



# HERNHILL NEWS

## JULY 2023

### PARISH COUNCIL

The June meeting of the Parish Council was held on Wednesday 28th in the village hall. It was attended by the clerk and six parish councillors, councillor Alistair Gould (SBC) and two members of the public.

**The Neighbourhood Plan:** The next meeting of the informal working group will be held on 5th July at 7.15pm upstairs in the Red Lion. All welcome. The agenda will be circulated in advance to those who have agreed to share their e-mail addresses and will be on the website and notice boards. The terms of reference agreed at the last meeting were approved by the council, as was the logo chosen to identify and promote the work of the group.

**Planning:** The Parish Council is allowed to comment on plans submitted to Swale and publicly available to view on Swale planning portal. Applications for variation of conditions imposed following approval of the construction of commercial units in relation to the subsequent construction of mezzanine floorspace. (Land southeast of A299 slip road off Highstreet Road). The Council have previously objected to this development in terms of intensification of development, effect on traffic and need for additional parking. The Council agreed unanimously to object to these applications on similar grounds.

**Allotments:** The Council have submitted an application for a grant towards new fencing for the allotment. Meanwhile chicken wire will be applied to discourage rabbits from entering under the new gate.

**Police:** PC Gary Morris our local representative will attend the July meeting. We will discuss the Neighbourhood Watch community charter, amongst other topics. Parishioners can contact Gary directly to raise issues via email:

[gary.morris@kent.police.uk](mailto:gary.morris@kent.police.uk)

Bensted's

**Charity Grant:** This is now open to applications for help for infirm people, educational or recreational facilities, equipment and bursaries. Details and forms from:

[benstedscharity.org.uk](http://benstedscharity.org.uk)

**Boughton Hill:** The newly reopened road will be closed overnight 8.00pm -5.00am on 11th, 13th and 15th July to complete the new surface.

**Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan and Sites Plan:** Section 18 public consultation currently underway through KCC website.

[Kentconnecttosupport.org](http://Kentconnecttosupport.org) one stop shop covering all aspects of adult social care. [Kencycletraining.co.uk](http://Kencycletraining.co.uk) try an e-bike or sign up for adult cycling safety courses

Swale economic development e-bulletin is available with information to sup-

Chairman: Cllr Barbara Heller  
Clerk: Rebecca Parr 07876 221580  
e-mail [hernhillclerk@gmail.com](mailto:hernhillclerk@gmail.com)

port growing local businesses at website:

[swalemeansbusiness.co.uk](http://swalemeansbusiness.co.uk)

Next Parish Council meeting 26th July 7.30pm Village Hall. If you are not able to attend the meeting in person but still wish to make representation to the Par-

ish Council, please email or telephone the Clerk as soon as possible, but ideally a minimum of three working days before the date of the meeting, and the Clerk will ensure that your views are fully considered under the public participation section of the meeting.

### **KCC AND SWALE**

In a break from tradition, I'm going to deviate from my usual county councillor column this month and write a single column as a combined borough and county councillor or 'twin hatter' (the description used in political circles). Normal service will be resumed next month.

First of all, I'd like to say a huge thank you to the residents of Boughton and Courtenay for putting your faith in me and electing me to represent you at Swale Borough Council for the next four years. As you may be aware, shortly after the elections I was elected to be the Chair of Swale Borough Council's Environment Committee, a role which not only covers climate change and other 'green' issues, but also takes in everything from bin collections and churchyards to fly tipping and stray dogs, (and a great deal more). After an intense first few weeks of getting to grips with the dual roles, my workload is finally beginning to settle into a routine and I'm looking forward to the coming years. I've found the culture at Swale Borough Council to be significantly more open and accessible than it is at Kent County Council. Senior officers are far easier to contact and more forthcoming with responses to questions and enquiries. In the interest of balance, I should mention that there are a number of factors which may have contributed to this difference in culture. When I start-

ed at KCC in May 2021, we were only just coming out of the last Covid lockdown, masks were still commonplace and the induction day at County Hall still involved a fair amount of social distancing. The first two KCC full council meetings of the new council took place at Mote Park sports centre because the council chamber at County Hall was too small to allow councillors and staff to remain safely distanced from each other. In addition to this, in May 2021 I was entirely new to politics. I think it's safe to say I've learned more over the past two years than at any point since my mid-teens, and although I still have plenty to learn, I now know how best to get the information I need to carry out my role effectively. I have some big plans for the coming years. The biggest challenge will be finding ways to carry them out whilst working with the exceptionally tight budgets we have available.

