

DYMCHURCH NEWS

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DYMCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

MAY 2025

FOR INFORMATION ON THIS
NEWSLETTER CONTACT THE
EDITOR AT
Clerk@dymchurchparishcouncil.gov.uk

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

CLLR DOUGIE YOUNG



As Chairman of Dymchurch Parish Council I would like to thank Dymchurch parishioners on behalf of my fellow councillors for their continued support over the

last 12 months. Each councillor works tirelessly on your behalf to achieve the necessary good feel factor throughout the parish. Without your continued support it would be impossible. We will continue to monitor the poor water quality and hold the relevant authorities to account. By the time you receive this newsletter we may have new KCC councillors which should give us new energy and fight to succeed in this task.

Thank you one and all

Dougie Young

Chairman Dymchurch Parish Council

Memorial Unveiling 29th May



In the spring of 1944 a terrible accident on the beach claimed the lives of 22 soldiers.

The soldiers were part of "C" Company, 4th Battalion The Somerset Light Infantry, and were killed when tank grenades exploded

during a training session. The incident was reported in the local paper at the time, but the incident had been largely forgotten until a local resident started a campaign to install a memorial to the soldiers on the Dymchurch seawall. The Memorial has been funded by donations from the regiment, F&HDC, Dymchurch RBL and KCC. The memorial plaque has been designed by a local artist and will be unveiled on 29th May marking a fitting tribute to the 22 lives lost on that fateful day in 1944.



VE Day Celebrations in the Village

The 80th Anniversary of VE day was celebrated in the Village Hall with an afternoon tea and dance. A recording of Winston Churchill's 1945 VE Day message to the nation kicked off proceedings which was followed by music from Miss Holiday and The Swingtones. Songs ranged from 1940's classics up to twists on present day hits. In the interval those attending were served a traditional afternoon tea. The event was organised by Friends of Dymchurch Recreation Ground, with support from the Parish Council and raised over £900 for the charities fund raising efforts to build a new pavilion on the recreation ground. Thanks goes to Beach 48 for catering, Majic Memories for the balloon art stack, John for bringing along his vintage car and his balloon skills, and to all the FODR volunteers for giving up their afternoon. A jolly good time was had by all!



Later in the evening the celebrations continued with an act of remembrance and the lighting of the seawall beacon. This formed part of the national celebration of "a light of peace" with over 1,000 beacons being lit across the country.





PC Steve Putland

My colleague PC James Hockless and I are the Romney Marsh Beat Officers and policing the Marsh is our primary role. So that you are in no doubt, we patrol as much of the Marsh as possible which could be anytime of the day or night. I've noticed some positive comments on social media about us being on patrol in New Romney, thank you for that, but for those living in all other areas of the Marsh please don't think that we don't visit your areas because we do.

There are several reasons as to why we might patrol certain areas more than others and obviously somewhere like New Romney town is going to generate more issues for us than the rural villages and therefore I'm sure you'll agree that we need to be where the problems are. However, we do cover a lot of ground in our vehicle and unless you look out of your window at the time we drive past then of course it might seem that we never come to where you live.

If you are experiencing any issues that you think we should know about then please contact me 13183@kent.police.uk and we will get back to you as soon as we can even if it's not a police matter, we will point you in the right direction. However, if you have a crime to report please use the online reporting tool on the Kent Police website or dial 101 or if it's a crime in progress, please ring 999.

Village Public Meeting on Water Quality

In March the Parish Council hosted a public meeting on water quality and flooding issues within the village. The meeting was attended by Southern Water, The Environment Agency, The Internal Drainage Board, OFWAT and local groups campaigning for better water quality. The meeting was well attended by the general public and Southern Water and the Environment Agency gave update on work being carried out to locate the source of pollution and answered a number of questions raised by those attending the meeting. The meeting helps keep pressure on the agencies to resolve the issues that have lead to the "advice not to swim" notice on Dymchurch beach from the Environment Agency. During the bathing season the water quality is regularly monitored and the results are published by the Environment Agency. To check the latest water quality reading Search for "Swimfo" on the internet and add Dymchurch as a location. The Parish Council will also continue to publish this information on our website so beach users can make more informed decisions.

Surfers against sewage continue to highlight the issues of sea pollution in our area . With their next event on 25th May in Hythe.



SUNFLOWER MEMORY CAFES

A sociable meeting for those living with dementia and their carers. Dymchurch Village Hall on the 1st Thursday of the month, 10am to noon.

