



# HERNHILL NEWS

## SEPTEMBER 2013

### PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 28th August

**Present:** Mrs H. Figgis (Chairman), Mrs J. Geliot, Mr A. Chapman, Mr G. Morsman, Mrs B. Taylor, Mrs S. Muteham (Clerk). Also present were ten members of the public. There were apologies from Mr A. Bowles (Borough Councillor), Mr G. Bobbin (Borough Councillor) and Mr M. Woods.

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 31st July were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

**Matters arising:** members of the public expressed their concerns regarding the frequent use of a piece of land on Plumpudding Lane, Dargate for the purposes of motorbike sport. The Council suggested that the residents contact Swale Borough Council, Kent County Council and the local M.P. regarding the matter. The Clerk is to investigate with Swale Borough Council. A local resident raised the matter of the current appeal against planning application SW/13/0658 (extended

opening hours) which has been lodged by Dunster House.

**Planning:** TC/13/0079 – Forge Farmhouse, Staplestreet regarding the removal of two sycamore trees located in rear garden. The Parish Council record no adverse comments to this application.

**Appeal Notice for Dunster House –** The Parish Council will draft a response to the current appeal notice.

**Reports:** Mrs J. Geliot raised concerns regarding a new out-building and whether planning permission would be required. The Clerk is to investigate with Swale Borough Council.

It was noted that the two troughs of flowers on the Village Green are looking very good and the Parish Council would like to thank Anne Butler for her hard work. Mrs H. Figgis commented that the footpath by Thirwell Farm which is overgrown, has been reported to Michael Ellis at Kent County Council, with a view to clearing work being done at a later date.

**Administration:** the vacancy for a new Parish Councillor has been ad-

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Clerk: Sarah Muteham 01227 751053 or 07740 706189

e-mail [herhillclerk@gmail.com](mailto:herhillclerk@gmail.com)

Swale Representatives: Andrew Bowles; phone 01227 752840

and George Bobbin; phone 01227 751388

KCC Representative: Andrew Bowles

vertised and applicants are to contact the clerk directly. The closing date for applications is Friday 20th September.

The Clerk circulated draft copies of Financial Regulations for approval. It was agreed by all members present that the Financial Regulations be adopted and was proposed by Mrs H. Figgis and seconded by Mr G. Morsman.

After discussion, it was agreed by all members present that the Parish Council would not make any comments regarding the consultation on the Swale Borough Local Plan "Bearing Fruits".

**Correspondence:** a letter has been received from Swale Borough Council to announce a grant of £500 through the Members' Localism Grant. This is to be used towards notice boards and neighbourhood watch signs.

Kent County Council has sent a letter regarding the "Safe and Sensible Street Lighting" policy.

Kent County Council is offering a free one tonne salt bag for the winter.

**Allotments:** all plots have now been paid for. It was noted that there are three plots which require some attention to keep them tidy.

**Neighbourhood watch:** It was agreed that the Parish Council would purchase six neighbourhood watch signs at a cost of £16 each to be located around the Village. The Clerk is to contact J. Haddaway to obtain the signs

The next meeting of the Parish Council is to be on Wednesday 25th September at 8:00pm. There being no further business, the Chairman declared the Meeting closed at 9.20pm.

### HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

**The Autumn Show** is to be held on Saturday 7th September in the Village Hall. Staging time is 9.45am to 11.15am. All exhibits must be staged by 11.15am. The Show opens to the public at 2.00pm, presentations will be at 3.00pm followed by the auction. Entry to the show is free.

**A Social Evening** is to be held in

the Village Hall on Friday 7th November at 7.00pm. We will be having a talk by Mr Rob Masters on 'allotments' followed by a quiz. Tables will be for six to eight people. Please try to make up a table but, if not, we will find you a place. The prize for the winning table will be garden vouchers.

Peter Bentley

### PLOUGHMANS LUNCH

The lunch will be held in aid of the Pilgrims Hospice. It will be held on Saturday 7th September between noon and 1.30pm in Dunkirk Village Hall.

Please buy a ticket and support this worthy cause. Tickets are available from me at £6.00 each.

