

WEST MALLING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 14TH MAY 2018, 7.30 PM
AT WEST MALLING VILLAGE HALL, WEST MALLING

Present: Mrs Trudy Dean
Miss G Barkham
Mr Keith Bullard
Mrs Linda Javens
Mr Ben Merchant
Mrs Yvonne Smyth
Mr Nick Stapleton
Mr Peter Stevens

Minute		Action by	Action taken	Response
18/250	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Mr Richard Byatt, Mr Larry Collins, Ms Min Stacpoole, Borough Councillor Sasha Luck & PCSO Mcelligott			
18/251	ELECTIONS & APPOINTMENTS			
251.1	Election of Chairman Mr Stevens proposed that Mrs Dean continue to serve as Chairman; this was seconded by Miss Barkham and agreed unanimously. There being no other nominations Mrs Dean was re-elected and signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office in the presence of the Clerk. Clerk to notify T&MBC.	Clerk	✓	
251.2	Election of vice-Chairman Mrs Dean proposed that Mr Stevens serve as vice-Chairman; this was seconded by Mrs Smyth and agreed unanimously. There being no other nominations Mr Stevens was duly elected.			
251.3	Tree Wardens Members were pleased to confirm the re-appointment of Mr Cosier and Ms Margetts as WMPC's Tree Wardens and wished to thank them for all their efforts.			
18/252	APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES			
252.1	WM Village Hall Management Committee – it was agreed that Mrs Javens would continue in the role as the Parish Council representative on the Village Hall Management Committee.			
252.2	Kent Association of Local Councils – it was agreed that attendance at the local T&M meetings would be on an <i>ad hoc</i> basis; but Mr Byatt had indicated that he would attend meetings where possible.			
252.3	Parish Partnership Panel – it was agreed that attendance at the meetings would be on an <i>ad hoc</i> basis; the Clerk was to forward any paperwork to all WMPC members.			
252.4	Parking Liaison Group – it was agreed that Mrs Smyth would attend meetings alongside Mrs Dean .			

