

HERSTMONCEUX PARISH COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2015

The future of a Neighbourhood Plan for Herstmonceux Parish

Herstmonceux Parish Council will hold a Public Meeting in the main hall in Herstmonceux Village Hall at 7.30pm on Wednesday 11 November 2015 to discuss the future of Herstmonceux Parish Neighbourhood Plan.

Wealden Local Plan – Issues, Options and Recommendations (I&O):

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 document has now been published which is the first stage of the development 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 document 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.

More information is available on the Wealden web site www.wealden.gov.uk Public exhibitions will run across the District during the consultation period from 19 October 2015 to 14 December 2015.

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

Parish Council Meetings

A parish council is a civil local authority found in England and is the lowest, or first tier of local government. They are elected corporate bodies, have variable tax raising powers, and are responsible for areas known as civil parishes.

The central function of the Council, the making of local decisions and policy relevant to the public interest of the parish, is performed at the meetings of the Council.

Local councils can provide and maintain a variety of important and visible local services including allotments, bridleways, burial grounds, bus shelters, car parks, commons and open spaces, community transport schemes, community safety and crime reduction measures, events and festivals, footpaths, leisure and sports facilities, litter bins, public toilets, planning, street cleaning and lighting, tourism activities, traffic calming measures, village greens and youth projects.

Herstmonceux Parish Council Meetings are held at 7.30pm on the third Monday of the month in the small hall in Herstmonceux Village Hall. Members of the public are invited to attend and time is set aside at the beginning of the meeting to allow for public questions and comments. This item shall last not more than 15 minutes or at Chairman's discretion and no contribution shall last more than 3 minutes.

(NB the December 2015 Council Meeting will be held on the second Monday 14 December 2015 due to the Christmas holidays)

Parish Council Committees

In order to carry its work, Herstmonceux Parish Council has the following committees/sub-committees and has councillors with special interests or councillors representing the Council at other organisations:

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

The Finance Committee has following specific duties:

- i. To prepare budgets and recommend precepts and submit them to the Full Council for approval.
- ii. To ensure adequate financial controls are in place to utilise and protect the Council's finances and assets – to include insurance of buildings and property and maintenance of asset register.
- iii. To review and amend the Council's Financial Regulations annually and to ensure that the Council is observing the regulations.
- iv. To monitor and effect compliance with laid down internal and external audit and other financial procedures, regulations and statutes.
- v. To monitor and where appropriate recommend purchase of all capital items.
- vi. To make provision for future agreed capital projects.
- vii. To review and recommend an active policy for the best use and upkeep of the Council's property and resources.
- viii. To review Council Fees and Charges on a regular basis (at least annually)
- ix. To monitor the Council's financial risk assessments and recommend changes where necessary.
- x. To establish and effect a clear policy for grant aid administration.
- xi. To approve other Committee's annual spending/budget levels and capital projects to be undertaken and recommend implementation of the same to the Main Council.
- xii. To approve within budgetary limits the day to day expenditure.

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

- i. Considers and responds to all planning applications.
- ii. Considers any planning correspondence.
- iii. Arranges site meetings as necessary.

Building Development Committee - Councillors J. Angear (Chairman), J. Alder, A. Ashley, K. Kenward (Vice Chairman), M. Goodsell, S. Nash and I. Stewart; and the following parishioners The Committee will:

- i. Arrange meetings as necessary with WDC, ESCC, developers and other agencies as necessary to discuss the design and layout of developments in the parish.

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

- i. The committee has responsibility for the maintenance, development and overall responsibility of the Recreation Ground, Lime Cross Field and the Village Green, and the equipment thereon.

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

- i. Assesses the state of footpaths around the Parish and reporting their observations to the County Council, in particular where there is need for repair of other action.
- ii. Discusses issues relating to the condition and maintenance of footpaths in the village and corresponding with the relevant bodies.
- iii. Deals with items of correspondence & consultations relating to Footpaths, the Public Footpath Network and will recommend a response to the Full Parish Council.