Anne Butler 01227 750864



Friday 27th September is the worlds biggest coffee morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. Come along to The Coach House, Kemsdale.

for coffee and cakes and more to raise money for this worthy cause. 11.00am onwards. There will be a bookstall, a raffle, and more! All welcome

Alison West



## HARVEST SUPPER

HERNHILL VILLAGE HALL

SATURDAY 5th OCTOBER

7.00 for 7.30pm

Tickets £8.00 (Children £5.00)

Phone 01227 750372 or 01227 751293



BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS

### HERNHILL PARISH COUNCIL

As a result of the death of Alan Elliott, there is a vacancy for a Parish Councillor. Parish Council meetings are held on the last Wednesday of each month at 8.00pm in the Village Hall.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Parish Council please contact the Clerk, Sarah Muteham, by Friday 20th September at

hernhillclerk@gmail.com or telephone 07740 706189.

### CHURCHYARD CLEAN-UP

St Michael's autumn clean-up morning will be on Saturday 28th September between 10.00am and noon. This will involve the church and the churchyard to ensure that everything will be looking at its best for our patronal service for St Michael and all Angels. This Service is on Sunday 29th September at

10.00am *to which everyone is welcome.*

Any help will be appreciated and if you are helping in the churchyard please bring your own tools, if possible. Refreshments will be served during the morning.

Brian Jenkins 01227 273049

Peter Willcock 01227 750453.

Churchwardens

### THE LION'S ROAR

Well, I'll be hard pushed to top the success of our Bank Holiday Sunday music festival this year! A massive thank you to all who popped in to see us. It was especially lovely to see so many from our village support and choose to party the day and evening away with us. The Cheesemakers of Canterbury deserve a special mention for providing yummy cheese plates throughout the day and also thanks goes to Buster for making his

famous giant paella and donating the proceeds to The Pilgrims Hospice. I also need to thank my amazing bar and kitchen staff who coped brilliantly with the sometimes overwhelming sea of people throughout the day.

While we don't have any events on that scale planned for this month, we will be launching our new menu which will include meat classics, cooked on our new char grill. Some of you might have seen the photos

on Facebook of this in action, our steaks are stepping up!  
But the main news is that Honey had her first visit to the dog groomers for

a new hair-do and is looking cuter than ever; she can also now see as her "fringe" was getting very long!  
Ben Edwards

### FROM YOUR COUNTY COUNCILLOR

May I thank all those residents who turned out to vote for me as your County Councillor on the 2nd May. I am proud to be starting a third term as your representative at County Hall. Bearing in mind results elsewhere in the County and indeed elsewhere in Swale I am humbled that my share of the vote held up to almost the same level as four years previously. Indeed

when some of the ballot boxes from parts of the rural area were opened I appeared to

have close on 90% of the votes cast at those Polling Stations.

I have decided this year not to accept any areas of special responsibility at County Hall. I wish to dedicate my time to the twin roles of Leader of Swale Borough Council and as the County Councillor for Swale East. I will of course fulfill my share of Committee responsibilities at County Hall. Since the Elections there has been a round of meetings of Borough wide or Area Bodies. On the 28th May I attended the Swale Rural Forum at Hernhill where major discussions concerned Police Operations in the rural area and parking in the vicinity of rural schools. On the 3rd June I attended the AGM of the Swale Branch of the Kent Association of Local Councils (KALC). As I write this there are still some vacancies to represent KALC on various

Space limits inclusion of all the many meetings and events attended by Andrew Bowles

bodies within the Borough. Any Parish Councillor who is interested should ask their Clerk to contact the Secretary or Chairman of the Swale Branch.

I was present at the Faversham Local Engagement Forum where policing and waste collection were the main items discussed. There was a particularly intense debate about the collection of waste from business premises. I attended the Sitting-

bourne Local Engagement Forum held at Kemsley Hall where we had discussions on the forthcoming

Swale consultation on the possible creation of Parish/Town Councils in those areas currently unparished and indeed the possibility of amalgamating or disbanding current Parish Councils. Please look out for and respond to this Consultation with your views.

I have had two meetings with Government Ministers this month. I met Brandon Lewis from the Department of Communities and Local Government at the Thames Gateway Strategic Group to discuss barriers to growth and regeneration. It was nice for the first time to hear a Government Minister admit that it is not always Local Authorities and the Planning System that acts as a barrier to growth and regeneration but the difficulty in accessing finance and sometimes the intransigence of the Governments own bodies such

as the Highways Agency. I met with Stephen Hammond the Roads Minister with other South Eastern leaders to discuss the Lower Thames Crossing and other Transport issues. I have invited Mr Hammond to see the problems and barriers to growth caused by Junction 5 and Junction 7 of the M2 which are both operating at above design capacity.

