

COVID-19

The Parish Council would like to pay tribute to and show our appreciation to those of you who have stepped up and gone above and beyond in these unprecedented times. Thank you to all the individuals, volunteers, groups and local businesses that have supported those in need.

The Parish Council has continued to work throughout the pandemic, embracing changes in legislation and technology, allowing meetings to be held online. The full council calendar of meetings have continued enabling consultation on planning applications and the completion of the Memorial Wall in Ash Burial Ground. We are pleased to have been able to support vulnerable residents providing a weekly take-away lunch with the support of our Cook and volunteers and have been able to meet the demand for garden waste, recycling and black refuse sacks.



As guidelines change and shops are reopening, please give them your support—it is very much needed and much appreciated. A big thank you goes to the Co-op, Pets Pantry, Ace Contractors, The Village Bakery, the Village Pharmacy, McColls and the Post Office who have continued to provide services to the community.

THANK YOU

*To all of the
NHS, Care &
Keyworker staff who
have helped us all
through this difficult
time.*



ASH GREEN SPORTS CENTRE AND GYM



✓ The Sports Centre underwent a face lift prior to the permission to reopen. The gym carpet has been replaced with eco friendly polysafe flooring and the Centre deep cleaned, best practice will be followed, coupled with staff training for the cleaning necessary for safest possible use of the facility, including weekly fogging with an anti-viral solution. We welcome back our existing gym and racket members, excluding squash at the moment, and look forward to

reintroducing classes, including yoga, circuit training and gentle exercise in the future.

Please contact our friendly staff who will be happy to discuss our new booking procedures and the elevated cleaning regime; your safety and confidence in the Centre is our priority.



With the reopening of Ash Green Sports Centre, additional sacks can be purchased from Reception
Garden Waste Sacks £15.00 for 25 Recycle Sacks £0.50 per roll
Black Sacks—no charge

Open Monday to Friday 9am—8pm,
Saturday 9.30am—4.30pm Sunday 9.30pm —1.15pm

Phone for more information on 01474 707164

On the Milestone Academy site

CONTACT THE PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: 01474 702760 Email: info@acrpc.org.uk

Website: www.hugofox.com/community/ash-cum-ridley-parish-council-12628

CASUAL VACANCY

A VACANCY HAS ARISEN FOR A Parish Councillor to represent the New Ash Green North West Ward. This is due to the retirement of Ian Mann. Ian has been a member of the Parish Council since December 2009 and has been a much valued member of the Council, particularly as Chairman of Ash Green Sports Centre and the Editor of the Bulletin. The Parish Council would like to thank him for his work on the Council and wish him well in the future.

Applications are being sought from eligible* people, suitably qualified to serve.

INFORMATION

The Parish Council is involved in most local matters: planning, highways and footpaths. Support for local services and organisations, environmental, crime and quality of life issues. It is responsible for the management of Ash Green Sports Centre and the Ash Burial Ground. It is consulted over local matters and tries to put forward the local point of view. Parish Council meetings are held on the third Thursday evening of every month.

APPLICATIONS

Those persons interested in becoming a Parish Councillor please apply in writing or by email to the Clerk, Ashcum-Ridley Parish Council, Ash Green Sports Centre, Ash Road, New Ash Green, DA3 8JZ, giving brief background details and why you would like to join the Council.

*ELIGIBILITY

Subject to the rules on disqualification, a person is qualified if they are a qualifying Commonwealth citizen and has attained the age of 18 and:

- (a) on that day he is and thereafter he continues to be a local government elector for the area of the authority; or
- (b) he has during the whole of the twelve months preceding that day occupied as owner or tenant any land or other premises in that area; or
- (c) his principal or only place of work during that twelve months has been in that area; or
- (d) he has during the whole of those twelve months resided in that area; or
- (e) he has during the whole of those twelve months resided either in the parish or within 4.8 kilometres of it

Parish Councillors sign up to the Parish Council's Code of Conduct. The Parish Council meets monthly on the third Thursday of the month at 7.45pm and Committee meetings are held to deal with specific subjects, such as planning matters and the management of Ash Green Sports Centre and Ash Burial Ground.

If this is of interest to you, please contact the Parish Clerk for more information on 01474 702760 or email info@acrpc.org.uk

Whoever you are, social isolation is not an excuse for domestic abuse

This is a crime and it can affect anyone.

