



SAVE THE DATE!



Eynsford Parish Council

**ANNUAL PARISH
MEETING 2014**

**Friday 16th May,
Eynsford Village Hall**

In our next issue will be details of our exciting new-format event - a great opportunity to find out what goes on in your village, not only from the parish council, but also from other agencies that provide services to our village. There will be a chance to ask questions, to chat & mingle and to find out more!

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



Winter News 2014

from
EYNSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Welcome to the Winter newsletter from Eynsford Parish Council.



Photo by Guy Williams

As this goes to print, the water is starting to recede, but many have suffered from flooding, wind damage, power cuts and more over the last month. Do let us know how the authorities have responded to any requests for help, so that we can follow up if necessary.

In this edition you will find articles on street lighting, twinning, boundary changes, school run and more. Let us know if your group would like to contribute an article in a future edition.

We have received information about the powers of local councils and landowners to evict unauthorised travellers and illegal encampments from their land. Vulnerable land can be protected in advance, enforcement notices can be served, fines can be made and the police can be involved. For more information go to www.gov.uk

Let us know what issues concern you on our Facebook page.

Holly Ivaldi, Clerk

Eynsford Parish Council, Parish Office, Priory Lane, Eynsford DA4 0AY; 01322 865320; eynsford.pc@tiscali.co.uk

Eynsford is Getting Bigger!

Councillor Phil Ward

In 2015 following a boundary review, the parish of Eynsford will become significantly larger with the inclusion of land at Austin Lodge.



Government guidance states that principle councils such as Sevenoaks consider conducting a boundary review of parishes every 10-15 years. In Sevenoaks, the last review was completed in 1999 so it was agreed by the Sevenoaks Electoral Arrangements Committee that another review be conducted.

In November 2011, a review process commenced allowing parishes and other interested parties to make recommendations to the committee. To ensure suggestions were balanced, as there will always be more than one parish involved, parishes were encouraged to demonstrate that suitable consultation had taken place between the interested parties.

Eynsford councillors took the opportunity to raise the issue of Austin Lodge Golf Club where there was an obvious anomaly. Currently the club and golf course are part of Shoreham Parish even though the only road access to the site is from Eynsford. Shoreham and Eynsford councils consulted and agreed this anomaly was worthy of including in the review and proposed changing the boundary to move the club buildings within Eynsford. Sevenoaks council accepted this but preferred to keep the club buildings and golf course together. Therefore, in the final published recommendation, the golf course and all club buildings will be within the boundary of Eynsford. The main impact of the boundary change will be that any planning issues at the golf course will now be considered by Eynsford Parish Council rather than Shoreham.

This recommendation will become effective in May 2015 at the time of the full parish council elections.

Austin Lodge golfers – Welcome to Eynsford.

awards. Now known as Eynsford in Bloom, the Group won Silver Gilt in both the “South and South East in Bloom” and “Britain in Bloom” Events in 2013; a magnificent achievement.

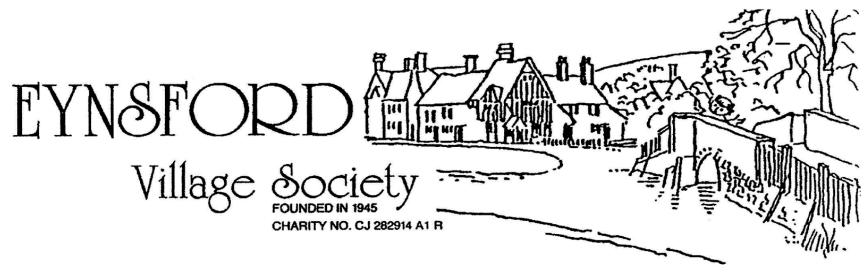
Eynsford in Bloom organises its own fundraising and has financial support from the Parish Council. The Eynsford Village Society pays for its insurance, tools and their Presentation Evening which took place in November. The Society's fundraising, including the recent Christmas Quiz, assists with this. It has also allowed us to contribute to a new Village seat by the Five Bells and will help with a Public Art project, planned to commence in 2014.



Everyone in the Village is automatically a member of the Eynsford Village Society, and is welcome to attend meetings. Dates are in Trident and further information can be obtained from Sally Coston (01322 866102) or Phil Blakemore (01322 861372).

*Spring flowers planted by
Eynsford in Bloom*

Eynsford Village Society's Annual General Meeting will be held on Friday 21st March 2014 at 7.30pm in the Eynsford Village Hall. Groups and organisations in the village will present reports on their activities over the past twelve months. The meeting will be followed by a free cheese and wine buffet and we will be delighted to see you there.



Some information on Eynsford Village Society

Philip Blakemore

Eynsford Village Society was formed in June 1945. Over the years it has arranged numerous events in the Village, many of which have now been taken on by separate organisations.