Faversham Household Waste Recycling Centre (Tip) Kent County Council will be launching a consultation in mid-July to look at options relating to the Household Waste Recycling Centres across the county. Unfortunately for Faversham and Swale East, the Faversham site is currently lined up for closure in all of the very limited set of 'options' they have proposed. My colleague Mark Hood is on a working group at KCC which has been tasked with writing the consultation document. There is cross party consensus

that a significant volume of additional information needs to be made public for the consultation to be meaningful. The cabinet member for Environment at KCC has said that she would be open to alternative suggestions, but

the lack of information given currently means any alternatives put forward would be largely based on guesswork.

Rich Lehmann  
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RichLehmann@swale.gov.uk

**Canterbury Flower Club  
and  
Alzheimer's UK**

**GARDEN PARTY &  
STRAWBERRY TEA**

Raffle, Plant and Cake stall  
Saturday 15th July 2.00 to 4.30pm  
at  
Church End, Hernhill  
Nr Faversham  
ME13 9JU

Entry £7.50  
Contact Vicki 01227 751511 or 07724010767  
vickihodgkiss@hotmail.com

**JULY CHURCH SERVICES**

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July**

10.00am Hernhill, Sung Communion,  
Rev'd Nina Coulthard.

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July**

10.00am Boughton, Sung Communion,  
Rev'd Martin Burrell.

**Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> July**

10.30am St Barnabas, Boughton  
Wednesday Worship. Holy Communion,  
Rev'd Nina Coulthard.

A short service, followed by refresh-

ments.

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July**

10.00am Hernhill, Morning Worship  
10.30am Holy Communion, Graveney,  
Rev'd Lindsay Collins.

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July**

10.00am Hernhill, Benefice Sung  
Communion, Rev'd Lindsay Collins.  
Snr. Chaplain of King's School, Canterbury.

**All are welcome to our services.**

**NO MOW MAY  
IN HERNHILL**

Spring is a beautiful season which we all enjoy. Hernhill is a lovely rural spot with plenty of green around us.

'No Mow May' in the village, especially in the churchyard, has been a wrong decision. I am not alone in my opinion. Six people I have spoken to have deplored the idea.

I understand that the Parish Council pays for the upkeep of the churchyard. Maybe they can re-think for next year.

Anne Butler

### **HERNHILL HERONS**

The Herons held their "Presentation Day" on 17th June, celebrating the 2022-3 season which saw a record number of boys and girls wear the club colours. The Herons' flag was hoisted above St Michael's Church, as the club recognised good behaviour and strong performance - from Under 7s to Under 14s.

Here is this season's "Roll of Honour".

