

CUXTON NOTICEBOARD



The Newsletter by and for the people of Cuxton October 2020

Cuxton Parish Council News

Cuxton Waste and Recycling Centre

Thanks to the over 300 residents that added their names to the petition set up by Cuxton Parish Council there now seems to be plans to reopen the Cuxton Waste and Recycling Centre (CWRC) in October on an appointment basis only. The Parish Council were aware that residents were concerned about the continued closure of the CWRC and the deployment of the staff to other areas. This issue was discussed with Cllr Matt Fearn when he presented his report at the October Zoom Parish Council. He stated that the reason it had not reopened was because of concerns that its location on a main road would result in queues forming on the A228 and Sundridge Hill roundabout. The Parish Council argued that the booking systems at other waste and recycling centres is now well established, the risk of people arriving without an appointment and being turned away causing queues is much reduced. Cllr Fearn also stated that very few complaints had been received by Medway Council over the continued closure of the site. This came as a surprise to the Parish Council and led to the setting up of an online petition so that residents views can be heard ahead of the review of the decision not to re-open CWRC which we were told was scheduled for 7th October.

Cllr Fearn acknowledged that he had heard a rumour that CWRS was not going to reopen and instead would become a depot for Medway Norse vehicles. In the light of uncertainty about the future of the site the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Cuxton Parish Council have written to Richard Hicks the deputy CEO of Medway Council for clarification of the situation. A question on this topic has also been lodged with Medway Council for their meeting on October 8th.

If you still wish to contribute to the petition you can find the link on the Parish Council and ACT Facebook pages. Alternatively you can register your concerns by emailing ruth.duluei@medway.gov.uk or writing to her at Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham ME4 4TR.

Traffic Lights on A228

October will hopefully see the end of temporary traffic lights on the A228 for a while, and enable carriageway preparation for the trial of traffic lights to commence. The Parish Council will continue to press Medway Council to confirm a start date for the trial.

Cllr Kay Hutchfield, Chairman, Cuxton Parish Council

Collaborative Work with Cobham and Luddesdown Parish Councils

Our three local parish councils have been working together with Gravesham Councillor Tony Rice in support of the existing KCC lobbying of the Secretary of State for Transport, for Enforcement powers to be transferred to Local Highways Authorities to enable them to better control such things as inappropriate HGV and other traffic movements.

On 28th July it was announced that the Government will start work on plans to implement the moving traffic powers in Part 6 of the Traffic Management Act 2004. Once complete in a few months time, this will enable local authorities to apply to take enforcement powers for moving traffic offences away from the police. These powers will allow Local Authorities to enforce against moving traffic contraventions such as no entry, banned turns, access restrictions, box junctions and cycle lanes. This will hopefully go some way to preventing our lanes being used as a rat run by HGV and other heavy vehicles.

Cuxton Christmas Tree

Cuxton Parish Council will still be having a Christmas Tree outside the Cuxton library this year, but due to the uncertainty around possible Covid-19 restrictions, we will not be having a celebration of the lights being turned on, with Mince Pies and carols.



Cuxton Rock Snake

A working party has been set up to move the Cuxton Rock Snake to a permanent home. Look out for more news in our next issue.

Fed-up with vehicles speeding through the village?

If you agree, then why not do something positive to make a change? Cuxton PACT (Partners and Community Together), Kent Police and the Parish Council are developing a Community Speedwatch group in the village and we need your help.



We need a group of locals to help monitor the speed of traffic moving through Cuxton, something that will make a lasting impact on the safety of all in the village. If that's you, then please contact Trevor at CuxtonPACT@gmail.com



Traffic concerns

Local residents have expressed concerns regarding young people cycling along the middle of Bush Road and also riding off pavements across the path of oncoming vehicles. The majority of these young people do not appear to be wearing helmets or any other form of protective clothing.

The Parish Council have been in touch with the local PCSO and have asked her to monitor the situation and advise these young people of the dangers they pose to themselves and the distress they cause to drivers who have to take urgent action to avoid a collision with them.

We hope residents can help us spread the word and help keep our young people and drivers safe on our village roads.

Six Acre Wood

I am sure that all the residents of Cuxton who use the path in Woodhurst Close to access Six Acre Wood have been aware of the deterioration of the tarmac path over the years. Cuxton Parish Council would like to thank Ian Gray and the Countryside Group for the continued support in keeping the paths to the wood managed. Medway Council have laid a new tarmac path up to the steps in the woods which will make it much easier for any walkers to access the woods.





The Wheel Of Cuxton

Following the most recent meeting of The Wheel of Cuxton, we would like to advise that due to current Government Corona Virus Rules and Social Distancing Guidance, The Wheel of Cuxton have had to cancel the 2020 Cuxton Firework Display.

This is not a decision that has been taken lightly, and throughout this current situation the committee have been monitoring government guidance and have been discussing any options that would perhaps allow a smaller display without an audience in the Recreation Ground with the Parish Council, but following Medway Council's decision to cancel all of its Firework Events, and the recent rule of 6 being introduced, it is impractical to stage the event from a financial point of view and remain within social distancing guidelines for both our volunteers and members of the public. There is also a concern that if we were one of the only firework events taking place in Medway, then it could potentially draw large numbers of people into the village.



