

# Langdon Parish Council

March 2019

## PARISH UPDATE

**This current spell of exceptionally warm weather is in sharp contrast to this time last year when “The Beast from the East” made a brief icy visit!**

The early spring-like conditions have brought forward a colourful show of crocuses and daffodils to complement the snowdrops in the hedges.



### COMMONWEALTH DAY 11<sup>th</sup> March

We invite you to join us in a community event on East Langdon village green where, at 10.00am, the Commonwealth Flag will be raised by children from Langdon Primary School.



In 2019 we mark the 70th anniversary of the modern Commonwealth, embracing over 2 billion citizens across 53 countries. The theme 'A Connected Commonwealth' speaks of the enduring practical value and global engagement made possible as a result of the determination of our culturally diverse and widely dispersed family of nations to cooperate and work together in friendship and goodwill.

But the weather can drop back to wintry conditions as we experienced on 23rd January so enjoy this unusually warm spell while it lasts!



### — BE PREPARED —

So far we have avoided the “B” word in newsletter articles but as we approach March 29th with no Brexit agreement as yet it is possible that Dover district might experience disruption to travel, local services and business operations associated with freight movements to and from the port. Dover District Council has been considering possible scenarios, working with the Kent Resilience Forum, to publish online information at [www.dover.gov.uk/brexit](http://www.dover.gov.uk/brexit) and [www.kentprepared.org.uk](http://www.kentprepared.org.uk)

*Be sure to take a look!*

### By Popular Request ...

## OLD HAT JAZZ BAND



### East Langdon Parish Hall Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm Jazz Club Evening

**Book a table—bring your own food and drink**

Tickets: Adult £10, Child (Under 16) £8

Box office 01304 853565 or 01304 852097

email Chris Shaw on: [shawc01@hotmail.com](mailto:shawc01@hotmail.com)

# PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

## Langdon Parish Council Annual Budget 2019 –2020

The Parish Council has set a budget of £16,868 for the new financial year, having taken into account some extra expenditure expected during the period. Although some budget headings have been increased, others have been reduced or removed to reflect changes in the council's priorities. It was agreed that increased allocations would be budgeted for community projects, celebration events, council elections, councillor training and repairs to noticeboards and other parish furniture. The total resource required for 2019– 2020 would be £16,868. The precept would be set at £14,780.34, the shortfall being taken from council reserves. This precept represents a small increase of £1.53 (2.5%) on last year's band "D" parish council tax contribution. For more information see the January 2019 council minutes (Appendix A) at [www.langdonpc.kentparishes.gov.uk](http://www.langdonpc.kentparishes.gov.uk).

## Health and Safety - Words of Advice and Guidance.

Since last September, there have been at least TWO road traffic accidents within the parish of Langdon. Each of these incidents occurred on a bend. Bends on country roads often are associated with blind sections. Country lane driving requires the basic skill of ensuring that your way ahead is clear by the use of visible sight lines linked with an appropriate allowance to stop safely. At the risk of appearing patronising and offending the pride of drivers, there comes a time when each of us, regardless of driving experience, needs to take stock. It has been noted that a frequent error is for drivers to cut corners at road junctions particularly when turning right. These manoeuvres are often at a speed that makes little allowance for any traffic that may be approaching that same junction from the opposite direction. That traffic could range from a pedestrian, a horse rider, a cyclist, a car, a lorry, a bus or one of the enormous tractors that one now encounters. Given the passage of time and the driving conduct described, there is grave concern that very soon there will be a serious incident on the Parish country lanes. Take care!

## Scams and Door to Door Collections—Beware!

Even since the introduction of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) in May 2018, there are still several email scams and dark threats that appear in one's email account.

The most frequently distributed scams claim to have been sent by organisations of which we are very familiar. These messages can be quite convincing and range from TV Licence enforcement threats to tax refunds and interruption of your banking facilities. An indication of a scam could be contained in the grammar and spelling. In England, we need a TV licence not a TV license! Best advice is to delete the email without responding and *Never click on a link in such messages!*

Please remember if the offer appears too good to be true, it often is! Please do not give sensitive bank account details to any unknown person: Banks will never ask you to disclose your PIN.

You are respectfully reminded that those engaged on door to door charity money collections need a valid licence issued solely by Dover District Council. Your Parish Council is informed by DDC Licencing that charities collecting direct debit pledges are not subject to those same rules.

