

April Parish Council Meeting

- The Licensing Application for the Kentfield Estate was discussed and a response submitted to TMBC. There were a large number of objections made by residents to the plans to increase the capacity. Since the meeting, the TMBC Licensing Committee have decided to reject the application.
- The Village Hall Committee is resurfacing the Hall car park.
- The Parish Council has worked closely with the Village Hall Committee and is pleased to confirm that the First Registration of the Village Hall has now been completed with the Land Registry. The Title is vested in the Official Custodian for Charities on behalf of Offham Village Hall.
- The Village Hall Committee has arranged for a visit from an NHS Health and Wellbeing Clinic on 30th June.
- Cllr Wiliams is entering the Kent Men of the Trees annual competition for Trees in the Village on behalf of the Parish Council.
- The Cricket Club has purchased a defibrillator which will be located outside the club, and nearby to the Village Hall.
- The Cricket Club want to increase their storage space for club equipment by extending their shed on Cosgrave Field by 6 or 7 feet. The Parish Council supported this increase. The fence between the cricket club and Cosgrave Field is rotten in places, and Cllrs are asking for this to be repaired.
- The Parish Council is looking to replace the two benches in Cosgrave Field which are now in a poor condition. Cosgrave Field is an important open space in the village, accessible to the public.
- Borough Green Parish Council has signed an Agreement with Nu-Venture to support the once a week bus service, with funding of £10,000 by Kent County County. Offham Parish Council is pleased to support the agreement and provide a small amount of funding towards this service. It is important the bus is widely used – Use it or Lose It.
- Cllr Williams continues looking after the Pound on the Village Green and has planted flowers. Cllr Marchant has agreed to carry out the first mow of the grass this year.

Parish Councillor Elections

There is an uncontested election for Offham Parish Council. There are vacancies and if you are interested or would like to find out more about the role, please contact Cllr Charles Unter who is happy to chat through what this involves with you, with no obligation. charles.unter@offham-pc.gov.uk



Kent County Council

- KCC is keen to find more foster parents in the county
- KCC Shared Lives Scheme this helps if you need a carer for one day a week, or to move into your house etc
- www.kentconnected.org provides maps of walks and bicycle rides, train and bus times.
- Cllr Hohler's Annual Report is available on the Parish Council's Website.



TMBC

- Borough Council Elections are held on 4th May. Candidate details are included later in the Newsletter and are on the Parish Council Notice Boards and Website.
- Prospective Liberal Democrat Borough Councillors Michelle Tatton and Roger Roud attended the April meeting to introduce themselves, along with Cllr Trudy Dean. Offham becomes part of a new Ward with East Malling and West Malling.
- Current Borough Councilors Cllrs Ann Kemp and Piers Montague will no longer represent Offham after 4th May, following the Ward Changes. Their Annual Report is available on the Parish Council Website.

POLICE

The monthly police report is included later in the Newsletter.

BUSES



YOUR LOCALLY-OWNED AND MANAGED BUS COMPANY

Kent County Council has stopped funding the bus route that served the village. Nu Venture has worked closely with Parish Councils to provide a limited service that will run until July 2023. The use of this bus service by residents will be critical to keeping a limited service.

The service will run once a week on a Monday.

The Parish Council will contribute financially to keep this limited service running, as will other local Parish Council's, and Kent County Council has approved a grant towards this service.

******Use it or lose it!**" If the service is not sufficiently used it is unlikely to continue after July.***

58 70.pdf (nu-venture.online)

Coronation Picnic on The Green - Sunday, 7th May from 12 noon



By kind permission of the Parish Council you are invited to join us for a quite Informal Picnic on The Green in celebration of the Coronation of King Charles III

Bring your own seating, food and drink and enjoy the informal atmosphere – a good opportunity to meet friends and neighbours for a catch up and chat.

*** Those of a certain age may also like to bring along their memorabilia from the 1953 coronation ***

Lets hope the weather on 7th May will be kinder than it was all those years ago.

