



Shadoxhurst Parish Council

Protecting the Woodland Gateway to the Countryside

WORKING FOR THE COMMUNITY OF SHADOXHURST

Shadoxhurst Newsletter June 2020

PLEASE STAY IN TOUCH

Welcome to the June edition of 2020. As we approach the middle of the year, what a half a year it has been. We are all doing things differently, even with the promise of relaxing lockdown rules.

We must say a very big THANK YOU to everyone. Especially those who had to go to work and keep the essential jobs and life functioning for everyone else. Many of you have carried on keeping us all fed, treated medically when needed, and carried out a myriad of jobs. Some of you were able to work from home but a lot were furloughed and may have had struggles of your own. Finally, thanks to those that did stay at home and protected yourselves and others.

It is clear that many people in our community and indeed the country as a whole, are very vulnerable to catching the virus, and will have to continue to protect themselves for a long time to come. We need to keep consideration and kindness in our minds.

The closing date for information and inclusions for the August edition is **the 25th July**. If you would like any information included, please email it to David at amberherne@btinternet.com. We wish you all well and hope everyone continues to stay safe.

That... Virus

Information soon goes out of date, so we will only say that whilst social distancing and hand washing are easy to remember, less easy are surfaces. We put signs up on the play and exercise equipment as it is impossible to keep them disinfected. Warnings were placed on footpath gates. It is easy to forget touching surfaces that have been touched by others as the virus hangs around for a few days. We must all

continue to think about wiping surfaces before and after use.

We established the Shadoxhurst Volunteer Network and some 50 of you stepped forward. More about them later.

We still have a contact point, if you still need some help whether from food collection to walking your dog, or just having someone to talk to, then please make contact. We must continue to look after each other in these times of concern and protect those who are most vulnerable in the coming months.

If needing some help, please email

shadoxhurst@parishcouncil.onmicrosoft.com or you can ring our Clerk Caroline on 07729 734149 between 10.00am and 4.00pm. Please leave a message if she is not available to answer when you ring. She will ring you back.



King's Head News

Sadly, we can report that this is the last month we will have Julie, Ian and family at the pub. They have to leave on the 30th June. The Brewery have confirmed that currently there is no Tenant yet to come forward, replacement has been made more difficult due to the present virus situation and so have no information about what happens next.

On behalf of everyone in the village we would like to extend our very grateful thanks to them for the eighteen years of service they have given to the village. They have been pivotal in Shadoxhurst and whether you have been there a few times or have been regulars, they have always provided a warm welcome and a wide range of food and drink.

Latterly of course they have done a wonderful job in their 'pop up shop' and there have been queues waiting outside at times. Also, they have done take away meals. 2020 will be remembered for many things, but here it will be the sad memory of them closing the pub and moving on.

We wish them well in their future lives and hope that things turn out well for them.

Volunteer Network

Over 50 already stepped forward to help, and we are all very grateful for their kind offers. Some 20 households came onto the list for help of one sort or another. This has included food shopping, prescription collection from the various pharmacies and surgeries and dog walking. There has been a very real coming together of our community and the Parish Council is heartened by all the work being done to help one another.

Ron, one of the residents helped, celebrated his Birthday in April and his volunteer (Hayley) through Facebook asked if anyone wanted to write a card. Over 30 families sent cards (via Hayley) and he wrote a letter back:

"To all Fellow Villagers

Thank you for all the Birthday cards and presents delivered for my 89th birthday. It was a great surprise, and comforting to know one is not forgotten in these disturbing times. To the Children, Mums

and Dads, thank you again. Keep healthy and Safe". Hayley also cooked him a birthday lunch, and Claire (another volunteer) baked him a cake. Thank you to you both.

Other Volunteering

A number of residents have worked very hard in the last couple of months sewing medical 'scrubs' (tops and trousers), PPE gowns, masks, hats and bags.

Some are members of the Sewing Club and some of the clothing has gone to our local GP Surgeries, others to Ashford surgeries, the hospital and to care homes. Here is just one completed example:



Thanks go to the Sewing Team that included Sheila Ellis, Sian Green, Ann Willis, Katie Walton, Sylvia Faiers and any others we have missed out.

