



Newsletter

October 2020

Contact the Council

Office address:

20-22 Maypole Road
Ashurst Wood RH19 3QN

Office hours:

Monday - Wednesday, 9am – 12.30pm
Thursday, 9am – 12 noon

email: clerk@ashurstwood-vc.gov.uk

phone: 01342 823770

We are pleased to advise that the office is now open to members of the public. Visitors will be admitted one at a time (or two members of the same household) and will be required to wear face coverings. Hand sanitiser is provided and your contact details will be taken for NHS Test and Trace. You can scan the QR code or write down your name and contact number.



Poppy Appeal

The Royal British Legion's annual Poppy appeal raises funds to help support the armed forces community, both past and present. This year there will be fewer volunteer collectors out and about. You can support the work of the RBL by buying a poppy from the Nisa shop, the News store, the Maypole pub, or you can contact Tanya Hayman on 01342 822709. You can also shop for poppy brooches and accessories at poppyshop.org.uk

Christmas Market

Unfortunately, the Council had to cancel this year's Christmas Market as it would not be possible to operate it in a Covid-safe way. We hope to hold it next year.



Remembrance Sunday 8th November 2020

The Village Council recognises the importance of Remembrance Sunday to the community. In order to comply with the law and guidance and to minimise any risk of transmission of Covid-19, the event will be slightly different this year. The Village Council has applied for a road closure order from 10.45 until 11.15 am so that a brief Act of Remembrance can take place at the War Memorial. This will include the Two Minute Silence at 11 am, followed by laying of a limited number of wreaths.

Members of the public will be able to attend, but numbers will be limited to around 50. If the area becomes too crowded you may be turned away. It is very important to remain in household groups and maintain social distancing at all times, and to leave promptly, without socialising, at the end of the event. You should not attend if you have tested positive for Covid-19, or you are experiencing symptoms or have been instructed to self-isolate. Anyone else who wishes to lay a wreath may do so after 11.30 am. This should be done carefully as the road will be open to traffic, and groups should not gather at the War Memorial. If you prefer not to come to the War Memorial, you might wish to honour those who have fallen in wars and other conflicts by standing on your doorstep to mark the Two Minute Silence.

The itinerary for the Act of Remembrance will be published on our website and sent out in the monthly e-news.

Please note that if there is any change to national or local rules, it might become necessary to cancel the event or restrict attendance to wreath layers only.

Planning News

The application to build 22 affordable houses on the Dirty Lane site (changed from 19 affordable plus 3 open market houses) was refused by Mid Sussex District Council on the grounds that it would harm the AONB and did not meet the criteria for a rural exception site.

The developer's appeal against the refusal for 54 flats on the Wealden House EDF site was heard online on the 22nd September. Jenny Forbes, the Village Council Chair, and John Belsey, our District Councillor, spoke against the appeal. Although the site is allocated for development in the Neighbourhood Plan, the proposed development is not supported as it does not comply with the Plan's policies. The Inspector's decision is expected within the next few weeks.

The Three Crowns

The Council was advised by the brewery in early September that a prospective tenant with considerable experience is interested in taking over the pub. The brewery's budget has been affected by the pandemic and the funding for refurbishment will not now be available until the New Year. The tenant will also be required to make a large investment in the premises and the Clerk is currently chasing the brewery for confirmation that final agreement has been reached. The brewery has indicated that this will be the last attempt to find a tenant and if unsuccessful they will be considering other options for the premises.

Tennis Court bookings

Bookings for the tennis courts at John Pears must now be made online, using the new Clubspark booking system. When booking for the first time you will need to register with Clubspark at:

<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/TennisInMidSussex>

This is for casual hirers and members of Ashurst Wood Community Tennis Club, but Club members do not pay a fee. See our website for more information.

Keep in touch with the Council

To receive regular email updates, send an email to the Clerk and ask to be placed on the mailing list. You can unsubscribe at any time.



John Pears Playground

We would like to thank Mid Sussex District Council for the new, improved children's play area at John Pears. This was designed after community consultation and reflects tales of King Ethelred and his connection to the village. The area now includes a castle-themed climbing frame and a variety of swings for all ages, and is a great asset for the village.



Winter Management

The Village Council has started to prepare for the winter. Our grit bins have been filled by West Sussex County Council. Residents are encouraged to use the grit to help treat pavements and roads. Instructions are on the bins and the grit is not for use on private land. If bins need refilling please let us know. We have some reserve supplies, but WSCC will not supply more grit until next winter.

WSCC is responsible for gritting and ploughing of roads. In Ashurst Wood, the A22 will be treated for ice, frost and snow. The main routes through the village (Maypole Road, Woods Hill Lane, Hammerwood Road / Wall Hill Road from the A22 to John Pears, and Hammerwood Road from the War Memorial to Maypole Road) will **only** be treated for ice and frost, and priority will be given to A and B roads.

The Village Council would like to arrange for a local farmer or contractor to be available to clear snow if needed. Payment would be made by WSCC and / or the Village Council.

In order to enter into such an arrangement, the Contractor or Farmers or contractors must have their own Public Liability Insurance. For more information please contact the Clerk. Please see the website for more information about Winter Management.

Your Village Councillors: Jenny Forbes (Chair), Brian Phillips (Vice Chair), Yvonne Arnott, Trudy Draper, Janet Haite, James Lee, David Loveday, Bob Spoor, Alice Tyrell.

Clerk: Rebecca Roberts, **RFO/Assistant Clerk:** Samantha Booker