

Newsletter from Maresfield Parish Council

September 2024

Grant Application Reminder

Applications for Parish Council grants and donations from organisations within or pertaining to the Parish for the financial year 2025/26 should be submitted to the Parish Office by no later than 27th September 2024 please. A copy of the Parish Council's Grants Policy and the relevant application forms are available from the Parish Office (714555).

Planning Matters –The planning application for 41 houses on land by the indoor bowling club in Maresfield with access off Limestone Way was recently considered by the Parish Council's Planning Committee which unanimously recommended it be refused. Further information is available on Wealden's Planning Portal under reference WD/2024/0323/MAO and we await Wealden's decision. The land in question is allocated in Wealden's draft Local Plan for 25 houses.

Be warned that if a planning application is lodged on a property near you Wealden no longer notifies neighbouring property owners. However, if you sign up to receive the Wealden Weekly newsletter you can opt in to receive details of any planning applications lodged in respect any property up to one km from your address. (Google: Wealden Weekly.)

Dog Fouling - It's no wonder dog fouling is such a problem – there are estimated to be more than 8 million dogs producing more than 1,000 tonnes of mess every day in the UK alone. While most dog owners are caring, responsible individuals, there are still some people who do not clean up after their pets. Regrettably some of these are dog owners in our Parish and the Maresfield Recreation Ground in particular is quite frequently polluted.

Anyone who fails to clear up after their dog in a public place can be issued with a Fixed Penalty Notice of up to £100. If the case goes to court this could cost the owner or person in charge of the animal up to £1,000. The law states that being unaware a dog has fouled or not having a suitable bag is not a reasonable excuse. So, Parish dog owners, please carry poo bags, pick up your dog's poo and either put it in a bin where provided or take it home for disposal.

Community Speedwatch - The Police are unable to enforce the speed limits but an effective Community Speedwatch can make a difference. Community Speedwatch is 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.

Our Speedwatch exercises take place at Straight Half Mile, Maresfield, on the B2026 approaching Fairwarp Village, on the A22 approaching Nutley and also near to Nutley School as well as on the Crowborough Road in Nutley.

We are always on the lookout for more volunteers and in particular need a volunteer to take over the organising and administration for our Parish. So, please "step up" and our Parish Clerk will be happy to give you more information on what it entails. (Nancy O'Hanlon on 714555.)

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/>

Martin Craddock – Chairman Maresfield Parish Council