Thank you also to those that have donated material and given money to buy yet more material. Emergency sewing supplies came from Sandra at Gina's Fabrics at Ellingham Park with our thanks.

Also, we thank the amazing work by the 'Ashford, Dover & Folkestone Scrubber's Group' for coordinating it all for this part of Kent. They fund raised over £15,000 and used nearly 10 Km of fabric. This produced more than 2,200 sets of scrubs, 2,000 scrub hats, 3000 wash bags and 450 PPE surgical gowns.

Byways and Footpaths

The Public Rights of Way that we are blessed with have been put to good use during lock-down. Many have explored otherwise unknown paths. There has been a bit of confusion over some paths including AW326 which runs north-south from the Kings Head due north to Criol Lane at Criol Farm. It also connects with footpath AW300 that then runs east along the Roman Road to Stubbs Cross Wood coming out at Tally Ho Road.

The problem is spotting the route from Woodchurch Road which **does not** go down Farley Close. It does go behind the bus shelter and alongside the garden of 1 Mace Terrace into the field beyond.

Some of our footpaths cross fields with sheep and other livestock and there have been times when walkers have strayed off line. It is important to keep on the path line as the fields are privately owned. Dogs have also been a problem.

Parish Council Update

The April parish meeting was cancelled. But the May meeting went ahead through the 'Zoom' video link platform. A number of residents were also able to attend, and the system appeared to work well. The June meeting (10th) will be held in the same format starting earlier at 6.00pm, and possibly the July one as well (8th). This ensures that business can be dealt with without risk and contact.

If you would like to attend the next meetings please contact our Parish Clerk, the details are below. We recognise and apologise that this excludes anyone without a computer and internet. We are following Government guidelines and hope that actual meetings can be held soon that once again can include all residents.

New Parish Councillor

At the May meeting we co-opted Roger Hills to fill the vacancy. We welcome Roger to the Team. Roger coordinated our Speed-watch and Lorry-watch initiatives last year. We had to suspend the scheme due to Roger having some health issues late in the year. See update on page 4.

Planning

There has been a recent application for 12 houses at Land SE of Criol Barn, Bethersden Road, the reference number is **20/00494/AS**, comments to ABC by 22/06/20.

Booking the Hall and Pavilion

The Parish Council closed the Hall and the Pavilion once lock-down was brought in. The Coffee Club had by then already stopped their weekly meets.

With thoughts of times ahead, The Little Scholars Nursery have indicated they will not re-open until September. Other groups may start to return to use the hall in the coming weeks with social distancing in place, but the Parish Council will be putting strict rules in place regarding cleaning and hygiene once the buildings do come back into use.

Contacting the Parish Council

Our Parish Clerk **Caroline Laming** only works a few hours on Wednesdays and Thursdays so is not always available. The best way to communicate with Caroline is to phone and leave a message if no answer, ring **07729 734149** or email:

shadoxhurst@parishcouncil.onmicrosoft.com

If you want to plan ahead and would like to provisionally book the Hall or Pavilion for an event, then we ask you to either go through the web site at

www.shadoxhurstpc.kentparishes.gov.uk/

alternatively, please email Caroline on

shadoxhurstvhp@gmail.com

which is an email address for hall and pavilion booking correspondence only.

As there may be further need to get in touch in these difficult times, the Chairman's email is

david.shadoxhurstpc@gmail.com

Other PC Members have their addresses on the website. We are here for you all, so if you have a pressing problem you think we can assist, please get in touch.

Dogs...

During the lock-down period there have also been a few dog related issues. This includes dogs off the leads on footpaths that cross fields and dogs wandering. It is important to keep them on leads as lambs recently born and the sheep have been disturbed. In the past, there have been dog attacks, although we have not heard of any incidents so far this year, thankfully.

We have however heard about a few incidents of dogs going for other dogs and been threatening. Dogs must always be kept under control in any public place.

Owners feed their dogs and must act responsibly with the resulting faeces that come out the other end, even on fields and footpaths and always pick them up and dispose of them in any rubbish bin. ABC do not provide dog waste bins anymore and the two in the Rec will be replaced with multi-waste litter bins at some point.

