



**Merry Christmas  
from your Parish Council!**



# THEYDON MOUNT PARISH COUNCIL

## Christmas 2021



### Introduction

Welcome to the Christmas edition of the Parish Newsletter. Since your new Parish Council was elected we have been very busy!!

### Chairman's Report – December 2021

It is now over seven months since the new parish council for Theydon Mount was appointed following unopposed election . At that time, three new councillors, Hilliard Brewitt, Pat Bamford and me, Peter Connell, joined our two experienced councillors, Heather Brady (who is also a district councillor) and Keith Farrow. We were also joined by our new, hard-working clerk, Julie Kelley.

The past seven months the new council has been on a steep learning curve, including attending training sessions and getting to grips with the ways of local government. We have learned that although the powers of a parish council are limited, it does have an important role in representing the interests of local people and has influence in areas such as planning, highways and traffic, and the support of local causes.

We are keen to involve and to represent the interests of as many people as possible within the parish. As a first step, we held a very well-attended and successful barbeque in the summer . There are plans for an event next June to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee.

Next year, on the 16<sup>th</sup> May, we will hold a parish meeting at the Gatehouse, All Saints Church, Theydon Garnon. All residents within the parish are invited and able to raise issues of concern and interest with the parish council. As far as we can judge, it is many years since such a meeting has taken place and we hope to make this an annual event. The parish meeting is intended to enable local residents to have their say but should be distinguished from the periodical (usually bi-monthly) meetings of the council itself when councillors deal with the regular business of the council.

We are a very small parish and hope that we can become more accessible to residents through our website and via email. This will be especially important as we address particular issues affecting the parish as we will need input from residents. At the present time, we are looking closely at the problems arising from the volume of fast moving, often heavy, traffic travelling through our lanes. We are hoping that steps can be taken to introduce traffic calming measures and speed limits within the parish. However, we are already learning that the process is likely to be long winded but at an early stage we will need to present sound evidence to Essex Highways of repeated speeding, dangerous driving and specific examples of accidents or dangerous near-misses on our roads. **This is where we need your help. If you are willing to assist, please contact the parish council at [theydonmountparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:theydonmountparishcouncil@gmail.com) with your information.**

In summary – after seven months of consolidation, we are hoping to make good progress addressing local issues in the New Year. We hope that our approach to communication will assist with this aim. In the meantime, we hope that everyone will enjoy a happy Christmas and a peaceful and healthy New Year.

Peter Connell  
Chairman Theydon Mount Parish Council



## The Parish Barbeque

After several years waiting for a parish event in Theydon Mount, we held the Parish BBQ on 22 August. David and Pat Cole's lovely gardens at Mount End provided the venue for a fun event and we send the Coles BIG thank you for their help and generosity.

Over 100 people attended enjoying splendid food cooked by David and his family. Much wine and beer was consumed and the parish children, [young and old], enjoyed ice cream!

It was a day of all seasons.



For the most part warm and sunny but a short heavy shower brought us together in the catering tents (or not)!



Later we drew the raffle which consisted of splendid prizes, generously donated by parishioners, raising over £300 to be spent on essential items including a new litter bin now installed by the phone box on Mount Road.



Upcoming Events

The afternoon was rounded off by our local singing talents Greg and Rachel with a guest appearance by Micky Johnson.



Everybody agreed it was a fun event and it won't be long before the next one!!



## Upcoming Events

### Tree-planting (January 2022)

50 trees, kindly donated by the Woodland Trust, are available to plant in the parish. Ideally these should be planted by mid-January 22.

The trees include:

- Pedunculate Oak (*Quercus robur*)
- Hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*)
- Whitebeam (*Sorbus aria*)
- Wild Cherry (*Prunus avium*)
- B Birch (*Betula pubescens*)
- Crab Apple (*Malus sylvestris*)

It is intended to plant the trees on parish land where possible or private land within the parish on a first-come first-served basis. If you would like to plant a tree in your garden / field, please contact us at [theydonmountparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:theydonmountparishcouncil@gmail.com) More trees should be available later in 2022

### Queens Jubilee Celebration, Sunday 5 June 2022

To celebrate the Queen's Jubilee year we hope to repeat the success of this year's parish BBQ, at a venue yet to be decided.





## Parish Business

### Litter

#### New litter bin & telephone box

Thanks to Matt Kelley for helping Councillor Brewitt (who needs all the help he can get) to anchor and install the new bin to its permanent site next to the Mount Road telephone box.

#### Telephone Box

Our iconic telephone box on Mount Road that was refurbished several years ago was purchased and donated to the parish council by a former councillor. The box needs a little TLC, which is in hand. Sadly, although the telephone box is illuminated the phone is not functional. However, plans are afoot. We will keep you posted.



#### Litter picking

A litter pick will take place on 30 January 2022. We are meeting at 11 Mount End, CM16 7PS at 11am. If you plan to attend, let us know by email at [theydonmountparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:theydonmountparishcouncil@gmail.com). We will provide safety and litter picking equipment. If you have your own gear, please bring it along. Post-picking refreshments will be available!

#### Road safety in the Parish

As Peter has mentioned in his Chairman's Report, we have engaged with local authorities with a view to monitoring the speed of traffic through the parish and are strongly encouraging comment from all parishioners of instances where they have noticed speeding, accidents or dangerous near-misses and deteriorating roads (dates, time and photographs are needed to support our case). This is a very serious issue for the Parish and we ask that you support this action, so please contact us at [theydonmountparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:theydonmountparishcouncil@gmail.com).

#### Finger Posts

On the agenda for 2022 is a refurbishment of the parish finger post directional signs, more news to follow.



#### Planning

The parish council has spent a great deal of time reviewing planning applications for property within and adjacent to our parish. We have supported applications for appropriate development within our rural environment. We have lodged objections with the local decision-making planning bodies when we have considered it necessary to protect the interests of those living in the parish.



## Upcoming Events

### Contacting TMPC

If you have concerns or matters that you would like to discuss with your parish council, please do not hesitate to contact us at [theydonmountparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:theydonmountparishcouncil@gmail.com)

You may also find the following contacts useful:

Contact	Website	Telephone
EFDC	<a href="http://www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk">www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk</a>	01992 564 000
Reporting fly tipping	<a href="http://www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk">www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk</a>	01992 564 608
Essex Highways (reporting potholes, emergencies and dangers to the public)	<a href="http://www.essexhighways.org">www.essexhighways.org</a>	0845 603 7631
Epping Library	<a href="mailto:www.epping.library@essex.gov.uk">www.epping.library@essex.gov.uk</a>	0345 603 7628
Citizens Advice, Epping	<a href="http://www.citizensadvicefd.org.uk">www.citizensadvicefd.org.uk</a>	0808 278 7855
St Margaret's Hospital, Epping		01992 561 666
Princess Alexandra Hospital, Harlow	<a href="http://www.pah.nhs.uk">www.pah.nhs.uk</a>	01279 444 455
The Limes Medical Centre, Epping	<a href="http://www.thelimesmedicalcentre.com">www.thelimesmedicalcentre.com</a>	01992 573 838
<b>Be the first to hear the news!</b> Epping Surgery We would like you to receive the Parish Newsletter and information about parish events by email.	<a href="http://www.eppingsurgery.co.uk">www.eppingsurgery.co.uk</a>	01992 579 270

Sign up to our e-newsletter & events by emailing the Parish Clerk at [theydonmountparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:theydonmountparishcouncil@gmail.com)

Our privacy statement is available on our website.