

The parish council provides the football pitch and attends to the majority of the grass cutting. There are changing facilities with showers for both home and visiting teams and a separate changing room for the referee. Also, there are two small store rooms and teams are expected to keep the changing rooms in a good condition.

The parish council has recently improved the drainage of the pitch by creating a ditch and bund behind the top goal to catch any ground water running off the fields above.



Should you know of any team - men's, women's, older people or youth - looking for a home ground or for ad hoc use of the pitch on Saturdays, please contact us on eynsford.pc@tiscali.co.uk or 01322 865320. We will also consider requests for other sports activities.

Follow us Online

Eynsford Parish Council's website is the best place for you to find useful information about the council and its services. There are also areas dedicated to the village and community groups with the option for you to add your own events for listing. Have a look at www.eynsfordparishcouncil.org.uk

We are also on **Facebook** and **Twitter** (search for Eynsford Parish Council) where we post up to date news, share useful information. We love to hear your views and to see your pictures too. Let us know what you think and what other kind of information you would like us to share.



Autumn News 2016

from
EYNSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Welcome to the Autumn newsletter from Eynsford Parish Council.

Congratulations to Eynsford in Bloom for achieving a GOLD award again this year! All that hard work has paid off and make our village such a great place to live in.

This month's newsletter includes information about the Swanley regeneration plan, allotments, parking, football and a couple of village projects.



The South & South East in Bloom judges visiting Old Mill Close.

We will be meeting in November to discuss the budget for 2017/18, so if your group is planning a project or new purchase for then, do put in an 'expression of interest' for grant funding. We are able to allocate small amounts to groups throughout the year.

As always, let us have your thoughts on what the parish council can do to help or to improve Eynsford. We are here to help!

Holly Ivaldi, Clerk

Eynsford Parish Council, Parish Office, Priory Lane, Eynsford DA4 0AY; 01322 865320; eynsford.pc@tiscali.co.uk
Find 'Eynsford Parish Council' on Facebook and Twitter.
www.eynsfordparishcouncil.org.uk

Eynsford is Bloomin' Marvellous!!

Cllr Theresa Durrant

On behalf of all residents, the parish council wishes to extend their congratulations to Pauline and the volunteers of Eynsford in Bloom. Their hard work and dedication has been rewarded for a second year in a row, by winning a Gold certificate for the South & South East in Bloom Award 2016.

The judges were clearly impressed by the level of community support, as highlighted by the various gardening competitions that villagers enter into, and those that came to lend their support on 'judgement day'.



They also highlighted particular areas of achievement as the 'Royal' themed formal flower bed at the war memorial and the Rose border in the churchyard, which is maintained by volunteers from the Eynsford in Bloom group, who use mulch from their own recycling bins.



However, keeping Eynsford attractive for both residents and visitors is very much a community effort, so aside from all the hard work that Eynsford in Bloom puts into making our village the wonderfully appealing place that it is, we also

We would welcome your input to this exercise, both identifying additional parking problems and coming up with suggestions for solutions.

This is a long term view of the problem and some of the solutions may not be feasible for some time. They may also require action by others such as Kent Highways or Network Rail and funding which would take some time to source.



Please send your thoughts to the Parish Council. We will be drawing up an action list from this working group and publish this at a later date for your further input.

The results will also be fed into the Sevenoaks Local Plan where we will attempt to gain support for funding for the improvements and a long term Village Plan which is under development.

The identified solutions will also be incorporated into any other relevant improvement and development plans for the village as they come up.

Send us your thoughts and ideas to eynsford.pc@tiscali.co.uk!

Football at Harrow Meadow

Cllr Alan Cooke

Eynsford Parish Council have provided football facilities in the village for a good number of years with Eynsford Football Club playing Saturday afternoon and Riverside Wanderers Football Club playing on Sunday mornings.

This season Eynsford Football Club have moved to a different ground leaving a vacancy for a team to play at Harrow Meadow on Saturdays and to use the changing facilities.

end. Congratulations and thanks are due again to Janet Murray, the talented art TA at Anthony Roper School whose creative supervision is at its' heart. She has been promised this really is the last request of her classes!



Ideas continue to germinate for something at St. Martins, and for sculpture in Nine Hole Wood. The Sub-Committee will be meeting in September, hopefully, to headbang for new material.

There have been one or two suggestions passed on by village residents; please, if you have a burning kernel of an artistic thought, medium or venue in mind, let one of us know, or ring me. We would be delighted to have the input, help and support. Call 866102

wish to acknowledge efforts of other villagers, who also diligently help to keep Eynsford tidy. Particularly during the summer months, when Eynsford attracts a large number of tourists and visitors wishing to make use of the warm weather and our beautiful Riverside.