252.5	Blaise Farm Liaison Group – it was agreed that Miss Barkham would attend on behalf of WMPC			
252.6	Document Review Group Mr Peter Stevens and Clerk. Mr Byatt has previously offered assistance with the review of WMPC social media policies.			
252.7	CCTV / Anti-Social Behaviour Group Open membership			
18/253	<u>MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES</u>			
	Following a general discussion regarding the committee structure, it was agreed that the committee structure stay the same and that this be reviewed next year.			
253.1	Amenities Committee Mrs Trudy Dean (<i>ex officio</i>); Miss Gwyneth Barkham; Mrs Linda Javens; Mrs Yvonne Smyth; Ms Min Stacpoole; Mr Nick Stapleton; Mr Peter Stevens.			
253.2	Planning Committee Ms Barkham indicated that she wished to join this Committee. Ms Barkham; Mr Keith Bullard; Mr Richard Byatt; Mrs Trudy Dean (<i>ex officio</i>); Mr Ben Merchant; Mrs Yvonne Smyth; Ms Min Stacpoole.			
253.3	Highways, Transportation & Streetlighting Committee Mr Larry Collins indicated that he wished to join this committee. Miss Gwyneth Barkham; Mr Keith Bullard; Mr Larry Collins; Mrs Trudy Dean (<i>ex officio</i>); Mr Ben Merchant; Mr Nick Stapleton			
253.4	Finance & General Purposes Mrs Dean , Mr Stevens, Mr Merchant and Mr Byatt			
18/254	<u>ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN</u> It was agreed that committee Chairmen be elected at the present meeting Amenities Committee Mr Stevens - agreed unanimously. Planning Committee Mr Byatt - agreed unanimously. Highways, etc Committee Mr Merchant - agreed unanimously.			
18/255	<u>ACCOUNTS</u> The end of year financial statement was approved			
18/256	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> – none other than those routinely declared			
18/257	<u>MINUTES</u> of the meeting held on 9 th April 2018 were approved and signed			
18/258	<u>MATTERS ARISING</u> from the minutes not otherwise on the agenda			
258.1	(18/200) Reshape House / Section 106 – Explanation given as to how section 106 monies have been spent in the past. Clerk confirmed that she had not as of yet received a response from T&MBC as to whether or not they will consult with the Parish Council as to how and where the money is spent.			
258.2	(18/203) Silent Soldier Scheme – Mr Bullard to contact Leybourne Parish Council. The idea of West Malling having their own Silent Soldier(s) to be discussed with Rev'd Green. Clerk to note for F&GP agenda.	KB Clerk	✓ ✓	
18/259	<u>CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS</u>			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Malling Group Practice - Mrs Dean has highlighted potential sites within West Malling to Vicki Plummer (Business Manager). • It is understood that there will be no surgery presence on the existing site once it is sold. • The structure for the surgery as a whole has not yet been finalised and doing so may take a number of years. 			
18/260	<u>QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS</u> - none			
18/261	<u>POLICING MATTERS</u>			
261.1	Policing report – updated crime figures were circulated.			
261.2	Other Policing Matters - none			
18/262	<u>LOCAL PLAN</u>			
	<p>Draft Local Plan expected to be published imminently with regulation 19 consultation in the Autumn.</p> <p>Up to date list of green areas to be submitted to T&MBC. To be considered at F&GP with list to be compiled at Planning Committee. Clerk to note F&GP agenda</p>	Clerk	✓	
18/263	<u>THE TWITCH INN</u>			
	<p>Mrs Dean was pleased to report that agreement has been reached on every point raised with Elm except the issue of payment for insurance. The last insurance policy submitted to the Parish Council did not specify The Twitch, only specifying the residential flats. Issue is should the Parish Council pay for an insurance policy on which The Twitch was not specifically named.</p> <p>Clerk to seek advice from KALC</p>	Clerk	✓	
18/264	<u>BALL PARK</u>			
	<p>Recommendation from the Amenities Committee to discuss way forward for area directly in front of the Ball Park (area with trees and seating) as it is in need of attention. The bin has been removed due to vandalism, the benches are in a state of disrepair also due to vandalism and the grassed area is now just dirt.</p> <p>Discussion as to whether all / some trees should remain and it was noted that this has divided opinion in the past.</p> <p>It was agreed to clear scrub and to leave taller trees – to be discussed further at Amenities meeting and at Anti-Social behaviour group. Costs will be obtained for bench and bin. Clerk to note Amenities agenda. Clerk to schedule a meeting of the Anti-Social</p>	Clerk Clerk	✓	
18/265	<u>INTERNAL AUDITOR</u>			
	It was agreed to appoint Mr Lionel Robbins to undertake the Internal Audit for 2017/18. Mr Robbins charges an hourly rate of £50.00 per hour, travel to and from the office and reports are not charged for.			
18/266	<u>MACEY'S MEADOW INSURANCE FOR HAY BALING EQUIPMENT</u>			
	It was agreed to accept the quote of £309.24 for the insurance of hay baling equipment. This sum is to be paid from Macey's Meadow budget or reserves if the total cannot be met in full.			
18/267	<u>UNAUTHORISED DEVELOPMENT & ENCAMPMENTS CONSULTATION</u>			

