

**HORSMONDEN PARISH COUNCIL - ARTICLE FOR PARISH NEWS  
JUNE 2018 EDITION**

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**THE COUNCILS ANNUAL MEETING (8<sup>TH</sup> MAY)**

The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council took place on 8<sup>th</sup> May. This meeting is important in that a lot of administration takes place which sets the foundations for the rest of the year ahead as well as agreeing the accounts for the year just gone.

The committee elected Jane March as the Council's Chair and Stuart Davis as the Vice Chair.

The Councillors all renewed their Declarations of Acceptance of Office and with it, their agreement to abide by the Council's code of conduct for another year.

The Council was very pleased to co-opt Mark Sheppard as their new recruit, filling the vacancy left when Valerie Holloway retired. Mark has already proven himself useful in assisting Cllr Russell and Davis with the operation of the Speed Indicator Device, changing its battery when low, re-positioning the head of the device and helping to remove and format the data collected by the SID.

The Council members also looked carefully at their committee structure, deciding which committees and groups they wished to be part of for the year ahead.

The Clerk presented the Annual Accounts for the year ending 2017/18 to the Council and the Council were able to agree the Annual Governance Statement and annual accounts for submission to the external auditor.

**TRAFFIC SOLUTIONS/ACCIDENTS AT THE  
HORSMONDEN CROSSROADS.**

Cllr Davis and the Clerk met with Emma Green and Mike Hardy (officers from KHS) Lisa Gillham (District Officer for KCC), Greg Clark and his secretary, Rachel Godfrey, Sarah Hamilton (KCC Cllr) and Kate Mills from Heath Stores on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May to discuss the solution set out by KHS to try and prevent further accidents at the crossroads.

It had been ascertained that the recent accidents had all been caused by drivers who failed to stop at the white line on the Lamberhurst side of the crossroads. In order to try and emphasise the need to stop at the crossroads KHS announced that they were going to implement on both the Lamberhurst Road and Maidstone Road sides of the crossroads, new fluorescent backed STOP signs and a 50m stretch of buff coloured road surfacing up to the white line.

This is in addition to a new fluorescent warning sign prior to the junction and bringing the white lining forward on the Lamberhurst Road side of the crossroads. The Parish Council's own traffic solutions plans will still be going ahead and include the introduction of gateways on each entry point to the village and moving the 30mph restriction outwards on the Brenchley Road.

The group also discussed the potential that the drivers involved in the accidents may have been using satnavs and google maps. Greg Clark said that he was going to meet with the police later that afternoon to see if any further information regarding this could be released. He had already written to Google asking if he could arrange a meeting to discuss what could be done to make Google Maps safer to use. The Council requested to be kept informed of the outcome of these meetings.

**PARKING**

This is as respectful reminder not to park over the white 'H' lines or 'dog and bone' markers which are painted next to the dropped kerb areas and areas which need to be kept clear for access.

The markers either side of the Goudhurst /Brenchley Road near the Green and outside Heath Stores align with the dropped kerb and provide access across the road for those using disabled vehicles and with prams and pushchairs. If cars park over these areas, it is not possible for those using disabled vehicles to cross the road meaning they are prevented from continuing their journey.

Other dog and bone markers frequently parked across are located outside the Social Club building at the north end of the green. Here they are positioned to prevent parking across the main entrance and the fire exit. On many occasion cars park across the small gate leading to the fire exit which means this is blocked and could not be used in an emergency, potentially trapping people inside the building.

So please think before you park, as it can cause a huge amount of inconvenience to others.

**HoVEC SUMMER FESTIVAL**

HoVEC's Summer Festival is organised to take place from Friday 8<sup>th</sup> June to Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> June inclusive. The Friday evening kicks off with an event in the marquee based on the theme 'Once upon a Time' On the Saturday, the event includes the Primary School fete from 12noon till 4pm with stalls, refreshments and entertainment, followed by an evening of bands and music.

On the Sunday the marquee will be used for a combined Church service in the morning, followed by afternoon teas with entertainment and classic cars.

**FORTH COMING MEETING DATES**

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June - Parish Council Meeting  
Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> June – Planning committee meeting  
Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> July - Parish Council Meeting  
Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> July- Planning Committee Meeting.  
AUGUST – No full Council meeting planned  
Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> August – Planning Committee Meeting.

**DONT FORGET TO LOOK AT WEBSITE AT  
[www.horsmonden-pc.gov.uk](http://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

mobile: 07484904765

E-mail: [clerk@horsmonden-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@horsmonden-pc.gov.uk)

**Office open to the public: Mon & Wed 9am-3pm , Fri 9am -12pm .**

**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)*