Parish Council and Village Events

- Offham May Day organised and run by the May Day Committee Saturday 29th April 2023
- Coronation Picnic on The Green Sunday 7th May 2023 from 12 noon
- Offham Annual Parish Meeting Friday 12th May 2023
- Offham Parish Council May Meeting and APCM Tuesday 16th May 2023
- Offham Society AGM Friday 19th May 2023
- Lazy Sunday Jazz in Cosgrave Field in association with St Michael's Church Sunday 23rd July 2023
- Men's Shed The Kings Arms, every Thursday 10am-11.30am
- Offham Food Bank every other Monday from Kings Arms (offhamvillagehall@outlook.com)

Contact the Parish Council E: 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

Offham Parish Council Meetings

Owing to the forthcoming elections, the next meeting of the Parish Council has been moved to **Tuesday 16th May 2023** at 7.30pm in the Committee Room of Offham Village Hall. This will include the Annual Parish Council meeting as well as the monthly Parish Council Meeting.



OFFHAM CRICKET CLUB

Est. 1944

The cricket season is fast approaching and Offham Cricket Club, in Church Road, is soon to start its 79th season. Matches begin at the end of April, with the first league games on 6th May.

The club fields three adult teams most Saturday's, with the 1st and 2nd XI's competing in the Kent Cricket League. against teams from across the rest of the county. The 3rd XI and our Sunday development team, which play friendlies, are particularly important to the club as they are the entry point for juniors to play adult cricket, hoping that they are the next generation of Offham's KCL players.

In recent years we have grown a strong junior section and now have U11, U13, U15 and U18 teams all playing in upper levels of the West Kent Cricket League. We also have softball cricket for those in years 4 and 5 at primary school. Training takes place at the ground, each Friday evening, this year from 21st April.

New players, junior or senior, are always welcome, as is anyone who has had some experience of the game and would like to umpire or score. Please contact us through our website www.offhamcc.co.uk, if you are interested. Finally if you are passing on a Saturday or Sunday, when a match is taking place, please feel able to stop and join those of us who are watching the game, you will receive the warmest of welcomes.

Offham Cricket Club is an ambitious, family friendly and **ECB Clubmark** accredited club.

We field competitive teams in the Shepherd Neame Kent Cricket League each Saturday, Kent Village League on most Sundays, as well as friendly fixtures - including a Saturday 3rd XI development side.

Our strong junior section includes teams for age groups from U11 - U18, playing in the West Kent Junior leagues. We play at the picturesque Offham Cricket Ground (The OCG) in the heart of the village of Offham, only a short distance from West Malling, Leybourne and Kings Hill.

Website: www.offhamcc.co.uk
Find us also on:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/offhamcricketclub//
Instagram: www.instagram.com/offhamcricketclub/
Twitter: https://twitter.com/offhamcc



Kent Fraud Alert System

New WhatsApp Scam

Action Fraud has received over 60 reports relating to a scam that steals access to a WhatsApp user's account. The scam begins when a criminal gets access to another WhatsApp account which has you listed as a contact. The criminal,

posing as your friend or someone that's a member of a WhatsApp group you're in, will then send you seemingly normal messages to try and start a conversation with you.

However, around the same time you will receive a text message from WhatsApp with a six-digit code. This is because the criminal has been trying to login to WhatsApp using your mobile number. The criminal will claim that they sent you their code by accident and ask

POLICE - M.ERT

WhatsApp account takeover scam

TO STOP FRAUD

you to help them by sending it to them. Once the criminal has this code, they can login to your WhatsApp account and lock you out.

The criminal will then use the same tactic with your WhatsApp contacts to steal more accounts and use them to perpetrate fraud.

What you need to do

Set up two-step verification to give an extra layer of protection to your account: Tap Settings > Account > Two-step verification > Enable.

- THINK. CALL. If a family member or friend makes an unusual request on WhatsApp, always call the person to confirm their identity.
- Never share your account's activation code (that's the 6 digit code you receive via SMS)
- You can report spam messages or block a sender within WhatsApp. Press and hold on the message bubble, select 'Report' and then follow the instructions.

If you think that you may have been a victim of this or any other type of scam, then contact your Bank immediately, which you can do by calling 159 and report it to Action Fraud at www.actionfraud.police.uk or call 0300 123 2040.





