

DYMCHURCH NEWS

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DYMCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

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FOR INFORMATION ON THIS
NEWSLETTER CONTACT THE
EDITOR AT
dymchurchpc@outlook.com

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

CLLR DOUGIE YOUNG



We are now coming to the end of another busy, and eventful, year. We are happy to have welcomed more members of the public that have been

attending the Parish Council meetings in council office and online, making us aware of problems, asking for advice and support. I have attended various meetings this last year over concerns regarding the housing development in Dymchurch and on the Marsh, and also the ongoing problem with water quality.

Dymchurch Parish Council hope you have had a Merry Christmas and wish you a happy & prosperous New Year.

D Young - Chairman Dymchurch Parish Council

Car Park Season Pass 2025

2025 Village Hall car park passes will be available to purchase from Monday 3rd February 2025.

Car Park charges are in force from 1st April 2025, until then the car park continues to be free to use.

2025 Fees - including VAT

Dymchurch, SMB & Burmarsh ratepayers £30.00
Employers and Employees of Dymchurch £35.00

To Purchase in Person

Car park passes can be purchased from the Parish Council Office on Orgarswick Avenue on **Monday and Tuesday Mornings from 10.00am - 12.00 noon**

Payment accepted by Cash/Cheque or Debit/Credit Card.

Please bring along proof of address.

Passes can also be purchase **online** by visiting the Parish Council website and clicking on the link to "2025 car park passes".

The cost for an online purchase includes £1 P&P.

Christmas Sing Along

Thank you to those who attended the Christmas Carols/Songs in the Village Hall, despite the bad weather the event was well attended with £50 raised to be split between local Charities.

Bloomin Dymchurch 2025

Calling all budding gardeners !

The Parish Council will once again be running Bloomin' Dymchurch in July 2025. Our winners in 2024 were

D Richardson for Best Container Garden, J Hunt for Best Small Garden & L Frampton for Best Large Garden. More details of how to enter to follow in the next newsletter.

Friends of Dymchurch Recreation Ground VE Day Charity Afternoon Tea & Dance



Save
the
date !

Tickets on sale soon.....

Date: Thurs 8th May Venue: Village Hall 2pm - 5pm

Village Council Tax

At the December meeting the Parish Council agreed the budget for the new financial year that starts in April 2025.

Like many businesses the Parish Council will be hit by the level of general rising costs.

The formal Precept to be requested from F&HDC was set at £86,845, an increase of £3,845 (4.63%) on the previous year.

For the average household in a Band D property there should be a slight reduction in the Parish element of the Council Tax bill for the new financial year, reducing by around £1.00 (from £64.57 to £63.54). The Parish Council have kept the increase in expenses to a minimum and had previously maintained the level of the precept with no changes for the last 4 years.

FREE Tree Saplings

The Parish Council have a number of tree saplings from the District Council which are ready for planting. Please contact the Parish Council office if you would be interested in giving a sapling a home.

Congratulations to Dymchurch Primary School whose Ofsted Inspection in October resulted in GOOD or OUTSTANDING all for of their ratings.



SUNFLOWER MEMORY CAFES 2025 DATES

A sociable get-together for those living with dementia and their carers. Meeting at Dymchurch Village Hall on the 1st Thursday of the month, starting 2nd January 2025 and running through to 4th December 2025, 10am to noon.

Bathing Water Quality – Annual Classification

The Environment Agency recently released the Annual Bathing Water classifications for 2024.

Dymchurch was rated as **POOR** and the Environment Agency advise no swimming at this location during the 2025 season.

This news is extremely disappointing and the Parish Council will continue to push the relevant authorities to locate and fix the source of any Contamination entering the sea near Dymchurch. To make an informed choice on whether to swim at the beach the Parish Council will continue to publish the bi-weekly water sampling results on the slipway notice board and on the Parish Council Website during the bathing season. The results show the levels of contaminates present in the water samples taken on specific days through the Summer season.

Free CPR & Resuscitation Training

When someone goes into cardiac arrest, prompt action by anyone nearby could offer their only chance of survival.

Would you know what to do to help save a life?

Kent Fire & Rescue trainers are offering free CPR and defibrillator training session that will equip you with the skills you need to respond to a sudden cardiac arrest. If you are interested in attending a session in the village please email dymchurchpc@outlook.com for more information. Please note this is not an accredited course.

Thank You

Although now the days are short and Winter has taken hold the Parish Council would like to take this opportunity to thank Cllr Chris McCreedy for donating the bedding plants that filled our planters during last Spring and Summer, all helping to brighten up the open spaces around the village.

Dymchurch

A designated bathing water where water quality is monitored from May to September by the Environment Agency

Classifications were not made for the 2020 season due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the sampling programme

Latest Annual Classification: 2024



Poor bathing water quality
★ ★ ★ excellent
★ ★ good
★ sufficient
poor



Advice against bathing

Water quality at Dymchurch

Bathing water quality can be affected by a surface water outfall which discharges drainage from the surrounding marsh land, particularly after periods of heavy rainfall.

This bathing water beach often has patches of seaweed (macroalgae) and the bathing water can be affected by occasional blooms of phytoplankton (microscopic algae) which are not harmful, but can result in the water appearing discoloured or as foam forming on the water. The risks to human health from contact, ingestion or inhalation with marine algae that currently occur in UK coastal waters are considered to be low. However, some individuals may be more sensitive and display some reactions. A common marine algae found in UK coastal waters is Phaeocystis, which is often mistaken for sewage as it forms foam and a brown scum, but it is non-toxic.

