



Westbere Parish Council NEWSLETTER February 2019

Welcome to the latest edition of your Westbere Parish Council newsletter. Any comments, suggestions or contributions for consideration in future editions would be most welcome!

Your Parish Councillors

Jeanette Dawson (Chair)
Stephen Laws (Vice Chair)
Sylvia Harlow
Maria Morcom
Kathryn Wilson
Karen Williams
Tom Hopkins

For enquiries or reports, please contact the Clerk in the first instance – Clerk - Amanda Sparkes:
01304 365 972 amanda.sparkes@sky.com

Canterbury City Councillors – Westbere has two ward councillors:

Georgina Glover: 01227 711429
georgina.glover@canterbury.gov.uk and
Heather Taylor: 01227 710134
heather.taylor@canterbury.gov.uk

Our Kent County Councillor

Alan Marsh: 01227 265112
alan.marsh@kent.gov.uk

You can visit WPC website for more local information at:
<http://www.westberepc.kentparishes.gov.uk>

WESTBERE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATES 2018

Our meetings are open to the public and we have an adjournment early in the agenda proceedings to give any resident the opportunity to speak.

Meetings will take place in the Village Hall at 19:30 on the following Tuesdays:

*19 February 2019, 19 March 2019, 16 April 2019, 14 May 2019 (after ordinary elections), **Annual Parish Meeting – Tuesday 26 March 2019**, 18 June 2019, 16 July 2019, No meeting in August, 17 September 2019, 15 October 2019, 19 November 2019, No meeting in December 2019.*

The CCC Governance Review – changes to the Westbere parish council boundary

Canterbury City Council at their Full Council meeting on 19 July 2018 resolved that a new parish, and a new parish council be created for the village of Hersden, comprising of nine

councillors, operating in the style of a parish council.

The commencement date for new Hersden parish is confirmed as 1 April 2019, with the local election of parish councillors held with all other local elections on 02 May 2019.

The new Hersden Parish Council Chairman will then be elected at their first parish council meeting in May.

CCC will continue to support the new parish council from that date.

The new parish will take some of the existing Westbere land – it is to take Hoplands Farm, The Old Colliery and Industrial Estate. (This will therefore, if the new developments go ahead, give them circa 250 dwellings over all phases, and facilities at Hoplands Farm; circa 370 dwellings and facilities anticipated at the Old Colliery and 80 dwellings being built at the Old Spires Site.)

With this change, 15 households will move from Westbere into new Hersden. These properties are along the Island Road. This will therefore be the last newsletter they receive from us – so goodbye to them and we wish them well. Westbere will then have 130 properties on its tax base.

The percentage of population retained is 89.7%.

As some of the households move into Hersden, CCC has met with Westbere Parish Council to discuss a transfer of some of the existing assets held by Westbere Parish Council and an apportionment of reserves held (as at 31 March 2018). After some to-ing and fro-ing an amount in the region of £953.75 will be passed over.

Westbere Parish Council intend to try and forge a good working relationship with this new parish council. There will be common interests and your council will offer support as appropriate.

PARISH PLAN REFRESH

The parish council has considered whether a refresh to the Parish Plan “A Vision for Westbere” might be necessary with the boundary changes pending, but resolved to wait until the May 2019 elections, when the parish boundaries change and take effect and the new Hersden parish council will be created.

These elections will also determine who the future Westbere parish councillors will be and which city councillors are confirmed as elected for a new four-year term. Westbere Parish Council at May 2019 should then reconsider this item and its commitment. Meanwhile Cllr Harlow and the Clerk will work on a one-page addition to the Westbere Parish Plan – to advise of and clarify all the pending changes.

Dear resident

Your parish council invites you
to attend the

**Annual Parish Electors'
meeting of
Westbere Parish Council at
the Village Hall on Tuesday 26
March 2019 at 7.00pm.**

Light refreshments will be provided.

There will be short reports from your Chairman,
your County and City Councillors, the Westbere
Charities and your Neighbourhood Watch
representative.

**Our Guests are speakers from
National Grid to speak about the
Richborough Connection project**

The Richborough Connection is a new 400kV
overhead line electricity connection between
Richborough and Canterbury. The new 20km line is
made up of 60 pylons to connect the Nemo Link®
(an electricity link between Herdersbrug in Bruges
and Richborough, near Sandwich in the UK) to the
National Grid high voltage electricity network.
This connection will play a vital role in ensuring that
the country has a continued safe, reliable and
secure electricity supply

All residents welcome to attend the meeting

Red Phone box at the convent on the A28

This red phone box by the convent is owned by
the parish council and was recently offered for
sale. At the parish council meeting of 18
September 2018 several bids were considered
and the highest one at £825 was accepted.
BT were asked back in March 2018 to disconnect
the power to the box – as we go to print this is still
awaited and has been chased - so that the
removal of the box may be arranged by the buyer.

