



HERNHILL NEWS

JULY 2018

PARISH COUNCIL

You can contact the clerk for Parish Council business on 07740 706189 or hernhillclerk@gmail.com or hernhillparishcouncil.org

Full copies of the approved minutes are available on the Parish Council website.

A Full Parish Council meeting was held on Wednesday 27th June and attended by seven Parish Councillors and 14 members of the public.

Three planning applications were discussed. 18/502490/FULL - Oakleigh, Butlers Hill; 18/502377/FULL - 1, The Bungalows, Highstreet Road; 18/502654/FULL - Myrtle Farm, Kemsdale Road.

Several residents attended the meeting to share views both for and against the proposed affordable housing site at Staplestreet. The Parish Council reported that the project is temporarily on hold to ensure that no further financial expenditure is taking place. The Parish Council is seeking further information on the project and expects to make a final decision on the matter at the August Parish

Council meeting.

The lack of clarity about the actions being taken at Thirwell Farm were discussed and it was agreed that the Parish Council would strongly request further information from KCC and Swale BC with regard to how enforcement procedures are working.

The Parish Council are instructing Swale Borough Council to undertake a survey with a view to the installation of double yellow lines or something similar at the junction of Staplestreet/Church Hill to open up the visibility for vehicles turning into or out of the junction.

The annual allotment inspection will take place on Saturday 28th July at 3.00pm.

Members of the public are reminded that they can report highway matters such as potholes and vegetation obstructing the highway or footway either to the Parish Clerk or directly to Kent County Council at kent.gov.uk.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Wednesday 25th July 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

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

please would they contact the Clerk prior to Wednesday 18th July so that

relevant items can be placed on the agenda for discussion.

YOUR COUNTY COUNCILLOR

A really good start to May. Firstly, the local elections for one third of the Wards of Maidstone Borough Council resulted in the Conservative's becoming the largest Party, the first time for some while that this has been the case. Both the Faversham & Mid Kent Ward's which I had been assisting in were successfully gained from opposition Parties.

The Mayday Bank Holiday weekend included two highly enjoyable local events. Hernhill Fete on the Saturday and Eastling's Bluebell Walk on the Bank Holiday Monday. Both were blessed with excellent weather, we were amongst the first starters on the Bluebell Walk in order to complete before the day got too hot, both for our sakes and our two dogs which accompanied us.

At Swale Borough Council's Conservative Group AGM I was confirmed unopposed as Leader for a further year. This led to the Annual task of appointing my Cabinet, etc. Always a hard and not particularly pleasant task to ask people to step aside especially when they have been totally loyal. However, I believe it was essential to bring in younger people, both in terms of age and experience, especially one year before elections when some of the more experienced Councillor's may choose not to re stand. I welcome Sittingbourne Borough Councillor Sarah Aldridge to the Cabinet for the first time with a portfolio comprising both Health and Leisure Services. A challenging task seeking to influence both the National Health

Service and Kent County Council on Health issues whilst overseeing the contracts for our leisure centres etc. Both Sarah and I believe that maintaining a healthy population can do much to lessen the pressure on the Health Sector. Swale now has a new Civic Head with Sittingbourne Borough Councillor Samuel KoffeWilliams elected as Mayor and with Minster Councillor Ken Ingleton elected as Deputy Mayor.

The second weekend in May brought the annual SSAFA coffee morning at Belmont House raising funds to help ex service personnel and also Badlesmere's Medieval Fayre where we were joined by our family, including grandchildren. Later in the month I attended a meeting of the District Councils Network held in London, the Kent and Medway Economic Partnership, a Kent and Essex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority and a meeting of the Thames Gateway Kent Partnership. Another very interesting engagement was chairing a Kent County Council Regulation Committee Member Panel held in Dymchurch to determine an application for Village Green status. After inspecting the site in question the meeting of the panel was held in a packed Village Hall, standing room only, and others listening outside the door. It was a very well argued case put forward by both sides in a very polite and appreciative manner.

Parish Council's attended during May included Sheldwich, Badlesmere and Leaveland, Selling's Annual Parish Meeting, Dunkirk's Annual Meeting

followed later in the month by their ordinary monthly meeting and Newnham's Annual Meeting. I also managed to attend the end of Bapchild's monthly meeting after I had spoken at a Swale Borough Council Planning Committee and at the very end of the

month the second part of Bredgar's Annual Meeting after Chairing a Swale Borough Council Cabinet Meeting.

