

Shorne Parish Council

— Borough of Gravesham —



PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

November 2017

Parish Survey and Drop-In Session

All parishioners should have received a copy of the Annual Report by now, albeit a little later than in previous years. A copy of the Annual Report can also be downloaded from our website at <http://www.shornepc.kentparishes.gov.uk/shorne-parish-council-annual-reports>.

The Annual Report contained a survey form, inviting parishioners to let us know your opinions about Shorne Parish (good or bad!) and any other issues or priorities you may have. We would be very grateful if parishioners would take the time to fill this in and send it back to us, so that we can take your views into account when determining our plans and priorities.

If you would like a copy of the survey form, this can be downloaded from our website at <http://www.shornepc.kentparishes.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/SHORNE-PARISH-SURVEY-2017.pdf>. If you haven't received a copy of the Annual Report, or would like more information about the survey, please contact Susan Lindley on 01474 823179 or by email to susan.bragman@btinternet.com.

To supplement the survey, the Parish Council held its first drop-in session on Saturday 14th October in the Village Hall. Amongst the topics raised by parishioners were general traffic concerns, including inconsiderate parking, speeding, and HGVs ignoring the restrictions, and dissatisfaction with the neglected state of the plot between 29 and 31 The Street.

Some of the issues raised are already the subject of continuing actions by the Parish Council, including action to address the neglected state of the plot in The Street, and other issues will be taken into consideration in determining our priorities and future plans.

KCC Award Grant for Shorne CCTV System

The Parish Council is pleased to report that KCC has provided a grant covering the full capital cost of the installation of the closed circuit television (CCTV) system in the village. The Member's grant was sponsored by Bryan Sweetland, Kent County Councillor for Gravesham Rural Division. The CCTV system has already proved to be useful on two occasions, including providing footage of an incident in response to a request by Kent Police.

Volunteers' Litter Patrol

Over 30 volunteers participated in the Litter Patrol on Saturday 21st October, including a small number of volunteers who couldn't make it on the day but collected litter separately. Once again, we were able to clean all the main streets and verges from Brewers Road to Green Farm Lane, while Councillor Russell Cooper and his neighbours tackled the fly tipping in Shorne Ifield Road. Depressingly, yet more fly tipping was dumped within 2 hours of them finishing.

Eight “Caution – Litter Picking” signs were obtained by the Parish Council, and this time we were able to make drivers aware that litter picking was in progress by positioning the signs at strategic locations around the parish.

Organiser Bob Lane said, “Once again, this was a great turn-out and a terrific accomplishment by the teams of volunteers, including others who were unable to participate on the day but took it upon themselves to pick litter during the run-up to the event. It is good to see our streets litter-free, and the volunteers can be proud of the results”.

If you would like to participate in future Litter Patrols, please contact Bob on 01474 822680 or by email to bob.lane@gmx.co.uk.

KCC Budget Consultation – Have Your Say

To balance their budget for 2018/19, Kent County Council has to find an estimated £66m of savings in response to additional spending demands and reduced government grant. Since 2011-12, KCC has saved £589m in response to the financial challenge. Their consultation includes plans for £56m of savings with a further £9m yet to be identified.

KCC plans to increase Council Tax by the amount permitted under the referendum principles, including the additional social care levy. The estimated increase for 2018-19 is 3.99% (£41.84 per year for a band C property). This will increase KCC’s share of the Council Tax bill for a band C property to £1,089.68 in 2018/19. KCC is inviting your comments on these plans, as well as suggestions as to where you think savings can and should be made.

Please visit <http://www.kent.gov.uk/about-the-council/finance-and-budget/our-budget> to have your say on the proposals to fix the 2018/19 budget gap and to tell KCC your priorities.

Notice Boards

The notice board at the Village Hall has been refurbished and fitted with pin-board material. In addition, pin board material has been fitted to the notice board at The Ridgeway. This enables notices to be fixed with drawing pins. Please feel free to make use of the notice boards for appropriate local events and notices, but please do not use staples or ‘sellotape’ in future.

Parish Council Meetings in November

Thursday 16^h November, 7.45pm - Footpaths, Properties & Greens Committee

Bob Lane
Shorne Parish Council