



HERNHILL NEWS

NOVEMBER 2016



Remembrance Sunday

Village War Memorial
Sunday 13th November
10.50am



PARISH COUNCIL

You can contact the Clerk with regard to Parish Council business on

- 07740706189
- hillclerk@gmail.com
- hernhillpc.kentparishes.gov.uk

Full copies of the approved minutes will be available on the Parish Council notice board on the Village Green.

The Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 26th October was attended by four Parish Councillors and two members of the public.

Mrs J. Geliot was elected as the new Vice-Chairman. The Parish Council still has a casual vacancy for a Councillor. Any interested party should contact the Parish Clerk for further information.

There was a brief presentation on behalf of the Hernhill Housing Model, giving an update to the proposed plans which are soon to be submitted to Swale Borough Council.

Planning matters discussed at the Parish Council meeting included:

16/507316/FULL - Roof alterations to front elevation with insertion of dormer window in the Coach House, The Red Lion.

16/507169/FULL - Demolition of a conservatory and timber framed shed. Partial demolition of timber framed store-room adjoining the garage. Erection of a single storey front extension, a single storey rear extension with roof lights and a workshop adjoining the garage. Mount Farm Oast, Staplestreet.

There is still an allotment plot available to rent on the Parish Council allotment site at Kays Lane. Please contact the Parish Clerk if you are interested.

The recently installed disabled parking signs to aid suitable parking around the village green are proving largely successful. The Parish Council would like to thank all residents who have adhered to the new signs, and remind residents that the road

Chairman: Tony Chapman 01227 750874

e-mail tt.chapman@vfast.co.uk

Clerk: Sarah Muteham phone 07740 706189

e-mail hernhillclerk@gmail.com

Swale Representatives: Andrew Bowles; phone 01227 752840

and George Bobbin; phone 01227 751388

KCC Representative: Andrew Bowles

between the church and the Village Green is owned by the Parish Council and should be kept clear for emergency access. If any vehicles are parked on this road they should have their drivers nearby in case of an emergency. Alternative parking is available on the Church Hill side of the Village Green.

Members of the public are reminded that they can report highway matters such as potholes and overgrown hedges either to the Parish Clerk or

directly to Kent County Council.

The next meeting of the Parish council will be on Wednesday 30th November at 8.00pm in the Village Hall. Members of the public are welcome to attend. If members of the public wish to speak on a subject at the meeting then please would they contact the Clerk prior to Wednesday 23rd November so that the relevant items can be placed on the agenda for discussion.

YOUR COUNTY COUNCILLOR

I will start this month's report with a future date for your diaries. All County Councillors get a (decreasing) pot of money to support projects and organisations in their division. Rather than being influenced by my personal interests such as the Environment, Sports etc. I allow YOU to decide. Any Club or organisation which is either based in Swale East or provides a service to Swale East residents is encouraged to apply. All Swale East voters are entitled to attend and vote. The "YOU decide – participatory budgeting" event for this financial year will be held at Teynham Village Hall on Saturday 4th February. Please put the date in your diaries. If you help to run or are a member of a local Sport or Community Club or Group, Parish Council, Parochial Church Council, etc please contact me or the Community Liaison Officer for Swale bill.ronan@kent.gov.uk for an application form as soon as possible.

Another major announcement is the report just published by the Parliamentary Boundary Commission. Not surprisingly this mirrors the proposals which were abandoned in 2013. The purpose of the proposals is to reduce

the total number of Members of Parliament from 650 to 600 and to ensure that each one represents, as near as possible, the same number of electors. Currently a vote in some Urban Constituencies mainly in the North of the Country is worth double a vote here in Kent as it only takes half as many voters to elect an MP in those Constituencies. Those Villages I represent which are currently part of the Faversham and Mid Kent Constituency will form part of a new Canterbury and Faversham Constituency. Note that those Parishes which form the Teynham and Lynsted Ward will remain in the Sittingbourne and Sheppey Constituency. These recommendations will only come into effect when we vote in the General Election due in 2020. Until then you will continue to be served by your current member of parliament either Helen Whately or Gordon Henderson respectively.

