

Langdon Parish Council

July 2021

PARISH UPDATE

As schools break up for the summer, the warm sunny weather certainly gives a feeling of release from the Covid-19 measures which have restricted our daily lives. Our local wildlife is taking full advantage of the warm conditions; birds are busy foraging to feed their hatchlings, and hedgerows have an abundance of flowers to which butterflies are attracted!



Too hot for some!
Three-legged cat Pepper is a frequent visitor to St Augustine's churchyard.

Conversations with residents reveal an air of caution not to relax health measures like respecting social distancing and the wearing of masks whilst shopping.

Our behaviour over the next few weeks will affect how the levels of Coronavirus could change for the worse and force another lockdown period.

'Hands, Face, Space. And let fresh air in'

Coming Out of Lockdown

A Community Gathering has been suggested as a way to remember and overcome the effects that the Coronavirus has had on our recent way of life. Please see the main article on page 3 for more details.

Road Safety in our Narrow Lanes

Even at the best of times, most of our lanes are little more than single track width but with seasonal hedgerow growth, the visibility and narrowness are further reduced. Yet some drivers seem oblivious to potential dangers! Add in the cyclists, pedestrians and horse riders out enjoying the good weather and these so-called designated "quiet" country roads have a higher risk of accidents.

As road users we all need to be aware of the hazards when using the rural routes and adjust our speeds accordingly. There is a timely reminder from The British Horse Society which points out that "An increase in the number of reported incidents involving horses and vehicles nationally has prompted a campaign to raise awareness so motorists know how to drive around equestrians on the road."

The BHS "Dead Slow" campaign can be found at: www.bhs.org.uk/our-work/safety/dead-slow

Rural Policing in Kent

The Spring 2021 edition of the publication "Rural Matters" from the Kent Police Rural Task Force is a roundup of all the advice, news and crimes in the Kent countryside.

A copy is available to download from the parish

PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDERS

Dover District Council has powers to make PSPOs which specify areas where activities take place which are likely to be detrimental to the local community's quality of life.

The current PSPO, which includes two areas in our parish: the playing field enclosed play area: **No dogs allowed** and

St Augustine's church yard: **Dogs to be kept on a lead**, will be extended by Dover District Council until 26th July 2022. An additional restriction which will **require dog owners to remove dog faeces forthwith** may be added to cover all of Landon Playing Field, it being open land to which the public have access. DDC will launch a district-wide consultation later this year.



DOG WASTE BIN AT MARTIN MILL

DDC has agreed to provide a new general litter bin which can also take dog waste. To be sited at the top of Hollands Hill by footpath ER47, this bin should help reduce the amount of dog faeces often seen along the footpath route to East Langdon.

The parish council is grateful to DDC Cllr Martin Bates for supporting our request.



East Langdon Cricket Club circa 1920
Can you help to identify the members?

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Langdon Parish Council Chairman's Report, Annual Parish Meeting 24th May 2021

At the risk of stating the obvious, this last year was potentially "a Perfect Storm" scenario; the outbreak of the Coronavirus pandemic and the UK Brexit transition period.

Within the parish, particularly during the Covid lockdown restrictions, it was very noticeable that more people were at home, either having been furloughed or working remotely. Personally I saw more residents out on their daily exercise walks, in the lanes and on the footpaths. This networking, together with the increase in social media exchanges, gave a very encouraging picture of Langdon's community spirit. Local businesses stepped in to supply home delivery and food take-away services to isolation residents, and neighbours looked out for each other. Some residents continued to socialise following the Thursday evening "Clap for the NHS" initiative and there have been litter-picking patrols, Easter Egg hunts and Friday evening drinks get-togethers, all within the Covid guidelines!

The parish council continued to meet monthly throughout 2020, only two meetings in March and August being in the hall, the rest being by Zoom remote sessions. The meetings were joined by a few members of the public and we got through the council business but sometimes the quality of the Internet connection tested our patience. Hopefully as the Covid-19 spread is controlled, we can return to the normal physical meetings.

A summary of the parish council's business during the year included:

Planning: 14 applications considered, compared to 11 in 2019. Mostly house extensions but Solton Manor featured on several applications as the business operation was scrutinised.

New District Local Plan: The parish council has responded to the first round of consultations, having invited local residents to share their comments.

Street Lighting: Contractual disputes between DDC and the contractor UK Power Networks are hampering the maintenance repair schedules for street lighting across the district, including several in Langdon.

East Langdon Road Flooding and Village Pond: KCC Highways completed a long-awaited soakaway project at the village green and since January the "Langdon Lagoon" has not been seen. **The village pond**, being the responsibility of the Church Farm Mews residents, remains silted up and the usual wildlife is not to be seen there. Hopefully a clearance programme will be drawn up to restore the pond to its former healthy state.

