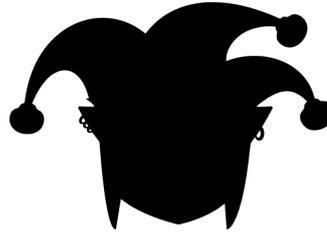


APPLEDORE PARISH MAGAZINE

APRIL 2021

*The First of April, some do say,
Is set apart for All Fools' Day;
But why the people call it so,
Nor I, nor they themselves do know!*



The arrival of the cuckoo is the signal that spring has come. It arrives some time in mid-April. ... St. Tiburtius' Day (14 April) to St John's Day (24 June).



THE
BEATLES



4 April 1964: The Beatles fill the first five places in the US singles chart with "Please Please Me", "I Want to Hold Your Hand", "She Loves You", "Twist and Shout" and "Can't Buy Me Love".

1 April 1958: Alf Liporo, son of the first Italian immigrants to settle in Appledore, catches a record-breaking pike in the Military Canal and enters the Guinness Book of Records



14 April. 1983 The first cordless telephone went on sale in Britain.

10 April. 1633 Bananas, never seen before in England, went on sale in a London shop



VILLAGE DIARY**APRIL 2021**

Redevelopment of the village Hall will begin on 6th April.

All editorial matter for publication in the **MAY** magazine should be sent to: The Editor, Oak House, 74 The Street, Appledore, TN26 2AE, tel. no 01233 758249, email: appledoremagazine@hotmail.com, **NOT LATER THAN THE TWENTIETH OF APRIL**. Please provide copy to our email address, preferably as a Word file attachment.

The Appledore Parish Magazine is produced, printed, collated and delivered by a number of villagers who kindly volunteer to take on these tasks. It is delivered free to every household in the village. This is unusual; the majority of village magazines carry a cover price of 30p or so. It is supported financially by advertisers and by one or two organisations, such as the Parish Council and the Parochial Church Council, which contribute towards the space that they regularly occupy. But it could not continue to exist without donations from private householders who, over the years and on a regular basis, have given us money to keep going. Donations should be sent to: The Editor, Oak House, 74 The Street, Appledore, TN26 2AE. Cheques should be made payable to Appledore Parish Magazine.

Advertising: Brian Knight 01233 758319
email: ThrKng@aol.com

A year's advertising (11 magazines) is £25 per 1/6th page. The magazine is delivered to 400 houses and is available to visitors via the Village Shop and church.

Thank you for all the kind donations towards our new printer even in such difficult times.

Dear Appledore,

By the time you are all reading this, we will have had the Spring Equinox and can look forward to longer days and brighter evenings. We also have two dates to look forward to - firstly March 29th when six friends can get together in the garden outdoors and golf can begin again. Then we have April 12th when organised sports can begin again, along with the opening of hairdressers, libraries and outdoor hospitality. As I write, the vaccine rollout in the UK is going ahead full steam and people are starting to look ahead the different stages of lifting the restrictions in April, May and June. What's more, we can celebrate with everyone getting a hard copy of the Parish Magazine again this month! Oh, and did I mention that golf starts again next week?

The magazine is full this month with reports from Mick Burgess, District Councillor, on pages 14-15 and County Councillor Michael Hill's Annual Parish Meeting Report on pages 24-28. There is also information about the start of the redevelopment of the Village Hall on page 17. I think someone should feed Dippy Dora as she clearly is thinking about food a lot in her poems on page 29!

Don't forget to make arrangements to vote for our next Kent Police and Crime Commissioner and also in Kent County Council elections – details on page 18 - and to start growing your sunflowers and collecting views of lockdown for the Village Show competitions (page 16).

Since the purchasing of the new printer, we have received an amazing number of donations from many of you, but we have chosen not to mention donors by name - simply because so many of you have been, and continue to be so generous. Thank you all so much and do know that we appreciate your help enormously.

Finally, a very nice idea for a new Grapevine is launched on page 11- "Childhood memories of life in Appledore" – check it out.

I'll see you on the golf course!

Have a good month.