Contacting Kent Police

Report a non-urgent crime online www.kent.police.uk/report
Talk to us on LiveChat – available 24/7 www.kent.police.uk/contact
In an emergency, if crime is in progress or life is in danger call 999
If deaf or speech impaired, text 'police' and your message to 60066

www.kent.police.uk







Kent County Council financial support for buses 58 and 70 ends from 12 February 2023 and school-time buses 558/578 also cease to serve the Malling area. However, until July 2023, Nu-Venture will continue to operate a limited replacement dayitme service on certain days of the week as shown below.

Please - use it or lose it! Continuation beyond July 2023 will be dependent on usage in coming months.

Fridays only - starts 17 February 2023	Fridays only - starts 17 February 2023 Nu-Venture Bus 58			
		_		
BOROUGH GREEN STATION	0930		MAIDSTONE <i>King St</i> (Boots)	1300
Wrotham Square	0935		also stops at Town Hall and V	Vest Stn
Addington <i>opp The Green</i>	0945		Aylesford (A20) <i>Sainsbury's</i>	1318
Trottiscliffe <i>opp The George</i>	0954		A20 Ditton Corner	1321
Wrotham Heath <i>adj The Vineyard</i>	0959		Larkfield <i>Wealden Hall</i>	1323
Addington opp Jungle Café	1003		East Malling <i>opp King & Queen</i>	1326
Ryarsh opp Duke of Wellington	1008		West Malling High St <i>opp Tesco</i>	1334
Birling opp Nevill Bull	1011		Leybourne <i>adj The Old Rectory</i>	1339
Leybourne Baywell	1016		Birling <i>adj Nevill Bull</i>	1345
West Malling High St opp Tesco	1023		Ryarsh <i>adj Duke of Wellington</i>	1348
East Malling <i>King & Queen</i>	1031		A20 Addington <i>Jungle Café</i>	1353
Larkfield opp Wealden Hall	1035		Addington <i>opp The Green</i>	1356
A20 <i>Hall Road</i> opp Sainsbury's	1039		Trottiscliffe <i>opp The George</i>	1401
MAIDSTONE TOWN CENTRE	1055		Wrotham Heath adj The Vineyard	1408
			Wrotham Square	1413
			BOROUGH GREEN STATION	1418
Mondays only - starts 13 February 20.	23		Nu-Ventur	o Rue 70
Mondays only - starts 15 1 ebi daily 20.	2.5		ina-ventar	e bus 70
Wrotham Square	0930		West Malling High St <i>opp Tesco</i>	1145
BOROUGH GREEN STATION	0937	1	East Malling <i>King & Queen</i>	1153
Platt, A25 Long Mill Lane	0942	1	TESCO LUNSFORD PK <i>Chaucer Way</i>	1200
Wrotham Heath <i>Royal Oak</i>	0945	1	Leybourne Chase <i>Costcutter</i>	1210
Offham Green	0950	1	West Malling High St <i>Tesco</i>	1220
West Malling High St <i>opp Tesco</i>	0956	1	Offham Green	1225
Leybourne Chase <i>opp Costcutter</i>	1006		Wrotham Heath <i>Royal Oak</i>	1230
TESCO LUNSFORD PK <i>Chaucer Way</i>	1016		Platt, A25 Long Mill Lane	1233
East Malling <i>opp King & Queen</i>	1024		BOROUGH GREEN STATION	1238
West Malling High St <i>Tesco</i>	1032		Wrotham Square	1243

Code M = Mondays only - No service on other days. NO service on Bank Holidays Code F = Fridays only - No service on other days. NO service on Bank Holidays

Buses serve all bus stops on line of route.

When boarding, please give a clear hand-signal as the bus approaches.

Pay on the bus with cash or card. Single and return fares available for all journeys.

We welcome the English National Concessionary Travel Pass.

Published by Nu-Venture Coaches Ltd. 01622 882288. www.nu-venture.co.uk



Does your work involve caring for or spending time with someone who has dementia?

