

Centre Piece for March Keys Magazine

It is great to realise that Spring is really starting to make itself known with a number of Spring flowers showing themselves and the daylight hours beginning to be noticeable. At the moment we are experiencing some beautiful warm sunshine but I guess we could all be lulled into expecting this to continue – no doubt it won't!

The Parish Council met on 13 February, 2019 which proved to be a warm evening on arrival but after the finish, around 9.30pm, the warmth had gone and there was a very cold edge to the air on impact when leaving the Village Hall. There were four residents present as well as our County Councillor, Harry Rayner.

Residents of Nizels Lane again expressed concerns over the speed of vehicles using the area, particularly since there is a considerable amount of running and standing water resulting in very muddy conditions. It was realised that icy conditions could, at this time of year, result in accidents in the area. No one would like to see injury or a fatality, and it was for this reason that residents were, following the lack of action of KCC to address some of these issues, considering taking their complaints to the Local Government Ombudsman. It was decided, however, as a first action to see if it could be included on the Joint Transportation Board's next meeting. The Parish Council would request this.

One success was reported, that of the new bus service for children living in Mill, Vines and Riding Lanes to travel to school. This service had an average of 25 children per journey using it on a daily basis and consequently it was felt this was sustainable by the Go Bus company. The service was very popular for morning journeys with fewer using it in the afternoon. The organisers would encourage more children to use the afternoon service.

There are two events coming up in the near future of importance to all residents. The first of these will be the Parish Council's Annual Parish Meeting to be held in the Jim England Hall in the Village Hall on Wednesday 13 March 2019. Everyone is invited to come along to hear what the Parish Council has achieved during the past year, listen to Chris Rowley talk about the history of Princess Christian's Hospital in Riding Lane, meet our PCSO Jack Bridger as well as the Hildenborough Flood Forum on flooding issues. There will, as usual be local organisations providing information – these usually include local Societies and organisations as well as services which may be of interest. If you belong to a society or organisation and would like a table to present your services or activities please contact me, either by email or phone to book your space by Friday 8 March.

HILDENBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

invites you to

THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

TO BE HELD ON

WEDNESDAY 13 MARCH 2019

IN THE

Jim England Hall, Village Hall, Riding Lane 7.30 to 9.30pm

HEAR ABOUT:

What your Council has achieved during 2018/19

***All about the history of Princess Christian's Hospital
From Chris Rowley***

**Come for refreshments at 7.00 pm and see what local organisations
have to offer**

On Sale Parish Council Publications:

***Tales from a Kent Village, Hildenborough
As seen through the Parish Archives***

Price £10

This is Hildenborough from A to Z

Last remaining copies – Price £9.50

(cheques should be made payable to Hildenborough Parish Council)

Also available: local bus and rail timetables

The other event of great importance will be the local elections to be held at the beginning of May. The Parish Council will be looking for some new members, so if you are community minded, have ideas or skills you could offer please do contact me for details. There will be posters around giving more information and nominations can be made after 16 March 2019, with a closing date of 3 April – so do not miss out. More details and information will be given at the Annual Parish Meeting on 13 March.

Most of the other issues raised at the Meeting concerned highways. The Parish Council has requested enhanced belisha beacons for the zebra crossing near to the Medical Centre and has been informed that KCC will look into this – so watch this space for their response.

Speeding was a concern again, and to address a particular issue along Leigh Road, the Council will be requesting our County Councillor to have a pipe installed to calculate the speed of vehicles along there. Speedwatch teams have been out and about on four occasions since the beginning of the year and unsurprisingly have spotted 91 vehicles speeding near to Foxbush and through Brookmead. Several letters were sent by the police to drivers who were speeding.

Another concern is the water leak in London Road near to Bank Lane. The Council and the Hildenborough Flood Forum have been seeking a resolution to this long term leak (in fact over a year) but it appears it is very difficult for South East Water to trace the source. The Council will continue to pursue this.

We look forward to seeing you at the Annual Parish Meeting on Wednesday 13 March, 2019 (details above) but in the mean time if you would like to contact us about any issues or make suggestions please use the usual phone number (01732 832367) leaving a message if necessary or email to clerk@hildenboroughpc.kentparishes.gov.uk or by letter. Don't forget The Parish Council will be represented at the Farmers' Market on 12 March between 10 and 11am.

Pam Gow