Maureen

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APPLEDORE & DISTRICT RIDING ASSOCIATION

Chair Mrs Sue Hutcheson 07795 957488

APPLEDORE GOOD NEIGHBOUR SERVICE

Free transport for housebound villagers 01233 758478

APPLEDORE VILLAGE STORES

51/53 The Street 01233 758320

ASHFORD BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

Mr Michael Burgess 01233 628387

ASHFORD BOROUGH CITIZENS ADVICE email: ashfordadvice@gmail.com**ART CLUB**

Denise Stephens, email: georginajack@icloud.com 01233 758952

BRITISH RED CROSS

For general enquiries 01580 763359

Tenterden & Cranbrook For medical loans specifically 01233 620356

CARM:

Helen Mattock 01233 758122

CHILD HEALTH CLINIC

Hamstreet: Wednesday 10.30 – 12.00

Appledore: Friday 10.00 – 12.00

COMMUNITY RURAL WARDEN

Joanna Vos, email: joanna.vos@kent.gov.uk 07980 770578

CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

Town Hall, Tenterden 01580 762371

Monday 10.00-16.00, Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. 10.00 -13.00

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SECURITY

Ashford 01233 208000

DOCTORS

Appledore/Hamstreet 01233 730190

Tenterden – Surgery 01580 763666

Woodchurch 01233 860236

ELECTRICITY

Failure of supply UK Power Networks 105

APPLEDORE FOOTBALL CLUB

Seniors: Kenny Beale 07899 030276

Juniors: Richard Baker 07403075961

Veterans: Glen Ryan 07931387259

FRIENDS OF APPLEDORE CHURCH

Chair Mrs F Smith, email: fmks33@gmail.com

Vice-Chair Miss A Hill, Church House 01233 758203

APPLEDORE GARDENERS' SOCIETY

Chair Paul Ripley, 2 Station Villas 01233 758410

Secretary Tessa Knight, Heathland House, Woodchurch Rd 01233 758319

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RECREATION GROUND BOOKINGS		07770 947067
REFUSE COLLECTION	Bulky items, e.g. fridges, cookers etc. collected for £24 fee (for 4 items)	01233 331111
SAMARITANS	Ashford	01233 610000
TAXI	Tenterden Cars	01580 762444
TENTERDEN & DISTRICT DAY CENTRE	Church Road, Tenterden	01580 762882
TENTERDEN COMMUNITY HUB	e-mail: tenterdencommunityhub@gmail.com	01580 389941
TRAINS	Enquiries	08457 484950
VETS	Cinque Ports Veterinary Group www.cinqueportsvets.co.uk Pierson Stewart & Partners www.pspvets.co.uk	Tenterden Rye Tenterden Cranbrook 01580 763309 01797 222265 01580 765244 01580 713381
VILLAGE HALL	Committee Chair Bookings email: villagehallappledore@gmail.com	Huw Jenkins Marilyn Ray 01233 758152 01233 758586
WATER COMPANY	South East Water Office Hours 24 hour emergency service	08458 506060 0333 0000365
WITTERSHAM CEP SCHOOL	www.wittersham.kent.sch.uk	01797 270329

Appledore Churches

April 2021 Services



Easter Sunday, 4th April

10.30am, Holy Communion for Easter

Sunday, 11th April

10.30am, Holy Communion, Parish Church

Sunday, 18th April

10.30am, All-Age Worship

Sunday, 25th April

10.30am, Holy Communion

Midweek Services

Holy Communion every Wed. at 9.30am

At St Peter & St Paul, Appledore

From the Vicarage

Good news! Appledore PCC at their recent meeting felt that the time was right to recommence in-person services, continuing to take all necessary steps to keep everyone safe. Masks will need to be worn.

The first service will be on Palm Sunday followed by a service of Holy Communion at 10.30am on Easter Sunday morning. Services will then continue each week at the usual time of 10.30am. We will continue to listen to recommendations from the National Church regarding safety and opening.

Wednesday services will also start weekly from Wednesday, 7th April.

Produce in the Porch is available every day, a huge thanks to everyone who has helped this venture to be so successful.

Stone Church is having a Pop-Up Plant Sale on Saturday, 3rd April between 10am and 3pm.

