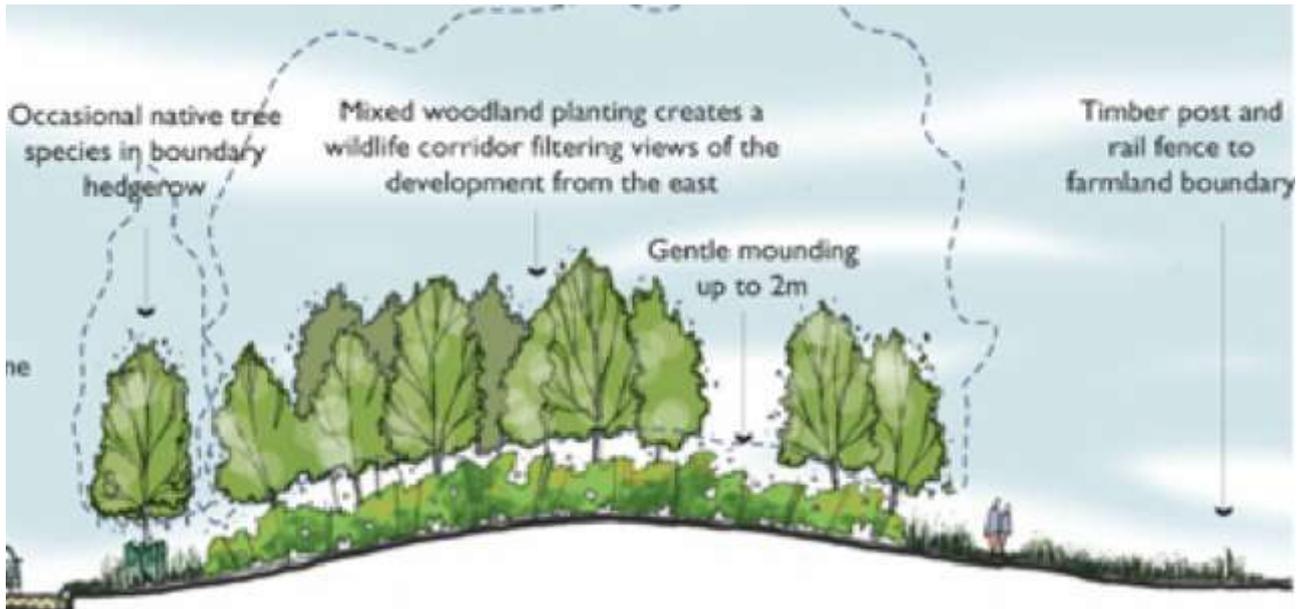


Other work includes creating a community hub at Sevington Church. The new church setting will create an area for contemplation and leisure. This will include a new car park, a small orchard reflecting historical precedent with pond and wildlife habitats within an eco-park environment.



Highfield Lane will be reinstated with an enhanced sense of enclosure provided by new native woodland and hedgerow planting to the east and west respectively. The woodland will be set within gentle bunds to create the

sense of a sunken green lane which is a key positive landscape characteristic of the Mersham Farmlands and responds to the council's landscape character policy objectives.



A portal with plans showing the layout will be available during September. Other issues to come out of Damian and my meeting with Rachel Maclean were:

- MOJO is a contingency lorry park for traffic diverted from TAP and Brock which is not "Ferry Ready".
- Brock to be put in place before MOJO is used for contingency lorry parking.
- HMRC offices will be to the south of the site nearest to Church Road. DEFRA site nearer the centre of the site with remainder for contingency parking.
- Part of the contingency parking to the south east of the site will only be used for 6 months.
- A further letter drop will be done with residents once the portal is open.
- SDO to be laid before Parliament in September. There is no time to include a clause that the eastern site will not be used. Minister to re-iterate on Teams call with Parish Councillors on 8 September that Eastern site will not be used.
- The site will be used for 5 years only (but who knows what will happen in 5 years time?)
- Access for lorries only via J10A, Church Road to be realigned and provide staff access (300 car movements).
- Church views obscured for first 6 months only. Closed footpath AE639 restored at that point.
- Highfield Lane will not be realigned (as AXA planned) as DfT scheme sees no need.

BROCK

Work to install a new moveable barrier on the hard shoulder London-bound M20 between junctions 9 and 8 started on 1 September. The barrier will keep traffic moving on the M20 in the event of cross-Channel disruption from strikes and bad weather. Work lasts to the end of November 2020.

The system will allow port-bound lorries to be held on the motorway and ensure other traffic continues to run in both directions. Unlike previous Operation Stack solutions it means that, when it is not deployed, the M20 motorway will with three lanes running in each direction, at 70mph.

There will be overnight or lane closures between the junctions from 9pm – 6am from 1-11 September except 6 September. It will also be closed 16–25 November except on 22 November when the motorway will stay open.