This is the first time in over 50 years that Cuxton will not have an organised Fireworks Display. The Wheel of Cuxton would like to thank the village for the support they have given for these previous events, and especially the volunteers who are not a formal part of The Wheel of Cuxton, but turn up year on year to provide their services in order to stage the event for our village, it takes more than 30 people to put this event together.

To all our helpers and supporters enjoy your 'year off', and we look forward to seeing you next year, all being well the date for your diaries will be Saturday 6th November 2021.

Father Christmas will make his annual visit to Cuxton, however, this year we will not be organising the usual Present Delivery Service.



On Sunday 20th December Father Christmas will ride his Sleigh, with a limited number of helpers, slowly around the Village, to bring a little 'Christmas magic' and following the drive past we would encourage allowable family groups to have their own celebrations, perhaps Father Christmas could do his thing and presents mysteriously appear at the front of your house as we go around.

The drive around the village will start at 5.00pm, and once we have organised a route, we will publish this and some approximate timings.

Once again thank you for your continued support.

Corona Virus (COVID-19)

For health information and advice www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid19/

For Government response www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response

The parish office is now closed to visitors and meetings are being held online. The Clerk and Assistant Clerk are still contactable while working from home. Please see the back page. **Cuxton Noticeboard** is displayed on the village noticeboards and on the Cuxton Parish website and Facebook page.

Bonfires: advice from Medway Council (Tel: 01634 333333) Medway.gov.uk/info/200176/report-a-problem/409/report-smoke-and-air-pollution/2

Consider your neighbours while we are all at home and avoid having bonfires that could pose a nuisance to neighbours.

What's On In Cuxton

White Hart	Now Open www.whitehartcuxton.co.uk or 01634 789969
Cuxton Social Club	The club is now open, any queries phone 01634 718068. 26.9.2020 Cuxton 91FC play their first game on their new pitch.
Golden River Chinese	Open as normal 01634 296888



Term Dates: Academy of Cuxton Schools

Half term Monday, 19.10.2020 to Friday 23.10.2020

Xmas break starts Friday 18.12.2020

Children return to school Monday 4.1.2021

Please check the school website as these dates are subject to change.

Cuxton Library

Monday: Closed

Tuesday: 10am to 1pm

Wednesday: Closed

Thursday: 2pm to 5pm

Friday: 2pm to 5pm

Saturday: 10am to 12.30pm and 1.30pm to 4pm

These hours are for the foreseeable future. Customers are able to browse the shelves and use the public computers. Computer sessions can be booked in advance by phoning 01634 337799, but only one session per week can be booked.

To be Health & Safety/COVID compliant we will be limiting the number of customers in the building at a time. Anyone entering the building will be asked to give contact details for Test & Trace.

The next virtual meeting of the Parish Council is on 15 October 2020. To attend or send a question email clerk@cuxtonpc.org.uk

Cuxton Parish Councillors

Chairman:

Kay Hutchfield chairman@cuxtonpc.org.uk

Vice-Chairman

Tracy Thorley tracy@cuxtonpc.org.uk

Martin Burley martin@cuxtonpc.org.uk

Natalie Jackson natalie@cuxtonpc.org.uk

Elizabeth Maisey buffy@cuxtonpc.org.uk

Julie Porter julie@cuxtonpc.org.uk

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Hilary Savage hilary@cuxtonpc.org.uk

Simon White simon@cuxtonpc.org.uk

Jakob Seger jakob@cuxtonpc.org.uk

Ward Councillor

Matt Fearn: 07739 706432

matt.fearn@medway.gov.uk

Parish Clerk

June Nicholson 07895 940668

clerk@cuxtonpc.org.uk

Assistant Clerk

Josie Griffiths

newslettercuxtonparish@btconnect.com

The Parish Office:

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

Useful Contacts

Medway Council has a website that deals with a variety of problems including; Dogs, Fly-tipping, Roads, Street Lighting etc. https://www.medway.gov.uk/site_search/results/?q=report+a+problem

Cuxton recycling centre remains closed. You can book to visit the Capstone and Hoath Way centres https://www.medway.gov.uk/directory_record/153/cuxton_waste_and_recycling_centre/category/33/recycling_centres

Parking & Abandoned Vehicles

Contact Medway Council 01634 333333 .

Doctor out of hours: 111

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

Public Defibrillator: Box on the wall of the Social Club

Co-editors: June Nicholson, Parish Clerk & Josie Griffiths, Assistant Parish Clerk. Articles to be submitted by 15th each month. No publication in August or January. Unless otherwise attributed, the content of this newsletter is developed by the editors. Views contained are not necessarily those of the Parish Council. Every effort is made to check the accuracy of items produced and submitted. The Parish Council and newsletter editors accept no liability for other contributions, which remain the copyright of the contributors.