



Westbere Parish Council NEWSLETTER February 2020

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

Tom Hopkins (Chairman)
Stephen Laws (Vice Chairman)
Sylvia Harlow
Maria Morcom
Kathryn Wilson
Karen Williams
One vacancy

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

Louise Harvey Quirk: 07704 948305

louise.harvey-quirk@councillor.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>

CLLr Responsibilities for 2019-2020

- Cllr Tom Hopkins - Street lights and Transport
- Cllr Stephen Laws – Planning, Fire Hydrants
- Cllr Sylvia Harlow – Planning, parish plan, KMBR reports
- Cllr Kathy Wilson - Neighbourhood Watch, Chair Village Hall committee
- Cllr Karen Williams – Monitoring salt bins; Village events, and parish council representative on the Village Hall committee
- Cllr Maria Morcom – Parish Council rep for Westbere Village Preservation Society (WVPS) and attend WVPS meetings; and rep for the Sturry, Fordwich and District / Aire-Sur-La-Lys Twinning Association

WESTBERE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATES

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:

17 March, 21 April, 19 May, 16 June, 21 July, no meeting in August, 15 September, 20 October, 17 November 2020,
No meeting in December 2020.

Diary dates:

Village Green Party on the green Sunday 5 July 2020. Book the date – details will be available on the village noticeboards when confirmed.

Please let us have your views!



Possible tree stump art sculpture for a feature tree in the West Churchyard?

Our Arboriculture Survey undertaken in 2019 highlighted the need to consider felling a large Cypress in the West Churchyard. The Parish Council consider this a feature tree and feel its loss would impact. Should the tree be felled, it could be felled to a height of 6-8 feet and then the stump crafted into an artwork/sculpture. The parish councillors feel that this is a very good idea and it could form a capital grant to CCC in 2020 for up to 50% of the carving costs (and if successful be carried out in 2021).

Please let us have your thoughts and views!



Vacancy on the Parish Council You – 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?

A vacancy exists on Westbere Parish Council and the council have been given the power to co-opt to fill this.

Nominations are welcomed from local residents – 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 such as new play areas and better sports facilities, fund raising for new projects, etc
- Comment on all planning applications within the parish
- Sit on sub-committees where appropriate, such as Planning, Finance, Amenities, Countryside, Recreation, and Open Spaces.

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.

If you wish to become involved, or require more information, contact either the Clerk Amanda Sparkes: Telephone 01304 365 972, Email: amanda.sparkes@sky.com or speak to any Westbere Parish Councillor.

Red Phone box at the convent on the A28

The red phone box by the convent has now been sold and removed. Westbere Parish Council plans to install a seat in its place, and has secured a CCC capital grant for 58% of the project costs for this. The seat should be installed shortly.

Two fields, Staines Hill, A28:

We have two applications lodged with KCC for:

- To get more paths registered as Public Footpaths across the land** (application made July 2019), and
- To obtain Village Green status for the Two Fields site** (The Sturry and Westbere Two Fields Action Group submitted an application for the Two Fields to be designated a Village Green to KCC at County Hall on 08 November 2019.)

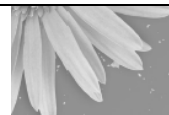
Both applications have been accepted by KCC. The closing date for the village green application is 8 March and it will move to the next stage thereafter, but there is a backlog of 3 years for the Footpaths applications to be assessed and for a decision. [We will keep you updated.](#)

CCC Capital grant for 2020-2021 - Update

Councillors resolved that a capital project for the CCC Parish Council Capital Grant scheme for 2020-2021 should be an application for the planting of a mature replacement tree on the village green - to become the feature tree when the existing Cherry tree finally needs total removal.

A capital grant was therefore submitted to CCC in September with total project costs of £550 for the supply of a 10-12 foot mature Cherry tree and protective cage. The application has been successful and the parish council will receive a grant of £241 which will be paid in April 2020, so we will arrange planting at an appropriate time after that.

If any nearby residents would be willing to help water the new tree that would be most welcomed. This does not have to be clean water – grey water such as your washing up water can be used! Please let us know if you can help with this.



