

**HERSTMONCEUX PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER**  
**February 2018**

**Christmas**

It already feels such a long time ago doesn't it? But firstly, your Parish Council wish you all a happy and healthy 2018 and want to say a big 'thank you' to all those parishioners who contributed to our Christmas celebrations. It really was great fun and we are all looking forward to next year.

**1<sup>st</sup> World War Centenary**

Community celebrations are being organised by various organisations and businesses to commemorate this historic event. An initial meeting is to be held, to encourage interested groups and businesses to work as a parish, to discuss how we can all become involved and produce a diary of activities. Contact Clare, our Clerk, for details.

**Cricket Club**

The Parish Council have been able to assist the Herstmonceux Cricket Club with their plans to renew the practice nets and pitches on the Recreation Ground. The Council have co-ordinated with the Club to secure grant funding from the England and Wales Cricket Board, and with other funds raised by the Club, have instructed the contractors to carry out the proposed improvements. The Cricket Club have been extremely positive in their promotion of these facilities and the benefits they bring, in particular, to the flourishing junior section of the club.

**Housing Developments**

Nothing further has happened on the Lime Cross development.

However, the development at Lime Roughs is proceeding with Reserve Matters. All up to date correspondence and plans can be seen on the WDC website. The Village Hall Committee has agreed to rent out 12 car parking spaces to the developer during the day. There will, therefore, be no need for the developers to park on the grass verges or the slip road opposite.

**Warm Homes Fund**

Wealden District Council has teamed up with National Grid and Affordable Warmth Solutions CIC to provide funding to homeowners, those who privately rent and landlords for the installation of first time oil central heating.

They can help 40 homes and 20 landlords provided they meet the following criteria:-

- The home is located in a rural area not connected to the gas grid
- The property has an Energy Performance Certificate rated F or G
- No full central heating system currently exists
- The occupant receives a qualifying benefit.

For further details phone Wealden District Council 01323 443322

**Herstmonceux Parish Neighbourhood Plan**

The Plan is now with the Independent Examiner and both WDC and ourselves have been asked to provide a little extra information – see Parish website. At the time of writing we are awaiting his final report. Once received, we look to move to referendum sometime in March. Watch this space....

**Councillor Surgeries and Parish Council Open Office**

We are continuing with the Councillors' surgeries in the Information Centre on the last Saturday of every month 10am to 12pm. Upcoming dates are January 27<sup>th</sup>, February 24<sup>th</sup>, March 31<sup>st</sup>, April 28<sup>th</sup>.

\*New\* - Councillors will be trialling delivery of Surgery Cowbeech once every 3 months at the Merrie Harriers, starting from 31<sup>st</sup> March. Times to be confirmed, so keep your eyes open for notices!

Don't forget you can email ([clerk@herstmonceuxparish.org.uk](mailto:clerk@herstmonceuxparish.org.uk)), Facebook or write to Clare our Clerk at any time or come in and see her Thursdays 10.am to 1pm, at the weekly Parish Council Open Office.

### **Date for your diary - Annual Parish Meeting**

The date for this year's annual meeting is Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March. As usual it will be in the Village Hall at 8pm. It was very well supported last year, and we hope there will be even more this year.

It's a great way to hear what's been going on over the past year and an opportunity to ask questions, not only about the work undertaken in the last year but also plans for the next year and beyond. Our Wealden District Councillor and ESC Councillor will also be available to speak to. There will of course be a glass of wine, tea or coffee and a few nibbles on offer. Your support will be greatly appreciated.

### **The Loos**

Wealden District Council have agreed to grant Herstmonceux Parish Council a licence to re-open the public conveniences in the Herstmonceux. Once the licence has been received by the Parish Council, we can authorise a good clean of the building and any remedial works needed to bring the facilities back to working order for parish use.

### **Out and about in the Parish:**

#### **Road Works**

You will have noticed that jointing on the A271 has taken place creating a bumpy ride. The joints will reduce in size with use, but this has basically been carried out in preparation for resurfacing in the summer.

#### **Community Speedwatch**

Together with our Neighbourhood Watch Group, we are now putting in place 'Community Speedwatch' which we help will stop some of the dangerous speeding in our Parish. We have some volunteers but are looking for more. Training is supplied. If you are interested please contact Clare, our Clerk.

#### **Road Safety and Parking**

We all share concerns about 'hot spots' in our parish where road and pedestrian safety is compromised.

Our previous newsletters have mentioned parishioner concerns about parking too close to the junction of Fiennes Road and A271, (Hailsham Road); parking and blocking of pavements, forcing pedestrians onto the road; speeding whilst in 30mph and 40mph zones and; parking on grass verges resulting in obscuring views of cars leaving driveways. Thanks to those of you who have made changes and improved safety in the parish.

Please can those few visitors to the Integrative Health Centre and Pharmacy who stop on the double yellow lines outside both of these buildings be reminded, for the safety of all drivers and pedestrians using this access road, that stopping on these road markings is prohibited, as with double yellows anywhere.

#### **Clerks Corner**

Don't forget that if you can't make it to a Council meeting but are interested in an agenda item, or if you want to keep updated with what discussions and decisions are being made, you can view Parish Council meeting minutes, including submitted planning application comments, available online at the Parish Council website, or pop along to the office.

Parish Council Open Office on a Thursday morning, 10.00-1.00 continues to be very busy. It's encouraging to meet so many parishioners and to be able to pass on comments to the Parish Council and provide information to enquirers. It is important for the Council to reach out to as many parishioners as they can in a variety of ways. In addition to social media, email and phone, open office and Councillor Surgeries, a commitment has also been made to attend the Vitality Villages monthly coffee morning to pass on news and information and answer any questions.

Best Wishes, *Clare Harrison*, Parish Clerk