

# Herstmonceux Parish Council Newsletter

## November 2015

### Good News!!

Your new council has been in place since May and although it might not seem like it, it is working hard to change how it works and has been working hard on your behalf, having so far achieved things such as:-

#### Highways

Bollards to protect the verges on the village green, reinstatement of the phone box at Windmill Hill, repair to the footpath and verges at the top of West End near the junction with Chilsham Lane, repairs to Chilsham Lane and working closely with parishioners in ensuring that overgrown hedges are not affecting the use of pavements.

### Future Plans

#### Parking

A sore point with many people, especially in the centre of Herstmonceux with regard to parking on the pavements. However whilst it is not illegal to do so, it is an offence if you block the pavement for access by pedestrians, people with pushchairs and mobility scooters. We are asking residents to be mindful of others in not causing obstruction to the pavements. It is also hoped that parking will be alleviated by improving the car park at the Recreation Ground thus freeing up parking in the village.

#### Communications with the Parish

The Parish Council is planning major changes in how it communicates with its parishioners. This newsletter will become a regular feature. There will be major changes to the website to make it much more interactive and user friendly. Alongside these there will be a new parish brochure printed and issued to every household. Your councillors are planning to hold surgeries so that you can come and have a face to face chat about what we are doing and what you would like to see happen.

#### Parish Surgeries

Parish Surgeries will be held on the first Saturday of each month in the Meeting Room in the Village Information Centre. The surgeries will start in 2016. However, as the first Saturday in January is a Bank Holiday, the first Parish Surgery will be held from 10am - 12 midday on Saturday 9 January 2016 in the Meeting Room in the Village Information Centre.

At least two councillors will be available to record questions and statements about parish issues.

#### Proposed cycle route from Windmill Hill to Hailsham

The Parish Council along with ESCC Highways have been approached with a view to the long term provision of a cycle route that will encourage cyclists in the area but will be safe and environmentally friendly for all. This is certainly an interesting project but is only in the very early stages of discussion as to how this may be brought about.

### Housing Development News!!

#### **Wealden Local Plan – Issues and Options Consultation :**

Wealden District Council is reviewing its Local Plan and will be consulting with residents, local parishes and organisations throughout the District as part of the process. The Issues and Options Consultation proposals have been published which is the first stage of the development of the review of the Wealden Local Plan.

The plan will contain strategic priorities for the area which include:

The homes and jobs needed in the area.

- Infrastructure – transport, telecommunications, water supply, flood risk, coastal change management and energy.
- The provision of health and security, schools, community and cultural infrastructure and other local facilities.
- Climate change mitigation and adaptation, conservation and enhancement of the natural and historic environment.

The Issues and Options Consultation sets out in detail information about assessing housing need, general locations where that housing could go, development boundaries, conservation areas, Traveller and Gypsy site allocations, local plan policies etc. The consultation period runs from 19 October 2015 - 14 December 2015 and comments should be sent to Wealden District Council.

The proposal for Herstmonceux Parish is for 230 dwellings in Herstmonceux, 50 dwellings in Windmill Hill and at present none for Cowbeech. The timescale has been extended and the Plan will cover the period from 2013 to 2037.

Whilst this is not what a lot of you want to hear, the Parish Council is very aware that it will have to be very vigilant on your behalf with regard to planning and development in the Parish. There is a new separate dedicated Building Development Committee, which will be involved in only this aspect of planning so that things do not happen without anyone knowing about it. It is very clear that there is no option, developments will happen and that engagement with Wealden is essential to ensure the Parish get what it wants and not what developers think we want.

As Parishioners you can help with this by getting involved in the Wealden District Council consultation process concerning future development. There is a copy of the Issues and Options Consultation Documents available for viewing in the Village Information Centre. The Centre is open Monday – Friday 9.30am – 12.30pm and Saturdays 10am – 12 midday. The copy cannot be removed from the Centre but there will be a stack of paper there so that you can make notes if you wish.

The consultation runs from Monday 19 October 2015 – 5pm on Monday 14 December 2015. Any responses received after 5pm on Monday 14th December 2015 will not be accepted.

A representative from Wealden District Council will give a presentation on the proposals contained in the Issues and Options Consultation at the Herstmonceux Parish Council Planning Committee Meeting at 7pm on Tuesday 8 December 2015. The meeting is open to members of the public.

### **Are you interested in renting an allotment plot?**

Herstmonceux Parish Council has an allotment site at Greenway Fruit Farm, Stunts Green with allotment plots of 12.5 metres x 10 metres available to rent at £25 per year.