One matter which has concerned me is that at both the County Council and at Swale Borough Council we have seen attempts to push through the completion of the Sittingbourne Northern Relief Road with no planning as to how to move this traffic onto the M2. This would place thousands of extra vehicles on the A2 between Sittingbourne and Brenley Corner with disastrous consequences not just to those communities along the A2 Bapchild, Teynham, Lynsted, Norton and Ospringe but also to all those residents of East Swale Villages who need to access the A2.

July started with the Annual Conference of the Local Government Association, held this year in Manchester. This conference is an essential part of the Local Government year, it allows us to listen to and sometimes question front bench spokesmen from the three established National Parties. Three themes ran through the conference this year. The LGA used the conference to launch its paper called "Rewiring Public Services", its idea as to how Public Services should be transformed. The second theme that ran throughout the conference was that of Welfare Reform and the third the possibility of Local Government reorganization. During the second part of the month I attended the latest meeting with Swale Police and Swale Branch National Farmers Union to discuss rural policing. I have also chaired a Swale Borough Council briefing for all Parish Councils on the current progress of the Local Plan.

Andrew Bowles

**YOUR HEALTHCARE SERVICE**

You are being invited to have your say on local healthcare plans. There will be an event on Wednesday 18th September to ask for views on healthcare in the area. The event is from 1.30 to 4.45pm at the St Lawrence Cricket

Ground, Canterbury. Places at the event are limited and need to be booked in advance. For further information or to reserve a place, please e-mail [c4.ccg@nhs.net](mailto:c4.ccg@nhs.net) or call 01227 791359.

**SOS**

I am in urgent need of 1lb jam or honey jars. Please, not coffee or pickle containers. I would welcome

a call from you on 01227 751293.

Thanks

Barbara Taylor



**NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

**XY/024499/13:** An attempted burglary occurred in Kemsdale Road Hernhill Faversham on Wednesday 7th August.

**XY/024586/13:** An attempted burglary occurred in Canterbury Road Boughton under Blean Faversham, on Wednesday 7th August.

**XY/024814/13:** An opportunist thief

stole a handbag from a home in Broom Street Graveney Faversham between 4.00pm & 6.00pm on Thursday 8th August.

**XY/024891/13:** A garden shed was burgled in The Street Boughton under Blean Faversham overnight between 8th and 9th August.

**XY/025050/13:** Unknown persons attempted to gain access to a garden shed in London Road Dunkirk Faversham between 5th and 11th August.

**XY/025558/13:** Two tyres were slashed and the other two had masonry nails pushed into them on a vehicle parked in The Charltons Boughton under Blean Faversham overnight between 14th and 15th August.

**XY/025685/13:** Large dent was

found in roof of vehicle which was parked in The Street Boughton under Blean Faversham overnight between 14th and 15th August.

A garage block of 4 was criminally damaged and various items were stolen from within. **XY/025993/13:** Beige coloured industrial sewing machine.

**XY/025988/13:** **XY/025996/13:** 4 steel rimmed wheels for a FIESTA. This happened at The Charltons Boughton under Blean Faversham on the 17th August. If you have any information that could help investigators please contact Kent police on telephone number 101 and quote relevant Crime Number. For more information on crime prevention visit [kent.police.uk](http://kent.police.uk).

Mike Pearce

#### FROM THE VICAR

Last month the news media in the Midwest USA reported a miraculous story about the 'angel priest'. A young woman was involved in a car crash, severely injured and trapped in her vehicle. The emergency personnel were running out of options when the woman simply asked for someone to pray with her. Those around were startled when a priest suddenly appeared and responded, "I will". He then just as quickly disappeared and no-one could identify who he was. "We're all local people from four different towns" the fire chief said, noting that police had put up barriers to the crash site for two miles in each direction. "We've only got one Catholic church out of three towns and it wasn't their priest.....I have 69 photographs that were taken minutes after that accident happened and he's not in them.....All we want to do is thank

him." A few days later the priest came forward and was identified. He was an 'angel priest,' someone sent by God to minister in a very difficult situation. When things seemed the darkest, God's light shone through the mysterious man who appeared, prayed and disappeared without speaking, except to pray.

At the end of this month Hernhill Church celebrates its patronal festival being named after St Michael and all angels. Angels still have a role to play today, whether it is a human angel in the right place at just the right time or a truly divine messenger or helper from God. Like many people I have experienced the help of an angel, whether he was human or divine I don't know, but he rescued me from a potentially disastrous situation.

