



Dec 2017

# Your Parish

Danehill Parish Council Newsletter

## Village Amenities & Facilities - Next Steps

The Action in Rural Sussex (AiRS) report, following the two workshops on amenities, is available on the Parish Council website's 'Hot Topics' page [www.danehill-pc.org](http://www.danehill-pc.org).

The report outlines the improvements that could be made based on the feedback given and in most cases these are outside the remit of the Parish Council and the responsibility of the various owners/trustees/managers of the specific amenity or club - in some cases these are either already being actioned or planned.

Ideas that fall within the PC's remit have been categorised as either short term or long term. Of the short-term possibilities the following are being actioned immediately:

1. Improving safety by lighting the path from the car park to Danehill Hall
2. Contracting to repair the children's roundabout outside Danehill Hall
3. Look into the provision of communal barbecue areas at Jubilee Green and Danehill Recreation Ground
4. Improve the BMX track so that it can be made more appropriate for the different age ranges that use it
5. Investigate use of Wealdlink as School Bus to Uckfield - **sadly not something Wealdlink can manage at the moment**



Of all the other suggestions there appears to be a common desire for some form of facility that could be used for sports as well as events/meetings etc. Essentially a centre where the community has access to additional facilities e.g. a range of options which could include any or all of facilities such as: all weather sports, improved meeting rooms, a 5-a-side astro turf pitch, a badminton hall with a range of additional facilities. There are great examples out there of what can be done and a recent visit to Langton Green, to view their facilities, provided real insight regarding what can be achieved - see <https://langtongreencsa.org.uk/news/clubhouse/> for more details.

Overall, this would be a real benefit to all age groups but would come at significant cost even with matched funding, lottery funding or possibly even company sponsorship e.g. Aviva community support fund.

Going forward with such a project has additional implications for Danehill Memorial Hall and moreover, it would need a strong mandate from the community, based on robust cost estimates. The current thinking is to ask all residents, via a questionnaire, whether they would support any of a series of options given their likely costs - the Parish Council has considerable excess reserves that could be used to kick-start a major project or a series of smaller projects.

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## eMails

Please register for eMail if you would like to receive a digital copy of the newsletter instead of one through the post - the digital newsletter will usually get to you several days before the printed version. There is a link on the first page of the PC website 'Register for

Electronic Updates', click on this link to send a message to the clerk quoting name, first line of address and postcode so we can take you off the distribution list for the printed version.

**We will not provide your email address to any other party.**

Contact [clerk@danehill-pc.org](mailto:clerk@danehill-pc.org) to sign up or visit [www.danehill-pc.org](http://www.danehill-pc.org)



## Important Decisions or Proceedings

The most important decisions or proceedings from recent meetings are summarised below. Full details are contained in the meeting minutes which can be accessed via the Danehill PC website [www.danehill-pc.org](http://www.danehill-pc.org) or ask the clerk for a hard copy if you do not have access to the internet.

### Danehill Recreation Ground

Expenditure approved to cut the roadside hedge at Danehill then level the ground and create a path 40m long x 1.1m wide with wooden edging.

### Finger Post Signs

This has taken an age and dates back to the previous Parish Council days. Unfortunately the contractor has been very slow and whilst a number of signs have been repaired the overall service provided is unacceptable. The clerk has requested that the remaining materials be returned and has instructed another contractor to quote for the remaining signs.

### Danehill Village Memorial Hall Funding Request

Given the long term review on facilities (see page 1) there is no imminent change in position on funding from the Council and in the meantime the Committee should prioritise work as they chose.

## Chairman's Message

During the past year I have met a number of Parish Councillors from neighbouring villages and it is concerning to hear that we all face similar problems:

- Speeding with a cash strapped highways department continually having to reject Parish Councils' requests
- Primary schools struggling to maintain their pupil numbers with a risk of potential closure, given the central government preference for funding city centre schools
- Shortage of affordable housing exacerbated by an inflexible Wealden Planning Strategy that prioritises the environment around the Ashdown Forest
- Closure of village shops, a trend which is unlikely to be reversed due to the ease of shopping on the Internet

Sadly, Parish Councils have limited powers with which to address or influence these important issues that are seriously affecting our village life, as we know it, so we must concentrate on those areas where we can make a difference. It is therefore essential that we all help to protect and improve the village halls, recreational facilities, churches and clubs that are crucial for a village community. Whilst discussing these issues with other Councillors, it is quite clear that our facilities and clubs would be unable to continue without the support of a relatively small number of dedicated parishioners who, like myself, are generally over 60. We desperately need an injection of energy and new ideas from the younger generations to ensure that the decisions we take today will serve us well for the future. I do appreciate that life is very hectic and time consuming for my children's generation, but if you could find some time to help your community, it would be very much appreciated.