**\*Courier Fraud Scam Alert\*** - recent reports of residents in Walmer and Deal falling for this phone scam.

The Kent County Council website has advice on Trading Standards and how to avoid scams.

## Parish Council Elections May 2<sup>nd</sup>

The next Parish Council elections will be held on Thursday 2nd May. If you have a genuine interest in what happens in your local area why not consider standing for election as a parish councillor? See the back page for more information and talk to a serving councillor about what is involved.

## Annual Parish Meeting April 15<sup>th</sup>

The parish is obliged to hold an annual meeting at which local residents can receive reports and ask questions of the parish council. This is an informal community event where local organisations are invited to make presentations and meet with other parishioners. The guest speaker for the evening will be announced nearer the time. See the parish council website or notice boards for announcements.

## Potholes, Street Lights and other Highways Issues

Did you know that anyone can report a Highways problem via the KCC website? There is a short video clip to guide you through the reporting process if you need help. Go to [www.kent.gov.uk](http://www.kent.gov.uk) and look for "Report a Problem" under the **Roads and Travel** section. You can track the progress of your report.

## Dog Fouling and Public Health

We know that the vast majority of dog owners are considerate and not leaving any dog mess around the parish. However it only takes one or two inconsiderate dog owners to bring all others a bad name. Joan Miller (West Langdon) writes "*We are lucky to have village greens in both East and West Langdon, available for the use and enjoyment of all. However, lately there has been an increase in dog fouling. The results are very unpleasant for the local residents who voluntarily mow and trim our greens. Please be considerate to all and PICK UP AFTER YOUR DOG*". Similar problems are occurring on the playing field and in the hedges.



## CHURCH NEWS AND OTHER EVENTS

### CHURCH SERVICES

You are warmly invited to join us:

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March**

**MOTHERING SUNDAY** - Family Service - 10.00 am East Langdon (combined EL & WL)

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April**  
**PALM SUNDAY**

- Communion (BCP) - 9.30 am West Langdon (combined EL & WL)

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April**  
**EASTER DAY**

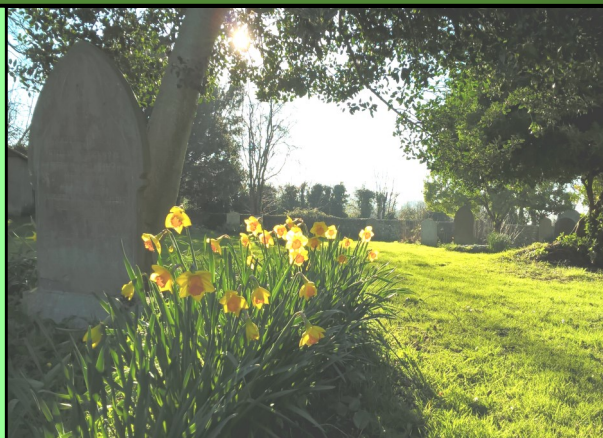
- Family Communion - 10.00am East Langdon (combined EL & WL)

### SPRINGTIME AT ST AUGUSTINE'S



**The church grounds  
are always open.**

Why not take time to  
call in and enjoy the  
peace and tranquillity  
among the daffodils,  
crocuses and flowering  
trees?



### ANNUAL FARMWALK

The highly popular West Langdon Farm Walk at Maydensole Farm will be held on Sunday June 9<sup>th</sup> at 3pm followed by tea in the garden from 4.00pm.

### LANGDON TOAD WATCH

A sure sign of Spring will be when our love-sick toads make their annual migration to East Langdon pond. Typically about 500 are helped across the roads by members of the Kent Reptile & Amphibian Group and local volunteers. Dedicated Krag members travel from as far as Canterbury and Whitstable to assist the toads but they could do with local help. If you would like to take part, give Chris Shaw a ring on 852097 to check for a toad update! Car drivers, please pass by with care.



### ? LANGDON QUIZ NIGHT ?

Saturday 4th May in East Langdon Parish Hall  
Join us for a bit of fun and raise funds for the hall.  
Call Veronica on 07939 144649 to book a table.

### HISTORIC LANGDON



The Four Bells, East Langdon circa 1952

Do you have any photographs of Langdon in a bygone era? We would love to hear from you!