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

Communications Committee - Councillors J. Angear, S. Nash, J. Alder, M. Bradshaw, and von Barnholt Krag. The Committee will review the following aspects of communications:

- i. Corporate Identity.
- ii. Review and maintenance of the parish web site.
- iii. Council newsletter.
- iv. Village Brochure.
- v. Councillor surgeries.
- vi. Social media.

Personnel Sub-Committee of the Finance and General Purposes Committee - Councillors M. Bradshaw, S. Nash and I. Stewart. The Committee:

- i. Monitors, reviews and recommends on all matters relating to the Council's staff levels, emoluments and conditions of service.

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

- i. Ensures that there is an Emergency Plan in place for the Parish.
- ii. Reviews the plan and its procedures annually and keep the contact lists up to date.
- iii. Keeps fellow Parish Councillors involved and regularly informed.
- iv. Publicises the existence of the plan to the residents
- v. Drafts responses to relevant correspondence, surveys etc. and attend relevant outside meetings where possible.

Councillors with special responsibilities are as follows:

Street Lighting – Councillors J. Angear, S. Nash, M. von Barnholt Krag and M. Bradshaw. The committee shall:

- i. Report all faults to ESCC.
- ii. Make recommendations to Full Council on maintenance and updates of street lights.
- iii. Carry out a regular review of timed operations of all street lights.
- iv. Undertake assessment of existing street lights to ensure optimum efficiency and performance.

Highways and Traffic – Councillors J. Angear, S. Nash, J. Alder and H. Kenward. The Committee:

- i. Liaises between the Parish Council and ESCC Highways Department in highways matters relating to traffic and roads and County Council maintained footpaths.
- ii. Drafts responses to relevant correspondence, surveys etc. and attends appropriate outside meetings where possible.

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, J. Alder 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.
Varengville Twinning Association - Mrs J. McInnes (Parish Clerk)

The parish web site www.herstmonceuxparish.org.uk has the agenda and minutes of meetings or you can contact the Parish Clerk, Mrs J. McInnes, contact details on the bottom of the newsletter.

Parish Councillors

Mrs Jenny Alder Bamburi, Joes Lane, Windmill Hill, E Sussex BN27 4TN ☎ 832329
Mrs Jo Angear Penlands, Church Road, Herstmonceux, E Sussex BN27 1RJ ☎ 832210
Ms Angela Ashley 22 Fairfield, Herstmonceux, E Sussex BN27 4NE ☎ 832789
Mr Malcolm Bradshaw The Willows, West End, Herstmonceux, E Sussex BN27 4NL ☎ 833365
Mr Mick Goodsell Little Hollingwood, Chilsham Lane, Herstmonceux, E Sussex BN27 4QQ ☎ 832178
Mrs Heather Kenward West End House, West End, Herstmonceux, E Sussex BN27 4NL ☎ 833509
Mr Bryan Naish Cobwebs, 29 Pippin Close, Orchard View, Windmill Hill, E Sussex BN27 4TU ☎ 833747
Mr Stephen Nash 1 The Willows, Gardner Street, Herstmonceux, E Sussex BN27 4TQ ☎ 833203
Mr Ian Stewart Chestnut Lodge, West End, Herstmonceux, E Sussex BN27 4NZ ☎ 833450
Mrs Catherine Stirling-Reed Stone's Meadow, Bagham Lane, Herstmonceux, E Sussex BN27 4NA ☎ 833308
Mr Max von Barnholt Krag Primrose Cottage, Chapel Row, Herstmonceux, E Sussex BN27 1RB ☎ 832917

Details of all Council Meetings, minutes, agenda etc are available on the web site at www.herstmonceuxparish.org.uk

The Parish Clerk, Mrs Janet McInnes can be contacted at: The Parish Office, 4 The Old Forge, Gardner Street Herstmonceux, East Sussex BN27 4LE Tel: 01323 833312 Email: clerk@herstmonceuxparish.org.uk