

CUXTON NOTICEBOARD



The Newsletter by and for the people of Cuxton

May 2021

Annual Parish Assembly

Unfortunately, because of Covid19 restrictions, the 2021 Annual Parish Council meeting had to be held remotely. This annual meeting normally provides an opportunity for residents to raise questions directly with Cuxton Parish Council, and for the parish council to personally thank volunteers who give up their time to deliver the Cuxton Noticeboard, keep our footpaths clear and support our numerous voluntary groups. Hopefully, next year we will be back to normal and be able to meet together in the Social Club face-to-face.

One event that has become an important feature of the Parish Assembly is the presentation of an award certificate to a local individual or group in recognition of their volunteering activities. In 2020 Paul Reeves was nominated to receive this award, but because no Parish Assembly was held the presentation was postponed until this year. Paul was given the award for the time he gives maintaining the football pitches at The Academy of Cuxton Schools, Cuxton Recreation Ground and Cuxton Social Club. Thanks goes to his family for persuading him to attend remote meeting and for presenting him with the award on behalf of Parish Council.



Plans to Brighten Cuxton Station

For many years a parish council representative has attended meetings of the Medway Valley Line (MVL) group, who liaise with Network Rail and Southeastern railways to improve the usage and services on our local railway network. Involvement in this group has ensured that the needs of Cuxton Station and its signal box have been kept on the agenda as far as maintenance and repairs at the station are concerned. We had been told that the cost of repainting the signal box and bridge was included in the Network Rail 2020/21 budget. It is uncertain why this work has not happened, but enquiries will be made at the MVL AGM scheduled for late May, when hopefully we will be told when this work will be re-scheduled.



However, there is some good news. The council representatives have secured free planters, compost and plants for the station platforms. Two residents of Station Road have agreed to regularly weed the planters and water the plants. All we need now is for the bridge and signal box to be painted and Cuxton station will be transformed in to a smart and hopefully colourful destination.

A new information board will be installed beside the entrance to the station car park directing walkers, arriving by train, to Ranscombe Farm and the North Downs Way. Thanks to Robin Bourner and Keith Hodges for their work on this project.

Cllr Kay Hutchfield—Chairman

Villagers and visitors to Cuxton

As a villager I am very proud of Cuxton Village, but I am very disappointed with the condition of the Recreation Ground in the village in the mornings. We pride ourselves in providing bins and seats but since the weather has started to get better it has been noticed there is more litter around the recreation ground. This included fast food wrappers, cups, bottles, general wrappers plus more. Please can I request that you use the bins provided in the Recreation Grounds, or even better take your rubbish home to recycle it.

It is great that the Recreation Ground is being used as it should be, but litter can be avoided.

PLEASE HELP KEEP OUR VILLAGE TIDY! Thank you

Josie Griffiths—Assistant Parish Clerk



Planning

The Parish Council continue to be in contact with the Vineyard Company who have planted the vines across Cuxton, Luddesdown and Cobham. The location of a processing plant for the vines and a possible visitor centre are still uncertain, although they have confirmed that the grapes will be transferred to the processing plant along their own land and will not necessitate tractors and trailers using the narrow lanes between our villages.

The Parish Council hope that a meeting will be arranged in the near future so that the details of their plans can be shared.

Community Speedwatch Invitation



Gravesham Councillor Tony Rice, has invited the Parish Council to be involved in a Community Speedwatch project with Cobham and Luddesdown. The parish council have

accepted the invitation as our own SpeedWatch plans have been on hold because of Covid19.

If you would be interested in being involved in this project then please contact the clerk by emailing her at clerk@cuxtonpc.org.uk.

Update on Traffic Lights on Bush Road

The Bush Road/A228 junction remains an unresolved issue but it is hoped that the next traffic trial at the end of April will prove to be a success. Work is being carried out continually to get this in place.

The Parish Council is working with Medway Council to ensure that any unspent section 106 monies comes to the village for use on other highways issues such as traffic calming and Speedwatch.