Our village hall committees and the parish council need some new younger members, particularly from Danehill, to help run the Parish. As you enjoy Christmas in our very special Parish, give a thought to how you might be able to help preserve our village life.

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.



Andrew Goodburn

## Want to manage the Newsletter?

Would you like to edit and manage the newsletter? I am looking for a new person to manage the newsletter as I have a series of new commitments which are eating into my available time. Aside from being of interest to communications professionals, this could be a great project for local students and could help provide useful experience.

Interested? then contact me for further information [adrian@danehill-pc.org](mailto:adrian@danehill-pc.org)

Adrian Martorana

## Update on Sandy Lane - Fairfax Properties

In the last newsletter we highlighted that a number of households in Chelwood Gate had received a flyer from Fairfax Properties Ltd regarding the possible building of houses near the north side of Sandy Lane. Since then Fairfax Developments have requested to meet the PC to discuss their proposals. Cllr. Roy Galley confirmed at the October PC meeting that this application would likely go no further given the proximity to the Forest. As such the Parish Council decided that there was no need for a meeting with Fairfax until such time as was necessary.

## URGENT REMINDER - RECYCLING BINS AT CHELWOOD GATE

Recycling bins have been sited in Chelwood Gate for a number of years courtesy of Chelwood Gate Village Hall (CGVH) Committee in their private car park - a facility that benefits the whole community. **Unfortunately, items are being deposited on the ground around the bins – basically fly tipping for which there is a hefty fine for anyone caught.**

CGVH Committee asks that in the event the bins are full, to not leave anything on the ground but instead take it to the Danehill, Forest Row or Maresfield recycling bins/centres. Other items not listed as recycling items should be taken to the Forest Row or Maresfield recycling centres.

Some people are abusing the system and creating a problem - we do not want parishioners fined or to lose the recycling bins completely.

## Conservators of Ashdown Forest

At the October PC meeting, the Conservators of Ashdown Forest presented their request for funding from the Council. The Council reconfirmed its support of the Forest, however as there were a number of questions over the size of the budget surplus, reserves and other funding sources, the PC asked for more information (especially on the reserves) and would consider funding when considering its grants for 2018.



## An Act of Kindness Goes a Long Way

If you have an older neighbour please keep any eye out this Winter to ensure they are up and around as usual.

People who are in ill-health, frail or elderly are sometimes unable to keep as warm as they used to.

Encourage them to keep their room temperature at 18c and to dress in layers as this helps to trap body warmth. The body needs food to act as fuel, so it's important to have at least one hot meal a day, as well as plenty of hot drinks. To keep warm in bed wear bed socks as this will reduce heat loss from extremities.

Winter / Christmas can be a lonely time for some people. Research show that human beings are most happy when they feel connected. The more people meet, talk and have a giggle, the happier they are.

So please say hello to neighbours you perhaps don't know. Acts of kindness have an effect called 'helper's high' so as well as making their day, you'll feel good too.

## Danehill Village Hall Trustees

The Chairman and Treasurer will be resigning as trustees of the DVMH. If you are interested in being a part of a team managing how the hall is run for the benefit if the whole community then please contact DVMH.

## Waste Collection

At the October PC meeting Cllr. Roy Galley reported on the new waste contract to be implemented from 2019.

Glass and recycling would be mixed.

Cllr. Galley also for input on whether garden waste bins should charged for or an increase in council tax should be made to keep the service free of additional charge. Please send any input to the clerk.

## Fingerpost Signs - Getting There!

You may have noticed that they are almost completed. Still work in progress - see page 2.



## Highways Update

There have been delays from ESCC regarding the licensing locations for the speed indicator device.

After a complaint it had been hoped that this would now be expedited and granted. However the Clerk reported it had still not been completed and we understand that it has been delayed due to time pressures at ESCC.

The Clerk will continue to chase ESCC and copy in Cllr. Galley.

## Church Lane - Double Yellow Lines

ESCC is responding to objections from neighbours following on from the consultation period - DPC await to hear from ESCC to confirm when works can commence.

Given the objections, it will be necessary to take the Church Lane double yellow line scheme to Planning Committee for consideration. Although one of the residents has withdrawn their objection to the scheme, there is still another resident who has objected to the project.

