

# CUXTON NOTICEBOARD



The Newsletter by and for the people of Cuxton

April 2020

## Corona Virus (COVID-19)

For health information and advice [www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/)

October 2019

For Government response [www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response](http://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response)

Our parish office is now closed to visitors and meetings are suspended until further notice.  
You can still contact us by email: [cuxtonparish@btconnect.com](mailto:cuxtonparish@btconnect.com) or phone 01634 730951.

## Parish Council News in Brief

The Parish Council met on March 12<sup>th</sup> and discussed how the Council would function should we have to suspend public meetings or if we had to initiate home working for the clerk and her assistant. Measures have been agreed that should ensure that the Council can continue to function despite any constraints imposed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Bush Road/A228 Traffic Lights Trial

Medway Highways department have confirmed to the Parish Council that plans have been completed to trial the use of the pedestrian crossing lights to assist traffic exiting Bush Road.

*"By way of an update, our Traffic Signals Engineer has now completed the design work and the trial will use a detector in the road surface in Bush Road. Only when this detector confirms a queue is present in Bush Road will a demand be inserted by the crossing controller to stop northbound traffic and queueing traffic will have to wait for up to 50 seconds before the crossing changes. If a gap occurs in traffic before 50 seconds have expired the crossing will change to take advantage of the gap in the normal way. The pedestrian crossing will then operate for the normal period of time (12 seconds); we can't change this. Pedestrian use of the crossing will be unaffected, and they will have to wait no more than 30 seconds to stop traffic at all times, irrespective of any queueing on Bush Road. There is no need to restrict the operation of the lights to certain times of the day, as they will be triggered when a queue forms on Bush Road; this could happen at any time of the day."*

The preparation work is planned for Saturday 25th April and the anti-skid surfacing will be done a week later on Saturday 2nd May. The date for laying the anti-skid surface may be delayed if rain is forecast, but hopefully the trial will go ahead in May.

### Boundary Commission Consultation

The Boundary Commission will be publishing details of all the responses to their consultation in the near future. The public responses to this phase of the public consultation will be redacted and uploaded onto the Medway review site within the next few weeks. You will be able to find them at : <http://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/south-east/kent/medway>.

### Lower Thames Crossing Consultation

Members of the Parish Council attended several of the local LTC consultations. It is clear from the traffic modelling information that traffic on the A228 and from Cobham via Bush Road will increase as a result of the new crossing. As the LTC consultation does not extend beyond the M2 Junction 2 there remains a need to identify what plans KCC have to improve infrastructure capacity to avoid the A228 and local lanes becoming a regular route for traffic from the LTC to and from the M20.

A vote of thanks to Cuxton Countryside Group was recorded for their work in clearing fallen trees from footpaths after recent storms

## Parish Council news in brief continued

### Renewable Energy Grant

The Parish Council have submitted a grant application for money to explore the potential for using air sourced heating to meet the energy requirements of the Pavilion.

### Playground Equipment Refurbishment

Council agreed plans to replace 3 pieces of play equipment in line with choices made by children attending last year's Big Lunch. Estimates for the work have been obtained and an application will be made to the lottery for funds that we hope will cover the majority of the costs of the work.

*Cllr Kay Hutchfield, Chair Cuxton Parish Council*

### Police Surgery in Cuxton

The second PCSO evening surgery was held at the Pavilion on 19<sup>th</sup> February between 6pm and 7pm. One of our new PCSO's Sophie Clarke attended with two of her colleagues who cover other areas in Medway with 9 villagers attending and 3 parish councillors. It was an opportunity to chat directly with the police and several different issues were raised, including the white van which has been seen around the village and involved in several thefts. PCSO Clarke confirmed that the police are currently investigating this further which prompted a wider conversation about the importance of reporting ALL incidents to the police. Our PCSO's cover Strood North, South and Cuxton/Halling which is a large area, and therefore reports to the police are prioritised and the police staff are then requested to follow up. **If you do not report the incident but post on social media instead, it is not recorded and Cuxton is not seen as a priority.**



The police are working with Medway Council and can issue several different Warnings and Notices covering antisocial behaviour with fines attached and at our next surgery the PCSO's will explain when and how these measures are used.

