

Welcome to the first edition of the Parish Council Newsletter, which has been put together to highlight both the work that the Parish Council undertakes and key areas of this work that affects all of us within the Parish and indeed beyond, including planning applications.



Boughton Aluph & Eastwell
PARISH COUNCIL

The role of a Parish Councillor is unpaid, it is performed by people who have a passion for the Parish and its communities and all areas of the Parish are represented by the 8 Councillors. We work closely with our Ward Councillors, County Councillors, Ashford Borough Councillor and Kent County Council, and welcome your views on what matters to you as residents. I do hope you enjoy reading this first newsletter and I look forward to meeting you in the Parish in the coming months. Spencer Phillips— Chairman

Boughton Aluph and Eastwell Neighbourhood Plan

It has been a long wait, but with the formal adoption of the Ashford Borough development plan 2030 in February this year, we could at last proceed with the Boughton Aluph and Eastwell Neighbourhood Plan (NP). Many of you responded to the consultation online, whilst a great number of you attended one of the public consultation meetings. We received well over 1000 individual comments. Each has been carefully considered and changes made to the NP in the light of the feedback. Please see www.parishplan.uk for further information. The next step is to submit the modified Neighbourhood plan to ABC, who will arrange for an independent examination and a report will be supplied to the Parish Council. After any modifications are made, ABC will arrange for a Neighbourhood plan referendum. If there is a majority “Yes” vote, then the Neighbourhood plan becomes part of the statutory development plan for the area.

Defibrillators

The Parish Council has replaced all of the previous defibrillator units that were in the Parish. The original units will be refurbished through the Community Heartbeat Trust charity and used elsewhere. The defibrillators are located inside The Iron Room, the Sandyacres building, outside the cricket pavilion on the Boughton Lees village green and outside Goat Lees Community Centre. There is no training required, as the machines once switched on will give detailed instructions and will only shock the patient if necessary. Should you ever need to use one please ensure it is returned back and the Parish Clerk is notified that it has been used so that it can be re-stocked. Counselling can be accessed, if required, with Community Heartbeat Trust, by contacting the Parish Council.

There is also a machine located outside the Hare and Hounds pub at the end of Sandyhurst Lane. It is locked with a code, which will be given to access the box in an emergency by the ambulance service. This machine was installed by the Sandyhurst Residents' Association.

Bus Shelter on the village green

After a long process the bus shelter funded by the Parish Council is now built and being used. The shelter is made from reclaimed oak so that it fits into the character of the area and ensures its longevity.

Goat Lees Primary School

Funding was provided by the Parish Council for benches and a story chair, for their new outdoor reading area. Parish Councillor, Jane Hall, has been appointed as a school governor at Goat Lees Primary

Cricket Club – A new Pavilion for the Green

If you look closely as you pass the Green at Boughton Lees, you can see that, though the Green always looks good, the old cricket pavilion is getting a little tattier all the time. Fortunately, the year kicked off with some good news on this. In collaboration with the Parish Council, Boughton & Eastwell Cricket Club gained Planning Permission to build a new pavilion and they are now busy raising the funds. This task is demanding for a village team, but there is wide support for the project. The design of the new pavilion is on display at the front of the existing building.

If you would like to contribute to/participate in the fund raising, then please get in touch with Cathy Beare at CathyBeare@hotmail.com.

Parish Improvement Plan in conjunction with Kent Highways

The Parish Council are aware of concerns by residents regarding various traffic issues across the Parish and will be submitting a Parish Improvement Plan to Kent County Council in due course. There will be the opportunity for residents to put forward ideas for the Parish Council to consider and take forward to KCC. When we reach this stage, this will be communicated via the Parish Council website. Information on the highway feasibility study undertaken in April 2014, can be found at <http://www.parishplan.uk/traffic-transport/>

Litter Picking

Following the great success of the Boughton Aluph litter pick, where volunteers meet outside the **Flying Horse pub, at 11.00 am until 12 noon, on the second Saturday of each month**, there has been interest from others in the Parish wishing to undertake similar initiatives for their areas. Plans are being made for a litter pick in the Sandyhurst Lane area. The Parish Council supplies the equipment for this purpose.

Should anyone be interested in arranging a litter pick, please contact the Parish Council.

War Memorial & Ruins of St Mary's Church -Eastwell

The War Memorial on the green is Grade II listed. The Parish Council reimburses a small amount for plants/ seeds to Ann Hardie who looks after the garden. The Parish Council also gives a small annual grant to pay for grass cutting and tidying of the churchyard at the picturesque ruins of St Mary's Church.

Planning Applications

The Parish Council offers comments to Ashford Borough Council on planning applications within the Parish. Further information can be found on the Parish Council website

Upcoming Events

A Christmas Sale will take place in the Iron Room from **10-12 pm on 30th November**. Entry will be free and coffee, etc. available. Gifts, cakes, preserves and books, are amongst the items which will be on sale.

Boughton Lees Village Quiz will take place on **Saturday 30 Nov** at the Iron Room (7.15pm for a prompt 7.30 start). To enter a team of up to four people (£2.50 per head), send an email to nigelbunker68@btinternet.com, or sign up on the sheet on the noticeboard by the pillar box near the Flying Horse.

Christmas carols in December at the Flying Horse to be confirmed. Please check the Parish Council website in due course for the date.

A candlelit Carol Service will be held at **4 pm on 22nd December** at St Christopher's, with mulled wine and mince pies afterwards.

Midnight Mass will be held at **11 pm on Christmas Eve** also at St. Christopher's.

There are plans for a range of Meet Your Councillor coffee mornings;

The first **Meet your Councillor**—for Downs West Ward, Larry Krause

Wednesday 20th November 2-3pm in the Flying Horse pub, Boughton Lees.

Tea & Coffee provided by the Parish Council.

Further dates, including weekend opportunities, will be announced in due course, on the Parish Council website.

Community Halls

There are three venues in the Parish that can be used by the community. Details for booking are as follows:

Sandyacres Sports & Social Centre, Sandyhurst Lane, has a website or can be contacted by email - sandyacress@gmail.com

Goat Lees Hall, Trinity Road – contact Nicola Hills – HillsN@towerstinytots.co.uk

The Iron Room Village Hall, opposite the green in Boughton Aluph – contact Glynnis Wisbey – mrsbizzywizzy@gmail.com

How to contact the Parish Council

If you visit our website – www.boughtonaluphandeastwellpc.kentparishes.gov.uk - you will find more details of current projects the Parish Council is working on as well as; dates and venues for Parish Council meetings, Minutes of these meetings and a form where you can contact us. You can also contact the Parish Clerk on 07419 740559