	It was agreed that the Parish Council would respond to this consultation. Mrs Dean to consider response. Clerk to note for either next Full Council or F&GP depending on which one meets first. See link www.gov.uk/government/consultations/powers-for-dealing-with-unauthorised-development-and-encampments Deadline 15 th June 2018	TD Clerk	✓	
18/267 (2)	<u>CONFIDENTIAL ITEM</u>			
	It was agreed that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted it was advisable in the public interest that the public and press be temporarily excluded and asked to withdraw in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960. Staffing Matters It was agreed that the Assistant Clerk's salary be increased as per the recently reviewed NALC guidelines (reflecting agreement reached by The National Joint Council for Local Government). To be backdated to April 2018.			
18/268	<u>FINANCIAL MATTERS</u>			
268.1	Accounts for payment - totalling £7140.29 were approved- see attached. It was noted that payments totalling £4132.80 had been approved at quorate meetings (Highways Committee on 30 th April 2018) since the previous Full Council.			
268.2	Financial Statement – was received – see attached.			
17/269	<u>MATTERS FOR REPORT</u>			
269.1	Amenities Committee – receipt was noted, for information of the draft minutes of the meeting held on 16 th April 2018. It was noted that donations received to date for the renovation of the war memorial now total £3383.18, this excludes monies collected in the collection tins. There was discussion as to the possibility of having a stall at the Farmers market for fundraising – Mrs Dean to discuss with West Malling Farmers Market.	TD		
269.2	Planning Committee – receipt was noted, for information of the draft minutes of the meeting held on 24 th April 2018. No questions.			
269.3	Highways, Transportation & Streetlighting Committee – receipt was noted, for information of the draft minutes of the meeting held on 30 th April 2018. No questions. Mr Merchant reported that the first Speedwatch session had taken place over the Bank Holiday weekend, this session concentrated on Town Hill. PCSO Mcelligott was in attendance.			
269.4	Licensee Meeting – meeting was held on 10 th May. Mr Garnett from T&MBC was in attendance. Issues raised: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional hours for Royal Wedding and World Cup • Xmas Light event • Taxis – possibility of turning the bus stop into a taxi rank after the last bus has left West Malling. Notices would be displayed. This may alleviate High Street and Swan Street issues. 			
269.5	Malling Action Partnership – no report			
269.6	Rotary House – no report			
269.7	School Governors – no report			

269.8	Malling Society – next meeting date of Wednesday 23 rd May was noted			
269.9	Chamber of Commerce / Christmas Lights Committee – no report			
269.12	Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council – next scheduled meeting date of the Parish Partnership Panel meeting is due to take place on 14 th June.			
269.13	KALC/NALC/ACRK – the Annual Councillor’s Conference to be held on 10 th July at West Faversham Community Centre was noted. Members to notify Clerk if they wish to attend.			
18/270	<p><u>MEETING DATES</u></p> <p>Amenities Committee – Wednesday 23rd May 2018 (concentrating on allotments)</p> <p>Finance & General Purposes Committee – to be rescheduled.</p> <p>Planning Committee – Tuesday 29th May 2018</p> <p>Highways, Transportation & Streetlighting Committee – Monday 18th June 2018 (at The Clout, 9 High Street) tbc</p> <p>Macey’s Meadow Advisory Committee – Wednesday 20th June 2018</p>			
18/271	<p><u>REPORT OF BOROUGH COUNCILLOR</u></p> <p>See attached report</p>			
18/272	<p><u>REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR</u></p> <p>See attached report</p>			
	<p>There being no other business, the Chairman thanked members for attending and closed the meeting at 10.00</p> <p>Signed.....</p> <p>Dated.....</p>			

