



## **OFFHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Parish Council Newsletter – May 2022**

#### **Parish Council May Meeting**

- The meeting included the Annual Parish Council Meeting. The Parish Chairman's Annual Report, together with County and Borough Councillors Reports, are available on the Parish Council website.
- The End of Year Financial Statement for 2021-2022 is available on the Parish Council's website and at the end of this newsletter.
- The Parish Council is looking at costs to repair the Well on the Village Green and the Village Sign
- Kent Highways have been able to repair the Vehicle Activated Speed Sign on Teston Road near Aldon Lane, and this is now back in place.

#### **Offham May Day**

The Parish Council would like to extend enormous thanks and Congratulations to Jeni Sandford-Wilson and her team for organising such a successful May Day Event. Jeni has put together a few words about the day which are later in the newsletter along with some photos.



#### **Offham Platinum Jubilee Celebrations**

Offham Village Jubilee Celebration 5th June – there will be an Afternoon Children's Party and Games followed by Evening Picnic and Band on The Green. Further details at the end of the newsletter.

#### **'Men's Shed'**

This is very successful with at least a dozen people attending each week. Meetings are at the Kings Arm's every Thursday from 10am – 11.30am. Details are available later in the newsletter. Please pass the information on to anyone who you think would benefit from being part of the group.

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/social-care-and-health/health/mental-health/kent-sheds>

#### **Planning – some useful information**

TMBC publish a list of new planning applications every Monday, and the list specifies the date for replies to TMBC. Details of these applications are emailed to residents on our distribution list.

Government sets out rules about how long a Planning Authority has to consider a planning application and make a decision. TMBC enforces a strict 21 day reply policy.

TMBC as the planning authority have the duty to advertise applications, but they are only required to notify neighbouring properties that directly adjoin the site only. They "may" post a printed notice on the site, but they don't have to.

Anyone can register with TMBC using the online portal to have an email notification sent to them with details of any applications made in the village - <https://www.tmbc.gov.uk/planning-applications-appeals/planning-view-comment-planning-applications>

### **Parish Council and Village Events**

- Platinum Jubilee Street Party – 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022
- Offham Society Lazy Sunday Jazz - 26<sup>th</sup> June 2022
- NSPCC Garden Safari – Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2022
- Race Night with Malling Lions – Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2022

**Contact the Parish Council** E: [clerk@offham-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@offham-pc.gov.uk) T: 07563 606573. The Parish Council Clerk works 12 hours a week, Monday to Thursday, and aims to respond to emails and phone calls within 5 working days. For more information, please go to our website [www.offham-pc.gov.uk](http://www.offham-pc.gov.uk)

### **Offham Parish Council Meetings**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place a week later than usual in the committee Room of Offham Village Hall on **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at 7.30pm.**

## Offham May Day

After a two-year absence we went all out to put on an absolute bumper event. Our traditional event included Crowning of this year's May Queen Amelia alongside her attendants Ollie, Grace, Beatrice & Sienna who all looked beautiful with their dresses and flowers. The May Pole dancing was performed perfectly by Offham primary school Years 5 & 6.

All our regular stalls alongside independent small businesses did an amazing job and were busy from beginning to end bustling with the huge crowds enjoying the day. The main raffle was a huge draw with so many wonderful prizes. The Dog show had its best attendance ever & The Great Offham Bake Off included some very worthy winners.

The fantastic British weather also pulled out all the stops to provide us with full sunshine and blue skies all day so everyone could enjoy the many food options- sweet & savoury- alongside cake stalls & a tea tent doing a roaring trade, or of course the BBQ with a nice cold glass of Pimm's, beer or wine whilst listening to the live music.

I would personally like to thank all our amazing volunteers, stall holders, raffle prize donators & sponsors for your incredible help in making this much-loved tradition such a great success.





## Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

Arranged by Offham Parish Council - **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022 2pm – 10pm**

- 2.00 – 4.30pm** An afternoon of fun with a street party for children up to 16  
Pre-bookings only: £5.00 per child + 42p booking fee  
<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/Offham-iubilee-teaparty/t-inknzzm>  
Enquiries: [offhamvillagehall@outlook.com](mailto:offhamvillagehall@outlook.com)



- 5.30 – 10.00pm** Village Green  
Music plays to start the evening  
Bring your own picnic, rugs, tables chairs etc  
Revd David Green commemorates Our Queen's Platinum Jubilee with a Blessing on The Green
- 6.00 – 9.00pm** Live music from **"Get Carter"**

**Delicious BBQ and Bar on the Green.  
Raffle – super prizes. Tickets available all day**

During the afternoon and evening there will be special collections to support the Parish Council's special project to refurbish the Offham children's playground.

**This event could not go ahead without the support of the Kings Arms Pub and the Offham Village Hall Committee**





## **OFFHAM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS**

**SUNDAY, 5<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2022**

### **AFTERNOON CHILDREN'S TEA PARTY**

Offham Parish Council, having first invited the children of Offham, would now like to invite: **The Children of Offham Primary School**, to join us for an afternoon of fun.