The barr has been set and the expectation for winning future Gold's will be high. Suggested areas of development by the judges included the potential for flower beds in Harrow Meadow and bug hotels. If this sounds like something that would appeal to you, then I am sure Eynsford in Bloom will appreciate any extra help and support...whether you have green fingers or not...a seasoned gardener...or an absolute beginner.

Thank you Eynsford in Bloom, we think you're brilliant!

Parking in the Village

Cllr Geoff Kirby

The Parish Council has formed a working Group to look at parking issues in the village. The intention is to identify the important parking problems and look at possible solutions, both short and long term. The idea is to have a database of village requirements to be considered in relation to any future planning applications.

The problem areas so far identified are:

- ***The Station and surrounding streets- commuter parking***
- ***Riverside***
- ***High Street commercial parking***
- ***Resident Parking- Station Road and High Street for houses without off street parking***
- ***Anthony Roper School for dropping off and collecting pupils.***

Parish Council Surgery & Meetings

The Parish Council surgery is held on the last Saturday of each month between 9am and 11am. Come along to the Parish Office to speak to a councillor about your concerns.

Our main meetings are generally held on the third Thursday of the month and we have committee meetings on the first Monday of the month. All meetings are open to the public and start at 8pm. Full details can be found on noticeboards and our website.

**For a large print newsletter call
01322 865320**

Summer Family fun day 2016

Naomi Morgan, Deputy Clerk

With the sun shining high in the sky, the scene was set for Eynsford Parish Council's free family fun day during the school holidays, which was held at Anthony Roper Primary School, with Play Place providing the activities.

Thank you to Farningham Parish Council, for their contribution towards the cost and to the school for allowing us to host the event at the school.



The fun day, which attracted over ?? guests, had lots of activities for the children, including bouncy castles, cake decorating, face painting, football and many other sport activities. The council also paid for an extra activity this year, which were circus skills. Children had fun learning how to juggle, stilt walking and many more circus skills.



Even the Chair of the council got involved with the circus training and was caught learning to plate spin. (Maybe a new skill she needs for the council meetings?)

Parish Council representatives ran a light refreshments stall for those who were hungry or thirsty, with lots of delicious things to eat, from cupcakes to watermelon slices. Many families also brought along picnics to eat on the field, whilst enjoying the beautiful weather.

Thank you to all who came along, and we hope you had a wonderful day. Please get in touch with us, if you have any ideas or comments for future events.



unwanted garden rubbish such as broken pots, metal frames, glass, chairs and tables.

If allotment holders have any issues regarding the allotments in general or about their own plots, or need assistance with particular problems, please contact the parish council or myself. We would welcome any suggestions you may have so that we can all take pride in our village allotments.

Public Art in Eynsford

Sally Coston, Eynsford Village Society

The **Public Art** Sub-Committee has now met to study in depth the yellow questionnaires which came out of the public meeting in January, and were to be returned by the end of May. The strength of feeling at that meeting was intense so we have been surprised not more were returned. However, every house in the village received one, so we must work with what we have.

There were a few wholly against the idea in any shape or form. The theme running through the majority is concern that any artwork be suitable for the village and respectful of an area of outstanding natural beauty, factors uppermost in the minds of the sub-committee and EVS as a whole too.

We have analysed all opinions, reading every word written; some were lengthy. Of the yellow forms returned, 76% are in favour of proceeding with a public art initiative in Eynsford and so we will continue to look for ideas and venues suitable for that purpose.

Presently, we still await Southeastern Railways' contribution to facilitating the artwork installation in the "up" platform waiting hut; all six pieces are ready to be hung; they will make a stunning addition to the site.

The 'bug hotel' destined for installation in Millfield is gaining momentum; before they broke up for the summer, the children at school worked hard on an impressive, bright acrylic collage of field wildlife. When the construction is complete, there will be an unveiling ceremony at a spot further into Millfield than at the first, sadly vandalised, location but still at the Farningham

Castlefield Allotments

Cllr Alan Cooke

I have recently taken over the chairmanship of the Recreation Committee which includes overseeing Castlefield Allotments. I was somewhat disappointed how many unkempt plots there are, allowing grass and brambles to grow uncontrolled, saplings to grow, and in some cases become mature trees which then ever shadow adjacent plots. In addition leaving a lot of rubbish strewn about the allotments.