West Malling Parish Council					
Accounts for Payment 14th May 2018					cheques to be drawn
Malling Memorial Institute (cheque 5476) (invoice 36/18 room hire 10 & 21/5/18)					£ 30.00
Kent County Council (single cheque 5477)			£ 536.63		£620.21
Electricity supply 1/3/18 - 31/3/18)	VAT		£ 83.58		
Streetlights (cheque 5478)			£ 1,126.68		£ 1,352.02
(Inv 9620 maintenance contract payment 1 out 4)	VAT		£ 225.34		
Four Seasons Gardens (cheque 5479)			£ 43.50		£ 52.20
(invoice 2039 allotments / Ryarsh Lane weedkiller 1st application & staples - 1st cut)	VAT		£ 8.70		
Turfsoil (single cheque 5480)			£ 26.50		£ 31.08
(Inv S47014, Norman Rd playing field - remarking x2)	VAT		£ 5.30		
(Inv S47015, Churchyard mow x 1, strim x1)			£ 125.45		£ 150.54
	VAT		£ 25.09		
Gavin Jones (single cheque 5481)			£ 199.90		£ 239.88
(Inv S59585, Norman Road playing field, mow x2 strim x2, remarking x2)	VAT		£ 39.98		
(Inv S59584, Churchyard mow x 1, strim x1)			£ 125.45		£ 150.54
	VAT		£ 25.09		
CF Corporate (cheque 5482)			£ 102.23		£ 122.68
(Invoice MI/0241162 photocopier lease for period 1/6/18 - 31/8/18)	VAT		£ 20.45		
CA Traffic Ltd (cheque 5483)			£ 600.00		£ 720.00
(invoice 111153 Simple Speed Indication Device)	VAT		£ 120.00		
Day Tree Fellers (cheque 5484)			£ 850.00		£ 1,020.00
(invoice 1136 Repollarding of 4 limes in Churchyard)			£ 170.00		
Mrs Claire Christmas - authorisation to pay via Faster Payments (Clerk - net salary for May + fax) £1429.84 + £1.20					£1,431.04
Mrs Sarah Howard authorisation to pay via Faster Payments (Asst. Clerk - net salary for May 2018)					£319.29
Mr John Collins - authorisation to pay via Faster Payments (Handyman - net salary for May 35 hours & 6 extra hours from April @£7.83)					£270.43
HMRC - authorisation to pay via Faster Payments (Deductions from salaries - May)					£553.38
Nest - authorisation to pay pension contributions by Direct Debit for May '18					
Employer's contributions					£ 35.00
Employee's contributions					£ 42.00
(Employees's contributions have already been deducted from salary)					
			TOTAL		<u>£ 7,140.29</u>

Financial Statement to be presented to Full Council 14 May 2018							
Reconciliation							
Balance b/f from 2017/18							£ 91,892.24
<u>plus</u>							
total receipts 1.04.18-31.03.19							£ 59,355.00
<u>less</u>							
total payments 1.04.18-31.03.19							£ 3,686.78
						Total	£ 147,560.46
Deposit account							£ 90,716.69
Current account					£73,648.77		
less unrepresented cheques					£16,805.00		
						<u>£ 56,843.77</u>	
						Total	£ 147,560.46
Unrepresented Cheques				Date Issued			
5429	ATC Squadron	£ 150.00	13/12/2017				
5463	Streetlights	£ 16,266.00	19/03/2018				
5471	WMVH	£ 78.00	09/04/2018				
	Craigdene	£ 234.00	09/04/2018				
DD	Nest	£ 77.00	25/04/2018				
		<u>£ 16,805.00</u>					

Councillor's Report

Local Plan.

The traffic assessment has now been completed on the A 20 corridor and was uploaded on the Tonbridge & Malling web site on the 6th March. The assessment that covers the rest of the Borough hopefully will be completed for the Board Meeting on the 5th June. I have asked the question of why the M20 which has a great impact in this area is not in the traffic assessment.

Lobster Pot.

I am in touch with Planning Officer Rebecca Jarman, any news I will pass it on

County Councillors Report May 2018.

New House Building and Traffic Report.

The long awaited study of how the A20 junctions locally would cope with all the housing proposed in the new Local Plan has been published on the TMBC website. The study takes as its base the growth in existing traffic by 2031 if there are no changes to the road network and no new significant (more than 40 houses) house building sites.

It then compares that figure with the predicted traffic if all the houses are built which TMBC say they are likely to include in their Local Plan. That includes 1,300 houses on East Malling Research from Kiln Barn Road to Hermitage Lane, 1,500 homes extending Kings Hill northward onto Broadwater Farm, and 450 houses on Aylesford Newsprint site which is the subject of a planning application waiting to be decided by TMBC. The Wates proposal for 250 houses at A20 Forty Acre Field East Malling and the Gladman proposal for 120 homes on Sportsman's Farm behind the former Startled Saint, King Hill West Malling were not included as they have been announced since the study began.