Food Bank Trial - Dymchurch Village Hall

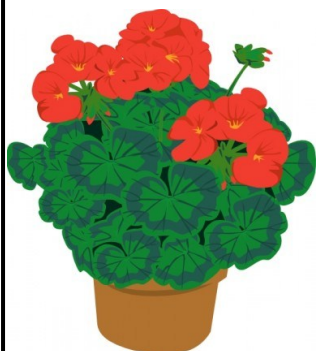


The first session of a trial food bank serving Dymchurch residents took place on the 8th May. The Food Bank has been organised by the KCC Community Warden and the Danny Galivan Trust. There is no criteria for use, if you need food, it's there. The next session is at the Village Hall from 10am –12noon on Thursday 10th July and the final trial session will be on Aug 7th. The service is being trialled for three months to assess local needs, before a decision is made on whether to continuing running the sessions.

Beach Dog Exclusion Zone

The District Council operate "no dog restrictions" on a number of local beaches between 1st May & 30th September. The beach at Dymchurch is included in these restrictions and the no dog zone extends from Sycamore Gardens past the central slip way and down to Martello 25 in the F&HDC car park. The good news is that there are plenty of other parts of the coastline where dogs can be walked all year round , full details are on the F&HDC website. You can be fined £100 (Penalty Notice Charge) for ignoring the Public Spaces Protection Order or the fine increases to £1,000 if the offence goes to court.

Dymchurch in Bloom



The Parish Council are once again running the annual Dymchurch in Bloom competition. Judging will take place in the first week of July with prizes for:

Best Container Garden

Best Small Garden

Best Large Garden

To enter all you need to do is email clerk@dymchurchparishcouncil.gov.uk. Good luck!

Long standing Groundsman retires

Dave Henley who has worked for the Parish Council for over 17 years has recently hung up his overalls and taken a well earned retirement. At the Annual Parish Meeting, the chair of the Council thanked Dave for his many years of public service helping to keep litter under control and our public spaces tidy and presented him with a leaving gift and an "officially retired" hi-vis keep sake!

Highways Improvements

The Parish Council continues to work with Kent Country Council to improve road safety through the village. Surveys were undertaken in March at the Fairway, unfortunately surveys are only undertaken during school term times, which, for a recreation destination doesn't give the highest results. It was found that 14 pedestrians/hour crossed and 839/hour vehicles passed in the busiest hour. The numbers needed to support a crossing would need to be an extra 114 pedestrians/hour or 1,834 extra vehicles. It was also found that 25% of vehicles were driven above the speed limit and 5% of these in excess of 46mph. KCC have agreed to install new warning signs for "elderly residents" and suggested more Police patrols.

Despite submitting a copy of the 1946 Parish Council minutes requesting the Ministry of Transport to reduce the speed limit on the bends east of Burmarsh corner and pointing out that previous councils had secured street lighting, in order to gain a reduction in speed, KCC have not agreed to reduce the speed or support speed cameras. This is very disappointing. However, improvements have seen the faded zebra crossing by Tesco repainted, the mini roundabout by Mill Rd has also had it's road markings refreshed to make it easy for motorists to navigate. Highway repairs along the section by the Fairway have been completed and speed limit roundels are being planned for installation. The Parish Council will continue working with KCC on future improvements and are still actively lobbying for appropriate speed reduction measures to be implemented to improve road safety.

Dymchurch Community Garden



Work is progressing on the Community Garden located at the side of the Village Hall on Orgarswick Avenue. The green fingered garden volunteers hope to be opening up the space very soon. If you would like to join our friendly group, make friends and give back to the community, please contact cathyyoung60@googlemail.com or pop in to the Parish Council Office (Mon/Tues) to pick up a Community Garden application form.



Village Hall

Available for hire for parties and other events. For full details, availability and hire rates please contact

Janet947andrew@btinternet.com

Friends of Dymchurch Rec

Sunday 29th June

10AM - 2PM

**GARAGE
SALE SAFARI**

Garage Safari - 29th June

Sign up packs are now available from the FODR Charity Shop, 51 High St.

**citizens
advice**

Advisers are available to be contacted by calling 01304 353861, visiting www.doverdealadvice.co.uk or by attending the Rainbow Centre, Folkestone (CT20 2AF) on Thursdays between 10am and 3pm.

Dymchurch Parish Council

Your local council working locally for you



Cllr Dougie Young
Chair



Cllr Liam Finch
Vice Chair



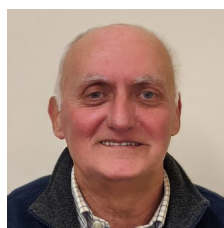
Cllr Cathy Young



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-

clerk@dymchurchparishcouncil.gov.uk

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 meeting 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

PETER OSBORNE

Peter.Osborne@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



KCC COMMUNITY WARDEN

Carol Our Community Warden can be contacted on

07977 981990 or by email: Carol.Coveney@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
clerk@dymchurchparishcouncil.gov.uk