KENT DEMENTIA SHOWCASE 19TH MAY 2023

Meet local professionals, connect with dementia support services, learn about cutting-edge research, try different activities and attend the Dementia Friendly Kent Awards 2023 at 2pm

Free Entry - 10am - 3.30pm



Kent Event Centre, Kent Showground, Detling



Doors open at 9.30am for professionals to network

www.kentdaa.org

07846 238 925



Elections Act 2022

The Elections Act 2022 received Royal Assent on 28th April 2022. This ensures that UK elections remain secure, fair, modern, inclusive and transparent. The UK Government is making changes to the UK Electoral system. The Act contains measures that affect the elections and the way we vote, campaigning and the rules on campaign spending and funding, parliamentary oversight of the Electoral Commission.

From 4th May 2023, all voters will need to show photo ID at all polling stations. Accepted forms of Photo ID are:

- Passport
- Driving (this includes a provisional) Licence
- A Blue Badge
- Bus Passes

If your ID is out of date, you can still use it as long as it looks like you. The name on your ID should be the same you registered to vote.

If you don't have the correct form of ID then you can apply for a free Voter ID document called a "Voter Authority Certificate". You will need to register to vote before applying for this. The deadline to apply for a Voter Authority Certificate is 5pm Tuesday 25th April 2023.

6 ISSUE 2



HOW TO REPORT FAULTS AND PROBLEMS



Report a problem on a road or pavement. You can report non-urgent issues online including: street light faults, potholes, drainage, traffic signal faults, overgrown vegetation (including hedges and grass).

www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem

To report any emergency issues outside of normal office hours (Monday - Friday, 9am till 5pm), please telephone 03000 41 91.

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

You can report non-urgent issues online including: broken stiles, overgrown vegetation or fallen trees, damaged or dangerous path surfaces, damaged or missing signposts.

https://www.kent.gov.uk/waste-planning-and-land/public-rights-of-way/report-a-problem-on-a-right-of-way

TONBRIDGE AND MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL



You can report issues about refuse collections, fly tipping and litter and street cleaning.

waste.services@tmbc.gov.uk

Customer.services@tmbc.gov.uk

Telephone 01732 844522

OFFHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Contact Simon Mahoney - simonmahoneyuk@outlook.com



Emergency 999. Call 999 if:

- a serious offence is in progress or has just been committed
- someone is in immediate danger or harm
- property is in danger of being damaged
- a serious disruption to the public is likely

You can also text 'Police' to 60066 if you're deaf or hard of hearing.

Silent 999 calls - If you're in danger but you can't talk on the phone, you should still call 999, then <u>follow the instructions</u>: (https://www.kent.police.uk/contact/af/contact-us/us/contact-us/how-to-make-a-silent-999-call/) depending on whether you're calling from a mobile or a landline.

Non-emergency <u>101</u>. Call <u>101</u> for non-emergency enquiries. You can also text 'Police' to 60066 if you're deaf or hard of hearing.

Anti-terrorist hotline <u>0800 789 321.</u> Call the UK Anti-Terrorism Hotline if you've seen or heard something that you think could suggest terrorist activity.

Report online at www.kent.police.uk

PCSO - csu.tonbridge.and.malling@kent.police.uk



NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

Motorways and Major A Road problems - To Report a problem on the network - https://report.nationalhighways.co.uk/

General Enquiries - info@nationalhighways.co.uk

Telephone: 0300 123 5000



FCC	24 Hour	01302 553461		
	Emergency			
	Number			
FCC	Michael	07514932598	Site	michael.ross@fccenvironment.co.uk
	Ross		Manager	
FCC	Roger	07968319199	Site	roger.homersham@fccenvironment.co.uk
	Homersham		Supervisor	



BLAISE FARM IVC

- Blaise Landline 01732 873215 (07.00 17.30)
- blaise.admin@newearthgroup.co.uk
- Shelley Stimson, SHEQ Officer 07551 464847, shelley.Stimson@newearthgroup.co.uk
- Neil Winchester, Site Manager neil.winchester@newearthgroup.co.uk, 07540 924626.