## Key Dates

There are a number of events taking place in the run up to Xmas and some after - please see below for details:

### December

Christmas Tree Lighting - 8th Dec 6.30pm

Xmas Concert: Dec 10th Rok School (finishes by 9.00pm)

Pantomime: Dec 16th - 3pm - DVMH - Alladin

### February

Quiz: CGVH Friday 23rd February 2018, 7.30 for 8.0pm

## Village Market

Village Market / Parish Council Surgery Dates for 2018

All on a Saturday 10am - 2pm

- March 17th CGVH
- May 19th CGVH
- Sept 22nd CGVH
- Nov 17th DMH

## Alladin - Pantomime

Shooting Star Entertainments will be presenting Alladin at Danehill Village Memorial Hall on Saturday 16th December 2017



Tickets cost: £9, children £5, under 5's free, and can be purchased from Danehill Social Club,

or with cheque & SAE to: 'Danehill Village Hall' c/o Infield, Coach Lane, Danehill RH17 7JJ or call 01825-740678

## Parish Calendars - Photography Club

2018 calendars featuring parish scenes taken by our local Photographic Club - they make excellent gifts. The price is £5 and can be purchased from: The Social Club; The Coach and Horses; Heaven Farm; Horsted Keynes Store; Robin Wood, any Photographic Club Member.

## Boxing Day Football Match



The annual Boxing day football match will be held on The Danehill Rec midday on 26th Dec. Sides will be picked from all who turn up - youngest two pick the teams - all sexes and ages are welcome to play. The rules roughly follow those of The

Football Association. Bubbly for the first team to 10 goals. The match will be played whatever the weather - kickoff 12.01pm. Its the perfect restorative if you have over-indulged on Christmas Day.

Spectators are welcome and are advised to bring mince pies and drinks.

## Food Shopping

Just a reminder :

### Farm Shop Van:

Every Friday 10am - Noon at Chelwood Gate Village Hall (CGVH) Pre-order goods packages by calling 01825 790331 prior to 12 noon the day before for pick up the next day.

### Fish & Chips:

Every Tuesday: 7.30pm CGVH

### Fish Van:

Every Friday Morning: CGVH





## Danehill Parish Council Office

Chelwood Gate Village Hall  
 Beaconsfield Road  
 Chelwood Gate  
 E. Sussex RH17 7LF  
 Emma Fulham  
 Parish Clerk & RFO  
 clerk@danehill-pc.org  
 www.danehill-pc.org  
 Tel: 01342 822404

## Councillors

Andrew Goodburn  
 Dee Birchall  
 Tony Blake  
 Catherine Crouch  
 Rhodri Lewis  
 Neil Macleod  
 Adrian Martorana  
 Vacant  
 Andrew Pattison

## Responsibilities

Chairman & Burial Ground & Memorial  
 Chelwood Gate Village Hall  
 Chairman of Planning Committee  
 Ashdown Forest Parish Liaison Panel,  
 Emergency Planning & Wealdlink  
 Danehill Rec & Jubilee Green (including  
 Chelwood Gate Village Green)  
 Highways & Footpaths  
 Communications  
 Danehill Village Hall & Primary School  
 Chairman of Finance Committee

## Defibrillator Siting



We have two:

1. Outside Danehill Village Memorial Hall Main Entrance
2. On the side of Chelwood Gate Village Hall at Church Entrance side

## What Does The Parish Council Do?

County Council, District Council, Parish Council? Here's a simple guide to what responsibilities the various councils hold. (source: www.gov.uk)

### County Council

Responsible for services across the whole of a county:

- education
- transport
- planning
- fire and public safety
- social care
- libraries
- waste management
- trading standards

### District Council

Covers a smaller area than County. Usually responsible for:

- rubbish collection
- recycling
- Council Tax collections
- housing
- planning applications
- environmental health including noise pollution

### Parish Council

Below District & County. They help on local issues such as:

- allotments, trees on parish grounds
- bus shelters
- burial grounds
- community centres
- play areas and play equipment
- grants to help local organisations
- consultation on neighbourhood planning

**POWER CUT?  
CALL 105**



## Power Cut?

One of the drawbacks of living in a rural area is the number of power cuts. 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**



## Fed Up With Anti-Social Driving?

Report it online at [www.operationcrackdown.org](http://www.operationcrackdown.org)  
 It takes 5-10 minutes to complete the form and is anonymous. You can even follow up and see what action was taken.

**POST  
OFFICE**

Services are available every Friday

Chelwood Gate Village Hall:  
 10.00 - 12.00 (10am to Noon)

Danehill Social Club:  
 14.30 - 16.30 (2.30pm to 4.30pm)

## Useful Contact Details

WEALDLINK PASSENGER SERVICE  
 01892 771332  
 PARISH BOOKINGS  
 Chelwood Gate Village Hall  
 01825 740562  
 Danehill Village Hall  
 01825 790797  
 Recreation Ground  
 01825 740731

## Calendar

24th Jan 2018	PC Meeting 7.30pm DMH
28th Feb 2017	PC Meeting 7.30pm CGVH
28th Mar 2018	PC Meeting 7.30pm DMH

DMH=Danehill Memorial Hall CGVH = Chelwood Gate Village Hall