Andrew Bowles
Email: abjs@btinternet.com
Mobile: 07778629879

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The Hernhill Parish Council have now agreed to postpone the decision of the proposed site in Staplestreet pending feedback from the questionnaire recently distributed.

Please return the questionnaire before Sunday 8th July to Victoria Cottage or Forge Orchard, Staplestreet, Hernhill. If you haven't received a

questionnaire please contact me. To view the planning proposal please visit

hernhillparishcouncil.org/news/Date/2018-03.

This should be a community led decision so your views are important.

Jackie Brenchley
07946 678426

FROM THE VICAR

A researcher was conducting interviews about faith in modern day Britain, "Do you believe in God?" she asked. "Yes", came the reply. "Do you believe in a God who can change the course of events on earth?" "No, just the ordinary one." I wonder what kind of God you believe in, if you do? People may tell me they don't believe in God but when I ask them to describe that God, I discover I don't believe in that sort of God either, the sort of God who is male, vindictive, petty, remote, the list is endless.

We cannot understand God. If we could, he wouldn't be God. Just as I can't understand outer space so God is beyond my human understanding. God is mystery and I will never totally grasp who he is, I have to learn to live with that sea of unknowing. We will have glimpses and we can grow in knowledge of him but we will never have a neat dictionary definition. Many people make God in their own image and they think that gives them control, but we can't control God. He is a roaring lion even though we try to make him a tame cat and treat him as domesticated. The writer Gerard Hughes stated that 'Our one security is that

he is, not in our formulation of how he is.'

Followers of Jesus are invited to believe in a God who does change the course of events on earth. A God who can take hate from our lives and pour in his love. A God who can replace despair with hope. A God who can gently wipe away tears of sadness and put joy in their place. A God who can change lives, and so change the way the world is. A God we can have a relationship with. He is no ordinary God.

However our tentative our belief, God is there for each one of us, not just when we're desperate but all the time. If we turn to him he will lead us, help us, calm us, inspire us, change us. It may happen in dramatic ways, in wonders and miracles beyond human description, but he doesn't always, and he doesn't have to. He blows like the wind, and we can't control or command him. He is no ordinary God.

We don't have to fear God for, at his heart, he is love, he invites you into a relationship with him, for he is no ordinary God.

Revd Jean Burrows

LET'S BLESS OUR PETS

On Sunday 1st July at 11.00am there will be a special Service to bless our pets. It will be held on Hernhill Village Green, or in the church if wet. Bring your pet in a suitable container or cage or on a lead to keep them safe and comfortable. Larger animals are very welcome but

if we are in the church, please bring a picture instead! Also, please bring something to sit on. The Service will be followed by refreshments in the church.



VEGAN ORGANICS KENT

You may have noticed a bit of activity along Brickfield Lane over the past few weeks. We have been working very hard preparing the site for the launch of our new veganic farm. Veganic farming broadly means any system of cultivation that excludes artificial chemicals, animal manures, animal remains from slaughterhouses, genetically modified material and, indeed, anything of animal origin. Many do not realise that 'organic farming' still uses chemicals as well as the by-products of animal farming. You can read more about this approach at veganorganic.net and, also tolhurstorganic.co.uk.

The aim of 'Vegan Organics Kent' is to develop a veganic growing business and a working hub with the lowest negative environmental impact as possible. The enterprise will be based on permaculture principles for creating sustainable ways of living. It is a practical method of developing ecologically harmonious, efficient and productive systems that can be used by anyone, anywhere. It is created by cooperating with nature and

caring for the earth and its people. We hope to grow a wide variety of vegetables, fruit and nuts. We are also planning on trialling a variety of unusual and heritage crops. In our first year we will be planting a native tree hedge, building a barn with low impact building techniques (including using wood from nearby poplar trees and, also chestnut from our own woodland), sowing nitrogen-fixing plants to improve the soil quality and provide green manure and developing our composting system. Our ultimate aim is to sell fruit, vegetables, nuts and grains to the surging vegan retail and catering sector in East Kent. We may also run a stall at local farmers' markets and possibly a veg box scheme for local people. We would also like to offer training, volunteering and working opportunities to local people, students and those disadvantaged in the labour market. We are working with several other social enterprises to enable that to happen. We would like to thank Iain Tolhurst and Tom Berry for all their advice and support as well as all our friends and family.

