



## HORSMONDEN PARISH COUNCIL- ARTICLE FOR PARISH NEWS FOR AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 2026 EDITION

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### VEHICLES WAITING/PARKING ON GREEN ROAD

We would like to ask all residents and visitors to please avoid stopping, waiting or parking directly outside the pharmacy on Green Road, even for a short time. Vehicles stopping in this location can completely block Green Road, preventing other vehicles from passing and can also obstruct access to the village green gate opposite the pharmacy. Please help by keeping this area clear at all times to ensure safe access for residents, visitors and emergency vehicles.

We do appreciate that collecting prescriptions or making a quick stop can seem harmless, but even a brief obstruction can create difficulties for other road users, pedestrians and those who need access to the Village Green.

Thank you for your consideration and for helping to keep our village safe, accessible and moving smoothly for everyone.

### PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Residents are always encouraged to attend the monthly meetings of the Parish Council. Please note that there is no full council meeting in August so the next meeting will be **Monday 7th September**. However, the next Planning Committee meeting will be held on **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> August** at 7.30pm at Horsmonden Village Hall.

### HORSMONDEN HORSE FAIR

The annual Horse Fair is due to take place on **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September** on the village green.

### SPEEDWATCH – CAN YOU HELP?

Speedwatch is a community-based scheme where volunteers record the speed of passing vehicles in the area where they live. Around 90% of vehicles observed once by Speedwatch volunteers are not seen speeding again in the following 12 months.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Martin Drinkwater who has coordinated the group with great commitment but is now stepping down from the role after many years of dedicated service.

The group is now looking for a new coordinator to take over this important position, as well as additional volunteers to support ongoing sessions.

If you would be interested in becoming the new coordinator or joining the volunteer team to help reduce speeding in the area, please contact the Parish Office on 01892 724989 or email [deputyclerk@horsmonden-pc.gov.uk](mailto:deputyclerk@horsmonden-pc.gov.uk).

### HORSMONDEN PUBLIC TOILETS – OPENING TIMES

The Parish Council would like to remind residents and visitors that the public toilets are now operating on summer opening hours and are open daily from **7:00am to 7:00pm**. The automatic locking system is set to engage at **7:00pm** each evening. We are aware of an issue where the entrance doors do not always close fully, which can allow access after the locking time and cause confusion for users.

Please be assured that **it is not possible to become locked inside the facilities**. Clear signage is displayed explaining how to exit safely should the automatic locks engage.

We are currently investigating adjustments to the doors to resolve the issue and thank everyone for their patience and understanding.

### BADGERS ON THE VILLAGE GREEN – PLEASE TAKE CARE

Residents may have noticed an increase in badger activity on the village green, with areas of ground being disturbed and holes appearing as the animals forage and dig. The Parish Council are doing their best to fill and repair holes as they are identified; however, badgers often return and re-open or create new areas of disturbance, making this an ongoing challenge.

We would therefore ask everyone using the green to please take extra care and be mindful of their footing, particularly in uneven areas. This is especially important for children, dog walkers and anyone with reduced mobility.

Thank you for your patience and understanding while we continue to monitor and maintain the area as best we can.

## **HORSMONDEN COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PLAN**

Horsmonden Parish Council are starting the process of updating their Emergency Plan and are inviting local residents to join the Village Response Team - a group of volunteers ready to support the community during emergencies.

In situations such as severe weather, flooding, power cuts, or other major incidents, team members help with:

- Local communication and information sharing
- Practical assistance to residents
- Supporting vulnerable members of the community

If you would like to be part of this important initiative and help your neighbours in times of need, the Parish Council would love to hear from you. Please contact the Parish Office on 01892 724989 or via email [deputyclerk@horsmonden-pc.gov.uk](mailto:deputyclerk@horsmonden-pc.gov.uk).

## **REPORTING A PROBLEM ON A ROAD, PAVEMENT OR A FOOTPATH**

If you notice any issues such as potholes, drainage problems or overgrown vegetation you can report directly to Kent County Council here:

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem>

If you notice any problems on a public right of way such as broken stiles, fallen trees or dangerous path surfaces you can report directly to Kent County Council here:

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/environment-waste-and-planning/public-rights-of-way/report-a-problem-on-a-right-of-way>

## **STAY INFORMED ABOUT LOCAL NEWS AND EVENTS FROM HORSMONDEN PARISH COUNCIL**

To receive our updates, simply register your email address and confirm your agreement with our Privacy Notice by scanning the QR code below:



## **SOME USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS:**

NHS: 111

Kent Highways Service: 03000 418181  
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council: 01892 526121  
Environment Agency 24-hour Flood line:  
08459 881188  
Emergencies only: 999  
Non-emergency Police Line: 101  
UK Power Networks – Power cut: 0800 31 63 105 on a  
landline or 0333 32 32 105 (if calling from a mobile)