

# TWINEHAM

## *Parish Council News*

**Winter 2016**



*Welcome to the winter edition of the Parish Council newsletter. Seasons greetings to all.*

### **Planning**

The Parish Council has been busy with several planning applications coming forward for a small number of new dwellings. In the main, these have met with the criteria set out in the Neighbourhood Plan and have therefore been supported by the Council. It has been a very interesting exercise as, due to the Neighbourhood Plan, for the first time ever the District Council is only giving planning permission for new dwellings based on the recommendation of your Parish Council. This is indeed a significant change for the community.

Of great strategic importance is the current examination by the Planning Inspector of the Mid Sussex District Plan. For the past several years Mid Sussex has been blighted by the lack of an up-to-date Plan that sets the housing numbers for the area. Obviously Mayfield and all the other developers are pressing for a far higher number of new dwellings than those allocated by MSDC in the Draft Plan. If the Plan is not approved by the Inspector this will have serious implications for us all.

### **Broadband - Good News - for Some!**

The Parish Council was delighted when Paul Biochat from BT announced at our last Parish Council meeting that the Parish would soon be benefiting from highspeed fibreoptic broadband. However, further investigation revealed that not all postcodes in the Parish would benefit... The lucky postcodes are: BN5 9AN, BN5 9AW, BN5 9AY, BN5 9BJ, BN6 9HD. Also RH17 5NH, RH17 5NP, RH17 5NR, RH17 5NZ, RH17 5PA, RH17 5LZ.

This new service should be available from June 2017,

Unfortunately, we do not know how BT worked this out but, in Bolney Chapel Road, it seems that properties to the north of the new box near Hookers Farm are excluded. We also have not been given any date for this upgrade. The government have committed for this work to be completed by 2020 (and has just announced further funding) and we know that West Sussex County Council are putting in considerable resources so this might bring the date forward.

If anyone is interested, there is a Community Fibre Partnership but the community would be expected to contribute £25,299.00 for a new box. As the box only covers a fairly restricted area, at least three would be needed to enable all properties to benefit. Contact Fanny for a little more information if anyone is interested.

### **Oil Order**

A reminder from Caroline that an order for heating oil will be going in shortly. If you are new to the Parish, you may not be aware that for the past several years Caroline Murphy has very kindly organised an extremely successful oil syndicate. By grouping together, we are able to benefit from significant savings. If you are interested, please email Caroline direct .

### **Evening of Carols at St Peter's**

On Saturday, 17th December at 7.30 pm there will be an evening of carols, folk music with song and verse from Old Sussex. All are very welcome and mulled wine and mince pies will be served

### **Flooding**

With the winter now upon us and heavy rains already causing the river to flood, we would ask all residents to check the gullies that are outside their

properties. A quick clearing out of the leaves ensures that the gullies can do their job and take the water away from the highway.

## **Rampion**

There has been a lot of work undertaken at the substation for E.ON's Rampion Off Shore Windfarm, which is located to the north of Bob Lane. The cable route, bringing the power in from the coast to connect to the National Grid at the new substation, has also been under construction.

The Parish Council and Local Liaison Group (LLG) have been in constant contact with E.ON so that local residents are not badly affected by the works. Unfortunately, some of the contractors have breached some of the Requirements (conditions) by not keeping within the designated hours of work, using the right transport routes, etc. We have made representations about these, together with the mud on the roads and the condition of the verges in Wineham Lane. We understand that work on these verges will take place in the next few weeks.

The substation construction will hopefully be completed by the autumn of 2017, and the cable route in the summer of 2017

## **Rubbish**

The problem with litter accumulating at the end of Church Lane continues. The Police have been advised and we are hoping that they will pay the occasional call when passing. There is a suggestion that a second gate (with pedestrian access) could be erected to prevent cars parking out of sight. Hopefully this would make it less attractive to unwelcome visitors.

We have also received complaints from the Cricket Club that rubbish/garden waste is being dumped behind the cricket pavilion and this has brought in the rats. The pest control people have attended but we need to ensure that this problem does not reoccur. Please ensure that your waste is either properly composted at your home, taken to the Burgess Hill tip or disposed of via the Mid Sussex Garden Waste Service.

## **Neighbourhood Watch**

A new 'Neighbourhood Alert' scheme known as 'In the Know Surrey & Sussex' has now been launched. Fanny Jones has been the co-ordinator but has had very little information to date from

the Police. Unfortunately, the houses that the Police have agreed should be covered by the scheme is limited to Twineham Lane from the War Memorial as far as Twineham Place Farm. We have pointed out that in a Parish as small as Twineham, one scheme to cover the whole of the area would be far more practical but, so far, they don't seem to have got their heads around rural, relatively sparsely populated areas and this has not been agreed. If you live in the right part of Twineham Lane and would like to join the scheme, please email Fanny. To date the emails received have been very general with nothing specific to us—our parish wide email is a much better source of information!

## **Email Addresses**

If you have received this email in print and you have an email address, please could you let our Chairman or Clerk have your email address. The printing (and posting where necessary) of the newsletters is both expensive and time-consuming. We now have approximately 75/85 percent of the community on email and this enables us to contact residents if there is anything urgent (as when we were notified that rubbish had been dumped in the middle of Bolney Chapel Road earlier in the year) or if there is an event taking place locally.

## **Your Parish Council**

Just to remind all residents that all your Parish Councillors are available to discuss any issues which are of concern, be it planning applications, local issues, etc. The public are welcome to attend our meetings and there is a period set aside for public participation at the start of the meeting. Our next meeting will be held at 7 pm at Twineham School on Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> January. Details of other meetings are available on our website.

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