Jo Kidd

SCHOOL NEWS

After working incredibly hard throughout the year and then tackling their SATS last month, in June

our Year 6 children went off for their week long residential stay. They were an absolute credit to themselves and to the school. Huge

thanks to Mrs Woodcock, Ms Leahy and Mrs Clapp for going with them. Freya and Philip from Year 6 tell you all about it....

"On the 11th of June, Hernhill Primary year 6's left on an exciting adventure into the world of Kingswood, Ashford. We were all full of energy and were anticipating for the week that awaited us at our coach's door. When we arrived, we were greeted by a lovely man named Mack. He helped us unload our luggage from the coach. We were all so excited to find out what we would be doing, who we would be doing the activities with and who we would be sharing a room with. To our disappointment, we didn't get to do any activities until after dinner, so we just spent the whole afternoon playing football and other games.

After dinner, two groups participated in 'aeroball' and archery. Whilst the third group did fencing and aerial runway (zipwire). Both groups came back from their activities with huge smiles on their faces wishing

they could do it again. In Aeroball you are on a trampoline and you have to throw a ball into the opposition's hoop which is suspended in the air. Not easy!

Over the week, we did lots of activities but being split into different groups, we did them on different days. These included: 3G Swing, Leap of Faith, Problem Solving, Bottle Rockets, Catapults and chariot building. Orienteering, Nature Walk, Fire Lighting, In the spotlight, Aerial runway, Jacobs Ladder and indoor climb. These were only some of the activities we did.

Before each activity we did this little thing called a 'shoutout' Some of them included: "It's not Jacob's Ladder, it's my ladder."

On Thursday evening, Mrs Alexander came and visited us. We were so surprised to see her.

We had such a lovely time and we didn't want to leave. We have made lots of new memories together."

Sarah Alexander
Headteacher

GARDEN PARTY

Vicki Hodgkiss and Canterbury Flower Club are holding a Garden Party on Monday 16th July from 2.00 to 5.00pm at Church End, Hernhill. This is in aid of 'Macmillan Care' and 'The Flower Club'.

There will be a cream tea, summer punch, raffle, plant and cake stalls. Tickets are £5.00 from me. Hope to see you there.

Vicki Hodgkiss
01227 751511 or 0772 4010767
vickihodgkiss@hotmail.com

CHURCH URBAN FUND

I am delighted to say that, last year nearly £300 was collected for this charity. The money serves to help solve problems in deprived city areas throughout this country. Many from the Village have contributed regularly to this charity by putting their odd

coins in a collecting box that they keep on the side. I would like to thank them for their valuable effort. If you would like to do the same, please contact me or Alan for a collecting box.

Barbara Taylor
01227 751293

TEDDY BEAR PARACHUTE JUMPS

Hernhill Church 2.30pm
(weather permitting)

Have you got a brave bear? Would you like to see your Teddy Bear parachute from the top of St Michael's Church tower? Over the past four years many brave bears from far and wide have risen to the challenge, only a few got stuck in a tree! There will be prizes for the slowest recorded jump times. Every Teddy that completes a jump

will receive 'Super Ted' status and a certificate to prove it.

If your Teddy is injured, First Aid will be on paw from the Paratedics and Teddymedics in the Tederal Centre.

All brave bears will be asked to pay £2.00 for their very daring jump, or £5 per family, in aid of St Michael's Church.

All Teddies and their owners welcome. Refreshments are available.



HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

We had a very enjoyable outing to Waddesden Manor. The house was amazing. How the other half live! Room after room displaying pictures by Reynolds, Gainsborough etc. Tables laid with 'Sevres' porcelain and silver candlesticks and servers, candelabras dripping with chrystal. Just the sheer number of rooms was overwhelming. The formal gardens were only just being planted but the estate is extensive requiring a bus from the car park to the house. Unfortunately the M25 was unkind to us and we had a two hour delay coming home. We were glad of a comfortable coach with a loo and a very skilful driver.

Our next outing is to 'Salutations Gardens' in Sandwich. We meet there at 6.30pm and it will be sensible to car share if possible. The cost

will be £12.00 to include a guided tour by a gardener and refreshments. Please let Rebecca know if you would like to come (friends and neighbours are welcome) so she can give 'Salutations' an idea of numbers.

Thank you to all exhibitors in the Summer Show. The number of roses exhibited broke all records but the vegetables were thin on the ground as the weather has been inclement. Cup winners were Mark James, Wade Cup and W I Cup; Cath Stone, Greville Cup; Jean Wilson, Dargate House Cup; Tony Bentley Woods Cup; Lisette Owens Ben Bones Memorial Cup; Violet Croll, Raines Cup; Doris Thomas, Mary Dawes Memorial Vase.