God Bless Tricia.

patricia.fogden@btinternet.com

PRODUCE IN THE PORCH

Have you discovered the delights awaiting you in the Church Porch? As well as a large selection of books you will find jars of homemade marmalade, jam, chutney and many other handmade goodies for sale at extremely reasonable prices. On alternate Saturdays we continue to offer home bakes, sausage rolls, pastries, quiches etc. – some still hot from the oven! Our next cake dates are **Saturdays March 27th, April 10th, April 24th and May 8th**. Plants and flowers will be making a return appearance as soon as possible. Everything for sale is donated and all proceeds go towards the upkeep of our church and, please note, the church and porch are sanitised daily for your protection.

STILL TURNING OUT?

We continue to hope for your pre-loved books to equip the church porch library (no dodgy titles please!). If you have any unwanted plant pots and jam jars we can make good use of them too, also part (or full) balls of wool would be much appreciated. Just leave in the porch and I will collect. Thank you for your support.

J.C.

A Letter from the Ministry Team at St Peter & St Paul Church, Appledore

Dear Friends,

Easter Day this year falls on 4th April, one of the earlier possibilities in the placing of its enigmatically shifting date from year to year. This date is calculated by a complicated amalgamation of solar and lunar calendars, but is generally placed on the Sunday following the first full moon after the Spring Equinox. This year, that full moon would be on 28th March, and I am fascinated to discover that it is called a 'worm moon', because it is around this time that earthworms begin to emerge from the depths of the garden soil.

Whatever the complexities of its placing, Easter is the most important date of the Christian year. It marks the day upon which Jesus, having been cruelly tortured and crucified, defied death itself, appearing on different occasions to a surprising number of people. The Church celebrates this signal that death is not the end of the story, and that in the midst of darkness, we have a real basis for the hope of new life yet to come. I can't help imagining the elation of the earliest witnesses to the Resurrection – the jubilation and desire to gather everyone together to tell them the good news.

We love a party, don't we! Parties – indeed gatherings of any kind – have been sadly lacking in our lives for far too long over the past year, and that slight relaxation last summer, 'the Rule of Six', seems a long time ago. We have all been through shadowed times. For some they have been unutterably bleak – the darkness of death itself. But, with our continuing attention to government guidance, and the successful roll-out of the vaccination programme, we can look forward to a little more socializing in the coming months. Indeed, by the time you read this, we trust that the Rule of Six will have been re-inaugurated. There is, to use the Prime Minister's oft quoted words, 'light at the end of the tunnel'. (I am tempted to suggest that we shall all emerge like earthworms of the 'Worm Moon' from the soil!) I don't suppose this will mark a permanent end to tribulation. The 'New Normal' will be different from the old one, but the way ahead is flavoured with that all-important ingredient – hope.

This Easter will be especially heart-warming for us, because we are, at last, able to open the church again for services. On Easter morning, you are invited to a Celebration of the Easter Eucharist at 10.30am. Seating will be arranged to comply with rules on social-distancing; hand-sanitisers available for use before, and at times during the service; and face masks should be worn by all who are able to do so. It's not quite 'as usual', but it is a new beginning in so many ways – just as Easter is, each year, a joyful reminder of new beginnings!

Then the angel spoke to the women. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He isn't here! He is risen from the dead, just as he said would happen. Matthew 28.5-6

Alleluia He is risen! He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Easter Blessings to you all!
Alison

April Church Rota 2021

<u>Service</u>	<u>Sides person</u>	<u>Reader/ Prayers</u>	<u>Refreshments</u>	
4th April	Easter Day	Clive/ Judith	Frances/ Alison	N/A
11th April	Holy Communion	Jacky	Jane/ Chris	N/A
18th April	All-Age Worship	Tom	Tony/ Frances	N/A
25th April	Holy Communion	Donna	Philippa/ Donna	N/A
2nd May	Family Service	Judith	Roger/ Alison	N/A

CHURCH FLOWER ROTA

	ALTAR	WEST END	HORNE CHAPEL
April 4th (Easter)	Fay Steed	Paddy Moseley	Judith Clifton
April 11th	Sally Linington	Vicki Sargent	"
April 18th	Wendy Thomas	Wendy Selmes	"
April 25th	Judy Hurran	Donna Clifton	"
May 2nd	Lynn Marston	Linda Hiskey	"

If you are unable to take your turn, please phone me on 758285 – and the same number if you are unable to break into the "Glory Hole" for oasis etc.

