

Shorne Parish Council

— Borough of Gravesham —



THE PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

September 2022

20 mph Scheme in Shorne Village

A total of 43 parishioners responded to our informal consultation on our proposals for a 20 mph zone in the centre of the village, together with a 30 mph speed limit in Mill Hill Lane. 41 parishioners agreed with the proposals, and two parishioners disagreed. In view of the strong level of support received, we have requested Kent County Council Highways to proceed with the final design. It was noted that a number of respondents expressed views that the proposed limits of the 20 mph zone should be extended further south along Tanyard Hill, and/or further north along Forge Lane, and/or into Mill Hill Lane. We have requested that KCC should consider this in the final design of the scheme where possible. Further details of the consultation responses can be found on our website at:

<https://shorneparishcouncil.org/20-mph-zone-consultation-report/>.

Shorne Crossroads Bus Shelter Consultation

A total of 19 parishioners responded to our consultation on the options for refurbishing the brick-built bus shelters on the A226 either side of Shorne Crossroads. 15 parishioners agreed with the proposals, one disagreed, and three neither agreed nor disagreed. Of those who responded, three people use the bus stops on a regular, frequent basis, seven people occasionally use them, five rarely use them, and four never use them. This usage is supported by the response from Arriva Buses, who reported that only around 10 people a day use the bus stops. Red Route Buses failed to respond. In view of the low usage, and the high cost associated with opening up the front of the bus shelters, the Parish Council is seeking costings for the less-expensive option of blocking off the alcoves on either side of the shelters. Although this will reduce the size of the covered area, it will be adequate to accommodate the relatively small numbers of people who use the bus stops.

Children's Adventure Trail

Regrettably, our plans for a children's adventure trail through the trees adjacent to Shorne Common have had to be suspended. We are informed that part of the proposed trail apparently encroaches onto private land, and the landowner has decided to withdraw his consent to allow this to take place.

Litter Patrol Saturday 8th October

The next volunteers' litter patrol is scheduled to take place on Saturday 8th October, weather permitting. We will meet at 09.45 in Shorne Village Hall car park for a safety briefing and to collect bags, hi-visibility waistcoats, and litter pickers, ready for a 10.00 start. We aim to finish around midday. Our litter patrols are very rewarding. If you would like to join us, please let Bob know at bob.lane@gmx.co.uk or give him a call on 01474 822680.

Community Orchard at Crabbles Bottom – Pick Your Own!

The parish owns 27 acres of land at Crabbles Bottom, which stretches from the far end of Bowesden Lane through to Crutches Lane in Higham. It includes a traditional orchard of Bramley apple trees. Residents are welcome to come down and pick some apples for your own personal enjoyment. Parking is available in the lay-by in Crutches Lane.

Vacancy for Parish Councillor

Unfortunately Lisa McCluskey has decided to announce her decision to resign from the Parish Council to pursue other interests. Lisa has been a valued member of the Parish Council for the past four years and we are sorry to lose her, as her active contributions have been very much appreciated. As a result of her departure, we have a vacancy for a Parish Councillor in Shorne West Ward. Gravesham Borough Council has publicised the vacancy notice, and unless an election is called we intend to fill the vacancy by co-option.

Shorne West Ward includes all roads in the Michael Gardens development, and all roads and households to the south of Vigilant Way and Astra Drive, including all the odd numbers in Astra Drive, numbers 1 to 15 (odd) Vigilant Way, and numbers 344 to 356 Thong Lane. It also includes Davys Place and Marling Way up to the junction with Astra Drive. In accordance with the Electoral Commission requirements, the vacancy is open to anyone who meets the necessary residential qualifications or other parameters, which includes applicants from other parts of Shorne. Nevertheless, it is important that all communities in Shorne are properly represented within the Parish Council, and we would particularly welcome applicants who live in Shorne West, or from ethnic backgrounds not currently represented on the Parish Council.

If you would like to be considered for co-option as a Parish Councillor, please send us a brief resumé, telling us why you are interested and why you think you would be suitable for the role, and outlining any relevant skills or experience you may have. Please send your application by email to vacancy@shorneparishcouncil.org, or by post to: The Clerk, Shorne Parish Council, c/o Shorne Village Hall, The Street, Shorne, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 3EA, to reach us no later than Friday 30th September 2022. This date may be extended if necessary.

Parish Council Meetings in September

- Thursday 8th September - Parish Council Meeting
- Thursday 22nd September - Planning & Highways Committee

The meetings will commence at 7.30pm in the Committee Room in Shorne Village Hall.

Bob Lane
Shorne Parish Council