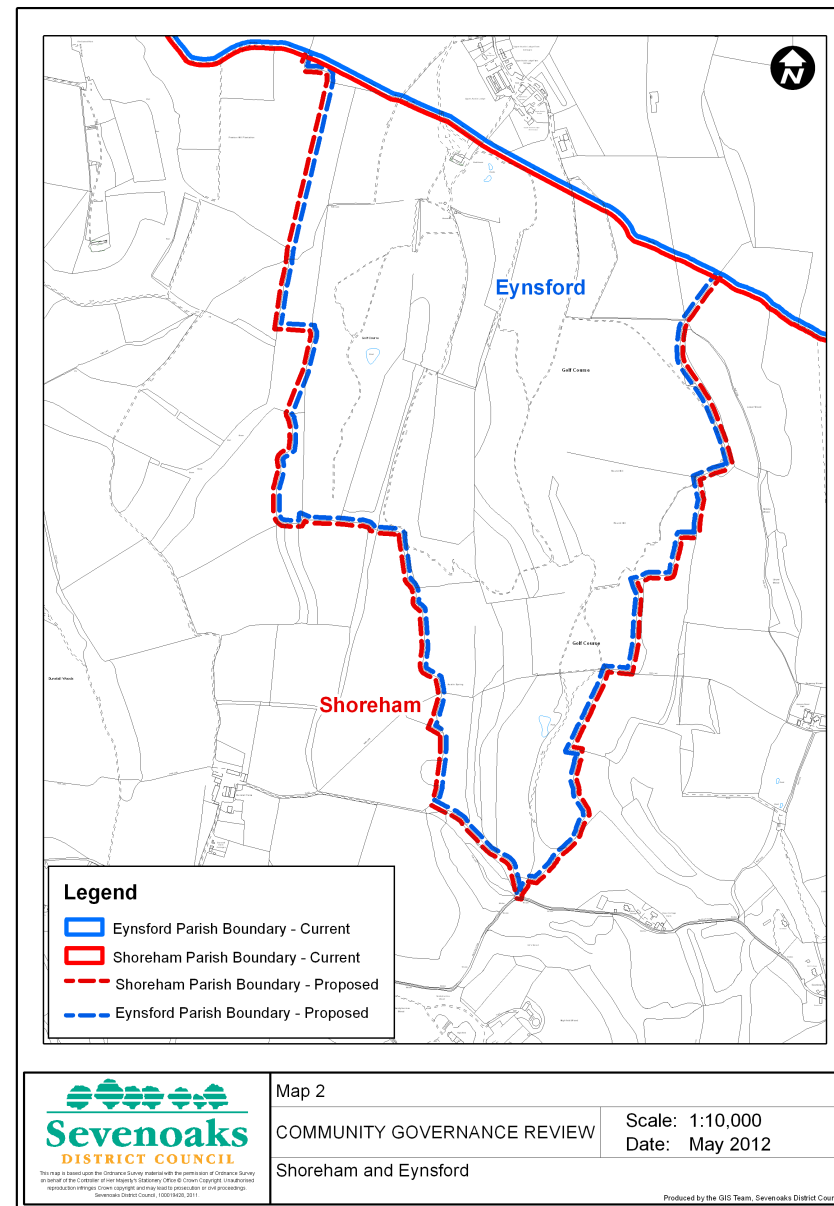
The Society now acts as an umbrella group for clubs and organisations in Eynsford. It meets bimonthly in the Baptist Church and hears reports of Village activities, including reports from local churches, Parish Council and our local Sevenoaks District Councillor.



Tug of War at Eynsfest

The Society takes on projects which are not dealt with by the Parish Council and do not fall under the remit of other organisations. Examples of these were the Millennium Celebrations, purchase of Millfield, Percy Pilcher Memorial and Eynsfest weekend to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and London Olympics.

After the Hurricane in 1987 members of the EVS Committee got together and formed the Best Kept Village Group. Since then the Group has done tremendous work around the Village winning many



The dotted line shows the new boundary between Eynsford and Shoreham.

Village Lighting & Our New Four Year Plan

Councillor Kate Wright, Chair of Highways & Transportation



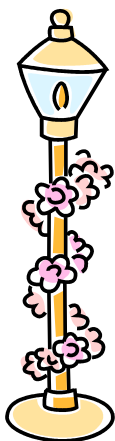
Since our last newsletter update on street lighting in Eynsford, we're pleased to report that our street lighting contract with, 'Streetlights' (formerly Direct Technical Services), has been working well and we have met all essential targets within our five year street lighting plan. Regulatory and efficiency issues have been addressed, such as the replacement of old mercury bulbs and we continue to ensure that on-going maintenance is carried out to provide safe and effective lighting for our streets.



As you can imagine, weather such as the recent wet and windy conditions

does have a considerable effect on the equipment so this is a significant and essential task. Although they should be picked up by 'Streetlights' in their regular patrols, if you notice any damaged columns or lanterns, please do let us know.

We have now agreed and budgeted for a new rolling 4 year plan to ensure that the good work continues and our lighting remains safe and effective. Within the plan, we intend to continue the replacement of old columns and lanterns, and have also implemented measures to reduce costs to the Parish as much as possible. This includes buying in advance sufficient lanterns to cover all of our needs within the four year plan at the current cost, before the price doubles in 2014!