During this COVID-19 pandemic, limited contact with the outside world may make you or someone you know feel unsafe but our specialist teams are still here to help 24/7, in the same way we always do.

Kent Police will respond to your call and can arrest anyone committing offences against you.

In an emergency dial 999 or 101 for non-emergencies. You can also speak to someone online at www.kent.police.uk

There are other agencies working with Kent Police to support you:

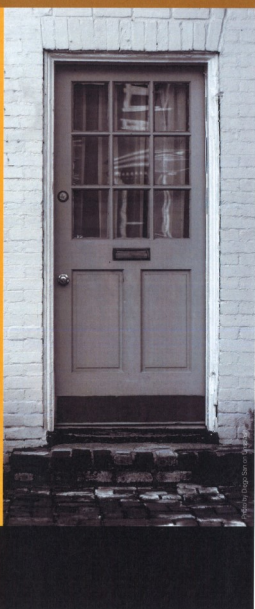
• National Domestic Abuse Helpline: 0808 2000 247

• Kent and Medway Domestic Abuse Helpline: www.domesticabuseservices.org.uk/

• Victim support: 08 08 16 89 111 www.victimsupport.org.uk

• Broken Rainbow: www.brokenrainbow.org.uk

• Childline: 0800 1111



GRANTS TO COMMUNITY PROJECTS

The Parish Council has given a grant towards the fencing of the allotments behind the Black Lion, where theft has been occurring and instances of damage to the trees on Northfield itself. All incidents have been reported to the Police.



New Ash Green Junior Rugby FC

New Ash Green Rugby Club was awarded funds to purchase tag rugby belt sets, junior playing shirts and a storage.



The British Red Cross also received a grant to assist with the extra demands of COVID-19.



BritishRedCross
150 years

Small grants are awarded to community organisations like the Air Ambulance, Citizens Advice Bureau, Victim Support and West Kent Mediation, if you are a community group that benefits the residents of the Parish, contact the Parish Clerk for more information.

IVOR'S FIELD



The children's playing field at Hodsoll Street has been managed by the Parish Council for many years, an arrangement originating due to the generosity of the late Ivor Stoneham, who owned the surrounding farmland.

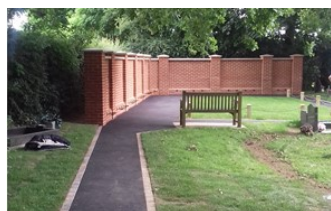
The notice board for the field recently collapsed due to old age, and the Parish Council has taken the opportunity to commission two splendid hand-painted replacements, which by agreement with the trustees of Ivor's estate now bear the name "Ivor's Field".



We hope that this will be a fitting memorial to Ivor, who over the years was a staunch supporter of the community of Hodsoll Street. We hope also that future generations of Hodsoll Street children will continue to enjoy the playground and playing field, and perhaps stop to ask how the field got its name

MEMORIAL GARDEN

The memorial garden for the burial of ashes in the Burial Ground is now complete. In order to keep the tranquillity and attractiveness of the area, the regulations will be strictly adhered to.



RECYCLING SHREDDED PAPER

Sevenoaks District Council has confirmed that shredded paper can be placed in the clear sacks, but ask that the shredded paper is contained within another paper-based container (such as a cereal box or cardboard box). This is so that the shredded paper does not spread around the sorting machinery which can cause issues."

ANCHOR AND HOPE PUBLIC HOUSE

There has been an application to demolish the Anchor and Hope Public House and build three large houses on the site. This will be dealt with by Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council.



LITTER & PPE

Respect your village and environment— Discarded litter takes years, if ever, to degrade causing harm to wildlife and habitats PPE, be it gloves, masks or wipes should be placed in a bin—if there is no bin available or the bin is full —please take them home.



TELEPHONE BOXES

A tale of two telephone boxes. The old style box next to Hodsoll Street Village Hall is now used as a "Village Larder" to help those limited by the COVID-19 Pandemic. It doubles as a book exchange and a source of tinned and dried food. The modern box in New Ash Green shopping centre will not be removed as the request by the telephone authorities suggested to Sevenoaks District Council.