The study is a very technical document, but in brief it says that, of the sixteen junctions examined, eleven would be over their capacity by 2031 with no additional building or road improvements. When the new proposed house building is taken into account and the effect of two new distributor roads through Bellingham Way on Aylesford Newsprint and another from Quarry Wood to Hermitage Lane, six junctions will still exceed their capacity by 2031 at both morning and evening peak times, and four more will exceed capacity on either the morning or the evening peak. The study results are summarised below.

A20 London Road Junctions which would exceed capacity by 2031 with no further large scale house building are:-

New Hythe Lane, New Road (East Malling), Lunsford Lane/Winterfield Lane, Castle Way/Ashton Way (bypass), Hermitage Lane/Preston Hall, Mills Road/Hall Road Aylesford, Station Road/New Road (Ditton crossroads), Hermitage Lane retail access, Hall Road / Station Road, and M20 junction 4.

A20 junctions which would exceed capacity by 2031 with new housing and 2 new spine roads are:-

New Road East Malling, Lunsford Lane, Coldharbour Lane, Poppyfields Roundabout, High Street /Rochester Road Aylesford, and M20 junction 4.

A20 junctions which would exceed capacity by 2031 with new housing and 2 new spine roads at one of the peak periods:-

New Hythe Lane, Castle Way/Ashton Way, A228/Ashton Way will exceed their capacity on the evening peak hours, and Mills Road/Hall Road Aylesford will exceed capacity in the morning peak.

KCC and TMBC are now working on how to deal with this problem, either by added road junction improvements, or by reducing the number of new houses to be built. This study supports our view that the amount of housing being proposed locally is too great for the road network, and numbers must be reduced. Both local Parish Councils believe that the Green Belt should be extended to cover all green fields land between Larkfield, East Malling and West Malling, and this means reducing or better still eliminating, the northward extension of Kings Hill onto Broadwater Farm.

HGVs in High Street and Chapel Street

The problems caused by HGVs using High Street and Chapel Street have come to the fore again. It's always very difficult to know whether lorries are in the area for access (which is permitted) or whether they are contravening the width restriction. So long as a lorry can get under the railway bridge, however close it looks, it is not breaching the height restriction. However, as two articulated lorries have been observed going under the railway bridge in the last week - both of them foreign - with further articulated lorries seen in Mill Street, Roger and Michelle are reviewing the signage on the approaches to consider whether any repeater signage is needed. They have also arranged to carry out a Lorry Watch session and will report their findings

in the next Hotline.

If residents would be interested in helping with a regular Lorry Watch Scheme, please contact Roger or Michelle for further details.

Clare Lake Volunteers Get Busy

After being thwarted by the snow at the beginning of March, volunteers were finally able to come together at Clare Lake on 7th April for the first ground work and litter picking event of the year. Seventeen volunteers helped to clear rubbish and vegetation, and one of the volunteers subsequently returned to mow along the edge of the Blacklands path and to create some walkways through the meadow. The vegetation will be growing quickly soon and in order to keep on top of the situation, volunteer mornings have been arranged for the first Saturday of every month - [10.30am to 12.30pm](#), meeting in the school turning circle at the bottom of Clare Lane. Litter picking equipment will be provided, but volunteers are asked to bring hand tools such as rakes, brooms, secateurs and shears - but strictly no power tools please.

If you'd like more information about the project or how you can get involved, please contact Michelle or Roger.

Wast Malling Health Walk Scheme - Every [Friday 11.00](#) at the East Malling Centre

Michelle has been working with Angela Borsos and staff at Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council to help launch the Healthy Walks Scheme in East Malling. The Walks are now taking place every Friday, starting and ending at the East Malling Centre cafe. Walkers are meeting [at 11am](#) for an [11.15am](#) start. The walks are especially suitable for those getting back to exercise after an illness or injury, or who need to go at gentler pace, together with those who would like to walk socially as part of a friendly group. Walks are completely FREE, but you will need to fill in a registration form.