Traffic Calming: There are frequent reports of traffic exceeding the local speed limits and using our narrow lanes as a cut-through route between the A258 and the A2. There have been several collision incidents and near misses reported in our country lanes. Traffic flow data will be captured to show the extent of the problem.

Street Parking at Martin Mill: Since lockdown, fewer commuter cars are being parked in Station Road. Assuming Covid restriction are lifted then discussions will be resumed with southeastern management to find a solution to the on-street parking that has caused so much inconvenience to local residents.

Broadband Services: As mentioned earlier, the speed and reliability of Internet services has been an issue in our rural location. Working from Home and an increase in on-line entertainment has highlighted the need to upgrade the rural connectivity with fibre routes and faster data speeds.

Finance and Annual Budget: The annual parish precept remains at £14,770 for 2021 as it was in 2020. The council budget has increased from £16,686 to £21,950, the shortfall being taken from reserve funds.

Future Projects:

Neighbourhood Plan, Environmental Projects, Greener Energy, Parish Road Management Plan.

Finally – My thanks go to everyone who strives to make Langdon a great place to live,- our residents, our parish councillors and clerk, KCC and Dover District Councillors, Community Warden and our new PCSO.

Chris Shaw, Chairman, Langdon Parish Council.

Other parish council news in brief:

Planning Application for Water Treatment Plant, North East of Martin Gorse, Martin.

Southern Water plan to install a new nitrate removal system to improve local water quality. During the construction phase, Archers Court Road and Waterworks Hill could be subject to traffic delays.

Langdon Parish Council Website: Please note the new website is www.langdonpc.org.uk. The clerk and chairman email addresses are clerk@langdonpc.org.uk and chair@langdonpc.org.uk.

New Dover District Local Plan Consultation: The 3475 public comments submitted earlier this year can be viewed online at: <https://dover-consult.objective.co.uk/kse>. The updated plan will be published early 2022.

Public Rights of Way: Kent County Council is responsible for the registration and management of public footpaths, bridleways and BOATs. To view the on-line maps or report a problem visit www.kent.gov.uk/environment-waste-and-planning/public-rights-of-way. You will need to create an account to log an issue.

Street Lighting Repairs: DDC is working with their contractors to repair all faulty lamps by October.

CHURCH NEWS AND OTHER EVENTS

CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday 1 st August	Family Service	9.30 am	St Augustine's, East Langdon
Sunday 8 th August	Communion BCP	9.30 am	St Augustine's, East Langdon
Sunday 22 nd August	Communion CW	9.30 am	St Augustine's, East Langdon
Sunday 15 th Nov.	Communion BCP	9.30 am	St Mary's, West Langdon

COMING OUT OF LOCKDOWN - A COMMUNITY GATHERING

To mark the return to more normal pre-Covid social conditions, the proposal is to hold a Sunday morning event on 12th September in East Langdon to which all Langdon residents are invited. Starting with a community service in St Augustine's Church, it will be an opportunity to remember those family members and friends who died or were impacted by Covid-19. Following the service, we invite everyone to gather on the village green to enjoy some refreshments and entertainment. Of course this will be dependent on how the Covid infection rates change in the meantime but let's plan for the Sunday event. More details to follow.

COFFEE MORNING CLUB

The Coffee Club has started again on Tuesdays mornings from 10 to 11.30am in East Langdon Parish Hall.

Why not drop in for a drink and chat?

Everybody is welcome!



EAST LANGDON PARISH HALL

The parish hall is starting to accept bookings for small scale events now that Covid-19 restrictions are lifted. Hirers must follow public health guidelines to minimise close contact and hygiene measures to reduce the risk of Covid infection.

Please contact Chris Shaw on 07971 579096 or email eastlangdonparishhall@gmail.com.

New Activities at the Parish Hall

Yoga Classes

Contact Charlotte Burnap
07984 508413

Sewing Group

Contact Nikki Poulton
1npoulton@gmail.com

CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT

16th October, Langdon Village Hall

£5 per person, 6 per table.
BYOB. To book or buy raffle tickets, call Hazel: 07310840780

Win movie premier tickets, travel and overnight stay at a hotel.

LANGDON PLAYING FIELD

The first of two new picnic benches, funded by the parish council, is now installed at the field, thanks to committee member Tony Minns who built them.

