

## **Hartlip Parish Council Meeting – 8 December 2021**

### **Planning.**

#### **Application received since the November meeting.**

Application ref: 21/503629

Change of use of land from agricultural field to three horse paddocks, erection of stable building of two loose boxes and hay store at Hartlip Barn, Sweepstakes Farm, Lower Hartlip Road. (Revised details)

#### **(Objection)**

#### **Planning Appeal Householder Application.**

Notification has been received that an appeal has been lodged in relation to the decision of Swale Borough Council to refuse permission for the erection of an outbuilding to be used as a gym at Copper Beeches, The Street, Hartlip.

#### **Police and Neighbourhood Watch matters.**

##### **Police.**

PCSO John Cork, who has been the PCSO for the Hartlip area for a number of years, is moving to Sheerness with effect from 1 January 2022.

We thank John for his assistance over the years and wish him well in his new posting.

John's replacement is PCSO Lorraine Holmes and we welcome her to her new posting.

Lorraine's email address is [Lorraine.holmes@kent.police.uk](mailto:Lorraine.holmes@kent.police.uk).

It is Lorraine's stated intention to attend meetings of the Parish Council whenever possible or to provide a written report when it is not possible.

##### **Neighbourhood Watch.**

A report was received of a van window being smashed and tools stolen between 5 and 6 December 2021 at Popes Hall, The Street, Hartlip.

##### **Vacancy for a Councillor.**

There is currently one vacancy on the Parish Council.

If you are interested in becoming a Councillor please contact Tracy Still, Clerk to the Parish Council at [hartlipclerk@gmail.com](mailto:hartlipclerk@gmail.com).

## **Hartlip Parish Highways Plan.**

As residents are aware the greatest part of the first phase of Hartlip Highways Plan, which residents have been kept informed about throughout, has now been implemented.

One item remains on the first phase and HPC is, as residents were promised, looking to address this as a matter of urgency.

This item is to give consideration to the speed limit in Mill Lane to establish if a reduction to 20mph can be achieved.

As always when a speed limit reduction is sought, the first step is the conduct of a speed survey by KCC. Analysis of the results is critical to moving the matter forward.

HPC have requested that KCC conduct a speed survey in Mill Lane to ascertain what is possible to achieve.

Work has also started on developing the second phase of the Highways Plan which will include a speed survey in Munns Lane (speed limit recently reduced from 60mph to 40 mph) and Place Lane.

Funding is being sought to cover the cost of these surveys.

As always residents will be kept abreast of progress.

**+++++STOP PRESS+++++**

Since the December 2021 meeting, HPC Chair has pursued the matter of KCC carrying out a speed survey in Mill Lane and is pleased to be able to report that KCC will be carrying out that process soon.

More information will follow in due course.

## **Civility in Public Life**

There is growing concern nationally regarding the abuse and attempts to intimidate individuals in public life.

This abuse can take various forms and includes abuse posted by people on social media.

The Local Government Association's Research and Information Team is conducting a survey in which they are calling for evidence of the abuse and intimidation of councillors.

The association has committed to promoting civility in public life and supporting the well-being of members.

This call for evidence is an ongoing part of the Civility in Public Life Programme to capture members' experiences and emerging trends around abuse and intimidation from the public. Evidence collected will help the LGA to develop a

body of evidence to support legislative and systemic change and develop support for members.

***The following definitions are used for this survey:***

***Abuse*** – words and/or behaviour that constitute abuse or mistreatment can include, but is not limited to, physical abuse, bullying, emotional abuse, unsolicited abusive communication, and harassment. It may be one-off or repeated.

***Intimidation*** - words and/or behaviour intended or likely to block, influence, or deter participation in public debate or causing alarm or distress. It may be one-off or repeated behaviour.

**Parish Councillors have been asked to participate and submit evidence from their personal experience.**

### **Cancellation of January Parish Council meeting.**

Following advice from the Kent Association of Local Councils, the January meeting of Hartlip Parish Council was cancelled due to the rapid spread of the Covid-19 variant, Omicron.

### **Date of next meeting.**

The next meeting of Hartlip Parish Council will be held at Hartlip Village Hall on **Wednesday the 9<sup>th</sup> of February 2022 at 8pm.**

The open half hour for residents to ask questions will be from 8.00 to 8.30pm. The Parish Council policy, 'Speaking at Meetings' is on HPC website for the information of potential attendees who should register their wish to attend with the Clerk to the Parish Council.

Hartlip Parish Council.