Sampling point location



Previous annual classifications

2023 ★ Sufficient 2022 ★ ★ Good 2021 ★ ★ Good

For more information

The full details for this bathing water, its catchment, information on all potential pollution sources and how they are managed can be viewed on the Environment Agency website:

<https://environment.data.gov.uk/bathingwaterfiles>



Dymchurch Traffic Survey Results

The results of the Road Safety Questionnaire that was delivered to you in our last newsletter have now been collated and presented in a report. It sets out the criteria that needs to be met and the potential costs. The full report, including recommendations can be viewed on www.dymchurchparishcouncil.gov.uk or at the Parish Office. The Parish Councillors thank you for your participation in helping us to inform KCC what is supported by the residents of Dymchurch and what you find important.

Question 1



■ AGREE ■ DISAGREE ■ NO OPINION

Residents of Fairways have told the PC and KCC that they are fearful of crossing the road to access the bus stop and the beach. The speed limit is 40mph at present.

Question 2



■ AGREE ■ DISAGREE ■ NO OPINION

Q1. The Parish Council should ask KCC for the speed limit to be reduced to 30mph between Martello 25 and the traffic lights at Dunstall Lane.
302 replies. Agreed 254. Disagree 38. No-opinion 10.

Q2. If the speed limit is reduced to 30mph it may then be possible to campaign for a zebra crossing. The Parish Council should try to negotiate with Kent County Council to get a crossing at the Fairway.
283 replies. Agree 245. Disagree 31. No opinion 7.

Question 3



■ AGREE ■ DISAGREE ■ NO OPINION

There have been calls for safer roads on the 40mph stretch of the winding road between Burmarsh Road and Tower Estate, where there are narrow turnings on to the A259, resident's drives on blind bends and access paths and steps to the beach with no clear vision of vehicles approaching at 40mph.

Q3. The Parish Council should ask KCC for the speed limit to be reduced to 30mph between Burmarsh Road to just beyond Tower Estate.

301 replies. Agree 259. Disagree 19. No opinion 8.

The Parish Council also received hundreds of comments and requests for improving road safety from you and these have formed our conclusion and recommendations which are:

- Liaise with statutory consultees for reduction in speed limit to 30mph between Tesco and Dunstall Lane and Burmarsh Corner to Tower Estate.
- Speed cameras do not form part of a KCC Highways Improvement Plan so we should apply to the local partnership for 2-way fixed speed cameras to be installed in both of the above locations.
- Seek funding for a puffin crossing at the Fairway.
- Meet with School governors to ascertain whether they can arrange a person to assist at the school crossing.

As stated on the questionnaire, Kent County Council (KCC) are the managing authority for the highway so any concerns need to be addressed by them. Parish Councils role is to pass on those concerns and work with KCC to try to find solutions to problems. Having read our report KCC are not in favour of reducing the speed limit on the straight sections of road, but they have agreed to carry out a count of people crossing at the Fairway in March and will meet with us to discuss their findings. Having met with Dymchurch School, they are examining the extent of the problem before further meetings.

Dymchurch Parish Council

Your local council working locally for you



Cllr Dougie Young
Chair



Cllr Liam Finch
Vice Chair



Cllr Cathy Young



Cllr Marc Wright



Cllr Ann Pegler



Cllr Chris McCreedy



Cllr Chrissie Cooper



Cllr Andy Weatherhead



Cllr Vanessa McCreedy

DYMCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL CONTACT DETAILS

If you have any queries regarding local issues, or any other matters you wish to raise, you can contact Dymchurch Parish Council as follows:

In writing to

The Clerk, Dymchurch Parish Council,
13 Orgarswick Avenue
Dymchurch TN29 0NX

By E mail- dymchurchpc@outlook.com

By Phone- 01303 872 708

If you wish to contact an individual Councillor please contact the Clerk. Council meeting dates are published. Please check our website and notice boards. Council meetings are open to the public and all are very welcome to attend.

If you have any District or County Council issues that you wish to raise please contact the following with your concerns

KENT COUNTY COUNCILLOR

JENNI HAWKINS

Jenni.Hawkins@kent.gov.uk

FOLKESTONE AND HYTHE DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

TONY COOPER

Tony.Cooper@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk

Surgery 3rd Saturday of the Month 10am –12noon DPC Office

TONY HILLS

Tony.Hills@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk

**Kent
County
Council**
kent.gov.uk



KCC COMMUNITY WARDEN

Giles Barnard can be contacted on
07969 583915 or giles.barnard@kent.gov.uk

For help and advice on home security and safety and how to access Council services. Supporting you in the local community



DYMCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

OUR NEWSLETTER WILL BE PUBLISHED EVERY
QUARTER SO WHY NOT KEEP UP TO DATE BY USING
OUR WEBSITE THIS CAN BE FOUND AT

www.dymchurchparishcouncil.gov.uk

Help make our website more interesting.
Are you a budding photographer and want to show off your artistic skills.
If you have any photographs of Dymchurch and the surrounding area that you could donate to us for use on the website please email them to dymchurchpc@outlook.com