

Chislet Parish Council Newsletter April 2024

ANNUAL PARISHIONERS MEETING

The Chislet Annual Parishioners Meeting is to be held on Thursday 16 May at 7.00 pm at Hersden Community Centre. Everyone in the parish is invited to attend.

This is a great opportunity for residents to find out what has been happening in the parish over the last year. A community award will also be presented. It will be followed by the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council at 7.30 pm

SAVE THE DATE! 80th ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY



Thursday 6 June 2024 marks the 80th anniversary of D-Day, when Allied forces mounted the largest amphibious invasion the world has ever seen. Codenamed Operation Overlord, 6 June 1944 saw around 4,000 ships and landing craft set down about 132,500 troops on five Normandy beaches in an action that would bring about the liberation of north-west Europe from Nazi occupation.

The UK will commemorate the 80th anniversary of the Normandy Landings on 6 June 2024 with a series of major commemorations and events across the UK and in France.

One of the ways the anniversary will be marked is by the simultaneous lighting of beacons around the United Kingdom, Channel Islands, Isle of Man and UK Overseas Territories. Chislet is one of the local communities taking part. There will be a short ceremony at 9pm and the Chislet Beacon will be lit at **9.15pm on 6th June 2024 to** mark the 'light of peace' that emerged out of the darkness of war.

Unfortunately, the farmer who owns the beacon field had already planted a cereal crop by the time the plans were announced. Due to risk of damage the beacon lighting will be held at a **NEW LOCATION**, Chislet Court Farms "chalk pit" on Church Lane (see map below). The Gate Inn will be serving fish and chip suppers on the night.



IT'S A LIMIT, NOT A TARGET!



East Kent Highways have provided the Parish Council with two more banners bearing the slogan 'It's a limit, Not a target – 30mph'.

One of the new banners is currently positioned at the entrance to Chislet Village from Sandpit Hill on the approach to Chislet School. The other will be displayed in North Stream.

They are in addition to the first banner currently positioned at the entrance to Chislet Village from Boyden Gate. The aim of the banners is to raising aware of the 30mph speed restriction areas within our parish - and hopefully increase compliance.

EKH have provided the Parish Council with a Highway Toolkit Pack, containing bin stickers, car stickers and posters.

Anyone who would like a bin sticker (which carry the same legend as the banners) should contact the Parish Council by email on chisletparishcouncil@outlook.com. The stickers are particularly useful for those residents who place their bins out on the roadside where they are visible to motorists.

NEW TREE ON THE TRIANGLE



Thanks to Kent County Council for replacing the tree on the triangle at the junction of The Glen and Island Road. The previous tree was removed after being assessed as being in ill health. The new tree is a Hornbeam.

SPRING BUDGET UPDATE: HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT FUND EXTENDED TO SEPTEMBER 2024

It was confirmed in the Spring Budget that The Household Support Fund has been extended to September 2024. This is a scheme, funded by the government, to help low-income households. Residents of the Canterbury district can apply for:

- £100 towards help with food costs
- £100 towards help with energy and water costs
- £100 towards help with essential items (e.g., period products, clothes, broadband)
- Up to £500 for help with rent or Council Tax arrears
- Up to £2,500 for repairing or replacing a boiler or one white goods item

To apply for a payment, an applicant must Live in the Canterbury district and be 16 or over; Have a total household income of £30,000 or less - this includes any money from employment or benefit and Not have access to any money to support their situation. More information as well as the application form can be found at:

<https://www.canterbury.gov.uk/benefits-and-support/apply-household-support-fund-payment>.

SPEEDWATCH GROUPS IN CHISLET PARISH - volunteers required!

Following representations from residents in Upstreet and Chislet/Boyden Gate Cllrs Appleby and Cassidy are keen to set up Speedwatch Groups within the parish.

For a Speedwatch Group to work successfully six to eight volunteers are required who would be willing to spend 1 - 2 hours a month, on a regular basis, to gather data on traffic speed. Speedwatch volunteers work in pairs from specific locations authorised for their safety by Kent Police Speedwatch.

Data collected from Speedwatch sessions is collated and provided to Kent Police Speedwatch. If the data confirms consistently excessive speeds in areas within the parish Kent Police Speedwatch are now able to allocate further resources to support Speedwatch Groups, such as speed camera vans.

All equipment and hi-vis clothing is supplied by Kent Police Speedwatch and full training is given to all volunteers by their personnel. In addition, all Speedwatch volunteers are covered under the Kent Police Speedwatch Insurance policy.

Speedwatch is a collaborative process between community and community police that could really make a difference to our community. If you would like to volunteer for a

Speedwatch Group or would like more information please contact: Cllr Sally Appleby or Cllr Sarah Cassidy: sally.appleby@chisletparishcouncil.co.uk
Sarah.cassidy@chisletparishcouncil.co.uk

UPSTREET VILLAGE WHITE GATES



Village white gates (funded by East Kent Highways) have now been installed at the west end of Upstreet - and (we have been assured) will be installed at the east end of the village by the end of April. We hope they will reduce the speed of traffic entering the village.

HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT PLANS

Our 2022 Highway Improvement Plan (HIP) is now available to view on the website. We are waiting for a full response from East Kent Highways as to which of our 2023 HIP proposals have been approved prior to publishing.

2024 HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The Parish Council is starting to consider proposals for submission in the 2024 Highway Improvement Plan (to be submitted September 2024).

We would welcome suggestions from the community to be considered for inclusion in this year's HiP submission.

Please be aware that East Kent Highways have limited funding for improvements - so any proposals need to take this into account and be economically realistic! The cost of any approved projects is met in full by EKH, at no cost to Chislet Parish Council or its parishioners.

Also please note: The Highway Improvement Plan is for new initiatives and is NOT for maintenance work on existing road surfaces, road linings or existing signage - these issues fall under the remit of KCC Highways and should be reported on-line.

If you have a suggestion which you would like to be considered please use the 'Contact Us' form on www.chisletparishcouncil.co.uk or email chisletparishcouncil@outlook.com

HAVE YOUR SAY ON CHANGES TO CANTERBURY WARD BOUNDARIES

The Local Government Boundary Commission has published its proposals to change the ward boundaries of Canterbury City Council. The proposals would affect Chislet Parish. Chislet Parish is currently in Reculver Ward which includes Chislet, Hoath, Upstreet, Bishopstone and Reculver.

The changes would allocate Chislet Parish to a new ward named Wantsum, which would include Hoath, Chislet, Upstreet, Broomfield and residents north of Hunters Forstal Road and east of Mill Lane. The new ward would no longer include Reculver or Bishopstone.

The boundary commission is consulting on the proposals until 6 May. Residents are invited to comment on the Local Government Boundary Commission website www.lgbce.org.uk

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