

Shorne Parish Council

Borough of Gravesham



THE PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

February 2023

Lower Thames Crossing

On 10th January 2023, the Planning Inspectorate announced that the 28-day period for registering as an Interested Party is now open. Shorne Parish Council will register as an Interested Party, but anyone can register to become an Interested Party by making a Relevant Representation. Information on becoming an Interested Party can be found on the Planning Inspectorate's website at:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/south-east/lower-thames-crossing/>

The Lower Thames Crossing will be holding a series of events at community halls and shopping centres next month to give you the chance to talk to a member of their team. They will be providing information on the planning process and how you can register to get involved when the Development Consent Order application is examined by a panel of independent experts later this year. They will also be showing the latest fly-through video of the route. The events south of the river are as follows:

Date	Time	Location
Friday 3 February	10am - 5pm	Orchards Shopping Centre , Dartford, DA1 1DN
Monday 6 February	3 - 8pm	Chalk Parish Hall , Pirrip Close, Chalk, DA12 2ND
Wednesday 8 February	3 - 8pm	Cascades Leisure Centre , Thong Lane, Gravesend, DA12 4LG
Thursday 9 February	10am - 6.30pm	Hempstead Valley Shopping Centre (outside M&S), Gillingham ME7 3PD
Wednesday 15 February	10am - 8.30pm	Bluewater Shopping Centre (ground floor, opposite M&S), DA9 9ST
Saturday 18 February	10am - 5pm	Thamesgate Shopping Centre , Gravesend, DA11 0AU

Please note that the period for registration closes at on 23:59 on **Friday 24 February 2023**.

On a separate matter, Lower Thames Crossing has agreed to provide funding for management of the trees in the orchard at Crabbles Bottom, this being considered a 'priority habitat'. The funding is not considered mitigation or compensation, and will be available irrespective of the outcome of the Lower Thames Crossing. They have also agreed to look into funding a pedestrian pathway alongside Shorne Common Rough, as this is considered an important link for walkers between one part of the village and another.

Shornemead Level Crossing

We have been advised by Network Rail that the provisional date for the installation of the footbridge at Shornemead level crossing is 5th June 2023, provided no delays are encountered. However, this may be brought forward if the circumstances permit.

R S Skips

ClIr Susan Lindley attended a meeting with Kent County Council and R S Skips, organised by Higham Parish Council, to monitor the number of HGV movements to and from their premises, and to put in additional measures to avoid HGVs using unsuitable roads.

Local Elections

Local Borough and Parish Council elections will be held on Thursday 4th May this year. For the first time, voters will be required to produce photographic ID before being allowed to vote. More information on this can be found at <https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/voter>. If you are interested in standing as a candidate in these elections, an information briefing for prospective candidates for the Parish Council elections will be held on **Thursday 9 March 2023 at 6.30pm** at Gravesend Civic Centre, and further information can be found at <https://www.gravesham.gov.uk/elections-voting/local-parish-elections-2023>.

Coronation Celebration

Plans are taking shape to celebrate the coronation of Charles III on 6th May. This is likely to include a Celebration Tea at the village hall, where parishioners will be able to watch the events unfold in the company of others, with refreshments served and entertainment for children.

Parish Council Meetings in February

- Thursday 9th February - Footpaths, Properties & Greens Committee
- Thursday 23rd February - Parish Council Meeting

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

Bob Lane
Shorne Parish Council