The purpose of the allotment garden is quite clear, it is for the sole purpose of the cultivation of fruit, vegetables and flowers for your own consumption. The parish council has provided a designated Nature Area between the allotments and Harrow Meadow, for wild life (both flora and fauna).

An inspection of each plot was undertaken in June this year and letters sent to those whose plots were found to be unacceptable. A further inspection will be made at the end of September. The results of this will enable a

management plan to be developed, identifying priorities and where recourses should be placed.

I accept that the parish council has a responsibility to keep the main access path clear, maintain the three water tanks and trim back overhanging trees along the rear boundary line. It is going to take at least a couple of years to improve things, however, a number of volunteer work parties have already been in action and other maintenance work has been carried out and paid for by the parish council.

Another possible innovation is for the parish council to provide a skip once or twice a year for allotment holders to dispose of any



EynsfARA

Brenda Wise

We are hoping to start a new ARA (Active Retirement Association) to be called EynsfARA, with our first meeting to be held in St. Martin's Church on Monday, 10 October from 2 - 4p.m.

November's meeting is Monday 14th. There are many ARA's locally e.g. CrockenARA (Crockenhill), SwanARA (Swanley) and HexARA (Hextable) and it was thought there is a need to have our own with the church being the perfect venue. Both men and women are welcome and we are open to ideas for activities.

If you would like to try us out to see if this suits you, then please come along and the fee is £2. This is to cover hire of the church and refreshments. Otherwise for those who wish to take out annual membership, there will be a fee of £15. This goes towards the cost of hiring speakers/entertainers.



We are affiliated to the Kent Active Retirement Association who have been running for 30 years. They have kindly given us a tried and tested list of guest speakers and suggestions for outings. However sometimes there is over a years wait for speakers. Any ideas for interesting speakers who would be willing to offer their services would be welcome.

Suggestions so far for outings have included a Tenterden railway trip with fish and chip lunch, a trip to the Isle of Man next year, lunch cooked by catering students at Knowle Academy, a trip to the Sky Garden at the Walkie Talkie building in London, Great Dixter House and Pashley Manor Gardens. We are open to suggestions and there will be ample opportunity to include any at our next meeting.

This is an exciting new club for Eynsford and we hope that you will help us get it off the ground. For more details contact 01322 862951.

Swanley Regeneration and the “Mastervision”

Cllr Michael Horwood – Sevenoaks District Councillor for Eynsford

The regeneration of Swanley Town Centre has been on the cards for many years but regrettably very little has been done to achieve it due to a lack of momentum due to a number of issues. The majority of the Town Centre is owned by a private development company (U+I).



In discussions with U+I, Sevenoaks District Council has sought to develop a wider strategy for the redevelopment of Swanley by creating a new planning document called “The Swanley & Hextable Mastervision”, which is looking long term at how the town should ambitiously grow and what infrastructure needs to be put into place to do so.

The ‘Mastervision’ is currently out for consultation and much of the context is very much a ‘wishlist’ which contains a number of objectives to regenerate the town. Some of these proposals include moving the train station down the tracks into the town centre to ; the creation of a new ‘hub’ station in the east of Swanley and naturally the proposed growth of housing in the east of the town.

Alongside the Mastervision, a recent planning application has been put in by U+I for a radical redevelopment of the town centre. The application proposes a number of high rise buildings with

residential units above retail and office space on the ground floors, as well as multi storey car parks. The residential units will be 1/3 available to buy and 2/3 available to private rent. It is anticipated the style of the development will be very high quality internally and will attract people from the wider area in Kent and South East London.

Furthermore the application includes proposals for several restaurants, bars and a more vibrant ‘night time economy’. Currently after 6pm the only shop that is generally open is ASDA, whilst this application makes provision for many new shops, bars and restaurants to stay open until the late evening.

There are naturally many concerns from Swanley residents about parking, school places, GPs’ surgeries, but also the fact that one of the residential buildings is proposed to be thirteen storeys in height, with the majority around eight.

The application is currently being considered by Sevenoaks District Council and will be determined at the Development Control (planning) Committee at the very end of October or start of November.

Cllr Michael Horwood – Sevenoaks District Councillor for Eynsford
E-mail: Cllr.horwood@sevenoaks.gov.uk Mobile: 07815483891

How We Can Help

Eynsford Parish Council can help you with a variety of everyday services:

- We hold bin bags & dog poo bags provided by Sevenoaks District Council which you can pick up from the parish office during opening hours.
- You can come and photocopy your documents for a small charge or use our laminator. Please call 01322 865320 in advance to check that it is convenient.
- You can look at planning applications that we hold, by appointment.

Let us know if there is anything else you think we could offer!