Even on the rec and the nearby roads a few careless dog walkers are not picking up their dog's mess. If you are one of those who choose not to pick up, then please remember that small children can easily step in it or touch it, so PLEASE PICK IT UP.

Please stay in touch...

There are over 300 residents on the Shadoxhurst 'Next Door', group which is part of a much wider community group involving all the other villages. https://nextdoor.co.uk/neighborhood_fed/

The "Shadoxhurst, a Kent Village" Facebook Page has now grown to **1,209 members**. There is also a more recent "Shadoxhurst Community" Facebook Page with currently over **380 members** and growing. Join us if you can. There is an increasing need to stay in touch and village news can be up to date on there.

1st Shadoxhurst Scout Group

As everyone knows by now, face-to-face scouting has been suspended, for the time being. This does not mean that scouting has finished, we now have the Great Indoors Challenge. For some 10 weeks now we have been busy with our members, continuing scouting from their homes. To date we have camped, hiked, set trails, biked, cooked lots of food and numerous treasure hunts. That's just the highlights!! St Georges day also saw us hold a service, online, and a massive thank you to the local clergy for their assistance in making this happen. Hopefully we will not have the same for Remembrance Day Service, but at least we now have a plan 'b'!

We hope everyone is well and are looking forward to times when we can hold our meetings back at the hall, Kind Regards, Simon.

Please contact Simon via email for any information on our local Scout Group.

raven@1stshadoxhurstscoutgroup.uk.

The Shadoxhurst Flower Club

Their Emerald anniversary celebrations were postponed provisionally to the 5th August in the hope that things will be much improved by then. It will be at 7.30 and a buffet will be served.

To find out more about the anniversary celebrations, please contact either their Chairman, Ann Prebble on 07989 586575 or e-mail her on ann.prebble@yahoo.com

Or contact their Secretary Gaye Sim on 01233 732212 for catering and seating purposes.

Sewing Club

Members have been working on medical garments and in the coming months it is hoped to resume the fortnightly Thursday evening meetings in the Village Hall. To join the friendly club please contact Sheila 733540 so you can hear when the next meeting is held. Members are in email contact with each other. The photo is of some medical PPE gowns recently made.



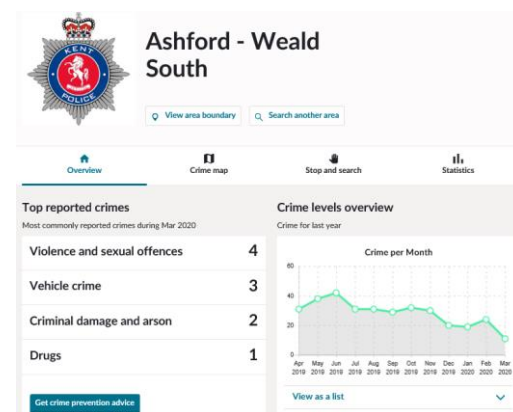
Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) Update

Kent Police have updated their website to provide information on local crime in a more user-friendly format and is accessible at the following location.

<https://www.police.uk/pu/your-area/kent-police/ashford---weald-south/?tab=Overview>

The site provides historic and trend information on the various reported incidents. As can be seen the latest information for March shows a significant

drop from previous months and is likely attributable to the implementation of the "Stay at Home" campaign.



However, whilst reported incidents are down, there remain a significant number of "Scams" being attempted throughout the region. Please be careful when approached by phone, email, text or mail by a person or company with whom you have not had previous dealings.

Scammers are becoming increasingly clever and convincing with the approaches they make. Do not provide bank account or payment cards to anyone unless you are sure they are genuine – check with the company using a known telephone number, do not rely on a number given by the caller.

Before using your phone to return a call either wait 10 minutes or phone a neighbour/friend/family member to ensure that the previous caller has hung up and you aren't simply reconnected to them.

Remember concerns / observations of suspicious behaviour, or information relevant to criminal activity, can be either phoned through to the Police using 101, logged online via their website or anonymously via

CrimeStoppers on 0800 555 111.

Peter Webb 01233 732901
Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator
Peter707R@Hotmail.com

Chatterbox Coffee Club

There is still currently no date set for re-opening the Coffee Club.

