

ESTABLISHED



APRIL 1934

Notes from Borough Green Parish Council

The Council met at 7.30pm Monday 8th April 2024. Matters discussed and reports received included:

- **Solar Project.** Potters Mead new Solar Panel array with battery storage will be installed towards the end of the month, and we have working with the Bowls Club to sign up for their own installation shortly. The Village Hall has been a little more difficult to get set up. . It is hoped that this clear demonstration of Local People tackling Climate Change will influence the way the TMBC Local Plan develops, incorporating a clear commitment to sustainable building practice for our new homes.
- **Village Hall.** The Parish Council wants to confirm its long standing commitment to our Village Hall, as shown by the ongoing guarantee of the contribution made by our leasing the Parish Office and rental for the Lunch Club, together with grant support for major projects like resurfacing the carpark and the installation of the lift. We wish the new Committee the best, and are happy to offer our support as they learn their new roles, and guidance in interpreting the very stringent rules with which they have to comply as a transparent and accountable Public Body in order to satisfy the rules contained in the Trust Deed lodged with the Charity Commission.
The Parish Council organized the land purchase and building of the Village Hall in the early sixties, but set it up as a Charitable Trust to enable a far wider range of outside grants that a Parish Council cannot access. The people of Borough Green can be justly proud of their hall, built by volunteers, and maintained and managed by volunteers ever since.
- **Speed Indicator Devices.** A perennial problem on the A25 and A227 through the Village is Speeding Traffic, and we have worked tirelessly for many years to combat it - in fact Tim and I first got involved with the Parish Council on this very issue. KCC/Police (KMSCP) refuse to allow us another camera anywhere, and despite having significant funding offered by H+H Celcon and Robert Body, KCC also refused to allow any more Speed Indicator Devices. However, we have all noticed an Ightham resident has installed his own device on Borough Green Rd, and we have decided to explore the option of three devices installed on land we manage or own at our Gateways, and are now seeking prices.
- **The Recreation Ground** In the next few months there may be minor restrictions as piling takes place to shore up a garden backing onto the Rec, and as Barry continues the work that will contain the meanderings of the stream.
- **Fly Infestations at Basted Mill.** TMBC Environmental Health have engaged their own investigator, and so have Southern Water, whose sewage breaches over the past 6-7 years could well be a source. There has been a lot of ill-informed comment on Social Media of late, but we wanted to assure residents that an intensive investigation has at last begun, and we will rigorously follow the evidence and take decisive action when the culprit has been discovered, but we will not act on speculation..
- **D-DAY 80 years 6th June** Plans are advancing well for the community celebration on that Thursday, that will involve an extended Lunch Party for the elderly in the Village Hall, and a gathering in the evening in the Rec to watch a Pipe Band, and have a bite and a drink from "Sizzles" catering outfit, and a Beacon Lighting at 9.15pm. A group of Parishes are trying to arrange a historic flypast. If anyone has other ideas to add, please contact Cllrs Sue Butterfill or Sam Thrush.
- **MOTO** -.We still expect Moto to launch an appeal against the recent planning refusal, and our team are ready to act on our behalf.
- **COUNCIL VACANCY** There is still a Vacancy on the Parish Council, apply to the Clerk as below
- **58 & 70 Shopper Buses** The two services are still well used, and we are still exploring grant aid for next year as the lead Parish for 12 other Parishes. However, in the event we are unsuccessful in obtaining grants, all the Parish Councils have agreed to fund it out of their budgets, so the service will definitely continue
- **Borough Green** flags have been flown at the Village Hall and the War Memorial commemorating our inauguration in April 1934 as an individual Parish in its own right It is the 90th Anniversary of a Parish born from the "offcuts" of our larger neighbours. And what was once the tiny neighbour of Wrotham, Ightham, Plaxtol and St Mary's Platt is now the largest of the Parishes, and the hub village to them all.

- **Dorothy "Doff" Holmes.** In 2015 resident Richard Holmes bequeathed £10,000 to the Parish Council in memory of his late wife. That money was applied to the Foot Clinic, and when that closed at the onset of Covid, the balance was used to support the Lunch Club. Because it was an "In Memoriam" gift to the elderly of the Parish, I thought it important that we spend a moment in remembering the generosity of Richard and Doff Holmes, and give our thanks for those years of support.
- **The next** Parish Council meeting will be held at **7.30pm on Monday 13th May 2024, at BG Village Hall, and will incorporate our Parish Annual Meeting** when Community Groups have the opportunity to update us about their activities , The agenda will include a period for public contributions and questions.

Meet your council

Contact the Chairman mike.taylor@boroughgreen.gov.uk 01732 882880

Contact the Clerk clerk@boroughgreen.gov.uk or call 07568 536405.

Full minutes are posted at [MINUTES | mysite \(boroughgreen.gov.uk\)](#)