

# Newsletter from Maresfield Parish Council

September 2023

## Grant Application Reminder

Applications for Parish Council grants and donations from organisations within or pertaining to the Parish for the financial year 2024/25 should be submitted to the Parish Office by no later than 29<sup>th</sup> September 2023 please. A copy of the Parish Council's Grants Policy and the relevant application forms are available from the Parish Office (714555).

**Fords Green Playground** – Our contractor has finished the complete remodel of the children's playground at Fords Green Nutley and it is now open for use. The new equipment and safety surface conform to the latest health and safety requirements.

**Fairwarp and Parklands Playgrounds** – New safety surfaces have also been installed at both Fairwarp and Parklands. These comply with health and safety and are also have good eco/sustainability credentials.

**Planning Matters** –The latest information from Wealden District Council is still that until they see clarity from the Government in respect of the new homes planning target for the District they are unlikely to publish their new draft Local Plan.

Meanwhile, within the Parish, the future of the land to the east of Straight Half Mile has still not been resolved. The original application in 2017 for 25 new homes and a “community facility” on half of the site was, despite concerted opposition from the Parish Council and residents, eventually approved in a slightly modified form by Wealden in October 2020.

Subsequently new developers submitted an application for 25 homes and 12 allotments on the whole of the site and following objections this has been amended to 21 homes without the allotments. There are still major concerns, particularly about traffic, the northern access on to Straight Half Mile, the treatment of surface water drainage and the visual impacts of the proposed development from both Straight Half Mile and Nursery Lane. This revised application contains no benefit to the Community.

We await Wealden's decision.

## 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