Lifeline

Lifeline.canterbury.gov.uk

01227 862 540

A lifeline alarm, which can be fashionably worn on your wrist or as a pendant, is a service provided in East Kent by Canterbury City Council's CCTV control room, 24 hours a day and 365 days a year. Having a lifeline alarm would help you or a family member feel safe and independent in the home. To book your free demonstration or to make an enquiry please call 01227 862540 or visit www.lifeline.canterbury.gov.uk

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



On 28th March we shall be repeating the wine tasting evening of last year where an expert will guide us on a journey through France: All welcome! :-

Wine tasting

With your Twinning Association
Join us for a journey through
France with a wine expert

£18 per person

Saturday 28th March 2020
7.30pm

The Old School House
Fordwich
CT2 0DG

tickets in advance

Email: joycefarmstrong@gmail.com

Tel: 07811 393 345

Saturday May 16th is the date for our reunion with our friends from Aire Sur La Lys.

We have a variety of plans for the day which will culminate with an evening of good food and entertainment.

Join our mailing list to be kept up to date with events

Follow us on Facebook: Sturry, Fordwich and District
Twinning Association @Sturry Twinning

Email: info@sturry-fordwichtwinning.co.uk

Website: <http://sturry-fordwichtwinning.co.uk>

Phone: 07563 962 505

Winners for February:-

Number	Name	Amount
16	L Allen	£10
109	W & P Masters	£10
119	R & R Kay	£10

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES

at Sturry and District United Church

Palm Sunday, 5 April:

9.30am Palm Sunday Celebration with
Holy Communion at Sturry

11.00am Morning Worship at Westbere

Maundy Thursday, 9 April:

7.30pm Holy Communion of the Last
Supper at Sturry

Good Friday, 10 April:

11.00am All-age Service at Sturry

11.00am
Good Friday
meditation at
Westbere



EASTER

SUNDAY, 12 April:

8.00am Easter Communion at Sturry

8.45am Breakfast in church at Sturry

10.00am Easter Eucharist at Sturry

11.00am Easter Eucharist at Westbere

*Come and join us in our celebrations -
everybody is welcome, including to
breakfast on Easter Day! Easter makes
a massive difference in our lives!*

**Contact number for Sturry and
Westbere churches (Church of England
& Methodist) 01227 490520**

Westbere Village 100 Club:

Winners for January-

Number	Name	Amount
10	J Dawson	£10
21	D Elliott	£10
25	A Ardolino	£10

PLANNING DEVELOPMENTS

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

A28 Link Road

**KCC/CA/0091/2019 - Construction of part of a
new road (A28 Link Road) including viaduct**

between A28 Sturry Road and A291 Sturry Hill and associated on-line improvements. A28 Sturry Link Road, Sturry, Canterbury.

View documents at:

<https://www.kentplanningapplications.co.uk/Planning/Display/KCC/CA/0091/2019>

The application is still awaiting determination by KCC.

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 pink box in the middle of the screen "search planning applications". You then have the option to search by postcode, ward, parish or Application Number.

CCC's planning call centre should be able to assist with any difficulties – call 01227 862178 Monday to Friday 9am-5pm.

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.

PCSO and KCC Community Warden

Westbere is covered by a Police Community Support Officer and KCC Community Warden, who occasionally patrol the village in uniform.

Our KCC Warden is Susan Beeney;- susan.beeney@kent.gov.uk . Susan also covers Sturry and Fordwich. Contact number is 07811271257.

Our PCSO is Christopher Healy [\[mailto:christopher.healy@kent.pnn.police.uk\]](mailto:christopher.healy@kent.pnn.police.uk) or call and leave a message for him through Kent Police in any non-emergency situation on 101 anytime day or night. You can also call 101 to report a crime.

Report crimes and incidents on the Kent Police website:

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 receives a unique reference number and a return email confirming receipt. If you prefer non-digital contact, 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)

For enquiries regarding the **Westbere Village Preservation Society** please contact the Westbere Village Preservation Society secretary, Alison Grubb, email: wvpreservationsociety@gmail.com.

Westbere Charities

The Charities are keen to ensure that anyone in need within the Ancient Parish of Westbere, roughly the



Clean Sweep
Cleaning Services

Services Offered:
Kitchen
Bathrooms
Bedrooms
Office
Dusting
Mopping
Vacuuming

Available:
One-off
Weekly
Fortnightly
Monthly
(as required)

Call Callie on 07522 429 486 £13 Per Hour

Highways Improvements

Westbere Parish Council continues to strive for further highways improvements. Our next endeavor is to try and get the 40mph stretch of the A28 from Sturry to the Lakesview roundabout reduced to 30mph. There is a known accident history here, and with all the new homes being built in the locality we feel a push for a speed reduction is appropriate. Our KCC Cllr Alan Marsh is leading on this. We will keep you updated.

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

This Newsletter is produced, issued and distributed by **WESTBERE PARISH COUNCIL**



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