Westbere Parish Council intends to install a seat
in its place, and has secured a CCC capital grant
for 58% of the project costs for this.

***The parish council has no plans to dispose of the red
telephone box at Shrubbery Corner, this remains an
asset in the parish council's ownership.***

**The Parish Council elections
- have you ever considered
standing as a parish
councillor?**

Passionate about your community?
Full of ideas for your neighbourhood?
Could you represent local people?

What can you bring to local government?

You don't need to be a member of any Political
Party – you do need a genuine interest in what
happens in your community.

Ever wondered what a Parish Councillor has to
do and if this is for you?

- Attend Parish Council meetings – usually
once a month
- Take any issues raised by residents to the
parish council on the residents' behalf
- Carry out duties to uphold the local by-
laws, to protect the local environment and
infrastructure, footpaths and highways,
lobby for improvements to services,
implement new projects for the benefit of
the parish, fund raising for new projects,
etc
- Comment if applicable, on all planning
applications within the parish

Eligibility

You must be aged 18 years or over, be a qualifying
Commonwealth citizen, a citizen of the Republic of
Ireland or a citizen of another member state of the
European Community, and

- (1) Be on the electoral roll in the parish; Or
- (2) During the preceding twelve months occupied
land or other premises as owner or tenant in
the parish; Or
- (3) During the same period, resided in that area
or within three miles (4.8km) thereof; Or
- (4) During the same period, had your principal or
only place of work in that area.

Parish Councillors are elected for a term of four years.
They retire together on the fourth day after the date of
elections every four years. A person, if duly qualified,
may be elected as a parish councillor for more than
one parish or community.

A parish councillor has no personal financial liability in
respect of anything done in good faith for the purpose
of any of the council's statutory functions.

A parish councillor may resign at any point within their
four-year term.

If you wish to become involved, or require more
information, contact the Clerk Amanda Sparkes 01304
365972 email amanda.sparkes@sky.com

PLANNING DEVELOPMENTS

Westbere Parish Council keeps a watching brief on planning applications that affect the village or parish.

To view planning applications visit the home page of Canterbury City Council www.canterbury.gov.uk then select 'planning and building' then the option to 'search and comment on planning applications'. Then click on the blue box in the middle of the screen "search planning applications". In the search box at the bottom you need to enter the planning application reference number. Each application will have a unique reference – but for viewing purposes you need to input just the year and application number in the search box – so for a full reference of CA/18/00200 input 18/00200 only, not the full reference. CCC's planning call centre should be able to assist with any difficulties – call 01227 862178 Monday to Friday 9am-5pm.

NEW: CA/17/02913 - Hoplands Farm, Westbere RESERVED MATTERS APPLICATION
Application for approval of reserved matters relating to access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale for the erection of 175 no. dwellings on Phases 1A and 1B parcels pursuant to outline planning permission CA/16/00404/OUT.

This application went to the CCC Planning Committee on 5 February 2019. The city council Planning Members resolved TO GRANT it.

Westbere Village Hall Christmas Lunch held on 1 December 2018 - The Committee would like to thank everyone concerned for helping to make the Christmas Lunch a success. We hope all who came enjoyed themselves. A healthy profit of £655.57 was made towards the upkeep and maintenance of the hall. We would also like to thank Brogdale Butchers of Faversham for supplying the meat.

Westbere Village 100 Club:

Winners for September:-

Number	Name	Amount
34	E Troth	£10
69	C Martino	£10
117	S & M Wakefield	£10

Winners for November:-

33	A Smurthwaite	£10
53	A & M Whittington	£10
113	S & J Wenn	£10

Winners for December:-

8	D Elliott	£10
89	M Marsh	£10
104	E & T Hopkins	£10

Winners for January:-

10	J Dawson	£10
18	L Tilley	£10
101	D Sargeant	£10

Sturry, Fordwich and district / Aire-Sur-La-Lys Twinning Association



Soup and Pudding Lunch - Thursday 14th March 2019

Our famous Soup and Pudding Lunch at Broad Oak Hall at 12.30pm. A choice of six soups and six puddings. £6 per person

Wine Tasting Saturday 23rd March 2019

Join us for a virtual journey through France tasting wines matched with some nibbles and insights from a wine expert at The School House, Fordwich from 7.30pm. £15 per person. Please book on 07811 393 345 or the contact number below

Reunion in Aire Saturday 11th May 2019

The date for the reunion next year has been agreed with "Les amis de l'Europe" the Aire Sur La Lys Twinning Association