I started to plan this report early the other morning whilst walking our two collies in Perry Wood, the autumn sunlight shining through the leaf canopy was throwing dappled shadows on the ground. We really are lucky to live in this particular part of the Garden of England, spectacular walks

and views whether in woodland, across fields or along our coastline. Also, so much going on largely organized by volunteers. I mentioned the Faversham Hop Festival in my last report. Since then we have attended the Woodfest held at Belmont House, Throwley with skilled exhibitors showing off all manner of woodland crafts. There were also ring displays of falconry, terrier racing, ferret racing, etc. It was good to see the heavy horses which help to manage Perry Wood on contract to Swale Borough Council giving a display of how they work. We have also attended the Faversham Food Fair and came home laden with produce from local artisan producers, apple juice from Painters Forstal, beer from Whitstable, cakes from Selling, Chilli Sauce from Goodnestone and Cheese from Dargate. So much going on and so much skill in our Villages.

September is always a very busy month for meetings, this year it has included meetings of the Sittingbourne Town Centre Regeneration Project Board, the World War One Commemoration Steering Group, Swale Borough Council's Cabinet and Informal Cabinet, the Kent County Council Environment and Transport Committee and the Kent County Council Regulation Committee, North Kent Leaders, Kent District Leaders, Swale Health and Wellbeing Board and the Kent Environmental Champions Group to name but a few. I have also managed to fit in Parish Council Meetings at Graveney, Boughton, Dunkirk, Lynsted and Teynham. I was able to arrange Kent Highways inspections to look at dangerous pavements in Dunkirk and the failure to reinstate bollards etc at a traffic island

in Lynsted both within 24 hours of attending the respective Parish Councils. The latest meeting of the Swale Joint Transport Board which I Chair approved parking restrictions in both Boughton and Dunkirk and in Love Lane as requested by residents. We also passed important resolutions on the management of freight in Swale where we advocated much greater use of rail, and on the Kent County Council Local Transport Plan. I attended the most recent meeting of Swale Borough Council's Planning Committee to support and speak (successfully) in support of local Selling residents opposed to a controversial development. Also this month I represented Graveney School at the latest Swale Governors Consortia briefing/meeting.

All the above, on top of the first two meetings of the Kent County Council Select Committee looking into Buses and Public Subsidy, several days given over to Home to School Transport Appeal Panels and meetings of Kent County Councils Commissioning Advisory Board. In addition to this I attended and indeed in many cases was instrumental in setting up briefings on Broadband Delivery in Swale, Post 16 Education in Swale, The Parliamentary Boundary Review and the latest Government Policies and announcements on planning and housing.

The last day of September was spent in Westminster at a meeting of the South East England Councils Executive Committee discussing Brexit, Sub National Transport Bodies, Business Rates Reform and Health and Care Integration.

The first day of October (a Saturday) was spent at The Kent Association of

Local (Parish and Town) Councils Executive Committee. Apart from Budgets and the forthcoming AGM matters discussed included the three Advisory Committees being set up on Transport, Planning and Devolution, the latter of which I have been asked to serve on. Other matters discussed were the Kent Police Rural Task Force, The Kent Estates Partnership (which proved controversial) HGV parking and the new duties on Parish

Councils to publish even more information online and to have dedicated computers etc solely for Parish Council business. Swale was particularly well represented by the Area Committee Chairman and Vice Chairman, the Clerk to Doddington Parish Council representing the local branch of the Society of Local Council Clerks and myself as a Vice President.

Andrew Bowles



CRAFTS CENTRE LUNCH

This year's Christmas Lunch is provisionally booked at the White Horse, Boughton High Street on Thursday 8th December at 1.00pm. To confirm the booking I'll need definite numbers for people coming ASAP, else we may lose the

slot. The cost is £25 per head for a three course meal (drinks are extra) with a deposit of £5.00 per head payable in advance to confirm the booking. As before the deposit will be paid up front and then collected from you on the day. I'm afraid this is non-refundable.

Shane Croll
sncroll@hotmail.com

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The Hernhill Model

Since the exhibition day in the Village Hall back in February a lot of work has gone into refining 'The Hernhill Model' for affordable housing and, as we are at the point of making a formal planning application, we thought an update was timely.

We had an excellent turnout at the exhibition and received some great feedback on the scheme both on the day and through the feedback forms which were available. We have continued to receive a high level of interest over the intervening months and it has been good to see that the affordable housing we are trying to bring to the parish would meet a real need within the community.