### **MOST IMPROVED**

#### **Under 7's**

MARK SHCHEDROV  
ARTHUR LINDLEY  
JAX POTTLE

#### **Under 8's**

JACK ANDREWS  
RAF DUNN

#### **Under 9's**

LILY CLARK

#### **Under 10's**

HENLEY CUTTRIDGE

#### **Under 11's**

ETHAN BICKER  
JIM APPLEBY

#### **Under 12's**

OSCAR HUGHES

#### **Under 13's**

BOBBY FARMER

#### **Under 14's**

DEXTER JONES

### **RESPECT AWARD**

#### **Under 7's**

FREDERICK WEAVER  
JOEY BERTOSH-PEARCE  
OLIVER HARRIS

#### **Under 8's**

AIDEN RAY  
ALEX DEMITRI

#### **Under 9's**

JOSEPH SPARKES

#### **Under 10's**

EDWARD LEYDEN

#### **Under 11's**

MARAT TUCK  
CARLOS LOSA

#### **Under 12's**

DAN CORDINGLEY

#### **Under 13's**

ARCHIE O'DONOGHUE

#### **Under 14's**

MAX DAVIES

### **COACHES' PLAYER OF THE SEASON**

#### **Under 7's**

BLAKE POLLEY  
OSCAR PIERCY  
JAKE TURNER

#### **Under 8's**

ROCCO HADLER  
SULLIVAN YOUNG  
JACK BROOKS

#### **Under 9's**

ETHAN BARNES

#### **Under 10's**

BARNABY KIMBER

#### **Under 11's**

ARTHUR WATERS  
HARVEY SMITH

#### **Under 12's**

ALFRED BOWMAN

#### **Under 13's**

OWEN CHAPLIN

#### **Under 14's**

AARON FEHNLE

### **PLAYERS' PLAYER OF THE SEASON**

#### **Under 7's**

BOBBY MARSHALL  
FREDDIE HARDING  
TOMMY FOSTER

#### **Under 8's**

BENJAMIN WANG  
MAX DOWLING  
FRANKIE FEAVER DOWNIE

#### **Under 9's**

GEORGE PERROTT

#### **Under 10's**

HARRY HADLOW

#### **Under 11's**

HARRY SMITH  
ZAK LEBERL-SMITH  
CHARLIE FOXALL

**Under 12's**  
JAMES ROFFEY  
OSCAR PETRE  
**Under 13's**  
CONOR CLAY

**Under 14's**  
SAM WOODCOCK

### **NEW PRIEST FOR HERNHILL**

I am very pleased to announce that the Reverend Cathrine Ngangira has been appointed to the post of Priest in Charge of the Boughton with Dunkirk, Goodnestone with Graveney and Hernhill Benefice. She is currently Assistant Curate in the parish of Bearsted Holy Cross. The date when Cathrine will be licensed as our new priest has not been confirmed yet.

We are looking forward to welcoming her to Hernhill, after two years without a local priest, and working with her as we start a new chapter in the life of our church.

We pray for Cathrine as she prepares to join us, and that God will bless and guide her ministry in this benefice.

Peter Willcock  
Churchwarden

### **HERNHILL SCHOOL**

School has been a busy place over the past few months.

Our Eco team have been delighted with the opening successes of their Refill shop. We have now held two shops, April and May, and almost one hundred bottles of product has been sold. Thank you very much to those in our community who visited the shop, we appreciate your support. We are very proud with how hard the children have worked and their commitment to taking on every single job within the Eco Refill shop. They are looking forward to the next shop on 30th June and hope to continue into next academic year.

Classes across the school have enjoyed many trips, visitors and sports events recently. Year 4 camped out for a night on the school field - there was very little sleep! Reception headed up into London to visit the Natural History Museum. Year 5 have taken part in activity days at Kent College and

Queen Elizabeth Grammar school. This term, Year 2 are swimming every week and Year 1 are doing Forest school. And this week, Year 6 went off to their residential where they enjoyed completing lots of outdoor activities. Huge thanks go to the staff who gave up their time to take the children away.

Our PTAFAs have lots of exciting events planned for the final weeks of term. There will be school discos and a pool party. They are also holding our first ever colour run which promises to be great fun! All these events contribute to our school funds and we have been delighted with a number of purchases from the PTAFAs recently - a class set of brand new chromebooks and a "cosy cabin" for the playground. We are very lucky! The PTAFAs are also planning hard for our September fete - please put Saturday 16th September in your diaries. We hope to see you there.

Sarah Alexander  
Headteacher

### **VILLAGE HALL AGM**

This is to be held on

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July at 7.00pm in the village hall.

## ST SWITHUN

### RAIN, WATER & LIVING WATER

St. Swithun's day is on 15<sup>th</sup> July and according to folklore if it rains on that day, it will rain for the next 40 days.

St Swithun, Bishop of Winchester who died in 862, had asked to be buried in a simple grave outside of the cathedral "where the sweet rain of heaven may fall upon my grave". Later, against his wishes, on 15<sup>th</sup> July 971, his body was moved to an impressive tomb within the cathedral, as the Bishop of Winchester and Archbishop Dunstan of Canterbury had decreed he should be the patron saint of the cathedral. Forty days of terrible weather followed, which was thought to be because St. Swithun was unhappy at being moved. There is no proof to support this, but this is where the legend regarding the 40 days weather forecasting started, and later this ancient rhyme was written.

*St. Swithun's day if thou dost rain*

*For forty days it will remain*

*St. Swithun's day if thou be fair*

*For forty days 'twill rain nae mare*

A more modern one, supposedly from Buckinghamshire, is more to the point:

*If on St Swithun's day it really pours*

*You're better off to stay indoors!*

Heavy downpours during July and August will not be popular, but with long spells of dry weather, hosepipe bans and South East Water not being able "to keep up with the demand", rain is a blessing and a necessity, although it will be great if it only rained during the night.

Water is vital for all known forms of life on earth, it is the main chemical component of our bodies and 92% of our blood. Water is mentioned at the very beginning of the Bible "*and the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters*" (Genesis chapter 1:2). In

Revelation, the last book of the Bible, chapter 22 v. 17 "*And let everyone who is thirsty come. Let anyone who wishes take the water of life*". This is the water of life Jesus offers to the Samaritan woman at the well, as told in chapter 4 of John's Gospel. Jesus is returning to Galilee and decides to travel through Samaria, (most Jews would have taken a longer route to avoid doing this), and when a Samaritan woman comes to the well, he asks her to give him a drink. She is shocked, as why does a Jew ask a Samaritan woman for a drink. Jesus says to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you 'Give me a drink' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water". He then tells her that everyone who drinks the water from the well will be thirsty again, "but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." The woman said, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water." Of course, she is confusing her physical needs with the spiritual, as she will still need water from the well. Jesus is saying the living water is a gift not a reward and anyone can ask him for it regardless of who they are or where they come from. Later in John's Gospel, chapter 7:37-38, on the last day of the Festival of Booths, Jesus said, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink". As the scripture has said, "Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water."

