

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING MEETING – 6TH JULY

Those who attended the Annual Parish Meeting in May will remember that the Parish Council agreed to organise and hold a public meeting in respect of Neighbourhood Planning, to explain the process and gauge an interest/appetite for NH planning in the village. A Neighbourhood Plan would enable the parish to put in place a vision and policies for its future development. Unlike a parish plan, a NH plan becomes a statutory document and can be used to help determine planning applications in the neighbourhood area, alongside the Borough Council's Local Plan and other statutory documents. Having said that, it cannot be used to restrict or diminish planning. Instead it may be used to determine where the best places for more development are, or what sort and size of development would be preferred. The preparation and process of writing and developing a NH plan has to follow a fairly rigorous process and it can therefore take a long time and require a great deal of input from parishioners and volunteers in the community as well as financial resources to pay for the services of professionals to aid the process. Its possible advantages therefore have to be weighed up against the financial and other costs involved to see if the parish believes this to be a worthwhile exercise.

Any NH plan written must fall in line with and agree with the policies and plans outlined in TWBC's Local Plan which is now partly developed, as well as agreeing with current legislation and government policies.

If you are interested in hearing more, wish to offer your services as a potential volunteer or simply wish to voice an opinion on whether you feel the parish should go ahead with developing a NH Plan or not, please attend the meeting arranged for 6th July at 7pm in the Village hall.

The meeting will include information from Kelvin Hinton (TWBC Officer) and those chairing the NH planning groups at Hawkhurst and Goudhurst. Refreshments will also be provided.

LOVE WHERE WE LIVE AWARDS 2017.

The Love Where We Live Awards 2017 are now open for nominations and there are **seven categories open for nomination this year**, plus the Love Where We Live Award which will be chosen from the category winners and announced at the awards ceremony in October.

The parish Council are hoping to nominate candidates for several categories this year and will publicise further in the next edition of parish news.

PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE.

The Council hope that you are finding our new website with Hugo Fox useful as it provides all sorts of information and is regularly up dated with local news items and alerts.

Unfortunately the Council's new antivirus software caused a few problems with messages sent via the website being put into a junk mail folder and deleted. We apologise for any inconvenience this may have caused and hope that this problem is now resolved. However if you have sent a message to the clerk or the council via the website's 'contact us' facility and have not yet had a response to it, please contact the clerk directly via email (clerk@horsmonden-pc.gov.uk) with your message/query again and we will try and respond as soon as is possible.

FORTH COMING MEETING DATES

Parish Council Meeting – Monday 3rd July

Planning Meeting - Tuesday 18th July

Planning Meeting - Tuesday 15th August

Parish Council Meeting – Monday 4th September

Planning Meeting - Tuesday 19th September

Please note that the Council do not usually hold a full Council meeting in August, however any change to meetings will be publicised on our notice boards and website as below as is the full meeting schedule for 2017 .

DONT FORGET TO LOOK AT WEBSITE AT www.horsmonden-pc.gov.uk FOR ANYTHING YOU WISH TO KNOW ABOUT THE COUNCIL OR ITS ACTIVITIES.

There is also a lot of other useful information on the site, such as dust cart timetable, local road works etc. You can sign up for email alerts which will let you know when a news item has gone on site!

Please feel free to contact the clerk, as below.

Lucy Noakes (clerk) on (01892) 724989

Clerk to Horsmonden Parish Council

Telephone: 01892 724989

E-mail: clerk@horsmonden-pc.gov.uk

USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS:

Kent Highways services 03000 418181

Tunbridge wells Borough Council 01892 526121

Environment Agency 24 hour Flood line:08459881188

PCSO Jenkins - 079769584279

Non emergency Police line – 101

Emergencies only - 999

UK Power net works – Power cut -0800 31 63 105 on a landline or 0333 32 32 105 (if calling from a mobile)