On this note we are really excited that, through taking advice from the plan-

ners at Swale Council and listening to the feedback from the parish, we have been able to increase the number of affordable homes within the model from three to seven. These now consist of five two-bedroom houses and two one-bedroom bungalows. This represents half the affordable housing need identified by the housing survey that was commissioned by the Parish Council.

We think this is a great achievement, especially as we have achieved this significant increase in affordable homes while reducing the proposed number of self-build dwellings to just two.

As you read this the planning applications will already be with Swale Council and you will be able to leave your formal feedback, or register your support, by visiting 'swale.gov.uk' and fol-

lowing the links through to the Planning pages of the Council's website. If you would like any more information about the scheme please contact me at

'Jason@clifford-construction.co.uk.'

Equally, a significant number of people have expressed an interest to us in wanting one of these affordable homes, either for themselves or for their grown children. If you are in this

position we would urge you to register your interest with both Amicus Horizon and Swale Borough Council. These homes for local people would initially be ring fenced for those who either live in, or have strong links to Hernhill, so they represent a unique opportunity to secure a home in your parish.

Jason Clifford
Clifford Construction

FROM THE VICAR

Happy New Year!

No, I haven't gone mad or given the editor the wrong copy. The new church year begins on Advent Sunday which this year is the 27th November. It's the day when our annual cycle of worship begins all over again with the waiting and longing of Advent, looking forward to Jesus' birth. Christmas which follows reminds us that God came to us in human form and experienced life with all its joys and sorrows. Then next spring we'll begin Lent, six and a half weeks of preparation leading up to Holy Week, seven days of gathering intensity as we move towards Jesus' death on Good Friday. The sorrow of that day is replaced by the celebrations of Jesus' resurrection on Easter Day. Easter is the most important of all the Christian festivals, if Jesus hadn't risen from the dead we certainly wouldn't be following him today. We rejoice in Easter for forty days, the same length of time as Lent (excluding Sundays), then at Pentecost we remember the coming of the Holy Spirit on those first disciples but also remember the Holy Spirit is a gift for us today. After six months of remembering and busy activity we have six months of 'ordinary time' or 'growing

time' from about May to November when we can reflect more deeply on Jesus' story and what it means for us to be his disciples today.

The church year can be a wonderful way to grow spiritually as the months move round. The Bible readings, liturgy, prayers and music all contribute to the distinct mood of each season and there are always new things to learn, even when the story is as well-known as Christmas or Easter. The different colours we use in church for the altar frontal or priests' stoles are a visual reminder of the different meanings of the seasons, white for celebrations, purple for preparation and penitence, red for the coming of the Holy Spirit and green for the growing time. We use different service books for different seasons so they again reflect their own mood and emphasis. Coming to church is not dull if you know what to look for.

The church year reminds us that, like the wheels on a car or bike, we are going round and round but we are also moving forward, life is a pilgrimage of discovery and change, travelling with Jesus at our side and a life with God as our destination. Each season leads into the next and invites us to take one more step. When we come back to the beginning of the

year we should find ourselves a little bit further on in our Christian journey and a little bit different from how we were this time last year. If you feel you haven't changed, maybe you need to take the brake off and let God do his

work in you. You can trust him. Happy New Year! and may the coming year be one of discovery and growth for you all.

Revd Jean Burrows
01227 751410

CLAIMING CHRISTMAS FOR CHRIST

West Faversham Community
Centre, Bysing Wood Road.

Sunday 27th November

The doors will be opened at 10.00am and the day, events will begin at 10.30am with a Communion Service led by the Archbishop of Canterbury. This will be a busy day with many activities for both adults and chil-

dren. There will be a mid-day 'bring you own' lunch break although there is a cafe available. The day will finish at about 3.00pm.

Everyone is warmly invited. You can come and stay for the whole day or come and go as you please. No ticket is needed.

There will be more detailed information on the notice boards nearer the time.

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY TEA PARTY

St. Michael's Church

Sunday 14th August

The money from this event is now all banked and the total raised for disadvantaged children was over £658 - a

really worthwhile total.

Thank you to the 25 people who, throughout the year, collect money using their boxes. Thanks also to everyone who supported the tea party on the Sunday.

Doreen Jelfs

HERNHILL TODDLER GROUP

This is held on Thursday afternoons, term time only, in the Village Hall, opposite the play area. Babies to pre-schoolers with their parents or carers are welcome any time between 1.00 and 3.00pm. A fee of £2.50 includes drinks and a biscuit. If there is sufficient interest there will be a fundraising tuck shop from 3.15 to 4.15pm.

