



HORSMONDEN PARISH COUNCIL - ARTICLE FOR PARISH NEWS FOR MAY 2025 EDITION

NEW PARISH COUNCILLOR – CLLR ALISON BOON

The Parish Council are delighted to welcome our new Councillor, Alison Boon, who was co-opted on to the Council on the 7th April 2025.

With a passion for local issues and a collaborative spirit, Cllr Boon is eager to listen to residents, support ongoing projects and contribute fresh ideas to help shape the future of our Parish.

Please join us in warmly welcoming Cllr Boon to the Parish Council.

BASSETTS FARM APPLICATION 24/00078/HYBRID

On the 2nd April, Tunbridge Wells Borough Council's Planning Committee approved the planning application for Bassetts Farm, following a vote in which five councillors were in favour and three opposed.

This decision was extremely disappointing for the Parish Council, who have raised numerous concerns regarding this application and had hoped that the volume and strength of public objections would have influenced the outcome.

Despite the result, the Parish Council would like to express sincere thanks to all residents who took the time to submit their comments and voice their concerns. Particular appreciation is extended to the Bassetts Farm Forum for their dedication and tireless efforts throughout the process.

The Parish Council remain committed to representing the community and will continue to engage with the planning process on behalf of local residents.

2025 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on **Monday, 19th May at 7:30pm (with refreshments beforehand from 7pm)**. This is an opportunity for parishioners to raise any issues they may have concerning the parish as well as a chance to come along and hear about what the Parish Council has been doing over the past year. If you have any particular issues which you would like to discuss and have added to the Agenda, please contact the Clerk.

THE GREAT BRITISH SPRING CLEAN 2025

The Parish Council would like to extend a big thank you to everyone who volunteered for our community litter pick on Saturday 22nd March. Your time and effort have made a real difference in keeping our village clean and beautiful.

A special thanks to the staff at Leigh Academy Horsmonden and the wonderful ladies from the WI for their fantastic support - it's great to see people coming together to make a positive impact.



WILDFLOWER GARDEN AT FROMANDEZ DRIVE

Spring has officially arrived at the Parish Council's Wildflower garden at Fromandez Drive. Seasonal blooms are just beginning to emerge, with the first bluebells adding a splash of colour to the area.

There are a wonderful group of volunteers who have just met recently to carry out some weeding and general tidying up - they are doing a great job!



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 next 12 months.

We already have an active Speedwatch group in Horsmonden, who do a great job, but they are desperately in need of more volunteers.

If you would like to join the group and help reduce speeding vehicles in the area, please contact Martin Drinkwater on 01892 722883 or by email martindrinkwater3@gmail.com.

ROAD WORKS

There have been quite a number of road closures recently. It is great that works are being carried out but we get very little notice to allow us to advertise them. Please keep an eye on our website and Facebook pages and we will share the information as quickly as we can.

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>

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)