If you'd like any more information please contact Michelle.01732 876347

Cottenham Orchard - Update on Village Green Status

Thank you to everyone who has completed a questionnaire in support of obtaining Village Green status for Cottenham Orchard. We've had a very good response so far, but would urge more people to come forward. Ideally, you will have used the land for 20 years but we would ask you to consider filling in a questionnaire even if your use is not for so long a period as we hope all the evidence when taken together with help to establish that Village Green status should be granted.

Please contact Roger or Michelle if you would like a form and they will arrange to get one to you.

We need to get the Village Green status as soon as possible so that it will be included in the autumn in the Borough Local Plan list of important Green Spaces to be protected.

Success! Morrisons give 10 New Hythe Residents' Parking Permits

Morrisons advised us yesterday that they will sell parking permits to ten residents of New Hythe Lane to allow them to park in the store car park. They will charge £300 per year. We don't know yet whether Morrisons have, as requested, limited these permits to the houses affected by the new peak hour parking ban due to start in July. Residents and Trudy put pressure on Morrisons to help the affected householders after Anita and Trudy succeeded in getting the weekday peak hour on-street parking removed to tackle local crashes, congestion and pollution.

GP Surgery Update

The practice has confirmed that they are confining their sale negotiations to three interested purchasers only of the surgery site, and so the Parish Council's request to be advised of the sale details has been declined. At its meeting on Monday last week, the Parish Council agreed to share details of its land holdings and potential purchases to help ensure West Malling retains a surgery. The practice and the Patients Participation Group, who liaise between patients and the practice, are urging residents to sign up to on-line updates on wmgpppg@gmail.com or searching for <WMGP Surgery Information> page on Facebook.

Primary School Offers

Yesterday, children all over Kent were told at which Primary School they have been given a place. 400 Kent children have not been given a place in any of the three schools they chose. In our own area, most primary schools have more children applying for places than they can take, and last year local children were given places in Leybourne Chase or Aylesford Primary Schools.

Government funding to build new or extended schools has been so badly cut that KCC is now almost entirely dependent upon money from developers given permission to build new houses. In our area, this means children from Larkfield and East Malling being sent to Leybourne or Aylesford which are outside their own community, far away from friends and often impossible to get to by public transport. I am arranging a meeting with the Councillor responsible for the system who has agreed to work with me on any cases of difficulty. So if your child is affected this year in this way, please get in touch with me at trudy.dean@kent.gov.uk

Borough Local Plan Timetable for Approval Announced

The Borough Council's proposed Local Plan will be published for presentation to the Planning and Transportation Committee [on 5th June](#) and [24th July](#) with presentation to Cabinet in September, public consultation in October and submission to the Secretary of State in December. By getting the Plan approved by December 2018, the Borough Council can stick to the lower housing figures originally provided by Government rather than the additional 3,000 houses announced just before Christmas 2017.

All Change for South Eastern Trains [from 20th May](#)

South Eastern have published their new railway timetable due to [start on May 20th](#). Almost every train time has been changed and some stopping stations have been altered too. South Eastern say the timetable offers “More services and new journey opportunities for many stations; New Thameslink connections from London Bridge every few minutes to Blackfriars, City Thameslink, Farringdon and St Pancras”.

Check up on the changes using this link.

[May timetable | Southeastern](#)

<https://www.southeasternrailway.co.uk> › *Travel information* › *Live travel information*

Consultation on Anti Social Travellers

The Government has announced a consultation on how to deal more effectively with anti social travellers. This is a welcome step forward. Residents will remember the invasion of the Norman Road Playing Fields last summer when gates were damaged in a forced entry, the children’s play equipment and Village Hall had to be closed down, and the legal process to evict the travellers, together with the costs of the clear up operation cost parishioners over £2,000. In nearby Larkfield, the same site was invaded twice in the year incurring similar costs each time, and one group evicted from Larkfield moved immediately to West Malling.

