

RYARSH PARISH COUNCIL



Your Parish Council

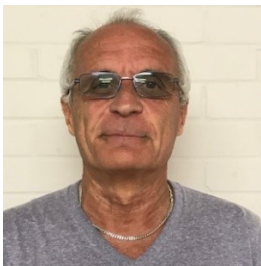
Following the recent co-option of Cllr Samantha Payne, your Parish Councillors are:



Cllr Mary McKinlay
Chairman



Cllr Ivor Emson
Vice Chairman



Cllr Mel Barton



Cllr Andy Betts



Cllr Caroline Martin



Cllr Samantha Payne



Cllr Jon Sutton

Parish Council Updates

- The Parish Council is working with the Church to help plan a Queen's Jubilee Celebration event at the Recreation Ground on Sunday 5th June 2022
- There was a discussion about providing commemorative Jubilee Mugs to schoolchildren, and a resident at the meeting generously offered a £500 donation towards the cost
- The Primary School ran a successful "one step greener" event at the start of term. An exhibition of some of the children's work will take place at The Duke of Wellington.
- Following a recent meeting between the Parish Council and Kent Highways, KCC have agreed to provide some new signage at the entrance to Old School Lane. These will be No Through Signs which they say are a good early warning for drivers and which they believe will be the most suitable addition here. The aim is to prevent vehicles trying to access Ryarsh Park from Old School Lane. Councillors hope this will work and are pleased to receive this support from Kent Highways.
- The Parish Council discussed the budget for 2022-2023 and agreed a precept request. The precept is the way Parish Council's receive their funding from TMBC which is collected with resident's Council Tax. It was agreed for the second year that the precept would be kept the same at £25,772. In fact, this means the amount paid per Band D property will decrease slightly to £68.95. Councillors are mindful of the financial pressures on residents during these difficult times. The Parish Council will continue to pay for streetlights in the Village, maintain and update the play area, donate towards the Village Hall, pay for grass cutting on the Recreation Ground, donate towards the grass cutting of the burial ground at St Martins Church, pay for Highways Improvements, maintain the defibrillator and book box and contribute towards the cost of the Christmas Tree and Lights.

County Councillor Sarah Hohler

A number of matters were reported on by Cllr Hohler at the meeting.

- KCC are dealing with the budget in another challenging year
- One You Kent is supporting people to lose weight, get active, quite smoking, or just feel better. Support is available online and you can speak to advisors
- The number of unaccompanied asylum seekers arriving in small boats in the last year was 28,431 which is 3 times higher than the year before, despite huge investment in France to prevent this happening.
- KCC are investing in improving and enhancing existing Country Park play areas. Cllr Hohler is chairing a Working Group on the strategy of Country Parks in Kent.
- KCC are launching a Civil Society Strategy to support the good work taking place through the pandemic by those volunteering and helping others.
- There is a Kent and Medway grant hub for businesses which are struggling
- Brexit border checks have been in place from 1st January. More people are employed to monitor that and prevent delays, increasing financial pressures on KCC.
- KCC continues to try and make the way they do business more modern and effective to deliver, and also to follow the green agenda.



Kent Police

Birling Road - On Friday 24th of December between 00:01 and 12:59. Somebody stole both number plates from a Chevrolet Matiz parked in the road.

Kent Association of Local Councils Community Awards Scheme

Thank you to everyone who nominated residents who deserve to be recognised for the work they have contributed to our community. Councillors were delighted with the participation of villagers in this scheme and pleased that there are so many people who are so active in the village. There were many deserving nominations made and Councillors found it extremely difficult to choose between the nominees who could all have been given the award. It was decided that the fairest way was to choose the person who has received the most nominations and that person will be notified that they are the recipient of the KALC Community Award in due course.

The Parish Council has also decided to set up a Ryarsh Village Award Scheme to run alongside the KALC scheme as there were so many worthy recipients.

The Parish Council will take part in the KALC Community Awards Scheme and will run the Ryarsh Village Award Scheme on an annual basis, so anyone not receiving an award this year can be nominated next year or the year after.

Thank you to everyone who helps make Ryarsh such a fantastic place to live. Nominations for this year are now closed, but please consider who you would like to nominate next year.

Next Parish Council meeting

The next meeting which will be held in The Davison Room of Ryarsh Village Hall has been changed to Monday 7th February 2022 at 8pm.

You can contact the Clerk by email at clerk@ryarsh-pc.gov.uk.
For more information, please go to our website www.ryarsh-pc.gov.uk



February 2022

Guided group walks

Our friendly group is one of 13 Ramblers groups in Kent and part of the national Ramblers walking organisation. We explore the beautiful Kent countryside of Tonbridge and Malling and surrounding areas. Our walks are mostly circular with a moderate pace.

You don't have to be a Ramblers member to try out a couple of walks with us, to help you decide if you'd like to join. If you are new to our walks, it's a good idea to contact the walk leader beforehand to check that their walk will suit you.

We look forward to welcoming you on a walk soon!

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| Sunday 6 February | A leisurely loop around Sevenoaks Weald using fields and tracks, and a section of the Greensand Way. Hills and stiles included with the lovely views. | 4 miles |
| Wednesday 9 February | A moderate circular walk to the edge of Trottisciffe village, then through fields and woodland to Ryarsh, before heading back to Trosley Country Park. Splendid views on a clear day. Steep slopes at the start and end of the walk. | 6.5 miles |
| Wednesday 16 February | A moderate circular walk along flat paths, passing Hartlake Bridge, along the Medway to East Lock and back to Tudeley Hale. | 4.5 miles |
| Sunday 20 February | A moderate circular walk from Otford up and along the Darent valley. Be prepared for mud and bring walking poles if you need them. | 5 miles |
| Wednesday 23 February | Leisurely circular walk from Matfield to Brenchley through orchards, pasture and woodland. | 4.5 miles |
| Sunday 27 February | A moderate circular walk to discover the new permissive footpaths between the North Pole and Barming. | 5.5 miles |
| <p>Walks usually start at 10.00 or 10.30. There's a short break half-way through the walk (bring refreshments) and we usually finish near a pub. For latest details and walk leader contacts, see the programme link at www.tonbridgandmallingsramblers.org.uk or email info@tonbridgeandmallingsramblers.org.uk</p> | | |