

# Shorne Parish Council

————— Borough of Gravesham —————



## THE PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

**March 2024**

### **Lower Thames Crossing Community Events**

National Highways are holding a series of events through February and March to provide information on progress made in 2023 with their plans for the Lower Thames Crossing. Some events have already taken place, but those still to take place south of the river in March are:

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March at Chalk Parish Hall, between 3pm and 8pm;

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March at Cascades Leisure Centre, between 3pm and 8pm.

### **Defibrillator in Shorne West**

We are pleased to report that the new automated external defibrillator (AED) in Shorne West has now been commissioned and is available for use in an emergency. It is located at the entrance to the park and children's play area at Michael Gardens.

This was quite a task, as it involved the installation of its own separate underground electricity supply. The installation was fully funded by a grant from the Lower Thames Crossing Fund, as administered by the Kent Community Fund. In addition, our electrical contractor Gary Hagon Electrical Ltd did not charge for his labour. We are extremely grateful for this, and for the effort that Cllr Clive Rea has put in to make it all possible.

You can find a useful video on the AEDs at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dbtH57NSNFE>

### **Bus Shelters**

#### **Outside Lighting**

Light pollution is a problem nowadays, it upsets wildlife and prevents us from seeing the stars properly. Many of us have outside lights on our properties for valid security reasons, but there are a number of properties in the parish that have unnecessary or intrusive lighting.

While the evenings are still dark is a good time to review your own outside lights and to consider how bright they are, how they are positioned and controlled, and even whether they are really necessary.

Lighting controls are much better than they were, so there is no reason for outside lights not to have daylight overrides and to remain off or illuminate only at low intensity level until activated. Modern LED lights are very bright, and may be casting light further than they should. Security light sensors should not be over-sensitive, and should only detect movement and illuminate within your own property boundaries, so make sure that your lights are properly angled downwards, or shielded, so as to avoid affecting your neighbours.

### **Car Park**

Although the parking bays in the village car park have been widened, we still have drivers straddling white lines, making the adjacent parking bay unusable, and we have seen non-disabled drivers using the disabled bay for purely for their own convenience. And the block paving round the perimeter is most definitely NOT for parking vehicles on. We ask drivers to please think of others and to park responsibly.

## **Annual Parish Assembly**

This year's Parish Assembly will be held at 7.30pm on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April in the small hall at Shorne Village Hall. This is your opportunity to meet your local councillors and to hear reports from them on progress over the past year, and to ask questions. You will also be able to hear brief reports from other local organisations in Shorne, and there are plans for a special presentation during the evening. Refreshments will be provided and we would like to see you there, so please make a note in your diary.

## **Parish Council Meetings in March**

The meetings scheduled for March are:

- Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March            -        Planning & Highways Committee
- Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March         -        Footpaths, Properties & Greens Committee

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

Bob Lane  
Shorne Parish Council