If you need to report crime call 101 (or 999 for an emergency) or report online at: [www.kent.police.uk/report](http://www.kent.police.uk/report) (Report a crime, incident or non-injury collision in minutes and receive a confirmation email and reference number immediately).

**Cllr. Tracy Thorley**

### Conservation in Cuxton

Your Cuxton Countryside Group is normally involved in various woodland activities over the Winter months, as has been mentioned in our recent articles in the Noticeboard. We are continuing to clear encroaching vegetation close to the football pitch in the Recreation Ground.

Our volunteers were, therefore, really enthusiastic when, on our last outing, we constructed a dead hedge from discarded small branches. In the past, we have burnt these scrubby branches, but are fully aware of our environmental responsibilities nowadays. Therefore, we took the opportunity to erect a line of zigzag upright posts and infilled them with lengths of cut branches. These dead hedges then perform several functions for nature. They act as a sanctuary for small insects as the wood decays, as a potential nesting area, as a barrier to allow native flowers to grow behind them undisturbed, as an escape area for small mammals being predated and as a source of food for birds and insects in the future.



We are now entering our footpath maintenance stage, so any willing volunteers out there will be gratefully received. Just email us at [ccg.volunteers@hotmail.com](mailto:ccg.volunteers@hotmail.com), or contact Jan on 01634 712157

**Ian Gray**



### Polite reminder

Can we please remind all members of the public who use the Recreation Ground that dogs are not allowed in the Recreation Ground at any time other than assistance dogs. You can report problems with dogs to Medway Council using their online form.

[www.medway.gov.uk/info/200140/environment\\_health\\_and\\_safety/380/report\\_a\\_problem\\_with\\_dogs](http://www.medway.gov.uk/info/200140/environment_health_and_safety/380/report_a_problem_with_dogs)



### Volunteer needed

We need a volunteer to deliver the Cuxton Noticeboard for Station Road and Cuxton Marina

This will be a once monthly job for 10 months of the year, and the Newsletters would be delivered to your house a few days before the end of the month. If you can help please either telephone 01634-730951 or email

[cuxtonparish@btconnect.com](mailto:cuxtonparish@btconnect.com).



### Thomas Stephens Trust

The trust exists to support parishioners, when they are in need of financial support for fuel. We are able to interpret "fuel" as food support. If you know of anyone in the village who is suffering hardships, please let us know. Any such person must be made aware you are making enquiries. All enquiries are treated with full confidentiality.

For further information contact Ian Gray, Trustee on 01634 716334.

### Female PA/Carer Job Advertisement

I am currently looking to recruit a new female PA/carers for 1-3 days a week (Monday-Friday, exact days to be negotiated upon interest) to join my team of PAs, who help me to live my life as independently as possible. I am 30 years old and a full-time wheelchair user. I am currently pregnant with my first child (our baby is due on 6th April), so I am looking for a PA/carers who has experience with babies/children (professionally or in their personal life).

I live in Cuxton with my husband and two cats, and I love being creative, meeting new people, and spending time with my wonderful friends and family. I enjoy life to the fullest and I am a happy, bubbly person, so I am looking to employ someone with a similarly positive mindset.

I have full time care whenever my husband is at work, which is for 13.5 hours each weekday. The work will involve helping me in all aspects of my daily life; including personal care (such as help with showering, toileting and getting dressed - which is why I am seeking a female for this role), house work, accompanying me to doctor's appointments and social events, and assisting me with my baby once she has been born. I need someone who can drive and has a car they can use.