Darren Smith, Environmental & Compliance Manager - d.smith@b-ne.uk

BLAISE FARM

You should contact the **operator** about any concerns first since they are best able to respond to queries and address any issues that may arise. If this does not secure a satisfactory outcome you should then contact **KCC** for issues relating to the permitted minerals (quarrying) and waste management development and the **Environment Agency** who have issued the Environmental Permits and are the Primary Regulator.

- Kent County Council (Minerals and Waste Planning): planning.applications@kent.gov.uk
- In order for the Environment Agency to act upon and hold a formal record of complaints please report all complaints to their incident reporting line which is **0800 80 70 60**.
- Environment Agency enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk

If you are making complaints to KCC and the Environment Agency it would be useful to also copy in:

- Kent County Council Councillor Sarah Hohler sarah.hohler@kent.gov.uk
- Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council environmental.protection@tmbc.gov.uk
- Ann Kemp, Tonbridge & Malling Borough Councillor ann.kemp@tmbc.gov.uk
- Piers Montague, Tonbridge & Malling Borough Councillor piers.montague@tmbc.gov.uk
- Offham Parish Council clerk@offham-pc.gov.uk

Please do not copy all emails to KCC, TMBC and the EA, but contact the sites in the first instance. For the waste sites it may not be clear which plant is responsible for the issues you are concerned about, so it is suggested that you report to both the IVC Site and the AD Site who will be able to identify which is responsible.

Tonbridge & Malling Police Community Safety Newsletter

Offham
Contacts csu.tonbridge.and.malling@kent.police.uk Contact your local team
https://www.kent.police.uk/ Report online, check statistics, information on your area.
https://www.crashmap.co.uk/ Road Safety Information
March 2023
Information provided by: PCSO 59862 James Robinson Community Safety Unit
Crime Series or Crimes of Note
3 March – Burglary. Theft of cable. Teston Road. 4 March – Burglary. Theft of cable. Teston Road. 8 March – Burglary. Theft of cable. Teston Road. 12 March – Theft of number plates from vehicle and catalytic converter. Teston Road.
Anti-social behaviour and other incidents of note:
Items of good work:



For more information about policing in your area, visit **www.kent.police.uk**

To report a non-urgent crime online, visit www.kent.police.uk/contactus

Tonbridge & Malling Police Community Safety Newsletter

Crime Prevention Information:

- Number plate theft is on the rise again. Please ensure you have tamper proof screws holding your number plate on to the vehicle.
- . The tips below can help to prevent you from becoming a victim of crime.
- Install a shed alarm, with a notice displayed to warn thieves that it is not worth the
 effort of breaking in. The alarms are easy to install and can be purchased at most DIY
 stores.
- · Make sure the door is always securely locked.
- Ensure all valuable property is marked with your postcode. Post coding property
 makes your belongings very unattractive to a thief by making items easily identifiable
 and difficult to sell.
- Lock up pedal cycles. Use bike locks and chain them inside to other large items or to the shed.
- Keep a record of the make, model and ID numbers of bicycles and all other equipment and take photographs of unusual items.
 Check your household insurance policy to ensure that the value of things stored inside
- Check your household insurance policy to ensure that the value of things stored inside
 is covered by your contents' policy.
- Please report non-emergency crimes online where possible.
- The Community Support Unit can gain a better picture where reports have an official reference number so we can collate data effectively.



For more information about policing in your area, visit **www.kent.police.uk**

To report a non-urgent crime online, visit www.kent.police.uk/contactus

Tonbridge & Malling Police Community Safety Newsletter



Be the first to find out what's happening in your area

My Community Voice is a two way engagement tool brought to you by Kent Police. Whether you live, work or socialise in Kent or Medwey, My Community Voice provides real-time messages directly from our police officers, staff and volunteers, about matters that may affect you or your community.

about matters trait may affect you or your community. Your voice is important to us and we want to hear what concerns or views you may have in the area that is important to you. You can also share messages with others or reply to cur alerts if you have information to share. From crime prevention advice, to the latest updates on scams, appeals or events — you control what information you receive and how you receive it, by email, text or voice message.



Sign up today or to find out more visit www.mycommunityvoicekent.co.uk

Report a crime

Report a non-urgent crime online www.kent.police.uk/report Talk to us on LiveChat - available 24/7 www.kent.police.uk/contact In an emergency, if crime is in progress or life is in danger call 999 If you have a hearing or speech impairment, use our textphone service 18000. Or text us on 999 if you've pre-registered with the emergency SMS service.





