



Shadoxhurst Parish Council

Protecting the Woodland Gateway to the Countryside

WORKING FOR THE COMMUNITY OF SHADOXHURST

Shadoxhurst Newsletter August 2020

PLEASE STAY IN TOUCH

Welcome to the mid-Summer edition of 2020. Well we appear to have come out the other side of the lockdown, although we are all still being careful and tentative about what we do and how we do it. The aftereffects will be with us for some time to come. We are having to find new ways of doing things, communicating, shopping and seeing friends and family. There are still a lot of people who are very wary of putting themselves at risk. If you have lost any friends or family to the virus, then we are sure you will understand, and we offer our deepest condolences to you.

Many people are still 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 October edition is **the 25th September**. 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.

Volunteering

Once again, we offer our thanks to those that volunteered to help others in the village. Whilst there is a chance that the virus may yet continue to affect us locally, we will stay in touch with them so that anyone needing assistance can be helped promptly.

Whatever the new normal becomes, it has shown that human kindness is still here in considerable measure. If you do need some help locally, please contact our Parish Clerk Caroline on **07729 734149**. You may need to leave a message, but these will always be picked up, although she works limited hours.

As we saw last time, a number of residents have spent the lockdown period busy making various protective garments for the medical teams in the area. Latterly, as the need for mask wearing approached, productivity turned to making cotton masks. Some of the Sewing Club were leading on this and we thank them for the hard work put in to making these. Some have made well over 100.

King's Head News

The last edition saw us lose Julie and Ian and their family from the village after 18 years of serving us.

Now we turn to welcome Tony and Fred to the village. As June ended, the prospective tenants coming in had a very late change of mind, necessitating some feverish activity by the brewery to find a new replacement.



Tony and Fred were approached and although they had not initially considered expanding decided to take on the challenge. They had just four days to get ready for the 4th July pub and restaurant openings as allowed by the government. All credit to them in succeeding in that.

They are the Tenants of the Knoxbridge Inn, Cranbrook Road (A229), Frittenden, in Kent. They have a good reputation for food and have been there some 4 ½ years.

Although currently on a temporary short term lease, they wish to be here for the

longer term and continue to build up the reputation of the King's Head with good food and drink.

The current restrictions are having an effect but now they are open six days a week, (still closing on Mondays), and are now open all day Saturday. As restrictions lift, the menu choices will continue to increase. Tony will continue to run the Knoxbridge and Fred will be supervising here and will have a Manager and Chef on duty, as well as support staff.

We take this opportunity to wish them all well and we hope that the pub will again be the go-to place for good food and drink. If you wish to book a table, please contact them on 01233 732243.

Byways and Footpaths

The Public Right of Way that connects Woodchurch Road with Church Lane (AW327 that runs behind the new houses of Kings Close) has recently been resurfaced. It then crosses a field then the southern section (behind St Peter's Way) has also been surfaced. This latter part as most will know suffered from being very wet and muddy each winter. We hope that this will be a thing of the past and it will be usable all year without wellies.

Parish Council Updates

One of our Parish Councillors has recently resigned and so we have a vacancy once again. We thank Paul Emanuel for his valued time and input to the Parish Council and wish him well.

If you would like to join us on the Parish Council and would like to have an informal discussion about what is involved, then please ring David on 01233 733540.

Our current meetings continue to be held 'virtually' on Zoom and there is a change of day for the next meeting. It will be held

on **Thursday 13th August at 6.00pm**. We were not able to hold our Annual Parish Council Meeting (APCM) in May as normal, and the evening will begin with the Annual Parish Meeting looking back at the last year, and the APCM dealing with other Council business will directly follow.

Parish and Borough Councils were allowed by government to not hold their Annual meetings until 2021, but we felt it was important to review the year and the accounts and allow the PC to look forward to the new financial year. Anyone wishing to attend virtually will need to contact our Parish Clerk Caroline well in advance. Joining details will then be sent to you.

Looking Ahead

The Parish Council are looking towards some improvement work in the village. Some money will be available, set aside as planning obligations following the completion of recent house building.

Long term aims include the building of a village hall that can be better used, is more environmentally friendly and better insulated. This may be combined with a revamped pavilion. Both buildings are becoming expensive to maintain and keep in use.

Plans are also in hand for much needed improvements to the play equipment in the recreation field, making it more accessible for children with disabilities and older children too. We will be asking for views, particularly those who will be using it. We are considering installing a 'Multi-use Games Area' for tennis and other sports.