Whenever the London-bound carriageway is closed traffic will be diverted from junction 9 via the A20 to re-join the M20 at junction 8. Vehicles over 4.7m high need to follow a different route, which is to turn around at junction 9 to re-join the M20 towards Dover, then the A20, the A2, then the M2. Drivers should then leave the M2 for the A249, to re-join the M20 at junction 7 and head back towards junction 8.

It is expected that Brock will be deployed before MOJO is used to accommodate coast bound traffic. This is because MOJO is for customs clearance and needs to be available for inward clearance and space for those lorries not permitted to join the Brock queue who need to get their papers sorted.

FINBERRY TRAFFIC LIGHTS

It has been reported that work is expected to start on the second stage of the Bellamy Gurner Scheme at the Orbital roundabout in the autumn. This will allow all direction exit from Finberry. The trigger point for the work starting is 500 occupations at Finberry. What was previously being suggested earlier this summer was an early 2021 start with a 12-month build. Highways England have been asked for an update.

KFC

Plans setting out the layout, scale, appearance etc for a new fast food restaurant and drive-through at Waterbrook have been published.



Further details can be seen at <https://planning.ashford.gov.uk/Planning/details.aspx?systemkey=116060>

HIGHWAYS

A £1.1 million 'retread' programme – using the existing road as a base for a new one – has seen 18 kilometres of rural roads reconstructed in an economical and environmentally friendly way. The work started in May and ran to the end of July.

Retread involves planing the old road surface and breaking it up, with the broken material levelled out to form the new road base. A fresh bitumen emulsion is mixed into the broken material to bind it and the road mix is compacted and sealed to provide a new, levelled and pothole-free surface.

As this method recycles the existing road, with fresh stone brought in only if required, a significant reduction in costs, material and CO2 admissions is the end result. The cost is around £16 to 18 per square metre compared to traditional resurfacing which can range between £35 and £50 a square metre.

Before is on the left and after is on the right from a road in Marden.



JASMIN VARDIMON DANCE CENTRE

Funding has been secured for a new creative laboratory at Henwood for renowned creative and dance organisation Jasmin Vardimon. The space will be on Javelin Way and will include rehearsal and performance space and a hub for creative communities in Ashford. Work is set to start on site soon with an opening expected in early 2022. KCC has secured funding from the government's Getting Building Fund of £578,724 which is administered by the Local Enterprise Partnership. ABC is contributing £750,000 from the Business Rates Retention Pilot and £3m has come from the National Lottery through the Arts Council's Capital Large Grants programme.

The new building will include incubator space for local creative communities and will develop Javelin Way for employment use with 29 light industrial units. The light industrial units are being used as enabling development to fund the education space and will support the growth of small and medium-sized enterprises. The scheme will accommodate 31 full-time equivalent employees, in addition to 21 freelance and contractor opportunities. It will also deliver opportunities for business development in the creative sector, as well as business rates and educational impacts.

BROADBAND

The Rural Gigabit Voucher Scheme is funding for residents in the hardest-to-reach places in the UK towards the cost of installing gigabit-capable broadband to their premises when part of a group project. Premises with broadband speeds of less than 30Mbps can use vouchers worth up to £3,500 for each small and medium-sized businesses, and up to £1,500 per residential premise to support the cost of installing new gigabit-capable connections.

A Kent Top-up Voucher Scheme will enable Kent residents to benefit from up to £1,000 of additional funding. This means that Kent homes can get vouchers worth up to £2,500 instead of the standard voucher amount of up to £1,500 elsewhere. The Kent Top-Up Voucher only applies to residents not businesses and the Council has new allocated funds of £2,290,152 to deliver this.

BEECHOLME DRIVE

There have been reports of Anti-social behaviour in Beecholme Drive. Youths have been at the shelter and are causing anti-social behaviour. Flooring has been ripped up and thrown over the park and on the road. There have been reports of youths putting large objects in the road in order to cause traffic issues. There is possible drug use in the area. The PCSO is aware of some of the youths that are involved in this issue and they have all been spoken to about their behaviour. At the start of August, the Ashford Community Safety Unit received a new member, PC Joshua Hammond who has attended the area and has spoken to the youths; he has made them aware of the potential consequences if their behaviour continues. So far, the amount of calls received in relation to this issue has decreased. The PCSO will be monitoring the area and patrolling regularly.

KENT SOLAR TOGETHER

A scheme that will be of financial benefit to residents of Kent and help KCC achieve their Net Zero ambitions for the county has been launched. Domestic energy consumption accounts for 28% of carbon emissions in Kent. Installing solar panels has the potential to reduce carbon emissions in Kent by 777 tonnes a year whilst reducing energy bills for residents.

A problem is that the average cost of a 3.5kWp solar PV installation is £4,800. Prices have fallen since 2008, but the initial cost is a barrier to uptake. However, since January 2020 the Smart Export Guarantee ensures residents have access to tariffs that will pay them for electricity exported to the grid. Solar has therefore never been more affordable.

Solar Together Kent is a new collective solar PV buying scheme to help households get a reduced-price installation of solar panels. It relies on large numbers of households signing up to negotiate a better deal for everyone taking part. The scheme is being run in partnership with iChoosr (the collective buying provider).

