



Autumn 2020

Your Parish

Danehill Parish Council Newsletter

Chairman's Message

As we continue to live with the COVID virus, one thing has become clear – that those who are generally fitter and in better health are overall, faring better against the virus.

This ties into government NHS and local authority initiatives to get us fitter and stronger as a nation.

Wealden have launched new website – <http://www.healthywealden.co.uk> to encourage health and well-being in our community. Resources on the website include information about local walks, activities in the district and some basic pointers on health.

As a Council, we believe this is a very valuable initiative for our Parish, and one worth investing in.

With more people working from home now and in the future, and possibly having less access to their town /city gym, one idea we are looking at is turning the pavilion on the Rec. in Danehill into a small gym. We look to make it accessible across all age groups, for example by offering classes specifically for older residents. There would be a simple booking system, and a key card entry system. Costs, including a membership fee are being looked at.

Along the same lines, you'll have seen discussions on building a multi-use track around the lower field on the Rec. This has had support from parishioners, both as feedback in meetings/ AGM, and via the facilities survey we conducted a few years back.

We recently received three quotes for an Astroturf-style surface, but the Council decided the costs were too great (at around £37,000 excluding VAT). We are now looking at less expensive options, with a hard-pack surface instead.

Giving people a scenic, flat and measured track to run/walk along would be of great benefit to all, and would also further encourage people doing the hugely 'Couch to 5K', and allow them to do so year round.

We would look for partial funding for both projects.

I really believe that this is a great initiative, not only for the Parish, but for the country as a whole, with positive benefits for so much, including the environment, mental health as well as reducing preventable health issues which in turn reduce pressure on the NHS.

Rhodri Lewis Chairman

It is over 5 years since the Parish newsletter was implemented. In that time parishioners have moved into and out of the Parish. In guidance of GDPR regulations we ask all recipients of this edition to reaffirm their acceptance to receive the Newsletter/Bulletin i.e.; by Post or E-mail Parish Council Office, Beaconsfield Road, Chelwood Gate RH17 7LF or robin@danehill-pc.org

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OUTREACH POST OFFICE
FRIDAYS
Chelwood Gate
11.30am to 1pm
Danehill
1.30pm to 3.00pm

Council Meeting Calendar

20th Jan 2021 Via. Zoom. 10th Feb 2021 Via. Zoom. 10th March Via. Zoom.

14th April Annual Parish Meeting Chelwood Gate Village Hall or Zoom

19th May Danehill Memorial Hall or Zoom 16th June Chelwood Gate Village Hall or Zoom

14th July Danehill Memorial Hall or Zoom 15th Sept Chelwood Gate Village Hall or Zoom

13th Oct Danehill Memorial Hall or Zoom 10th Nov Chelwood Gate Village Hall or Zoom

Danehill Parish Council Office

Chelwood Gate Village Hall
Beaconsfield Road
Chelwood Gate
East Sussex RH17 7LF
Emma Fulham
Parish Clerk & RFO
clerk@danehill-pc.org
www.danehill-pc.org

Tel; 01342 822404

Councillors

Responsibilities

| | | |
|-----------------------|----------|--|
| <u>Rhodri Lewis</u> | Chairman | Recreation Ground, Jubilee Green, Finance. |
| <u>Emma Gilliam</u> | | Chairman Planning Committee, Finance. |
| <u>Tony Blake</u> | | Planning, Finance, Burial and Memorial Grounds. |
| <u>Martin Lewer</u> | | Ashdown Forest, Parish Liaison, Planning, Emergency Planning and Wealdlink. |
| <u>Tony Martin</u> | | Communications, Rights of Way, Finance, Chelwood Gate Village Hall, Planning. |
| <u>Robin Wood</u> | | Finance, Planning, Highways, Speed Cameras. |
| <u>Neil Macleod</u> | | Chairman Finance Committee Planning. School and Youth Liaison. |
| <u>Matt Mockridge</u> | | |

Local Help

WITH THE CONTINUING COVID19 RESTRICTIONS

IF YOU ARE SELF-ISOLATING OR UNABLE TO TRAVEL—WE WILL TRY TO HELP

Please get in touch with Paddy MacBain 01825 790269 vicar@allsaintsdanehill.org.uk or the Parish Council 01342 822404 clerk@danehill-pc.org or check the Danehill Parish Council website or Facebook page for further assistance

Cemetery

The current Council took over some part excel paper documents for the cemetery which did not always reflect the physical constraints of the cemetery in reality and the Council decided to invest in a new software package to map out the area correctly for both those whose family members were buried but also for future ease of use.