Please let us know if you are interested in joining us for the day in France and we will contact you with the final details

Join us to make new friends, chat to our French hosts, eat drink and have a wonderful day

Contact details are phone 07757291146 or through our website www.sturry-fordwichtwinning.co.uk
For other information contact info@sturry-fordwichtwinning.co.uk

Reporting items such as overflowing litter bins and/or dog bins:

For reporting issues to Serco – litter, dog fouling and problems with litter bins and dog bins (eg. damaged or overflowing) - you can report either by telephone or, ideally, online: Please call Serco on 0800 0319 091 between 8.30am and 6pm or report at https://www.canterbury.gov.uk/info/20008/environmental_problems/119/keeping_the_district_clean
For any waste that could cause immediate and serious danger, eg. discarded needles and syringes, please call Serco - needles will be collected within two hours.

Out-of-hours emergencies: If you have an urgent query and need to talk to the CCC out-of-hours team, please call 01227 781 879.

Report dog fouling: Dog fouling can be reported to CCC to be cleared. This online form can also be used to report repeat offenders who, if caught, will be fined £80.

https://www.canterbury.gov.uk/info/20008/environmental_problems/119/keeping_the_district_clean/2

Reporting fly-tipping: the CCC website makes reporting fly-tipping easy: Rather than having to describe where it is, you can now drop a pin on a map. It can also take the location from a phone if the person reports *in situ*. There is also the facility to upload pictures of the waste.
https://www.canterbury.gov.uk/info/20043/waste_and_enforcement/31/report_flytipping

A reminder – did you know? Bagged dog waste can be put into ordinary black bins too – not necessarily just the red dog-bin only bins. Please bag it and bin it!

Neighbourhood Watch

Parish Cllr Kathryn Wilson is also the village's Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator. Westbere village is a very safe place to live but it helps to be vigilant! Cllr Wilson attends the Herne Bay Police Station every Thursday to look at reports. Patterns and reports are changing – for example, there are fewer reports regarding thefts from sheds and tools being stolen, and thefts of lead from roofs – as they have all now been stolen!

Scams are getting more elaborate – do report these to 101 if you have any information.

Cllr Wilson makes neighbourhood watch email recipients aware of all scams, crimes and trading standards alerts. Cllr Wilson only has residents' email addresses and this does not tie it to a postal address. Emails are only used for neighbourhood watch purposes – no other purpose.

Any resident not currently signed up for email alerts and wanting to do so should contact Cllr Wilson – email her at KathrynWilson365@gmail.com

Whilst the village is still a very safe place to live, please may we remind residents to call the Police to report any crimes on telephone number 101 at any time – or reports can now also be done online:

Report crimes and incidents on the Kent Police website

The public can now **report crimes and incidents** as well as **non-injury road traffic collisions** ONLINE directly to Kent Police through www.kent.police.uk. Once a report is made online, the user will receive a unique reference number and a return email confirming receipt. Kent Police are promoting both as a **test/pilot** at this stage. At the end of each form is the opportunity for the public making a report to give feedback on the use of the forms.

The overall aim is to provide another choice for how the public can report crime or incidents that could easily be dealt with through digital contact. If you prefer though continue to call 101 on non-urgent issues

Electricity operators' number 105: 105 is a national phone number launched by electricity network operators to call to report or obtain information about a power cut. Dialling 105 is free of charge, and will connect you to the local electricity network operator – the company that manages the cables, power lines and substations that deliver electricity into homes and businesses in your area. Call 105 if you spot damage to electricity power lines and

substations that could put anyone in danger. If there's serious immediate risk, call 999 too. Vulnerable customers who would like to sign up to the Priority Services Register can still call 0800 169 9970, email psr@ukpowernetworks.co.uk or apply at www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk/priority
(For a gas emergency – dial 0800 111999)

A reminder! It's 20 mph all through our village!



For enquiries regarding the **Westbere Village Preservation Society** please contact Diana Poulter [\[mailto:pthpoulter@supanet.com\]](mailto:pthpoulter@supanet.com)

Westbere Charities

The Charities are keen to ensure that anyone in need within the Ancient Parish of Westbere, roughly the present parish plus areas of Island Road and Fordwich Road, (ask the Westbere Charities Clerk for details) receives assistance in accordance with the terms of the Charities. The Charities are aimed particularly at residents over the age of 55 and students undertaking tertiary education. If you know of anyone who might benefit, please contact the Charities' Clerk for information and application forms: Malindi Tucker – 01227 710209. All communications will be treated in the strictest confidence.

If you would like to receive an email or a Large Print Version of this newsletter please contact the Clerk, Amanda Sparkes on 01304 365972 or amanda.sparkes@sky.com

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