



HORSMONDEN PARISH COUNCIL - ARTICLE FOR PARISH NEWS AUGUST-SEPTEMBER EDITION

COVID-19 - CORONAVIRUS

The Parish Council is working to keep up to speed on the frequent and sometimes challenging changes made concerning parish and community activities due to the current pandemic situation. Support from the village and volunteer groups has helped the Council and is very much appreciated.

The Parish Council is also reviewing its own Community Emergency Plan and is keen to hear from anyone who would be willing to become a member of a group of volunteers who may be able to help in the future, particularly if you have been involved in any of the volunteer groups recently. Here is a link to the Council page: <http://www.horsmonden-pc.gov.uk/community/horsmonden-parish-council-12615/emergency-planning/> If you are interested to be part of this important group, please contact the Clerk by email or telephone: clerk@horsmonden-pc.gov.uk, 01892 724989.

You may also spot a number of Government-recommended notices around the village which will help us stay safe and remind us how we can support our community.

The Council provides up-to-date information and links on its website www.horsmonden-pc.gov.uk, Facebook page and noticeboards about how and where residents can seek assistance and advice. Information continues to move quickly so here are some sites worth viewing:

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>
<http://tunbridgewells.gov.uk/coronavirus-updates>

If you need help from TWBC:

<http://www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk/coronavirus-updates/need-help-contact-us>

Or phone: 01892 554497 (9am - 5pm)

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Parish Council encourages residents to attend its online remote meetings – both monthly Council meetings and planning committee – and if you would like to “attend” any meetings or speak at the Public Session, contact the Clerk by email or on the mobile number below and she will provide you joining details. Agendas are posted online using our website and Facebook and will be displayed on the noticeboards.

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND APPLICATIONS

Planning applications are shown on the Tunbridge Wells Borough Council website and the Parish Council is

having its monthly Planning Committee. Applications have increased recently. Residents are invited to attend these remote meetings by contacting the Clerk as above.

If you do not want to attend the meetings, you are able to make comments on applications via the TWBC site which are important to ensure your views are shared with the Borough Council.

NEW PCSO

Our area has a new Police Community Support Officer (“PCSO”). His name is Nicholas Brown and he can be contacted, currently by email only, on: Nicholas.Brown@kent.police.uk. The role of a PCSO is to work with communities and businesses to promote community safety, along with identifying and supporting vulnerable people in the community. The PCSO will spend time in specific areas and will respond to concerns raised.

However, you should phone 999 or 101 if you experience problems in the village which need urgent help.

PARISH OFFICE

The Clerk and Assistant Clerk are working in the office with appropriate safeguards. If visitors do need to go to the office, they will be seen under the most up-to-date Government guidelines and restrictions. Feel free to email or call the office where messages can be left but please note visitors will not be allowed into the office.

SEPTEMBER HORSE FAIR CANCELLED

Along with many other horse fairs in the country this year, the Travellers community has made the difficult but carefully considered decision to cancel the traditional horse fair which usually takes place in the village. The pandemic has affected many of their activities and the Parish Council appreciates and supports this decision which will help protect their community as well as residents and visitors around the parish.

PUBLIC FOOTPATHS

Don't forget our public footpaths! This link is easy to use if you want to report any problems:

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/waste-planning-and-land/public-rights-of-way/report-a-problem-on-a-right-of-way> (Apologies for its length but you need it all to get to the right page)

ROAD WORKS

There have been quite a number of road closures recently. It is great that works are being carried out but we get very little notice to allow us to advertise them. Keep an eye on our website and Facebook pages and we will share the information as quickly as we can.

Please feel free to contact the Clerk with any issues:

Lucy Noakes (Clerk)

Clerk to Horsmonden Parish Council

Telephone: 01892 724989 (to leave a message)

Mobile: 07484 904765

E-mail: clerk@horsmonden-pc.gov.uk

SOME USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS:

NHS: 111

Kent Highways Service: 03000 418181

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council: 01892 526121

Environment Agency 24-hour Flood line:

08459 881188

Emergencies only: 999

Non-emergency Police Line: 101

UK Power Networks – Power cut: 0800 31 63 105 on a landline or 0333 32 32 105 (if calling from a mobile).