

HERSTMONCEUX PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

May 2021

Looking back

Unbelievably, it is over a year on from the first lockdown. We would like to thank everyone who has tirelessly worked to keep the Parish services, volunteer efforts and local businesses running.

Parish Picnic

At the time of the opening of the refurbished play park, an official celebration was out of the question due to still being in lockdown. We would like to combine a celebration of the new facility with having a Parish Picnic on **Sunday 18th July 2021** at the Recreation Ground to rejuvenate ourselves and celebrate the strength of our Parish community.

We are hoping that we will have a local music group to provide us with some tunes for us to sing and dance along to, a fancy-dress competition for the children and some other extras for both adults and children. We will be asking families to bring their own picnics and rugs or chairs. Please come and join us and hope and pray for some sun!



**Parish Picnic at the
RECREATION
GROUND**

Save the date!

Sunday 18th July

Council Meetings

The temporary legislation allowing Council's to conduct their business remotely has reverted back to pre-COVID regulations. Herstmonceux Parish Council therefore are meeting again in person, socially distanced, at the COVID secure venue of the Village Hall. Thank you to our Village Hall committee for being ready to re-open when so many others around are not yet up and running. Thank you also to the VIC who have also re-opened and the volunteers who have so willingly come forwards to allow the facility to again offer its valuable services. Please check the Herstmonceux Parish Council website for a list of all meetings, agendas and minutes can be found there too.

Wildflower planting

As usual Jamie is doing a fabulous job of keeping the village looking great and has done a lovely job of starting the planting around the village. Following advice from a helpful and knowledgeable resident, wildflower seeds have been put alongside the new footpath in the recreation ground and more flowers and some native shrubs and a tree are to follow.

Allotments

The allotments are currently full but there is a waiting list available so if you want to enjoy the benefits of growing your own produce contact admin@herstmonceuxparish.org.uk

Local walks

There are leaflets with maps available at the Vic, the Parish Office and the Village Hall if you would like to enjoy the benefit of one of the many wonderful walks. The footways team have been working hard to replace stiles and gates and keeping the footpaths clear.

The Recreation Ground

The upgraded and refurbished car park has been completed and lighting for the footpath leading up to the back of the school and the Bowls Club is planned. The access road has also been completed with lines on the speed humps and a new drainage system in place. Please consider using this wonderful car park when possible, its perfect for the school run.

The Children's Play Area upgrade and refurbishment

This is now complete and it has been lovely to see the children enjoying the new facilities.

Resurfacing at West End

This is due to start on 7th-30th June this is long awaited to improve the road but we understand this will cause some disruption, for further updates please see the East Sussex Highways website.

Speeding and parking issues continue but we are hopeful that when restrictions will allow the Speed-watch Group will be back in action. If you would like to be involved, please get in touch with the Admin Assistant.

Vandalism - unfortunately there have been instances of anti-social behaviour resulting in some vandalism to parish and community group property. If you see any anti-social behaviour and if it is a non-emergency, please report on 111 and into the office: Clerk@herstmonceuxparish.org.uk

Dog Poo where would the newsletter be without the dog poo section? There is still a problem with dog fouling in the rec and now in the children's play area. Apart from being unpleasant, this is a health hazard. You are again asked politely to pick up after your dog and do not let them inside the children's play area. The Council are giving serious consideration as to how to manage this and are exploring suitable preventative action.

Planning Updates

Lime Cross - the entrance to this site has been completed. The Parish Council continues to work and meet with the developers, Clarion Housing Association regarding its concerns around the development to ensure that it meets all the terms of the application.

The Woolpack - work has started on this site following the finalising of Reserved Matters for the development in consultation with the Parish Council and Wealden.

Community Land Trust – work has started on preparing the ground.

The Horseshoe Inn - Council are awaiting the transfer of Posey Green to the Parish

Update H-TAG (Herstmonceux Transport Action Group) Work is still ongoing to address public transport with funding having been approved from the Department of Transport, but not in place, due to Covid. It is hoped for improvements to services from the village, with a potential for 1/2 services on a Sunday, 2 extra services on each weekday and an extra service finishing later than currently. H-TAG will continue with its negotiations with Stagecoach and the DoT to achieve its aims as soon restrictions allow.

Clerks Corner

At the time of writing this newsletter we are still unable to offer Councillor Surgeries or Open Office sessions, but we hope to resume these later in the year. In the meantime, do leave a phone message on 833312 or write or email, Best Wishes, Clare