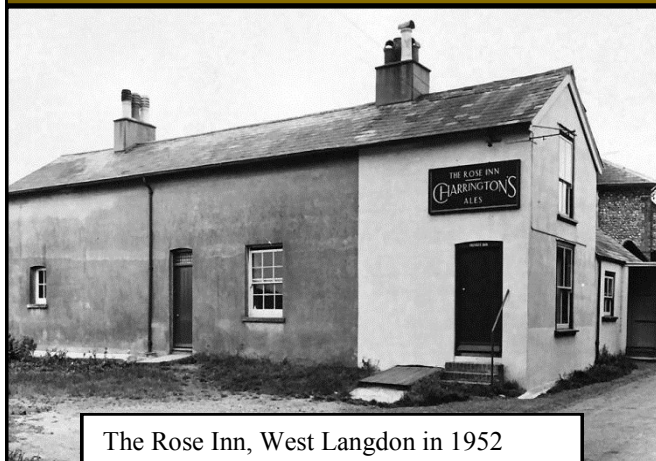


Other maintenance tasks are on our to-do list and we could do with extra help to get them done. This year the LPFA funds are not so healthy due to the impact of Covid-19 restrictions and yet the annual insurance policy has gone up by £200 to £1655. The field donations are an important top-up income and we ask all visitors to make a donation on each visit. Anyone who uses the field for personal gain eg. running a class, will be asked to make a suggested £5 donation each time.

The field committee, all unpaid volunteers, hope you will understand our reasoning for this decision.

Chris Shaw LPFA secretary

FOR YOUR INFORMATION



The Rose Inn, West Langdon in 1952

The Rose Inn at West Langdon was licensed as a shop and beer house in 1851. It closed in 1978 and is now known as Old Rose Farm.

The websites www.dover-kent.com/Rose-Inn-West-Langdon.html and www.mustrad.org.uk/articles/g_spice2.htm record the Inn's past history and some of the colourful local characters who were associated with West Langdon. You may recognise some of the family names mentioned in the texts as still residing in the district. Our thanks to the websites authors for the research information.

ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING

Kent County Council is committed to helping the residents and businesses of Kent switch to more sustainable modes of travel such as walking, cycling and using public transport.

KCC wants to help enable the use of low carbon transport modes, such as electric vehicles (EVs). Providing adequate electric vehicle charge-points across the county is a very important part of KCC's strategic plan to achieve carbon neutrality in Kent by 2050.

Community locations such as village hall car parks with 24/7 access are considered ideal locations where residents may not have their own charging points or easy access to commercial charging points.

The parish council would be pleased to hear your views on this project before deciding how to respond. More information can be found online by searching

["Parish EV project - Kent County Council"](#)

USEFUL INFORMATION

PUBLIC DEFIBRILLATORS

Martin Mill: The Reception Office, Hawthorn Farm Holiday Park, Station Road, CT15 5LA.
what3words ///headings.spearhead.trickle

East Langdon: East Langdon Parish Hall, The Street, CT15 5JF.
what3words ///profited.teach.degree



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

This Newsletter is usually published by the parish council four times a year and distributed to all Langdon households.

To contribute an article or help deliver, please email the editor Chris Shaw on shawc01@hotmail.com.

LANGDON PARISH COUNCILLORS

The Council

Cllr Chris Shaw (Chairman)	East Langdon	01304 852097
Cllr Tony Minns (Vice chair)	Martin	01304 852810
Cllr Shaun Craft	West Langdon	01304 820097
Cllr John Dyer	Martin	01304 852772
Cllr Barbara Price-Stephens	Martin Mill	07818 851180
Cllr Jane Watson	Martin Mill	07930 828635
Cllr Seb Willett	East Langdon	07530 189539

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

Coffee morning: Tuesdays 10 - 11.30am in the parish hall

Milk delivery: Dairy Crest 0845 606 3606

Community Warden: Steve Noddings 07977 982184

PCSO :- River Jarvis Call 101

Parish website: www.langdonpc.kentparishes.gov.uk

Vicar: Rev Karen Reeves: 01304 853962

East Langdon Parish Hall: 01304 852097

Langdon Playing Field: langdonpfa@gmail.com

The Lantern Inn, Martin: 01304 852276

Grapevine Café & Shop, MM Campsite: 01304 853001

Langdon Primary School: 01304 852600

Parish Council Meetings

Every 3rd Monday of the month

August 16th - 7.30pm

September 20th - 7.30pm

October 18th - 7.30pm

in East Langdon Parish Hall

Please check public noticeboards or
www.langdonpc.org.uk for details

PARISH CLERK

Mr David Willett, Forge Cottage, The Street, East Langdon, CT15 5JH. Telephone 01304 853527

Email: clerk@langdonpc.org.uk Chairman: chair@langdonpc.org.uk Langdon PC Website: www.langdonpc.org.uk