



HERSTMONCEUX PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER **August 2019**



New Councillor – Herstmonceux Parish Council are once more a full council with 11 members. Our final seat was successfully co-opted on to in June. Welcome aboard, Cllr Simon Chapman!

West End – Following the work that was carried out in June, it has been brought to the attention of the Highways Steward that the quality of work is not acceptable in the circumstances. He is reporting back to ESCC Highways. We are awaiting the outcome with a view to this work being redone to a more satisfactory level.

Road Markings – these have been done with the exception of the yellow lines to be reinstated outside the Old Post Office and West End once the repair work has been completed.

Siding – You may have noticed that this work has been carried out in some sections of our footways. There is still work to be done from Lime Cross Nursery up to the Horseshoe. It is been done so that the footway areas are safe for those using mobility scooters, people who use pushchairs etc. They have been taken back to what would have been their original width and we aim to ensure that this work is repeated when necessary.

Flooding Outside Collins Garage Survey – we are still awaiting the results from the 5 day survey undertaken by ESCC Highways. We have sent them a reminder about this!

Woolpack - WDC and the Parish Council have not yet received any final plans for consideration but there has recently been a consultation meeting, held by the current owners, where residents had an opportunity to view their initial plans.

Horseshoe Inn - Plans have been submitted to WDC to replace the Horseshoe with 9 dwellings and a new pub. The Parish Council have supported this, providing that a planning condition is imposed to secure the pub being built. In the presented scheme, it is proposed that Posey Green be gifted to the Parish.



Loos – The toilets have had a commercial clean ready for re-opening. We hope to reopen the parish public conveniences from the third week in August!

Allotments – Take up of the vacant allotment plots has been rapid and we now only have a couple left at the site at Stunts Green. Please contact the clerk if you are interested in viewing these plots. A waiting list will soon be in operation again. Further plots may become available at the time of annual renewal, which will be in January 2020.

Playground - A further meeting with the developer of Lime Cross has been requested regarding the new play park to be built there (clause of their planning permission). Attention to the wetpour surfacing in the children's play park at the Rec is necessary following some wear & tear & vandalism. **Skateboard Park** – a further meeting with a group of young people and their parents was held at the Village Information Centre. As a result of this, a number of actions are being taken forward including the set up of a crowd fundraising page, sponsorship requests to local businesses by others, research into costs, construction materials and planning by the rest of the group.

Waste Collections – BIFFA have taken over from Kier as of 1st July so it is early days. It is anticipated that services will be an improvement than it has been with Kier over the last year or so. Some things have changed, a payment is now required for any garden waste to be collected and those that have not signed up to do this will have the brown bins collected at some point. You do

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not need to separate glass from other recycling and the small separate black bin can be used for other things or it can be collected. Direct any wissues with your waste collection to Wealden District Council, on line or email or on 01323 443322.

Parish Council Surgeries - Remember you can contact the Parish Council anytime on 01323 833312, call in the Parish Office Thursday mornings 10am-1pm or come to the Councillors' surgery on the first Saturday of the month. Saturday's 3rd August and 5th October will be held in the Village Information Office 10am-12pm. Saturday 7th September will be held in the Merry Harriers at Cowbeech, (the Cowbeech sessions are diarised once every 3 months).

Herstmonceux Community Land Trust - A successful second public consultation meeting was held on 29 May to feed back on the project. 68 residents viewed the first drawings of the scheme and heard presentations by one of their architects, Nicholas Champkins. Top features of responses were the energy efficiency, landscape, support for biodiversity and generosity of scale – essentially sizes of rooms and windows.

Younger people contributed positive views on the long-term environmental issues and the need for quality, affordable homes for the young of the parish. The CLT plans to build 19 homes at Strawberry Field, Windmill Hill and whilst a number will be sold to finance the scheme, approximately half will be retained by the CLT for those with family or residential links to Herstmonceux Parish. 22 people have registered interest. The completion of the registration form does not commit the applicant or the CLT to allocate any of the homes. It allows the CLT to hold the contact details to send further information and how to apply for homes in due course.

To become a shareholding CLT Member (min £1 share) or to register interest in the homes or you know of someone who would benefit from this community development please email herstmonceuxclt@gmail.com or collect forms from The Village Information Centre. Herstmonceux CLT is a not-for-profit Community Benefit Society registered with the FCA.

H-TAG (Herstmonceux Transport Action Group) - H-TAG are pleased to announce their success in obtaining a grant to fund a full survey of our needs in rural East Sussex. This follows on from the bus survey previously carried out in the parish. The first project is to see if a car service can be organised to get hospital patients to a bus link at Hailsham or Sidley, 7 days a week. It will be called the Herstmonceux Flyer. Thus enabling residents to get to outpatient appointments using public transport.



Volunteers Needed - There are some fantastic organisations in our Parish still in need of volunteer help. If you can spare some time pop into the Information Centre or the Parish Office.

Car Parking – ESCC are consulting with residents, businesses and stakeholders for their views on proposed changes to parking charges for Eastbourne and Hastings permit holders to bring them in line with current Lewes permit charges. Increases to on street parking charges are also being proposed. The consultation will end on 11 August. Have your say through ESCC website.

Clerk's Corner: It has been a busy time leading up to the school summer holidays, both in the Parish and within the council work and responsibilities. We have had to make new arrangements for some of the ongoing everyday maintenance of the parish assets, such as the bin emptying in the rec, which the councillors have always had to do (thank you councillors!). So we are moving into a new phase of keeping on top of all of those little jobs, the type that usually go un-noticed until they cannot be done any more and then get noticed in a big way! I wish you all a very good summer and don't forget your suncream! Best Wishes to you all, Clare.