Planning

It is important to update you on the two large applications affecting the village

Land rear of Brinklow Bungalow, Woodchurch Road ref 19/00806/AS: This was lodged with ABC Planning in June 2019. Due to Planning requiring more information, they have put back the determination to potentially November. Just prior to the publication of this edition, over 30 more documents were uploaded onto the ABC planning portal. We were informed that there is a second consultation and the closing date for the statutory 21 days is 10th August. Please be assured that, comments are taken into account up until the Planning Committee meeting which maybe October at the earliest.

Land north of Farley Close ref 19/01679/AS:

This application was lodged in November 2019 for 22 houses, one more than the previous application that was refused then led to an appeal that was lost.

The additional house is to overcome the reason for losing the appeal, insufficient affordable homes. Although the date for comments passed in June, again any made prior to a few days before the Committee will still be considered. The most up to date amended documents were loaded at the end of May.

Booking the Hall and Pavilion

The Parish Council are re-opening the hall for existing users only. The Lesley Munn Dance Academy are trialing use of the hall just before their summer break. They will resume their classes in September.

The Little Scholars Nursery have indicated they will re-open when term time resumes in September. Other groups may start to return to use the hall in the coming weeks with social distancing in place, but the Parish Council is putting strict rules in place regarding numbers, cleaning and hygiene. The pavilion is not currently being opened as it is a small room.

We are not allowing the hall to be used for parties or one-off events at present. If you want to plan ahead and would like to provisionally book the Hall or Pavilion for an event towards the end of the year, or in 2021, then we ask you to either go through the parish council 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.

Contacting the Parish Council

The PC Members have their details 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.

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

Dogs...again

Owners feed their dogs and must act responsibly with the resulting faeces that come out the other end. We reminded everyone in the June Newsletter, but there are a few people still not complying with the law and risk being fined.

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, also it is the law, you have a legal duty and so PLEASE PICK IT UP.

We would also remind owners to keep their dogs under control, when out walking and at home. If you witness a problem, then please contact the Council's Dog Warden on 01233 331111 with details.

We also note that there is an increasing amount of litter being left at the rec, please help our community by placing your litter in the waste bins or take it home.

Please stay in touch...

www.shadoxhurstpc.kentparishes.gov.uk/

Our parish website gives up to date information and is currently in the process of being updated and improved.

Community contact points which are not monitored by SPC include the following:

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_fee_d/

The "**Shadoxhurst, a Kent Village**" Facebook Page has now grown to **1,291 members**. There is also a more recent "**Shadoxhurst Community**" Facebook Page with currently over **455 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

For some 14 weeks now we have continued Scouting online with parental help. This also included 5 virtual nights away (camps) with lots of fun and activities to do at home. Not only at local level, but national too. Numerous cooking events (I am so looking forward to camp meals now!) and no less than, combined, 130 badges to issue. This does not include 4 of the highest awards that a young person can achieve in their sections.

Now we are looking to a return to face-to-face Scouting with a new outlook and increased safety.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those families who have made this happen. I hope the young people have enjoyed the adventure, as it was one for the adults too, and will have a less tainted view of this time and reflect on the great times we had. It's not over yet, and we are working to return very soon.

Yours in scouting, Simon.

raven@1stshadoxhurstscoutgroup.uk

Speedwatch



The Speedwatch Team have been very busy since being allowed back out to monitor the speed. They have had a presence most days of the week through July at different times.

We do need a larger group of people to provide wider coverage of locations, days and times. Please contact Roger on 01233 733581 or you can email him at roger.shadoxhurstpc@gmail.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. Thank you to Roger and the Team.

Shadoxhurst Flower Club

We can report that the Club will not be holding another meeting until February 2021. They are very disappointed, but the safety of all members and visitors must come first.

To find out more about the anniversary celebrations which will now be next year, or staying in touch about their next meeting, please contact either their Chairman, Ann Prebble on 07989 586575 or email her on ann.prebble@yahoo.com Or contact Gaye Sim on 01233 732212.

Sewing Club

Another Club not likely to meet for some months is the Sewing Club, with no present plan to resume the fortnightly Thursday evening meetings in the Village Hall as yet. As things continue to improve, there will be a further update in the October newsletter.

The Village Quilt will not be unveiled until 2021 unfortunately, the Club will give everyone plenty of notice when it will eventually take place.

To join the friendly club please contact Sheila 733540 and stay in touch so you can hear when the next meeting will be held. Members are in email contact with each other.

Chatterbox Coffee Club

There is still currently no date set for re-opening the weekly Tuesday afternoon Coffee Club, but everyone is welcome at the alternative venue at **Green Farm** on a Thursday Morning 10.00 – 12.30, see below. Colin and Val recently held an open 'Coffee Club' picnic with 13 regulars on the Rec. They are holding another on the 18th August at 2pm and ask that people bring their own chairs, drink and food. Please come along, you can ring Colin for confirmation 01233 732784 if the weather is putting it in doubt.