Like the woman at the well, we will still need water to survive physically. The living water Jesus will give is for our

souls and eternal life. There are no restrictions on it and I am sure Jesus will be able "to keep up with the de-

mand".

Peter Willcock  
Churchwarden

### OVER THE GARDEN WALL

Well, the weather finally got better and music season is upon us. We have been down to The Dove a couple of times for Will's gorgeous BBQ food & music. What a treat to see his Mum doing so well and thoroughly enjoying herself and lots of attention from her boys. Go Liz!

My friend Joy will know what librarians' favourite food to BBQ is Shush Kebab!

I went to De Bradleigh Wharf with my friend Mel as they are shutting down soon. Four pairs of sandals and three dresses later (don't tell Peter!) we decided to have a spot of lunch. Not able to think of anywhere worthwhile in Dover we called into The Mermaid at Bishopsbourne on the way home. What a trip down memory lane, I had macaroni cheese with crispy bacon just as my dear Mum used to make. Lovely old fashioned little pub, well worth a visit if you haven't already been.

Well we finally did it, 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Red Lion quiz. No Wayne we didn't cheat because we had seven on the table, I asked everyone if they wanted Peter to join their team and nobody wanted

him.

Talking of Peter, he finally went to the dentist, the first time in 15 years. They made him an appointment with the hygienist, which he had never experienced before. Obviously didn't have them back in his day. When he returned, I said how was it? Legalised torture he replied. At least he has made another appointment so thankfully, back on the programme.

The Red Lion are back doing Sunday afternoon music which is great, until we all got soaked last week. Oh well a bit of water never hurt anyone. This week the Morris dancers returned to The Lion. Not really being a fan, once again I was persuaded to go on the promise of food. They really were very good & great fun was had by all. Morris dancers can strike fear into everyone just by announcing that for the next dance they need volunteers. Not my husband, up he got and joined in with great gusto. My friend Alison said he looked more like Captain Mainwaring from Dad's Army with the stick over his shoulder. Personally, I think he resembled Corporal Jones more!

Stay safe & God bless,  
Sandi.

### BITS AND PIECES

I know that we Brits are laughed at because we are forever talking about the weather. It's probably true and Peter is talking about it in his article. However, the weather in the UK in the first three weeks of June really has been worthy of comment.

Here in the southeast we expect to be the sunbathers of England, especially with global warming heating us up

even more. However, whilst we were shivering in a persistently cold NE wind, those in the North and even those in Scotland were sweltering. Temperatures in Scotland at times exceeded 30°C.

And then there is the matter of rainfall. The expected conditions for June is dry in the south and wet in the north. Not this year. Granted, we only had a little rain until late June, but Borrow-

dale, said to be the wettest place in England, had no more than a trickle of rain all month. As a result, the river Derwent dried out in a number of places, Loch Ness dropped to its lowest level in 30 years and the river Ness recorded the lowest level in 40 years. Despite the fact that our rivers are still pretty full, we now have to suffer a hosepipe ban. Interestingly, the water watchdog has demanded an 'urgent meeting' with South East Water on the grounds that their resilience of supplies is less than would be expected.

There is a lot of comment in the newspapers about the state of the roads in the UK and the number of potholes in

them. Recently I had to drive towards Dover on the A2. On the way back there is a long stretch of road that has been re-surfaced. It was a pleasure to drive on, smooth and quiet. However, shortly after that stretch there is a large and deep pothole. If you are driving from Dover, don't be lulled into thinking that all is well, it's not. On the plus side it seems that Boughton Hill is open again (well, sometimes).

It seems that Alan Titchmarsh and Monty Don have similar ideas to Anne Butler with respect to the fashion for the 'wilding' of gardens and public spaces.

ADT

### BIN COLLECTIONS

July	4	Tuesday	Green Bin
	5	Wednesday	Brown bin
	11	Tuesday	Blue Bin
	18	Tuesday	Green Bin
	19	Wednesday	Brown bin
	25	Tuesday	Blue Bin
August	1	Tuesday	Green Bin
	2	Wednesday	Brown bin
	8	Tuesday	Blue Bin
	15	Tuesday	Green Bin
	16	Wednesday	Brown bin
	22	Tuesday	Blue Bin
	29	Tuesday	Green Bin
	30	Wednesday	Brown bin

Alan D. Taylor  
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