Sylvia Philpott



BREATHING SPACE

The next opportunity will be on Friday 25th November in St. Michael's Church. Come any time between 7.30pm and 8.30pm to enjoy some rare, refreshing peace.

QUIZ AFTERNOON

The Horticultural Society will be holding an afternoon quiz on Saturday 19th November. It will begin at 2.00pm in the Village Hall. Groups of up to six per table at £3.00 per person. Coffee, tea and cakes will be provided. Everyone is invited to come. If you need any further information please contact me on snvcroll@hotmail.com.

Shane Croll

BITS AND PIECES

Own up! Who didn't adjust their clocks and so missed an extra hour in bed.?

You can tell that Autumn is here. There is a chill in the air and the trees are beginning to turn yellow with patches of red. Nearly time for the winter woollies. Despite it being only the beginning of November, the shops are already full of Christmas goods. I am quite sure that parents and grandparents are already hearing about the latest 'must-have' toys and gadgets. Just so long as it is not an exploding phone or skateboard.

Unless I'm mistaken, the efforts of those who dumped waste material at the foot of Plumpudding Lane have been rewarded. The site is now approved as a lorry park. Why it should need a cafe, shop and a car park as well I cannot understand. There is already a large shop, and a cafe and a car park close by. This is not the only development in the area. The ever increasing groundwork at the other site in Plumpudding Lane will quite soon provide plenty of hard-standing to compensate for the delay in

building an additional runway at Heathrow. It should be able to accommodate a jumbo-jet by early next year.

I was frustrated to find that a long stretch of the A299 is now restricted to 50mph. It is said to be because the surface is not safe for cars to travel on it at 70mph. It is also said that the restriction is only temporary. When the surface has been improved the restriction will be lifted. Unfortunately there is no indication as to how long it is going to be before the surface is rectified and I wouldn't care to guess.

I have felt very sorry for residents during the weeks that the road through Dunkirk from Dargate has been closed. Business at Maytree Nurseries must have suffered and a notice in Dargate will not have helped. It said that the Nursery remains open and to get there follow the diversion signs. Unfortunately, attempting to go to Maytree Nursery from the Dove, you find that the only diversion signs lead you out to the Blean Road where, turning left, you come to Meadow Grange Nursery.

ADT

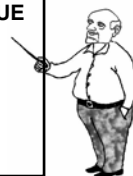
To book the Village Hall go to www.hernhill-bookings.net

A copy of the Hernhill News and other local information can be found on the Village website. www.hernhill.net

Alan D. Taylor
Yew Tree House, Dargate
near Faversham, Kent ME13 9HG
01227 751293
e-mail newsadt@gmail.com

NEXT ISSUE

**Mon
28th
Nov**



Tues 1 Nov	-----	-----	Green Bin Collection
Sun 6	10.30am	Graveney Church	Patronal festival
Tues 8	-----	-----	Blue Bin Collection
Sat 12	-----	St. Michael's Ch	Craft Fair
Sun 13	10.50am	St. Michael's Ch	Remembrance Sunday
Tues 15	-----	-----	Green Bin Collection
Sat 19	2.00pm	Village Hall	Horticultural Soc Quiz
	3.30pm	St Barnabas	Messy Church
Sun 20	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Sung Communion
Tues 22	-----	-----	Blue Bin Collection
Fri 25	7.30pm	St. Michael's Ch	Breathing Space
Sun 27	-----	Faversham Centre	Day event for Advent
Tues 29	-----	-----	Green Bin Collection
Wed 30	8.00pm	Village Hall.	Parish Council
Sun Dec 4	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Sung Communion
Tues 6	-----	-----	Blue Bin Collection
Thurs 8	1.00pm	White Horse	Craft Centre lunch
Sat 10	3.30pm	St Barnabas	Messy Church
Sun 11	8.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Holy Communion
Tues 13	-----	-----	Green Bin Collection
Fri 16	7.30pm	St. Michael's Ch	Breathing Space
Sat 17	5.00pm	Village Green	Carols on the Green
Sun 18	4.30pm	Boughton P.C	Lessons and carols
Tues 20	-----	-----	Blue Bin Collection
Sat 24	4.00pm	St. Michael's Ch	Crib Service
	11.30pm	St. Michael's Ch	Midnight Service
Sun 25	9.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Holy Communion