Pre-bookings only – <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/Offham-jubilee-teaparty/t-lnknzxm>  
£5.00 per child + 42p booking fee. Children accompanied by an adult. Arrive at the Village Hall for the Children's Party from 1.35 to register and be given a wristband.

2.00pm judging 'Best Homemade Crown Competition', followed by Activities on Cosgrave Field and a Street Tea Party for the children, whilst Parents enjoy refreshments, licensed bar, and delicious home-made cakes. All children are asked if they would like to make and wear a home-made crown for the party (name inside please) even if they do not wish to enter the competition.

A commemoration mug will be given to the children at the end of the party.

Final date for booking, Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> May, but tickets are limited so early booking is advised.

We are planning for a nice day but, should it rain, we will locate to the Village Hall.

During the afternoon, a collection will be for the **Children's Playground Refurbishment**.

Church Road closed from the junction with Teston Road to the junction with North Meadow Park on the field at junction of Church Road & North Meadow, by kind permission of L J Betts Ltd.

Enquiries: [offhamvillagehall@outlook.com](mailto:offhamvillagehall@outlook.com)

O.P.C. wish to thank the Village Hall Committee for their help in planning the event.

**Offham Parish Council - End of Financial Year 2021-2022**

Balances held				
Unity Trust Bank			£ 33,643.05	33,643.05
Less: any unrepresented payments at 31 March 2022				
	Date	Payee	Description	Amount
			Salary, expenses, allowance March 2022	£ 936.65
		Clerk		£ 312.95
		HMRC	PAYE and NI March 2022	£ 1,276.00
		Surrey Hills Solicitors	Registration of Village Hall	
				<u>£ 2,525.60</u>
				<b>31,117.45</b>
Total Receipts for Year				
		TMBC	Precept	21,885.00
		Nat West	Bank Interest	-
		Various	Other	1,025.00
		Various	Rent and Wayleaves	30.66
		Various	Village Projects	801.24
		Inland Revenue	VAT reclaim	<u>683.30</u>
			<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>24,425.20</b>
Total Payments for Year				
		Clerk/HMRC	Salary, expenses, employment costs	10,584.48
		Various	Consumables and Office Supplies	91.22
		KALC	Training	261.00
		Various	Clrs Expenses	-
		Village Hall Committee	Hall Hire	9.50
		Village Hall Committee	Donation	1,000.00
		Misc	Donations	350.00
		Misc	Subscriptions	366.64
		Misc	SID	-
		Misc	Parish Property	69.99
		Misc	Village Projects	641.34
		Misc	Open Spaces	5,370.00
		Misc	Play Area	104.50
		Church	Churchyard Gardening	1,000.00
		Various	APM	-
		Broker Network Ltd	Insurance	1,227.36
		Misc	Audit	90.00
		Various	Professional fees & Admin	2,108.85
		Other	Various	175.00
		VAT		<u>584.28</u>
			<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b>24,034.16</b>
Balance carried forward			Balance B/F from 2020/22	30,726.41
			Plus receipts	24,425.20
			Less Payments	<u>24,034.16</u>
				<b>31,117.45</b>
<b>RESERVES</b>				
			Village Projects	6,122.04
			Play Area Sinking Fund 2019/2020	5,000.00
			Play Area Sinking Fund 2020/2021	5,000.00
				<u>16,122.04</u>
			Balance	14,995.41



THE  
**KINGS ARMS**  
‘OFFHAM’

# **MENS SUPPORT GROUP**

EVERY THURSDAY 10AM  
**Free Tea/Coffee and  
Biscuits**

The Kings Arms, Teston Rd, West Malling,  
Offham, ME19 5NR

**Well Being Support Group for  
Men**

This is an Initiative of Offham Parish Council.





## June 2022 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 countryside of Tonbridge and Malling and surrounding areas.

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 – see our website for more walk dates.

Sunday 5 June	Leisurely, flat walk from Haysden Country Park, round Haysden Water and along the Eden riverside. Return is via Ensfield and Lower Haysden.	4 miles
Sunday 12 June	Circular walk from Southborough Common through woods and fields with views to the Greensand Ridge (moderate difficulty).	6 miles
Wednesday 15 June	Circular walk from Snodland to Birling along the Pilgrim's Way with beautiful views (two stiles). Walking poles advisable to climb the slopes. Moderate difficulty.	5.5 miles
Sunday 19 June	Circular walk from Ightham Mote, around Scathes Wood, the Greensand Way and up Wilmot Hill, passing the hopper huts. Moderate difficulty.	4 miles
Wednesday 29 June	Leisurely circular walk from Offham to West Malling via St. Leonard's Tower and the lake at Manor Park Country Park. Return through farmland and woodland passing Ryarsh and Offham churchyards.	5.7 miles

Walks usually start mid-morning. There's a short break half-way through the walk (bring refreshments) and we usually finish near a pub.

For start times and walk leader contacts, see [www.tonbridgeandmallingeramblers.org.uk](http://www.tonbridgeandmallingeramblers.org.uk) or email: [info@tonbridgeandmallingeramblers.org.uk](mailto:info@tonbridgeandmallingeramblers.org.uk).