Don't forget the Autumn Show on Saturday 1st September.

Jill Geliot

PRAYER LABYRINTH

This will be in Hernhill churchyard during August.

A labyrinth is a path which leads, via a circuitous route, to the centre of an

intricate design and back out again. There is only one route to the centre of a labyrinth unlike a maze which is designed to confuse and get you lost. A prayer labyrinth is a labyrinth

used to help us pray, as we walk we might think about loved ones, distractions or burdens we carry. We walk at our own pace and in our own time. There is something in the twists and turns of the labyrinth path that touches the twists and turns in our lives. Its winding path seems to help us unwind, slow down and be mindful of our thoughts and the

promptings of our hearts. During August we will have a temporary labyrinth painted onto the grass in Hernhill churchyard. Anyone who would like to is invited to walk the labyrinth whenever they like. There will be some simple instructions by the labyrinth to help you and you can do it as many times as you wish.
Revd Jean Burrows

BITS AND PIECES

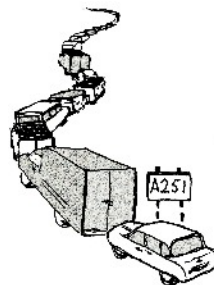
Three weeks ago, Barbara determined to make my life more interesting, she decided to break her leg. That would have been bad enough but it was her good leg. I had a quick panic and then called for an ambulance. They came and managed the situation smoothly and efficiently whilst I had a quick and calming G&T. Barbara was taken to Ashford where, despite her general poor state of health, she was duly examined, x-rayed and fitted with a plaster. She has now improved enough to have been sent to the Whit and Tank hospital to recuperate. Visiting hours are very generous, from 10.00am to 8.00pm and that has been a great help to me and the change has improved her already. She is already sending me her lists of instructions.

Tim Byram-Wigfield produced an amazing programme of music on our church organ earlier in the month. The range of sounds that he produced from what is a very small organ was astonishing. He said that our organ is now quite rare. There was a similar one in the K and C hospital at one time but it fell into disrepair and was removed. Others

have suffered a similar fate. He said ours is a treasure and must be looked after.

Alice Smith is running a number of art classes this summer. If you are interested give her a call on 07732 938005.

I was recently passed the following information. "Please find attached a document regarding closure of the A251 from July to September. No doubt this will cause many problems with diversions. If any major problems occur please let me know and I can co-ordinate notes to KCC and Highways England as it will no doubt impact on the M2 and the A2. Please pass on to friends and family in the area, as I can see chaos ensuing. Jeff Tutt, Dunkirk Parish Councillor" For me it is a great relief that Barbara has been moved. I was using the A251 on a regular basis for hospital visits. It was not an easy journey and I feel sorry for anyone who is going to suffer the inevitable traffic jams.



ADT

Sun 1 July	11.00am	Village Green	Pets Blessing Service
Tues 3	-----	-----	Blue Bin Collection
Sun 8	8.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Holy Communion
Tues 10	-----	-----	Green Bin Collection
Sun 15	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Sung Communion
Tues 17	-----	-----	Blue Bin Collection
Sat 21	3.30pm	St. Barnabas	Messy Church
Sun 22	8.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Holy Communion
	2.30pm	St. Michael's Ch	Teddy Bear parachute jumping
Tues 24	9.30am	St. Michael's Ch	School Leavers Service
	-----	-----	Green Bin Collection
Wed 25	8.00pm	Village Hall	Parish Council Meeting
Sun 29	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Sung Communion
Tues 31	-----	-----	Blue Bin Collection
Fri 3 Aug	-----	Mount Ephraim	Pop Concert
Sat 4	-----	Mount Ephraim	Pop Concert
Sun 5	-----	Mount Ephraim	Pop Concert
	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Sung Communion
Tues 7	-----	-----	Green Bin Collection
Sun 12	8.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Holy Communion
Tues 14	-----	-----	Blue Bin Collection
Sun 19	10.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Sung Communion
Tues 21	-----	-----	Green Bin Collection
Sun 26	8.00am	St. Michael's Ch	Holy Communion
Tues 28	-----	-----	Blue Bin Collection
Wed 29	8.00pm	Village Hall	Parish Council Meeting

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

Articles by
Monday
23rd
July