It is expected that there will be some plots available to rent from 1 April 2016. If you are interested in putting your name on the waiting list or if you want more information about the allotments, please contact Mrs Janet McInnes, the Parish Clerk at 4 The Old Forge, Gardner Street, Herstmonceux, East Sussex BN27 4LE  
clerk@herstmonceuxparish.org.uk or 01323 833312

### **Your Parish Needs You!!!!**

Your Parish Council cannot do all the work and this is where you come in. Would you like to be involved in your community?

### Photo Competition

For all you aspiring photographers we are looking for photographs taken by anyone in the parish which will help in the redesigning of the way we communicate by using these photos as part of the documentation and literature produced by the Parish Council. The

there is 'Parish Life' and need to be in jpeg or pdf format. For Terms and Conditions for the competition, please contact the Clerk before submitting your pictures. The prize is a £25 gift voucher.

#### Paws on Watch

Are you a dog owner? Do you walk your dog in the parish on a regular basis? Would you like to become involved in a scheme whereby you can help keep the Parish safe? If the answer is yes to all of those questions please pick up the information in the Village Information Centre.

#### Litter in the Parish

Litter is a problem across the parish and Cowbeech residents have a team of volunteers who do an excellent job in Cowbeech with two litter picks a year. If you wish to help litter picking in other areas in the parish or organise regular litter picks, please contact the Parish Clerk. (See below for contact details)

#### Parish Council Meetings

Council Meetings and Committee Meetings are open to residents and time is set aside at the start of all meetings for public questions and statements. The meetings are advertised on the parish notice boards, on the parish web site [www.herstmonceuxparish.org.uk](http://www.herstmonceuxparish.org.uk) or you can contact the Parish Clerk for more information. (See below for contact details)

### **Parish Council Committees**

**Finance and General Purposes Committee** – Councillors J. Angear (Chairman), S. Nash, M. Goodsell, H. Kenward, M. Bradshaw and I. Stewart.

**Planning Committee** – The quorum is 6 councillors. The nominated councillors are Councillors J. Angear (Chairman), S. Nash, J. Alder, M. Goodsell, H. Kenward (Vice Chairman), A. Ashley, I. Stewart. Reserve Councillors M. Bradshaw, B. Naish, C. Stirling-Reed and M. von Barnholt Krag.

**Building Development Committee** - Councillors J. Angear (Chairman), J. Alder, A. Ashley, K. Kenward (Vice Chairman), M. Goodsell, S. Nash and I. Stewart.

**Ground Committee** – Councillors J. Angear, S. Nash (Chairman), M. Goodsell, B. Naish, M. Bradshaw, M. Von Barnholt Krag and co-opted member Mr M. Watson.

**Footpath** – Councillors J. Angear, S. Nash, M. Goodsell, C. Stirling-Reed and I. Stewart.

**Allotments** – Councillors J. Angear, S. Nash and M. Bradshaw.

**Communications** - Councillors J. Angear, S. Nash, J. Alder, M. Bradshaw, and. von Barnholt Krag (Chairman).

**Emergency Planning Committee** – Councillors A. Ashley, C. Stirling-Reed and Mr A. McInnes (Co-opted member - Chairman)

**Street Lighting** – Councillors J. Angear, S. Nash, M. von Barnholt Krag (Chairman) and M. Bradshaw.

**Highways and Traffic** – Councillors J. Angear, S. Nash, J. Alder and H. Kenward.

**Personnel Sub-Committee** - Councillors M. Bradshaw (Chairman), S. Nash and I. Stewart

#### **Councillors with special responsibilities are as follows:**

**Police Liaison** – Councillor J. Alder.

**Tree Warden** – Councillors M. Goodsell and M. von Barnholt Krag.

#### **Council representatives to the following organisations were elected:**

**Wealden Association of Local Councils** – Councillors S. Nash, M. Bradshaw and I. Stewart.

**Herstmonceux Information Centre** – Councillor S. Nash

**Herstmonceux Village Hall** – Councillor B. Naish.

**Cuckmere Community Bus** - Co-opted member Mrs S. Charlton.

**Herstmonceux Business Association** - Councillors A. Ashley and M. Bradshaw.

**Vitality Villages** - Councillors M. Bradshaw and C. Stirling-Reed.

**Vareneville Twinning Association** - Mrs J. McInnes (Parish Clerk)