PARISH COUNCILLORS

NEW ASH GREEN SOUTH EAST WARD

Councillors: Mike Brown, (Chairman) Roxana Brammer, Jill Clucas, Pam Connell, John Kelly and Mark Manley

NEW ASH GREEN NORTH WEST WARD

Councillors: Carol Clark, Sarah Hobbs, Steven Glover, Vusi Ngwenya, Paul Nightingale, vacancy

ASH WARD

Councillors: Jeremy Scott and Neil Lejot

HODSOLL STREET & RIDLEY WARD

Councillors: Frank Cottey and Margaret Howie

You can contact your Councillors through the Clerk, Parish Office, Ash Green Sports Centre, Ash Road, New Ash Green, DA3 8JZ, telephone 01474 702760 or email: info@acrpc.org.uk.

USEFUL NUMBERS

Kent County Council	03000 418181
Sevenoaks District Council	01732 227000
Kent Police - emergency calls	999
Kent Police—non emergency calls	101
Anti Social Behaviour Officer	01732 227000
Community Warden	07811 271259
Doctors Surgery	01474 873828
Village Pharmacy	01474 873811
Citizens Advice	03003 309001
Arriva Northfleet	01474 535138
West Kent Mediation	01732 469696
Ash Village Hall	01474 874693
Hodsoll Street Village Hall	01732 823707
NAG Youth Centre	01474 872441
NAG Library	03000 413131

JUBILEE MEDICAL GROUP

As we start to see a suggestion of a rise in COVID cases, we at Jubilee remain flexible and able to adapt quickly to whatever the next few weeks and months bring. The reason we can do this is thanks to our 'book on the day' system, combined with 'total triage' via telephone or our Doctorlink app.

We understand some people's frustration at not being able to book a face to face appointment directly or book in advance, as we could pre-COVID. However, the vast majority of patients and GPs alike, have focused on the real positives of this new system. These include:

- Our 4-week wait for a routine appointment has gone.
- Most patients now have a consultation on the same day they request it.
- GPs deal with greater numbers and more appropriate and complex patients now than they did before, helping them to focus on where they are needed most.
- GPs only see patients they need to - we now have a Paramedic Practitioner, 2 Clinical Pharmacists, a team of First Contact Physiotherapists, and Nurses specialising in areas like Diabetes, who all have specific skills that make them the best person to see.
- Patients have been able to have consultations without having to take time off work or find childcare.
- Patients can fill in online consultations at any time and always get a response from us.
- We can now book patients in from 111.
- Patients are pleased they don't need to fight for parking
- Patients are saving time by avoiding commuting and waiting in the surgery when a clinician runs behind.
- We've prevented COVID spreading amongst our staff and patients and subsequently into the wider community
- Our waiting rooms are safer with fewer patients in them and we have adequate time to put on (and safely remove PPE) and clean equipment and rooms afterward. Note that this reduction in face to face contact is made up for by the huge increase in telephone consultations.

Most GP surgeries around the country are now seeing the clear advantages of telephone consultations, supplemented by photo, video, or face to face contact where this is deemed necessary by the clinician. For this reason, many (including Jubilee) will continue to work in this new way for the foreseeable future and will not return to the old appointment models.

We also now have both New Ash Green and Longfield telephone lines open, so patients can call either surgery for enquiries. We are hoping this will cut down the wait time for telephone calls.

If you are calling for a general enquiry then please don't call at peak times as this may cause you a unnecessary wait.

We are so very grateful to have a wonderful community of patients that respect and support what we do. The comments we've received via various channels, including our friends and family testing and our previous posts, have been heartwarming.

We thank you and promise to work as hard as ever to serve our community.

Dr Krishan Bhanot

ADVICE AND MEDIATION

Need help now? If your life is at risk call 999
Samaritans 24/7 116 123 (free to call)

Young people in crisis

Papyrus suicide prevention for under 35's 0800 0684141
Childline 0800 1111—both free to call



COVID-19 Opening Hours
Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10am —12 noon
Tuesday and Thursday 12 noon —2pm
Phone 07526 823122
Email: communitycupboard19@gmail.com



Neighbours, community
Parent/ Teenager
Mediation Work place & Homeless
Mediation

Tel: 01732 469696
Email: theoffice@wkm.org.uk

Advice line 03003 309001
Monday to Friday 10am—3pm
Email advice@nwkent.cab.org.uk
Help with Universal
Credit call free 0800
1448444



If you have concerns regarding
anti-social behaviour, fly-tipping
or door step callers
contact the Community
Safety Unit on 01732 227000 or
community.safety@sevenoaks.gov.uk