Cuxton Big Lunch

We are hoping to hold the Big Lunch on Sunday, 22 August 2021 as long as there are no restrictions after lockdown. Preparations are being made and we hope that you will all keep this date free in your diaries. If any of you would be interested in having a stall please contact the Parish Clerk on clerk@cuxtonpc.org or telephone 07483349613.

We look forward to seeing you and family and friends again



Delivery of the Cuxton Noticeboard

We have a need for a volunteer to deliver the Cuxton Noticeboard on a monthly basis for 10 months of the year for Harold Road. If you would be able to do this please contact June Nicholson (Parish Clerk) either by email clerk@cuxtonpc.org.uk or telephone on 07483349613.



Cuxton Parish Council would also like to send their thanks to Mrs Christine Eade for her tireless help over the years.

Assistant Clerk Retires

It is with sadness that the Parish Council say goodbye to Josie Griffiths, who has been our assistant clerk since 2018. Josie has been a loyal and hard working assistant clerk and the Parish Council wish her a long and healthy retirement and lots of time spent enjoying her family, especially her grandchildren.

Job Advertisement

Cuxton Parish Council are currently recruiting for an **Assistant Clerk**.

Starting Salary- £10.50 – £12.50 per hour

Hours of work: 10 hours per week worked flexibly to ensure that deadlines are met, including occasional evening meetings.

Place of work: Parish Office, The Pavilion, The Recreation Ground, Cuxton or from home depending on Covid-19 conditions.

We are currently looking to recruit an Assistant Clerk to help the Parish Clerk manage the delivery of the Council's objectives. Cuxton Parish Council welcomes all suitable applicants, however applications that demonstrate an interest in the local community and upholding the positive reputation of Cuxton Parish Council would be advantageous.

Cuxton Parish Council is committed to equal opportunities and values diversity in its workforce.

The job description and, person specification and application form can be accessed from the Cuxton Parish Council website. www.cuxtonpc.org.uk

Closing date: 10 May 2021

Interviews: 17 May 2021



Library Gardens Improvements

Over the next few months volunteers will be spending time tidying up the small garden area adjacent to the library. The intention is to remove weeds and scrub and sow wild flowers and plants that will add colour to the area all year round. A tree will be planted at the Bush Road end that will in years to come become the village Christmas tree

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

What's on in Cuxton?

White Hart Open from Monday, 12th April 2021. Only outdoor areas are open to the public until 17th May 2021, with a full menu available. We are continuing with our takeaway service www.whitehartcuxton.co.uk or 01634 789969

Golden River Chinese

Open as normal for take away only on 01634 296888. Cash payments only.

Cuxton Social Club

Opening on 12th April 2021. Everyone entering the club will need their fob and go to the garden, and order through the 'club order' app. Any queries phone 01634 718068.

Cuxton Library

Cuxton Library will be open for browsing from 12th April 2021. There will be restricted opening hours:

Tuesday 9.45am to 1pm

Thursday 2pm to 5.15pm

Friday 2pm to 5.15pm

Saturday 10am to 4pm closing for lunch 12.30 to 1.30pm

The public computers will be available for library members for one hour sessions.

There will be a charge of £3.00 per half hour for guest sessions

Customers must wear facemasks and scan the NHS QR code when entering the building.

There will be no group activities for the time being

Academy of Cuxton Schools

May day Monday 3rd May 2021

Half term Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June

Last day of term Friday 23rd July 2021

First day of Autumn term Wednesday 1st September

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 Tip is now open. To book a slot go onto the Medway Council site and select a date and time. **NO booking, NO entry.** 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 .



Cuxton Parish Council
Serving our community

The next virtual meeting of the Parish Council is on 20th May 2021. 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

Pat Reynolds pat@cuxtonpc.org.uk

Hilary Savage hilary@cuxtonpc.org.uk

Jakob Seger jakob@cuxtonpc.org.uk

Simon White simon@cuxtonpc.org.uk

Sarah Wilson sarah@cuxtonpc.org.uk

Ward Councillor

Matt Fearn: 07739 706432

matt.fearn@medway.gov.uk

Parish Clerk

June Nicholson 07483349613

clerk@cuxtonpc.org.uk

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: 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