The scheme is primarily aimed at domestic residents but is also open to small businesses, landlords and community buildings, provided the installation is less than 50 panels. Owners who already have solar panels will be able to get quotes to add battery storage to their existing solar panel systems.

Objectives of the scheme are to

- increase the number of solar panels installed in Kent and reduce carbon emissions by around 777 tonnes per year
- provide access to competitively priced quotes to make solar energy and battery storage systems more accessible for residents
- stimulate the local solar economy by raising public awareness and interest.

Project timings

- 1st September 2020: Marketing and registration opens for residents
- 6th October 2020: Reverse auction takes place among the procured suppliers to get the best quote
- 26th October- 11th December 2020: decision phase for residents to decide if they want to go ahead with their quote
- December 2020 – June 2021: Solar panels and battery systems are installed on homes

Further information from www.solartogether.co.uk/Kent or phone 0800 014 8721.



STROKE REVIEW

On 25th August the Court of Appeal refused permission for an appeal hearing against the judicial review ruling on Kent & Medway stroke services review. This decision draws a line under the legal process challenging the decision to implement three hyper acute stroke units in Kent and Medway, and brings the NHS closer to being able to make improvements to services that will save lives and reduce disability from stroke.

The Kent and Medway Stroke Programme is still awaiting the decision from the Secretary of State on the referral for an independent review of the process. The Stroke Programme is working closely with NHS England and Improvement to progress this so that they can move forward with implementation of the HASUs. The project will cost £38m to implement and includes a new 52-bed specialist stroke ward at the WHH.

GP APPOINTMENTS

Although some face-to-face appointments will still be necessary during this unprecedented time, many GP surgeries and healthcare services are offering virtual and online appointments. You can use your smartphone, tablet or computer to have an online consultation. Updated guidance has been published on how to get the most out of online appointments, including what to expect and what to do if you are prescribed medication. Please see the following websites:

<https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/nhs-services/gps/gp-online-and-video-consultations/>
<https://www.healthwatch.co.uk/blog/2020-07-27/doctor-will-zoom-you-now>

Has your NHS operation or treatment been cancelled due to Covid? Or maybe your treatment has continued despite the pandemic.

Either way, Healthwatch Kent wants to hear from you. If your case has been postponed, how was it communicated? Have you heard anything since? Get in touch and tell your story. Call the freephone Helpline on 0808 801 0102 or email info@healthwatchkent.co.uk



Be aware of BSL!

British Sign Language

Spotted someone not wearing a face covering? It might be because they have a sensory impairment.

Some hard of hearing or deafened people rely on lipreading which is completely covered by masks, therefore making conversations incredibly difficult to understand. Deaf people who use British Sign Language (BSL) have different lip-reading skills, but all rely on mouth patterns and the whole face for visual clues, including tone of voice, emotions and affirmations.

As a result, there is the potential for a complete communication breakdown between yourselves and a deaf person, which could leave them feeling emotionally distressed, upset, frustrated and further isolated.

However, there are some simple adjustments you can make to aid communication such as;

- Consider if you are able to maintain the recommended social distance and remove the mask
- Use an alternative mask with a clear window or use a face shield *please note, some of these steam up, making visibility difficult
- Have either paper and pen or a small whiteboard and pen nearby and ready to use
- Use gestures where possible
- Use the voice recognition on your phone alongside a 'Notes' application or use a voice recognition transcribing app

For those in medical settings with a BSL user, use BSL Health Access via Interpreter Now*

*Please note, for BSL users who have appointments in advance, a qualified and registered BSL/English interpreter must be booked either in person or remotely.

For more information, you can contact the KCC Sensory Services Team on 03000 418100.

Alternatively, please text via SMS on 07920 154 315, stating how you would like us to contact you (e.g. BSL via facetime etc)



GREAT BRITISH SEPTEMBER CLEAN

Due to the current Covid-19 situation Ashford Borough Council will loan out equipment very differently this year for the September Clean. ABC will only hire out equipment to pre-existing litter picking groups and parish councils. They are asking for groups to keep hold of the equipment for 3 weeks and have an adequate place to store the equipment when not in use. Only 6 litter pickers will be issued at a time to each group to ensure government guidelines are maintained. To loan the equipment you must fill in a Community litter pick form on ABC website. Due to the enhanced health and safety precautions we are taking, it is a first come first served system.

You will need to pick up the equipment on Friday 11th September 2020 between 1000 – 1300 hours from Unit 26 Carlton Road Business Centre, Carlton Road, Ashford, TN23 1DP. All equipment will be cleaned before collection. All equipment must be returned on Friday 2nd October 2020 from 1000 – 1300 hours to Carlton Road. Contact street.scene@ashford.gov.uk for further information.

Paul Bartlett
Mersham, Sevington South and Finberry ward & Deputy Leader, ABC
Ashford Central Division, KCC
Grosvenor Hall Ward, Kennington Community Council
01233 500667 or 0773 929 3502
paul.bartlett@ashford.gov.uk