For more information about policing in your area, visit www.kent.police.uk

To report a non-urgent crime online, visit www.kent.police.uk/contactus





Guided group walks – May 2023



Our friendly group is one of 13 Ramblers groups in Kent and part of the national Ramblers

part of the national Ramblers walking organisation.

We explore the beautiful countryside of Tonbridge and Malling and surrounding areas.

Luddesdown Valley (25 May walk)

You don't have to be a Ramblers member to try a couple of walks with us, to help you decide if you'd like to join. If you're new to our walks, it's a good idea to contact the walk leader beforehand to check that their walk will suit you. For details of all our mid-week and Sunday walks, and walk leader contacts, see www.tonbridgeandmallingramblers.org.uk.

Thursday 4 May	Tudeley Hale Circular Walk towards Five Oak Green and Capel, though Half Moon Wood, with views of Hadlow Tower. Mainly flat; moderate difficulty. Short break at Capel Church to see the medieval wall paintings.	5.5 miles
Sunday 14 May	A leisurely Spring stroll from Leigh passing Cinder Hill, Charcott, and Coppings Brook. Some stiles, minimal road walking, mostly fields and tracks.	5.5 miles
Thursday 18 May	Circular Walk of Contrasts from Platt to Borough Green via Basted Mill, returning across fields and Platt Woods. Moderate difficulty.	5.5 miles
Thursday 25 May	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Sunday 28 May	Leisurely circular walk from Wrotham to Trottiscliffe; mainly flat; some road walking.	6.5 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.

Election of Parish Councillors to Parish Council Offham Parish Notice of Poll and Statement of Persons Nominated

Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council

Notice is hereby given that:

This election is uncontested The number of Parish Councillors to be elected is 7

The following people stand nominated for election to this Parish.

Candidate name	Description of candidate	Address of candidate ¹	Names of the Proposer and Seconder to the nomination
BAILEY, Philip David		(address in Tonbridge and Malling)	David Paul Roe(P), Stephen Ayres(S)
SCULLION, Matthew Charlie		The King's Arm's, Teston Road, ME19 5NR	Kenneth Frost(P), Christopher LM Tutte(S)
UNTER, Charles Ernest Marcell		Silver Fern, Church Road, Offham, West Malling, Kent, ME19 5NY	Pamela J Begbey(P), Christine Butler(S)
WILLIAMS, Suzanne Christine		19 Pepingstraw Close, Offham, West Malling, Kent, ME19 5PB	Anthony BR Young(P), Suzanne E Young(S)

Election of Borough Councillors to Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council East Malling, West Malling & Offham Ward Notice of Poll and Statement of Persons Nominated

Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council

Notice is hereby given that:

A poll will be held on Thursday, 4 May 2023 between 7am and 10pm The number of Borough Councillors to be elected is 3

The following people stand nominated for election to this Ward.

Candidate name	Description of candidate	Address of candidate ¹	Names of the Proposer and Seconder to the nomination
BLACKET, Joel Gavin	Conservative Party Candidate	(address in Tonbridge and Malling)	Helen E Brooks(P), Richard A Brooks(S)
DEAN, Trudy	Liberal Democrat	49 Offham Road, West Malling, Kent, ME19 6RB	Roger V Roud(P), Michelle Tatton(S)
ROUD, Roger Vincent	Liberal Democrat	35 Cottenham Close, East Malling, Kent, ME19 6BY	Michelle Tatton(P), Trudy Dean(S)
SLATER, Simon Anthony	Conservative Party Candidate		Deborah Catherine Hunt(P), Martin Charles Nedham Mailer Lack(S)
TATTON, Michelle	Liberal Democrat	10 Clare Wood Drive, East Malling, Kent, ME19 6PA	Roger V Roud(P), Trudy Dean(S)
THOMPSON, David Richard William	Conservative Party Candidate	4 Police Station Road, West Malling, ME19 6LL	Jacques A Arnold(P), Tina Georgina Leggatt(S)