The young woman in the USA is recovering from her injuries and gives the mysterious 'angel priest' the cred-

it for helping her pull through, he was certainly an angel to her in her moment of need.

Revd Jean Burrows

**BITS AND PIECES**

The fourth Ashes Test drooped to a draw with the help of a downpour and poor light. But for the murk in the last hour, we might even have won, but of course we already had the little urn to keep until the next series in Australia. Despite the recent fine weather, I could have predicted the onset of a rainy period. I was planning to have a short holiday and when I do that you can guarantee and end to any prevailing drought conditions. If I cancel, the sun will probably come out again. I'll think about it.

Egypt and the Middle East are in turmoil again. It seems that their 'Spring' has now become a summer of discontent. By comparison, we should be feeling quite relaxed, but there are many who are feeling very anxious. Looking at the report from Mike Pearce, our 'Neighbourhood Watch' representative, it is evident that there has been a worrying spate of break-ins, thefts and criminal damage. Although it cannot be the total answer, by being alert to unusual behaviour and suspicious characters, and reporting them, we can help each other. The number to call is 101.

The current 'Draft Local Plan' is about to make its presence felt. There are sections on employment, housing de-

velopment, land use etc. The proposals it contains will be of real importance to many of us. Consultation starts on Monday 19th August and presumably the document will then be available on line or from Swale. The consultation period is only six weeks from that date so there is a need to be on your toes if you wish to be heard. The updated Plan is then due for submission in the Spring of 2014.

Kent County Council are proposing to close the local Children's Centre in Faversham. I know that several families in Hernhill use this facility, in fact depend on it. It is important that you make your (polite) views known. People can have their say about the closure on the website, [kent.gov.uk/childrenscentres](http://kent.gov.uk/childrenscentres). If messaging on the net is not your forte then I'm sure someone at the Children's Centre will be able to help.

Swale Borough Council has produced a 'Local Prospectus of Services'. It sets out their concept of getting local communities involved in their own future. It is well worth a read and can be obtained from the Swale offices in Sittingbourne or on the net.

ADT



To book the Village Hall ring the Red Lion 01227 751207

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Yew Tree House, Dargate  
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01227 751293  
e-mail [taylornews@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:taylornews@hotmail.co.uk)

COPY DATE

**Mon  
23rd  
Sept**



<b>Sun 1 Sept</b>	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Sung Communion
	-----	Mount Ephraim	Crafts Centre Open
Tues 3	-----	-----	BLUE bin collection
Sat 7	-----	Village Hall	Horticultural Soc Autumn Show
	Noon	Dunkirk Hall	Ploughman's Lunch
Sun 8	8.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Holy Communion
	2.00pm	Mount Ephraim	Crafts Centre open
Tues 10	-----	-----	GREEN bin collection
Wed 11	7.45pm	Village Hall	Staplegate
Sun 15	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Sung Communion
Tues 17	-----	-----	BLUE bin collection
Wed 18	1.30pm	Cricket Ground	NHS Meeting
Sat 21	3.30pm	St Barnabas	Messy Church
Sun 22	8.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Holy Communion
	2.00pm	Mount Ephraim	Crafts Centre open
Tues 24	-----	-----	GREEN bin collection
Wed 25	8.00pm	Village Hall	Parish Council
Fri 27	11.00am	Kemsdale	Macmillan coffee morning
Sat 28	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Churchyard clean-up
Sun 29	8.00pm	St. Michael's Ch	Patronal Festival
	4.30pm	St Barnabas	Bereavement Service
<b>Tues 1 Oct</b>	-----	-----	BLUE bin collection
Sat 5	7.00pm	Village Hall	Harvest Supper
Sun 6	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Harvest Festival (Back to Church)
Mon 7	7.00pm	Village Hall	V.H. committee
Tues 8	-----	-----	GREEN bin collection
Wed 9	7.45pm	Dunkirk Village Hall	Staplegate
Sun 13	8.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Holy Communion
Tues 15	-----	-----	BLUE bin collection
Sat 19	3.30pm	St Barnabas	Messy Church
Sun 20	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Amnesty Service
Tues 22	-----	-----	GREEN bin collection
Sun 27	8.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Holy Communion
Tues 29	-----	-----	BLUE bin collection
Wed 29	8.00pm	Village Hall	Parish Council