The initial mapping of the burial ground has now been completed using the old excel records for the newer part of the burial ground and some older archived maps and aerial views for the remainder. Sadly the numbering on the old map and burial book of names does not match so some detective work will be needed to complete the job. The initial plan is being sent back to the mappers to define the areas and then the labour intensive job of inputting each record begins. The newer part should be accessible on the website by Christmas or early in the New Year the older part may take longer or may require a more general record to begin with. The process has proved lengthy but interesting the history loving Clerk. If any local history archivist would like to be involved in the process please contact the Clerk in the first instance.

The next stage involves the numbering and areas to be marked out and the Parish Council will then have an accessible record and map on the website and also the Council is hoping to install a notice board and map display within the Lychgate for visitors in due course.

The Council has published a new set of regulations for the cemetery to ensure it remains a special place and all contractors etc. understand what should be done. The new hedge has also been installed to shield the bottom section from road noise and the Council is committed to further investment in this important asset in our Parish.

Vacancy

Are you able to spend a little of your time for the Parish?

There is a position open for co-option to the Parish Council, if you live in the parish and you are able to join the eight Councillors at meetings, discussions and conferences to aid them in their deliberations and decisions for the benefit to the parish.

Please contact the Clerk. Danehill Parish Council. Beaconsfield Road Chelwood Gate RH17 7LF or clerk@danehill-pc.org
For further information

Spotlight on: -DOGS

There have been several reports during the summer of dogs fouling through-out the parish. The parish Council has placed bins in various points to help eliminate this problem. Below is a statement from Wealden District Council on the subject.

Cleaning Up After Your Dog

In response to changes in legislation the Council has replaced The Fouling of land by Dogs (Wealden District Council) Order 2013 with a Public Spaces Protection Order making it an offence not to clear up immediately after your dog has fouled.

Dog fouling is anti-social. Dog waste is associated with a number of diseases including toxocarasis. It is your responsibility to clear up immediately after your dog on **all** land, both public and private to which the public has access. These areas include; Footways and adjoining verges. All Highway and land maintainable at public expense. Pedestrianised areas. Burial Grounds. Playing fields/recreation grounds/ public parks. Public footpaths. Bridleways and adjoining verges. Open spaces owned by various councils,

PLEASE CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR DOG

Autumn Litter-Pick

On a wet and murky Saturday in early October a small band of hardy parishioners set out to clear as much rubbish from our verges and recreation areas. After two hours they returned bedraggled but in a jovial mood satisfied with their efforts and ready for a cuppa. Although there were not quite enough bodies to cover the whole Parish a considerable difference was made. It is possible that the pick will be repeated, possibly April 2021.



Defibrillator Locations



Heart
Defibrillator

We have two

- 1 Outside Danehill Memorial Hall Main Entrance
- 2 Chelwood Gate Village Hall Church

Useful Contact Details

WEALDLINK PASSENGER SERVICE
01892 771332

PARISH BOOKINGS

Chelwood Gate Village Hall.

01825 740562

Danehill Memorial Hall.

01825 791725

Recreation Grounds.

01342 822404

Village Library.

01825 740562

DH & CG. Social Club.

01825 790484

Ashdown Forest Health Centre

01342 822131

**POWER CUT?
CALL 105**



Or call us
24 hours a day on
0800 31 63 105

Power Cut?

Contact UK Power Networks free and they will keep you updated on progress in repairing the fault, likely time to fix the problem etc.

*Call 105, or 0800 31 63 105

* Text POWER & your postcode
To 80876

Anti-Social Driving
& Abandoned Vehicles

**Operation
Crackdown**

**DON'T
TOLERATE IT
REPORT
IT!**

Fed-up with Anti-social Driving? Report it online
at www.operationcrackdown.org it takes 5-10
minutes to complete form and is anonymous

Climate Action Plan

We are all seeing on TV and in the press how the climate is changing with increased temperatures, and melting of polar ice, increase in sea levels and extreme weather patterns but these are just the headlines. The way we all live our lives has a direct bearing on these changes.

Wealden District Council (WDC) has given its support for the declaration of a "Climate Emergency" and has developed a strategy to help Town and Parish Councils prepare Climate Action Plans for their own communities. In September WDC hosted an online workshop run by The Centre for Sustainable Energy, for those interested in supporting the Climate Emergency Support Programme.

This was discussed at the September Parish Council meeting and it was agreed to support this initiative by initially setting up a small working group to develop the proposed Climate Action Plan. Councillors Lewis, Gilliam and Blake agreed to be part of this working group but wider representation from the Parish was considered desirable and to be welcomed.

The purpose of the Danehill & Chelwood Gate Parish Council Climate Action Working Group is to develop a Climate Action Plan appropriate for our community and to provide a link with WDC in reducing our impacts on the environment.

This is an opportunity for those who value our environment to influence what Actions should be encouraged and put in place within our community to help reduce global warming and climate change.

