

Newsletter from Maresfield Parish Council

September 2021

As I write this in mid-August the Country has come out of the lockdown restrictions and businesses and amenities have reopened and we welcome the return of normality though the Pandemic is still with us. I do hope that all Maresfield parishioners are safe and well but should you need assistance of a non-medical nature you may still phone the Parish Office on 01825 714555 or contact the Wealden District Council Community Hub on 01342 443322.

Does your Organisation need a Grant?

Applications for Parish Council grants and donations from organisations within or pertaining to the Parish for the financial year 2022/23 should be submitted to the Parish Office by no later than 24th September 2021 please. A copy of the Parish Council's Grants Policy and the relevant application forms are available from the Parish Office (714555).

Still the Number One Issue in the Parish

When I ask parishioners if they have any concerns or issues which the Parish Council might help with the response I hear most frequently is "Speeding". We have eight volunteers who carry out regular Speedwatch sessions in all three villages. There were 25 sessions in the last quarter which resulted in Sussex Police writing 350 letters to drivers warning them about their speeding in our Parish. The highest speeds recorded in these sessions were 58mph in a "30" limit and 66mph in a "40" limit. The Police are unable to enforce the speed limits but an effective Community Speedwatch can make a difference. Comprised of volunteers who can give say three hours a month and, armed with a radar speed gun, note details of speeding cars and then input them into a police data base. Warning letters are sent by the police and persistent offenders face a visit from police officers and possibly further action against them.

We need more volunteers from all three villages, please. Contact the Parish Office on 714555.

Are your hedges or trees overhanging the footpath?

If so, please cut them back now as the bird nesting season is over. Hedge growth has been very prolific this year and overhanging hedges particularly affect people pushing prams, the elderly and those using disability scooters. As the landowner it is your responsibility to keep your hedges and trees trimmed back so please cooperate. If the Highways Authority is forced to intervene and cut back your hedge and tree growth, they will send you the bill!

Litter

I am sorry to have to write again about litter in our Parish but it does seem to remain a problem particularly around the Maresfield Recreation Ground. We are investigating whether larger litter bins are available as fast food containers are quite bulky and seem to be the worst offenders! If the bins are full please take your litter home for disposal.

High Street/London Road Maresfield

We would like to receive comments on the feasibility of the High Street/London Road, Maresfield becoming one-way going south towards Budletts Roundabout. The intention being to reduce the volume of traffic passing through the village and to provide safe street parking in the left lane during School drop-off and pick-up times. This “one way” suggestion has been brought up before but perhaps with the increasing numbers of new properties accessing the High Street it is time to consider this again. Please let the Parish Clerk have your views.

Be informed !

To keep up to date about local matters the internet and social media are invaluable resources.

Useful links are:

<https://my.wealden.gov.uk/> <http://www.maresfieldparish.org.uk/>

<http://www.uckfieldtc.gov.uk/> <https://www.ashdownforest.org/>

And you can also follow us on Twitter and Facebook.

Martin Craddock – Chairman Maresfield Parish Council