Crockenhill Parish Council’s
Annual Parish Meeting
Thursday 25th April, 7pm for 7.30pm start
Crockenhill Village Hall
Join us for...

All the latest news from the Parish Council
Updates from our Kent and District Councillors
Reports from local community groups and organisations
Your opportunity to ask questions and share your views
Guest Speaker Alan Payne is giving the ‘armchair’ version of his fascinating and entertaining walking tour of Greenwich - ‘Where Time Begins’, followed by Refreshments

Other dates for your diary...
Saturday 13th April - Crockenhill’s Spring Clean. Bulk waste collection from 7.45-8.45am Harvest Way (please see website for details of what can be disposed of), then 10am at the Village Hall to take part in the litter-pick. Email crockenhillpc@btinternet.com if you can help.
Thursday 2nd May - Local Council elections
Saturday 4th May - Cream tea at the Vicarage
Monday 6th May - Garden Table Top Sale & Small Community Bank Holiday fete at the Village Hall - more info to come from All Souls
Thursday 30th May - Community Luncheon. The Parish Council is once again subsidising this three course lunch and entertainment. Open to those over the age of 50. Contact the Clerk for more details.
Thursday 15th August - Family Fun Day at Harvestfield
Saturday 14th September - Crockenhill Harvest Fayre
2019 SPRING UPDATE

It seems a long time since some of the pre-schoolers helped us plant the daffodils around the flagpole, but their first bloom was the signal that we all look forward to – that Spring is finally here!

The first weekend in April saw the first grass cut of the season – so our village green and open spaces are looking neat and tidy. This coming weekend we’re taking part in the Great British Spring Clean, and we’re determined to have Crockenhill looking its best! To ensure that we cover as many roads as possible we do need volunteers (details overleaf) so if you can spare half an hour on Saturday 13th April to perhaps litter-pick your own road, please contact the Clerk. The beautiful hanging baskets that Alan Hayward kindly organises and tends to are also going up in the centre of the village around mid-May. Once again, a huge ‘thank you’ to Alan for his hard work.

The Parish Council has another busy year planned and some of our key dates (and those of other village groups/organisations) are listed overleaf. We have far too much information to share in this tiny space, so please come along to our Annual Parish Meeting on Thursday 25th April to hear more.

SEVENOAKS DRAFT LOCAL PLAN

One of the major issues that the Parish Council has been dealing with over the past few months is Sevenoaks District Council’s draft Local Plan. The Local Plan says what can be built and where up to 2035. The plan includes proposals for new housing and employment land, and improvements to retail and infrastructure. Once finalised, the new Local Plan will be used to assess planning developments in the Sevenoaks District. The Parish Council organised two public meetings and leaflets were sent to all households as we did our best to ensure that all villagers were aware of the plans and were encouraged to respond to the consultations. The next stage is for the Government’s Planning Inspector to consider the final submission version of the plan at a public examination later this year.

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

The Parish Council shares the concerns of many villagers when it comes to road safety and traffic management within the village. Our Councillors recently met with our KCC Cllr Roger Gough and Senior KCC Highways Officers for a walkabout in the village, and we spent a productive morning voicing our concerns and discussing possible solutions. There were a number of actions which came out of that meeting, which we will share at the Annual Meeting. Perhaps the most important aspect, and one that we are particularly keen to push ahead with, is the proposed Portable Speed Indicator Device (SID).

The proposal is for a single SID which will be used at three locations on fixed poles in existing 30mph zones. In order to comply with traffic signs regulations, the sign must not remain in one location for more than two months and therefore requires regular relocation. We have identified three suitable locations. For full details, please visit the website detailed opposite and come along to our Annual Parish Meeting on 25th April.

As well as making road users more aware of their speed generally, these devices also collect data, which will help us to identify where the main issues are, what kinds of speeds people are travelling at and when the busiest times are. With the proposed developments in Swanley on the horizon, it is more important than ever that we do all that we can to make our own roads as safe as possible.

Before giving the green light, the Parish Council must show that it has consulted with villagers so please read more about the proposal and ensure that you give your feedback by visiting:

www.surveymonkey.com/r/XNGJBK7

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

We have received reports of motor cyclists/quad bikes in Harvestfield. As the evenings get lighter and warmer, the number of reports of anti-social behaviour tends to increase. Please can we remind all residents that the best course of action is to immediately report incidents like these to our PCSOs by dialling 101. Without details of the perpetrators, there is little anyone can do after the event, but if you call to report it immediately, the more likely it is that our PCSOs may be able to attend the scene whilst the crime is in progress.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who help us deliver these leaflets. Social media and the internet are wonderful things for keeping us informed, but for those without a computer or internet access, we must continue with the more traditional methods - leaflet drops (for major news) and the continual updates on the village noticeboards.

Finally, we would like to remind all residents that the Parish Council is here to work in the best interests of villagers. If you have any concerns or suggestions, please don’t hesitate to get in touch.