

Shorne Parish Council

— Borough of Gravesham —



THE PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

November 2018

Lower Thames Crossing Consultation Now In Progress

The statutory consultation on the Lower Thames Crossing started on 10th October and will run for 10 weeks until 20th December 2018.

The main changes to the route south of the river include the following:

The tunnel portal has now been extended to just south of the A226, and the 3-lane dual carriageway link road is in deep cutting for much of the route. The proposed A2 junction has been moved slightly to the west, and the filter lanes now extend almost to Thong Lane. The A2/M2 has been widened to 12 lanes in total between the new A2 junction and junction 1 of the M2, with the addition of a 'local' A2 carriageway on either side of the main route. Brewers Road flyover will need to be replaced to accommodate the widened A2/M2 corridor.

Our initial concerns include the fact that all eastbound traffic from Gravesend East will need to access the A2 via Brewers Road, and residents from Shorne will no longer have direct access to the A2 westbound at Halfpence Lane. This traffic will have to make use of a new 2-way link road which will be constructed between Halfpence Lane roundabout and Henhurst Road. Other concerns are the creation of a potential rat-run through Thong, as traffic may seek to avoid the convoluted route from Gravesend East.

There is no doubt that this massive infrastructure project will cause immense disturbance during its 7-year construction period, and it will permanently change our environment. It will impact on everybody's life in Shorne and the surrounding area. The Parish Council is in the process of studying the volumes of information to obtain a better understanding of the impact on the environment and the inevitable increase in traffic on our local roads.

Highways England is carrying out a number of Information Events where you will be able to drop-in to examine the route and discuss your concerns with Highways England staff. The main events still to take place south of the river include:

LOWER THAMES CROSSING MAIN INFORMATION EVENTS		
Thursday, 1st November	2pm – 4pm	Cascades Leisure Centre, Thong Lane, Gravesend, DA12 4LG
Saturday, 3 rd November	12 noon – 6pm	Shorne Village Hall, The Street, Shorne, DA12 3EA
Wednesday, 21 st November	2pm – 9pm	Gravesham Civic Centre, Windmill Street, Gravesend, DA12 1AU
Wednesday, 5 th December	2pm – 9pm	Rochester Corn Exchange, Northgate, Rochester, ME1 1LS

In addition, there will be a number of smaller, mobile Information Events. These include:

LOWER THAMES CROSSING MOBILE INFORMATION STANDS		
Wednesday 7th November	11am – 3pm	Outside Marling Cross Library, Mackenzie Way, Gravesend, DA12 5TY
Friday, 9th November	10am – 3pm	Higham Library Car Park, 8 Forge Lane, ME3 7AS
Friday, 9th November	4pm – 7pm	Higham Train Station Car Park, ME3 7JQ
Saturday, 10 th November	9.30am – 5pm	Bluewater Shopping Centre Winter Gardens, DA9 9ST
Thursday, 15 th November	10am – 3pm	Meadow Rooms, The Street, Cobham, Gravesend, DA12 3BZ
Thursday, 15 th November	4pm – 7pm	Sole Street Station Car Park, Cobham, Gravesend, DA13 0XY
Tuesday, 20 th November	11am – 7pm	Strood, Morrisons Car Park, 1 Knight Rd, Rochester, ME2 2AQ
Thursday, 22 nd November	10am – 2pm	Bartella's Car Park, Wrotham Rd, Meopham, DA13 0JE
Thursday, 22 nd November	3 pm – 7pm	Cuxton Recreation Ground, Cuxton, ME2 1EZ
Saturday, 24 th November	10am – 6pm	Gravesend Town Centre, DA12 2XX
Monday, 26 th November	12pm – 8pm	Shorne Village Hall Car Park, 16 The St, Shorne, Gravesend, DA12 3EA
Wednesday, 28 th November	10am – 8pm	Chalk, outside Parish Hall, Pirrip Close, Gravesend, DA12 2ND
Thursday, 6 th December	11am – 7pm	Cascades Leisure Centre Car Park, Thong Lane, DA12 4LG

Residents are strongly advised to attend at least one of the information events, and to study the consultation material to get an understanding of the route and the potential impact before responding to the consultation. You can find information regarding this and a consultation form online at: <https://highwaysengland.citizenspace.com/ltc/consultation/>

Drop-In Session

The Parish Council drop-in session held at the Village Hall on Saturday 13th October was a success, and was much better attended than our event earlier this year, when snow persuaded many people to stay indoors. Thank you to all those who dropped in.

Litter Patrol News

The litter patrol held in Shorne on 22nd September was a great success, with 30 volunteers taking part and collecting over 40 sacks of litter. This was followed by a litter patrol in Shorne West and Claylane Wood on 14th October, in which 12 volunteers collected 20 sacks of litter. Well done to all those who took part!

The next 'official' litter patrols are expected to take place next March. If you would like to join our regular teams, please email Bob at bob.lane@shorneparishcouncil.org, or for Shorne West email Lisa at lisa.mccluskey@shorneparishcouncil.org.

Parish Council Meetings in November

Thursday 15th November - Footpaths Properties & Greens Committee

The meeting will start at 7.45pm in the Committee Room in Shorne Village Hall.

Bob Lane
Shorne Parish Council