Please let the clerk@danehill-pc.org) or (tony@danehill-pc.org) know if this is something that is of interest to you.

Return to School

Following Lockdown at the end of March, and many children being at home for 6 months, parent, staff and children were desperate to have as full a return as possible in September. Before that could happen though, schools had to re-configure their sites and put various protocols in place to support their staff and children.

Over the summer therefore Danehill C. of E. School, under the guidance of Business Manager, Rebecca Reed and Cumnor House School, under Deputy Headmaster Matt Mockridge, worked to ensure that their schools were safe for their employees as well as their children. ESCC and insurance companies insist on regularly updated risk assessments looking at classrooms, dining-rooms, bathrooms, play areas transport, drop-off and pick-up places and times, and a whole host more.

Sticking closely to the mantra of "Hands, Face, Space", all schools have doubled up year groups or key stages to make bubbles that do not cross; increased cleaning regimes; installed hand sanitizers; re-routed entries to classrooms, halls, play areas; staggered lunches, drop-off and pick-up times; and kept a close eye on both staff and child wellbeing. Any suspected case has to be dealt with swiftly and away from other people, so one needs a system for isolating in school before a child can be picked up.

A decision was taken in both schools that children need to see their teachers' faces and so masks would not be compulsory, although staff (& children) may wear masks or visors if they wish. Social distancing is constantly reinforced but it would be fair to say that 4 year olds do struggle!

Both schools are trying to ensure that a positive case does not enter their site but a return to remote learning is possible and they are prepared and ready to teach on-line if it has to be.

Above all, they are committed to their children and their learning as well as protecting their staff and the community.

Nusrat Ghani Wealden M.P.

1 As the year draws to a close, we reflect on the toll that the pandemic has taken on our everyday way of life. Like many other charities, organisations and businesses, the Royal British Legion had to adapt their commemoration activity accordingly this year. In light of the second national lockdown, this year's Remembrance Sunday also looked differently.

In Hailsham, Uckfield, Crowborough and many Wealden villages, only a small number of councillors, Public service representatives or veterans attended short ceremonies to lay wreaths and pay tributes. Due to Covid, many services in Wealden and across the country were conducted virtually, to allow residents to participate in the ceremony.

Earlier in the year we have also commemorated the 75th Anniversary of VE Day and paid our respects to those who fought in the Second World War. I am proud to support the Remember Together campaign this year- a project from the Royal British Legion, think-tank British Future and the Together Coalition, which aims to highlight and celebrate the service and sacrifice of diverse military communities.

Remembrance brings us together in recognition of all who have served and sacrificed on behalf of our country, both past and present. We depend on the British Armed Forces to keep us safe at home and abroad and it is important that we also support our current military personnel and reflect on the challenges they face. It is always an honour to stand with local veterans and meet those that currently serve our country, and I will continue to campaign for the recognition, care and post-service security that they deserve.

2 Covid-19 is the most profound societal, economic and public health challenge since the Second World War. It has taken a great toll on our everyday way of life and posed a great danger to our lives. However the outbreak has brought out the very best in human nature and our community spirit.

The volunteer-led collective efforts from Wealden residents to fight the pandemic and support their local communities have been astonishing. In July I launched the "Wealden Hero Award" to extend my gratitude to Wealden residents for their extraordinary efforts and to celebrate their unyielding determination to support the community throughout the crisis. From the overwhelming number of nominations I received, I know that so many people across Wealden have made personal sacrifices and put their own lives at risk to help others. I had the privilege to meet some of them throughout the summer.

Despite the difficulties that local businesses have faced, many have remained open and worked tirelessly to provide essentials to the community. Our small family businesses have gone above and beyond to supply local produce and provide deliveries to vulnerable customers. Our Parish Councils and Churches have served as Hubs for volunteers to operate from and offer lifeline services to those shielding. Our community radio stations Uckfield FM and Hailsham FM have been instrumental in sharing latest information and guidance.

New friendships have been created through wonderful projects such as "Srrubbers United" and the "Sewing Cro-Bees", which have brought together volunteers of all abilities to create PPE and face coverings for frontline workers and the community. New community leaders have emerged across the constituency in an effort to organize local response and mobilize a team of volunteers to support those in need.

I have been truly heartened to see so many acts of kindness throughout this unprecedented time and I cannot thank all these wonderful individuals enough for ensuring that our vulnerable neighbors had familiar faces to turn to for support and for going above and beyond throughout the crisis. The responsibility to keep each other safe has become a defining feature of our lives and I am so proud that Wealden has set a fine example.

The pandemic has changed how we work and I am no longer able to hold public surgeries. However, I continue to hold virtual meetings and casework is undertaken daily. If you are a Wealden resident and require my assistance, please email nusrat.ghani.mp@parliament.uk

Keep safe

Nusrat Ghani