Measles found in Kent

Following outbreaks in the rest of the country, the first cases of measles in Kent since 2016 has now been found. All of these cases occurred in patients who had NOT received two doses of the MMR vaccine. MMR vaccination can be done at any time. Measles can be very serious both in adults and children, especially pregnant women.

Measles symptoms include: high fever; sore, red, watery eyes; coughing; aching and feeling generally unwell. If you or your child has these symptoms, especially if you have not been vaccinated, contact your GP immediately but DO NOT GO TO THE SURGERY OR HOSPITAL as this may spread the disease to others.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/measles-dont-let-your-child-catch-it-poster>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/think-measles-patient-leaflet-for-young-people>

Malling School Head moves on

The Malling School Principal Carl Roberts is moving on. During his ten years as Principal, Carl has built The Malling School into the most popular non-grammar school in Malling and there is now competition to get a place at the school.

Couch Green Sign reported

The leaning road sign at Couch Green (junction of Winterfield Lane and Lucks Hill/Clare Lane) has been reported to KCC for repair.

Startled Saint

Developers Gladmans are being asked to attend a West Malling Parish Council meeting to explain their plan to apply to build 120 houses on land between West Malling bypass, King Hill and Teston Road, behind the former 'Startled Saint' Pub.

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Fatal Crash

Kent Police are calling for witnesses or anyone with windscreen camera images of the fatal crash on West Malling Bypass on Wednesday 25 April 2018. It happened [at around 8.05am](#), near the junction for West Malling train station.

Morrisons agree 10 resident parking permits

Morrisons are going ahead with supplying 10 parking permits to residents fronting onto the parking bays affected by new restrictions on New Hythe Lane. The security barriers are no longer being operated at night as the car park is managed by automatic number plate recognition.

High Street Car Park West Malling

The spaces cordoned off by the Farmhouse in the car park belong to the pub's owners and were retained by them when the car park was originally opened as a condition of the planning consent for a supermarket.

Kent Young Persons Travel Pass goes even further with Arriva

Arriva buses are allowing holders of the KCC Young Persons Travel Pass to travel on their buses beyond the weekday 6am to 7pm slot. The change is hoped to start on 6th May, extending travel into the evenings, weekends and holidays.

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Village Greens

Following registering several of its village greens as official "village greens" on the Commons and Village Green Register, EM & L Parish Council has asked if the Borough Council has considered voluntary registration of any of its landholdings. The Parish Council has asked that Carnation Green on the Stepstile estate is a local one which should be considered for such protection.

The National Open Space Society is asking its members to encourage this as it gives such areas special long term protection compared with ordinary green spaces which the Council can sell off after advertising its intentions in local newspapers.

Road Closures

25th May Wateringbury Road East Malling will be closed between 8.30 and 4pm at number 164 for tree felling. (This closure was previously incorrectly signed. Thanks to the resident who reported it to us so we could get it done properly).

Advance warning 10th June. Up to one day closing of Mill Hall and Station Rd Aylesford from 8am till 6pm for changes to be made to level crossing lights.

Warning to Parents of children with Autism

The National Autistic Society has described the CEASE therapy being offered as a 'cure' for autism as "absolutely appalling". More than 120 homeopaths countrywide have been found to be offering this treatment giving children large amounts of Vitamin C - and antibiotics, which can trigger diarrhoea - claiming to remove toxins from the child's body.

Watch out...you're on the tele

Highways England began installing CCTV on the M20 between junction 3 and 5 on Monday April 30th. Three narrow 50 mph lanes will start operating on June 6th to create the space needed to build a 'smart motorway' on this section. When complete, it will increase capacity by creating an extra lane using the hard shoulder, and variable speed limits will smooth traffic flows. An exhibition and advice session was held at Larkfield Village Hall on 9th May.