Your parish council is always keen to hear from parishioners, so if anyone has any comments about the quality or amount of street lighting in Eynsford we would be very pleased to receive them. Please contact us at eynsford.pc@tiscali.co.uk.

We urge all parents to encourage their children to wear the hi-viz jackets which are on loan to them and have been individually named. When your child leaves the school please return the jacket so they can be reused. The jackets have been funded by money from Sevenoaks District Council, Eynsford Parish Council and Farningham Parish Council.

A special assembly on school run safety has been held by two parents from the SRSC. Tania Birch-Springate and Mel Foster-Young talked with the children about how they get to school and what constitutes safe and responsible parking.

Proposals for a "walking bus" from Farningham are no longer being pursued. ARPS Governors have said they would not allow the scheme due to safety and insurance issues. It cannot go ahead without their support.

Kent Highway Services' revised highways scheme for the area around the school has been reviewed by the Parish Council and we've returned some comments for consideration. Kent Highway Services have reported the following on this scheme:



"Proposals for a series of measures to ease the traffic and parking problems, including yellow lines, were shared with the School Run Safety Campaign at the end of last year. They are now being costed up to see what demands they would make on KCC funding. Once this is completed, the proposals will go to public consultation, possibly in the spring"

We will report once we receive further news on this scheme.



New dog bin at Lullingstone Park which was requested by Eynsford residents.

We came, we saw, we ate..

Holly Ivaldi, Eynsford Twinning Committee

Members of the newly formed twinning committee visited Camphin en Pevele (near Lille) in November on a very cold day. We went to meet with the mayor and other local residents to find out more about their village and to talk about twinning. We were greeted with coffee and pain au chocolate, and had a short tour of the village including its two primary school - one state, one catholic, and the church which has been substantially rebuilt since the war. Our visit concluded with a lovely meal at the Lille FC training centre which is very close to Camphin en Pevele.



School Run Safety Campaign (SRSC)

Alison Carter - SRSC

We're delighted to report that nearly all pupils at Anthony Roper Primary School and the Nursery Unit have now been issued with a high visibility jacket to wear on their way to and from school - (apologies Year 6, yours are on their way very soon!) There's been a great response from the children, parents and the school and we hope you agree they make the children look more visible and therefore safer on the school run.



Since then, the committee has met a couple of times to explore further how a twinning would work, both practically and constitutionally. We see the main benefits as making relationships with

people from a different culture, finding out about similarities and differences, improving our French and visiting some interesting places too! Camphin is located between Lille and Tournai (in Belgium). Although we went by mini bus, it can also be easily accessed by Eurostar.

We are having ongoing correspondence with the French village to

find out further information about them. The school connection would be very good with the same age group and similar numbers to our own school. One of the teachers from Anthony Roper School came on the visit with us and was able to talk to the teachers there.

We have invited a group from Camphin to come to Eynsford in the spring and will work out more detailed plans with them.

We are also looking at setting up a larger twinning group or association which is likely to be membership based. We also hope to put on a presentation to other Eynsford residents in due course.

As I have said before we hope there will be opportunities for all sorts of interest groups and societies to get involved from sport, to music, to gardening - the options are endless!



Meanwhile, we would like to gauge your interest on the form below.

Cut here

Please fill in and return this slip to the parish office, or email your responses to eynsfordtwinning@yahoo.co.uk:

Name/s:

I / we are interested in a twinning with a village in France Y / N

I / we would be interested in joining a twinning association Y / N

Please give details of any particular group or society you are part of that might like to have an exchange in the future:

I would like to be added to an email mailing list to hear more about twinning in Eynsford Y / N

Please provide your email address here:

Unauthorised work on land at Sparepenny Lane

Sevenoaks District Councillor Michael Horwood



In November last year, I was contacted by a number of concerned residents regarding land work that had been carried out on Sparepenny Lane (land almost opposite the entrance to Crockenhill Lane).

Some people may know that this plot of land has been the subject of numerous planning applications over the years. The land is situated in the green belt, which gives it substantial planning protection against development. Despite this, owners of the land have tried to build on it and only last year a further application was submitted which was unanimously refused by Sevenoaks District Council's planning committee and then refused further on appeal by a planning inspector.

The land has since exchanged hands and a new owner has attempted to try their luck in building on the land. They have carried out a large amount of land works in order to prepare the land for an application, some of which has broken planning law. Sevenoaks District Council has formally warned the owner about this breach, which has stopped any further development work being carried out.

Since that point, noting the considerable disruption of the land upon investigation, Sevenoaks District Council also applied Tree Protection Orders (TPOs) to several specimens of trees on the land. This means that the trees are protected by law and any attempt to remove or damage them would make an individual liable for prosecution.

To the date of writing this article (20th January 2014), no planning application has been submitted, but any residents concerned about this land should contact me at cllr.horwood@sevenoaks.gov.uk and I will keep them informed of any further developments.