

Burwash Parish Matters, February

Vaccination Site



To start off with some good news, that is by the time this is published the vaccination site at Etchingham will be up and running and of course our doctors' practice will still be able to provide care at the same time. Our thanks should also go to Huw Merriman MP who has been working hard to make sure we were not forgotten.

New Parish Councillor

We are pleased to welcome Mr Keith Lloyd to the Council. Keith has also agreed to head up our internet help team who are available through the clerk to provide virtual help with any computer problems you may have.

The White Paper on Planning

Several parishes have been meeting along with Robert Banks (Save Our Fields) to try to get the Government to change its mind on the white paper on planning and again we have been helped by Huw. To date the government have been persuaded to drop the algorithm which rather like the exam one produced some very strange figures showing that rural Rother needed more houses than major cities such as Liverpool. We as a committee have felt that Rother's targets could be met if the builders used up some of the land that they have banked. We have requested an appearance before the select committee and hope that the government will drop the whole exercise.

The Car Park at the Bear

Our current plan for taking over the car park is still awaiting the draft lease from Rother but currently we expect to demolish the existing toilets and replace them with additional car parking spaces complete with electric charging points. We are also hoping that we can redesign the layout to make better use of the space. There is absolutely no intention at present to charge for car parking.

Donation of Computers

We had several desk top computers that we were not using from the internet café and we have now donated them to a nearby primary school.

Unfortunately, we are still unable to open the Parish Office and both our clerks are working from home and of course all our meetings are being held virtually. You are still welcome to attend and take an interest in local affairs, we as a parish council are the first tier of government and are there to represent your views; access to all our meetings can be arranged through the clerk and the minutes are on the website <https://burwashparish.org.uk/> We also try to keep you informed through our e-bulletin which now has over 500 subscribers.

Traffic Calming

Our submission for shared funding to provide the 20mph limit through the village has been submitted and is expected to be considered at the end of the month, the hope is that we will get 50% of the costs from County.

The response to our traffic calming questionnaire was not conclusive on the design of Village Gates, so the Parish Council would like to open up the process to the community, and invite you to design entry signage which will be customised and appropriate for the stunning surroundings in which we live while helping to safeguard local residents.

Entry Signs for the Burwash Communities

Guidance from the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty suggests signage should complement the landscape and not 'suburbanise village context and character'. Our three ridge-top Burwash communities are situated in breathtakingly unspoiled landscape.

The Council is looking for design ideas which will

- Incorporate materials and detail which reflect the High Weald's distinctive character
- Be affordable, free of clutter and effective
- Reference to the High Weald AONB Sign Guidance

Please send your design to the Parish Clerk parishclerk@burwashpc.org.uk

The Closing date is 28th February 2021.