Green Farm Community Garden

And Pop-up Coffee Shop

The Green Farm Community Garden runs a **pop-up coffee shop** every Thursday between 10am and 12.30pm for Coffee and Cake.

Plenty of open space for social gathering while practicing social distancing with a large open-sided barn if raining.

Small amounts of freshly picked vegetables are for sale along with pre-orders for greens and salad leaves (see www.facebook.com/greenfarmcommunitygarden), as well as selections of Green Farm meat.



The Community Garden is a key facility of the charity 'The Pearce Coggan Foundation' (www.pearcecoggan.org) which is focused on getting deprived inner city families outdoors and active; a program that will restart at the end of July.

Please pop along, meet your friends in a safe place and enjoy coffee & cake. Entrance is in Duck Lane, signposted the Community Garden from the lane



Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) Update

Reported crime remains low although is up noticeably from the same period in 2019. Whilst the items are likely very localised it does seem that the lock-down has been putting pressure upon domestic harmony. Hopefully now there are more opportunities for people to return to some form of "normality" the stresses experienced will ease.

The biggest issue affecting people in the area are "scams" - where approaches are made by phone, mail, email and doorstep calling. Instances include impersonating the Police, the Inland Revenue, Telephone providers and many others – please continue to be alert for such approaches. Do not allow people into your property unless you are sure as to their identity and that the call is genuine – use a trusted source for a telephone number to check if unsure – or call a relative, friend or neighbour to ask for their help. If you feel threatened, then dial 999 and ask for Police assistance.

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... more on page 4...

CrimeStoppers on 0800 555 111.

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

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. It is not planned to have a meeting yet.

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 ahead, 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 Peter an email he will let you know when meetings recommence. Peter Webb 01233 732901
Peter707R@Hotmail.com

Ashford Courtside Football Club

At the beginning of July as regulations and guidelines began to be relaxed, the club restarted training, with the appropriate distancing rules and hygiene precautions. They are currently only going to be running two teams in the forthcoming season for a few reasons, largely Covid19 related.

The U8's are already back training on Saturday mornings and the U12's will start back on 7th August with regular Friday evening training. If you know anyone who would be interested to play in either of the teams, please contact the Club secretary Vanessa Grimmond on grimmond105@gmail.com

If you want to find out more, visit <https://www.afccourtside.co.uk/> and <https://www.facebook.com/AshfordCourtsideFC/>

For more information please contact ...
Vanessa (Secretary) on 07526 431687
Or Tim (Chair) on 07970 820018.

Village Contacts

All Local Numbers are area code 01233

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

Ashford Borough Update

Ashford Borough Council continued to offer services to residents, including paying out government allocations to support businesses affected by the virus.

Meetings continue to be held in the 'virtual' format with no date set for any physical meetings. Recently the Council did hold its Annual Borough Meeting, which included a socially distanced Mayor making ceremony. Cllr Jenny Webb has handed over the chains of office to Cllr John Link as Mayor for this administrative year. The new Deputy Mayor is Cllr Callum Knowles.

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 ABC through that route.

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

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

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

South of Ashford Garden Community

The South of Ashford Garden Community (SAGC), which includes the Chilmington Green, Court Lodge and Kingsnorth Green developments, was one of 19 garden villages announced by the government in July 2019.

Construction at Chilmington Green is already well underway and has started to welcome new residents, whilst the sites at Court Lodge and Kingsnorth Green are allocated for development in the Local Plan to 2030, and planning applications for these sites are due to be considered by ABC's planning committee in the coming months.

ABC will be holding further local community consultation sessions in early Autumn in developing the SAGC strategy. The strategy will outline the vision and principles of the SAGC to create a vibrant new community where people can live, work and play. If you would like to be involved in these workshops please get in touch via chilmington.community@ashford.gov.uk

The SAGC is already more than just housing, the Chilmington Management Organisation (CMO) has been in operation since August 2019. Occupation of their new office and Community Space on Chilmington Avenue has been delayed due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Their board of Directors, supported by a staff team meets regularly to ensure the proper processes and governance are being put in place to manage and maintain the £24million+ worth of community assets that will come forward to their ownership during the build cycle of the development. To find out more about the CMO, visit www.cmo.org.uk.

Temporarily located off site at Jemmett Road, Chilmington Green Primary School is already thriving and they look forward to moving to their newly built facility at Chilmington Green during 2021. You may have already seen the steel framework of the building in place? The school is operated by the Stour Academy Trust with the build being project managed by KCC. For further information on Chilmington Green's first primary school please visit the website at www.chilmingtongreen.kent.sch.uk.