Job requirements: -

- Someone who is caring, reliable, trustworthy and friendly.
- Experience in care work is preferable.
- Experience with babies/children (either through work or personal life).
- Driving licence and car essential.
- Available to work 13.5 hours a day, on the weekdays that are decided between us. Before the baby is born, the hours are 7am until 8.30pm. Once the baby has been born, the hours will be 6am until 7.30pm. - Pay: £12.86 per hour, for 13.5 hours a day
- Start date: ASAP - DBS checks will need to be carried out and in place before starting (we will organise this).

Please contact me (Thea) if you are interested in the role and would like to know more: 07947 641358 or [theadowney@gmail.com](mailto:theadowney@gmail.com)

## What's On In Cuxton

Friday 17th April	The White Hart—Tall Trees Upbeat Pop & Rock— <b>Cancelled</b>
Thursday 23rd April	Annual Parish Meeting in the Social Club Hall <b>Postponed until further notice</b>
Sunday, 14th June	<b>Cuxton Big Lunch</b> in the recreation ground.— <b>Postponed until further notice</b>
Cuxton Social Club	All Hall bookings in April have been suspended/cancelled until further notice. Any queries please contact them on 01634-718068



**THERE WILL BE NO PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.**

## Cuxton Parish Councillors

<b>Chairman:</b>	
Kay Hutchfield:	07762 772134 <a href="mailto:kayhut@hotmail.com">kayhut@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Vice-Chairman</b>	
Tracy Thorley	07884 343832 <a href="mailto:tracy.thorley@hotmail.com">tracy.thorley@hotmail.com</a>
Martin Burley	07777644401
Natalie Jackson	07503 167385
Elizabeth Maisey:	01634 727126
Edwina Morrell	01634 716352
Julie Porter:	07903 780989
Pat Reynolds	07884202270
Hilary Savage	01634 723027
Simon White	07919014909
Jakob Seger	07765077198
<b>Ward Councillor</b>	
Matt Fearn:	07739 706432 <a href="mailto:matt.fearn@medway.gov.uk">matt.fearn@medway.gov.uk</a>

**Parish Clerk:** June Nicholson

**Assistant Clerk:** Josie Griffiths

Telephone: 01634 730951

Email: [cuxtonparish@btconnect.com](mailto:cuxtonparish@btconnect.com)

Email for newsletter items:

[newslettercuxtonparish@btconnect.com](mailto:newslettercuxtonparish@btconnect.com)

**The Parish Office:**

The Pavilion, Cuxton Recreation Ground,  
Bush Road, Cuxton, ME2 1EZ

**Doctor out of hours:** 111

**Police:** 101 for non urgent crime or to talk to local police.

**Public Defibrillator** sited on the wall of Cuxton Social Club

## Term Dates: Academy of Cuxton Schools

**Spring Term:** Mon 24th Feb to Fri 3rd Apr

**Holiday:** Mon 6th Apr to Fri 17th Apr

**Return to school:** Mon 20th April

**Summer Term:** Mon 20th Apr to Fri 22nd May

**Half Term:** Mon 25th May to Fri 29th May

**Summer Term 2:** Mon 1st Jun—Wed:22 Jul

**Autumn Term: Staff Development Days—**  
3rd & 4th Sep

**Children return—**Mon 7th Sep

## Fri 8th May: Bank Holiday & VE Day

**Cuxton Library's opening hours - there are no current plans to close Medway Libraries. Customers are welcome to phone the library if they have any worries about returning books on 01634-333864**

Tuesday 9am to 1pm.

Thursday 2pm to 6pm

Friday 2pm to 6pm

Saturday 10am. to 4pm.

Closed: Monday, Wednesday and Sunday

## Report Fly Tipping

Medway Council on **01634 333 333**,

Gravesham Council **01474 337 000**

## Parking & Abandoned Vehicles

Contact 07508 846937 to discuss general or specific parking and abandoned vehicles enquiries

## Graffiti

The council will remove graffiti for free (even on private property) as long as the owner of the property signs an indemnity form. Contact Medway Council 01634 333 333