Village Forum

The Forum Members get various emails about news, issues and events in the village. It is free and is a good way of keeping up to date between newsletters.

To get on the mailing list please email:
amberherne@btinternet.com

Please put 'Join Forum' in the subject heading so it can be easily spotted.

We need to keep the communications in place in the coming months. Once we have your details, we can stay in touch better and pass vital information on.

Gardening Club

Unfortunately, in line with the most recent guidance, the club meetings continue to be on hold.

Looking forwards, if you'd like to meet people with an interest in gardening, in an informal group, where the aim is to help each other with identifying plants/pest/ways of doing something, then please drop me an email and I will let you know when meetings recommence.

We will look to meet on a Monday, in Shadoxhurst pavilion on the recreation field, approximately every 6 weeks. A meeting subscription is a nominal £1 to cover expenses.

Peter Webb Peter707R@Hotmail.com
or 01233 732901



Numerous Flower photos have featured on the Village Facebook pages

Ashford Courtside Football Club

Ashford Courtside Football Club have not been able to play on the village Rec since November due to the very wet conditions. Now that the virus has taken hold, all grassroots football has been cancelled indefinitely. It will hopefully resume in the new season once the threat of the virus has gone.

If you know anyone who would be interested to play in any of the teams, please contact the Club secretary Vanessa Grimmond
email: grimmond105@gmail.com

They have a website and Facebook page if you want to find out more
<https://www.afccourtside.co.uk/> and
<https://www.facebook.com/AshfordCourtsideFC/>

For more information please contact ...
Vanessa (Secretary) on 07526431687 or
Tim (Chair) on 07970820018.

Speedwatch

As we said above Roger has recovered and we have only just had confirmation from the Police that we can resume monitoring.

It was very noticeable that whilst the roads were quieter over the last weeks, there was more speeding traffic than usual. It is easy to blame others living elsewhere and not caring about those walking, but some drivers spotted were from the village.

More people have been walking and ordinarily it has been a greater pleasure to walk along our roads, but a few speeding drivers does make it dangerous. The Police were asked to carry out speed checks and have done this on Tally Ho Road when time allowed.

If you value the safety of villagers then **please help** by becoming a Speedwatch member – we need a larger group of people to provide wider coverage of locations, days and times. Please contact Roger on 01233 733581 or email him at hillsmorton@sky.com

It's not onerous if there are enough people to share the load – whilst it won't stop people speeding immediately, it will get the message across that the village is serious about speeding and those who persist will eventually fall foul of the Police.

Ashford Borough Update

Ashford Borough Council carried on providing services, we must thank all the Officers, BIFFA and Aspire staff that worked through the crises. Many officers have doubled up their work with helping out on essential Covid-19 work. Whilst some are working from home, decisions are being made in the best interest of everyone, and in line with government

guidelines. These change daily, so all we can say is keep an eye on the news and websites if you have that availability.

We are aware that many do not have access to the internet, so telephone contact will be vital. The main ABC number is 01233 331111 and you should try and contact through that route.

The ABC website is at <https://www.ashford.gov.uk/> please check regularly for information and updates.

The contact points for our two Borough Ward Councilors are: George 01233 732791 and David 01233 733540

george.sparks@ashford.gov.uk
david.ledger@ashford.gov.uk

Village Contacts

1st Shadoxhurst Scouts, Cubs and Beavers Simon 07704 789155
Ark Drama 2000 Lis 732901
Courtside Football Club Vanessa 07526 431687
Fete Team Peter 732901
Flower Club Gaye 732212
Future Scholars Sarah 07821 143249
Gardening Club Peter 732901
History Club Carol 732084
Lesley Munn Dance Academy
Lesley 01634 234168
Line Dancing Kate 733015
Neighbourhood Watch Peter 732901
Pilates Alex 861456
Poetry and Expression Ian 732084
Sewing and Craft Club Sheila 733540
Speedwatch Roger 733581
Weekend Walking Jim 07788 245022
WI Mandy Spencer 501774
Wine & Home Brew Club Colin 732784

**Please stay very
safe
and keep well.**