



# Doddinghurst Parish Council



Website: [www.doddinghurst-pc.gov.uk](http://www.doddinghurst-pc.gov.uk)

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## Introduction

Welcome to the Winter issue of the Parish Council Newsletter. This edition covers events of summer 2017 and activities pending in 2018.

## Children's Play Equipment

Last year the Parish Council published its intention to replace the "Teen Village" which has reached the end of its serviceable life and to renovate/ improve the popular "kicking goal" as well as other essential repairs to the basketball wall rendering. Funding towards this work is in progress with a grant from the Dagwood Trust of £3000 having been awarded and a Community Initiative Fund application in progress with the remainder of the cost coming from the Parish Council. Work to repair the Basket Ball rendering was started but immediately vandalised so the finishing coat was abandoned as a lost cause. The Play Area fencing has also recently been dismantled and damage twice in the

space of a fortnight – not cool! Tenders for the new equipment have been received and a new Teen Shelter supplier has been selected as well as proposals for artificial grass and new kicking goal. This work is currently scheduled for early in the New Year. We have also improved the security at Peartree Playing field with a new steel gate and shrouded lock, which is in addition to a central security post and overhead barriers.

## Christmas Buffet

On Thursday 7th December 2017 the Parish Council will be hosting a Christmas Buffet in St Margaret's Hall. The event is open to all residents and will be an ideal opportunity for anyone thinking about becoming a Parish Councillor to come and meet the current councillors in an informal setting. The evening starts at 8.00pm with wine, soft drinks and a food buffet so please come along and meet the team.

## **Parish Council Job Vacancy**

After 13 years in the job the Parish Clerk has decided to retire at the end of March 2018 and an advert for the post has been published in the Link. Anyone interested should contact the office for full details.

## **Village Footpaths**

The Essex County Council Public Rights of Way Officer has posted notices to declare that Notices of Landowner Deposits have been made by a local farmer that relate a number of fields in the village. This does not affect the Definitive Map footpaths but an opportunity still exists for residents to have other unlisted footpaths in the village added to the Definitive Map of footpaths. This requires enough people to express that wish and form a body of evidence that the footpaths (which may now be closed or blocked) were once well used and should be retained. Once listed on the Definitive Map a footpath cannot be taken away or obstructed – although they can be diverted if good reason is given. If you believe that previously existing, or currently unlisted footpaths, should be protected please contact the office where we hold the Definitive Map of footpaths in the Village.

## **Local Development Plan**

The Parish Council continues to monitor the progress of the Borough Council's Local Development Plan which is now running to a much later timetable than previously envisaged. The government continues to raise the bar in terms of development requirements, which challenge the sustainability assessments and sets progress back by months every time the numbers change. How this will affect the villages in the Borough has yet to be announced.

## **Village Bus**

The Parish Council continues to support the Village Bus service that runs trips to local venues at least once a month using local community buses. Although retired from the Parish Council Colin Enderby, continues to Chair the Committee that plan the trips, stalwartly supported by Gill Enderby. The timetable of the 2018 trips is published on the village notice boards, on the Parish Council website and in this magazine. It is non-profit making and the drivers are all qualified to drive the 14 seater minibuses we use. All journeys leave from the Village Hall car park and return the same day.

## **Village Flower Tubs**

Have you noticed the flower tubs dotted alongside the roads in the Village? The tubs were originally bought by the Parish Council but are stocked with plants at no cost to residents by Councillors who grow the plants themselves. So, we hope you enjoy them as you walk or drive by and that they brighten your day. However, if it were not for the local residents who take time to water the tubs during the summer the plants would not survive, so many thanks to all the people that take the time to do this for the benefit of all.

## **Village Hall**

We would like to re-assure residents that the Village Hall opposite All Saints Church on Church Lane is fully functional and taking bookings. It is now under new management and anyone wishing to help and/or become part of the committee running the Hall should contact either Julia Le page or Debbie Dicker for more details. The Hall is a registered Charity that is independent of the Parish Council

## Parish Council Meeting Dates

The Parish Council normally meet monthly and welcomes members of the public who wish to attend. The next four meetings 2017/6 year will be held on:

- Jan 18<sup>th</sup> 2018 - Full Council
- Feb 21<sup>st</sup> 2018 - General Purpose
- March 1<sup>st</sup> 2018 - Full Council
- April 18<sup>th</sup> 2018 - General Purpose

For further information contact us in the Parish Office.

### Parish Council Officers

#### **Roger Blake**

Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer

#### **Clarrie Tremain**

Deputy Clerk

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See the Website: [www.doddinghurst-pc.gov.uk](http://www.doddinghurst-pc.gov.uk)

For more information about the Council and the Village. Please note: The website is soon to change to [www.essexinfo.net.doddinghurst-pc](http://www.essexinfo.net.doddinghurst-pc).

## **Doddinghurst Parish Council Councillors**

Cllr Mrs. D Dicker (Chairman)  
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CM15 0QY Telephone: 01277 823410

Cllr Mr. P Arnell  
Treble F, Brook Lane  
Doddinghurst  
CM15 0RT Telephone: 01277 822240

Cllr Mr. M Capon  
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CM15 0RR Telephone: XD

Cllr Mr. A Farrow  
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Cllr Mrs. J Le Page  
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Cllr Mr. A Oliver  
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Cllr Mrs. D Rogers-Harrison  
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CM15 0RL Telephone: XD

Cllr Mr. G V Smith  
25 Park Meadow,  
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CM15 0TT Telephone: XD

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Cllr David Powell  
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