Chris Shaw

### THANKS TO THE LITTER-PICKERS

A special mention is due to all the local residents who cut the grass areas and pick up litter around the parish. At this time of year when the hedges are bare, the discarded rubbish is more obvious. One of the most unpleasant sights is of plastic bags of dog waste left hanging from bushes. **Stop it!**



## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### EAST LANGDON PARISH HALL

The Ceiling and LED Lighting Project has been completed and the hall looks much cleaner and brighter for the effort. Our thanks go to KCC and the parish council for supporting the improvement works. **Parish Hall Security Policy:** As part of a review, the hall keysafe code has been changed. Phone Chris Shaw on 07971 579096 for more details.



Need for a venue to hold a **children's party**? East Langdon Parish Hall is available for hire at reasonable rates and with good parking. Contact Chris Shaw on 852097 for hall hire details.

#### Regular Activities at East Langdon Parish Hall

Activity	Days	Times
Langdon Post Office	Tuesday and Thursday Mornings	9 – 12noon
Coffee Mornings	Tuesday Mornings	10 – 11.30
Langdon Short Mat Bowls Club	Tuesday and Friday Evenings	7 – 9pm
Dog Training Classes	Wednesday (am) and Thursday Evenings	9 – 12noon 5.30 – 9pm
Dog Training Classes	Wednesday Evenings (not all year)	7.30-9.30pm
Parish Council	Third Monday in each Month	7.30-9.30pm
Langdon School Dance Class	Wednesday Afternoons (Term time)	1.30-3pm
Keep Fit Club	Saturday Mornings	9 – 10am
Village Meetings	Wednesday Evenings	7pm

The Langdon Newsletter is funded and published by the parish council four times a year. It is distributed free to every household in the parish to keep in touch with our residents. If you would like to contribute an article please contact the editor, Chris Shaw. We would love to hear from you!

### LANGDON PARISH COUNCILLORS

#### The Council

Cllr Chris Shaw (Chairman)	01304 852097
Cllr Tony Minns (Vice chair)	01304 852810
Cllr Shaun Craft	01304 820097
Cllr John Dyer	01304 852772
Cllr Darren Jarvis	07718 881815
Cllr Barbara Price-Stephens	07818 851180
Cllr Jane Watson	07930 828635

### PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2019

**Have you thought of becoming a Dover District or Parish Councillor?** Councillors come from all walks of life, age groups and backgrounds, and play a key role in shaping the future of their local communities. If you have a genuine interest in what happens in Dover District, and want to represent your local community, why not come along to an information evening at the Dover District Council offices in Whitfield at 6pm on Monday 4 March.

The next District Council and Parish Council elections will be held on Thursday 2 May 2019. The prospective councillor event is being organised by the DDC Elections Team and will explain the process involved in standing for election. Nomination Packs will be available for collection after the presentation. For more information or book a place please email [elections@dover.gov.uk](mailto:elections@dover.gov.uk) or call 01304 872344.

### PUBLIC DEFIBRILLATOR

**Located at The Reception Office, Hawthorn Farm Holiday Park, Martin Mill**

The defibrillator is owned and managed by Langdon Parish Council, accessible 24/7.

**In the event of an emergency FIRST DIAL 999 and ask for an ambulance.**



**This information is posted on all parish council notice boards.**

### USEFUL INFORMATION

**Post Office:** Tuesday and Thursday 9.00-12.00  
East Langdon parish hall.

**Coffee morning:** Tuesday 10.00 - 11.30 EL parish hall.

**Milk delivery:** Dairy Crest 0845 606 3606

**Community Warden:** . Call 07977 982184

**PCSO Oliver Parker:-** Call 101

**Parish website:** [www.langdonpc.kentparishes.gov.uk](http://www.langdonpc.kentparishes.gov.uk)

**Vicar, Rev Diane Fawcett:** 01304 852179

**East Langdon Parish Hall:** 01304 852097

**Langdon Playing Field:** [langdonpfa@gmail.com](mailto:langdonpfa@gmail.com)

### Parish Council Meetings

**East Langdon Parish Hall**

March 18th - 7.30pm

April 15th - 7.00 -7.30pm

**Annual Parish Meeting**

April 15th - 7.30pm

### PARISH CLERK

Mr David Willett, Forge Cottage, The Street, East Langdon, CT15 5JH. Telephone 01304 853527  
Email: [clerk@langdonpc.kentparishes.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@langdonpc.kentparishes.gov.uk)