

Centre Piece for May Keys Magazine.

The Parish Council met on 10 April 2019 and was dismayed to find that there were only three nominations for the next Council to take office on 8 May 2019. This has presented a serious problem in that the Council is not quorate and is unable to elect a chairman or co-opt new members to the Council. Fortunately the Borough Council is looking to co-opt an officer for the first meeting of the new Council to enable it to be quorate but this has to be agreed at the next Borough Council Meeting which is not until 20 May 2019, therefore there will not be a working Council between 8 and 22 May which is when the three elected uncontested members together with an officer from the Borough Council can meet.

Who's Missing?

Is It You?

You may be just the person your community needs to -

- Represent the views of local people
- Bring fresh ideas about local services
- Help keep this community a good place in which to live

CAN YOU HELP? We will need a further three members, after co-option of those who have already agreed to come forward, to have a full working Council. The job is not too onerous, all that is necessary is for you to be able to represent the views of local people, and bring fresh ideas about local services. The Council meets once a month on the second Wednesday of the month, except August, when members discuss the management of open spaces, finances and any queries raised by members. They are asked to take up membership of one committee – Planning which meets fortnightly to discuss planning applications in Hildenborough and Open Spaces which meet bi-monthly to discuss the management and improvements to facilities in the area and the Council's property and open spaces (Recreation Ground, West Wood and the Village Green). They also maintain the borders around the War Memorial which is the responsibility of KCC and the street lighting in Noble Tree Road/Rings Hill and a few other isolated columns around the village.

If you are able to help or would like further details please contact me on 01732 832367.

The meeting on 10 April started with a very interesting presentation by the Borough Council on the new recycling scheme to be introduced in September. There were many positives which included:

The provision of a 5 lt black bin for food waste. This will have a secure handle to protect it from animals emptying the contents. A small caddy will be provided for indoor use and compostable bags will be able to be used in these to transfer the contents to the black bin. This will be collected on a weekly basis.

The current green bin will be used for bottle, tins and plastics. The good news is that many more plastics can be recycled. These include all hard plastic containers and bottles with the exception of black plastic. Soft plastics will not at the present time be recyclable and will need to continue to be included in the large black bin as at present.

In the green box all waste paper and card will be collected.

For those who opt into the paid for garden waste collection (for those who sign up in advance £35 for the year) will be provided with a new large bin. The downside is that no further sacks or bags will be collected alongside this bin as at present. This remains at a fortnightly collection.

There will be a booklet/leaflets distributed during August to help us all to learn the new system which will be very welcome, I am sure, to most residents. The Borough Council are trying to keep as many collection days the same as at present but if you are one of the few areas which need to be adjusted you will be given details nearer the time.

At the final meeting of the current Parish Council on 10 April, the accounts for 2018/19 were agreed and signed off to be returned to the external auditor as well as a review of internal control. There were a number of subscriptions and requests for donations to consider, some of which are to be taken forward to the new Council.

By the time you read this you should see an improvement to the car park in the Recreation Ground. It is being repaired in preparation for top dressing later on. The footpath should also be tarmacked to stop the grit being trodden onto the safety surface. This has been causing a lot of damage to these very expensive surfaces, so hopefully they will now be protected and last for many years to come. Similarly in a few weeks the footpaths to and across the West Wood play area will be tarmacked.

There will not be a Centre Piece in June Keys as the meeting for May is, of course, not able to take place until after the deadline for copy. However, I am sure you will find something of interest in its place!

As ever if you have queries or ideas do contact me on the usual phone number 01732 832367 or by email or post.

Pam Gow