J.C.



Appledore Local History Society

Appeal for Artefacts and Photographs

Lockdown has meant that our museum plans have been delayed, but we are hopeful that we will be able to continue with the project very soon!

With this in mind, we would like to make an appeal for artefacts and photographs to display alongside our existing archive material.

If you have any mementos or photographs relating to the Appledore area, or to Appledore businesses, people, and families, and you would be willing to loan these items to us, then please do get in touch.

We are also very keen to hear from any past Women's Institute members who have photographs or items relating to WI events which would be suitable for use in our displays.

Items loaned to us can be either professionally photographed/scanned for our archives or, with your agreement, placed on display for a specific period.

If you think you can help, please contact our Chairman, Brian Knight, on thrknng@aol.com, or our secretary Jo at secALHS@gmail.com, tel. 01233 758 405.

Thank you, and we look forward to hearing from you!



GRAPEVINE

April 2021

Following the announcement last month of the sad passing of Ian Bampton, we have received the following from his wife Julia, which we share below:

Thank you for sending me the Parish Magazine. I was very pleased to see that Ian was commemorated and thought so much of. Please will you thank those that contributed to thoughts on their recollections of their time with him. To me he was a wonderful husband, father and friend, which of course makes the time since his passing so painful. I am just so thankful that I have Melissa and family so close, they have been wonderful.

We understand that after a nasty fall just before Christmas, Dr. Ruth Smith is still suffering from the result of breaking her upper arm in three places. We send Ruth our best wishes and hope that she will soon make a full recovery.

A new 'Branch' of Grapevine is being launched this month. It will be known as 'Childhood memories of life in Appledore' and will be an insight into the late 40s, 50s and 60s. We hope it will be of interest as we go along each month, providing a snippet of one inhabitant's recollections of a time gone by.

We begin with the following seasonal touch -



Springtime, on a Sunday afternoon, many Appledore families would make their way on foot, or bicycles, to Parkwood with shopping bags in hand (no plastic carriers then) and would set about picking the primroses which grew in abundance. Just a few, long-stemmed, good primroses were picked from each plant, along with the occasional primrose leaf.

When the bags were full, the families would head for home. Once there, the primroses would be tipped out onto the table/work area where individual flowers would be selected and put into bunches containing 24 stems and 3 leaves. Each bunch was then tied with thin knitting wool.



GRAPEVINE Ctd.

lined with damp newspaper, and covered with tissue paper. The boxes would be labelled for dispatch to Covent Garden, and would include the name and address of the sender. These would then be taken to Appledore Station, by bicycle, whereupon they would be loaded onto the evening train to London, to be sold at Covent Garden on the Monday morning. A few days later the family would receive payment by means of a postal order.

Garden Refuse Collection: Last October, certain households were informed that their day for garden refuse collection would be permanently moved from Mondays to Tuesdays. This appears to apply to a round that incorporates 'narrow' roads/lanes and is due to a smaller refuse lorry being allocated to these areas which would, apparently, be more difficult for the larger vehicle to negotiate?!!

Since this was set up, there has not been a straightforward Tuesday collection and, on enquiring, we were informed that there is only ONE appropriate vehicle available, and issues have occurred where collections have been either delayed or completely missed.

If you were informed that Tuesday was your day then the directive is to still put the garden refuse bin out on a Tuesday and it will be collected at some time!!

If you have any items for Grapevine, please contact us via applegrapevine@aol.com or give a call on: 01233 758319.

**Cleaner Required for
Appledore Public Toilets**

**Monday to Saturday to clean
the newly refurbished toilets**

Good hourly pay

COSH training provided

Suitable for a resident of Appledore or surrounding villages

Salary through PAYE scheme

Suitable for job share

**Please contact the
Parish Clerk, Mary Philo**

apc.mphilo@gmail.com

01797 270 790

Garden of England Reality Check

By Tracy Morgan

Let's move to Appledore

where it's nice and quiet

Oh but there's building work

causing a quiet local riot

Two sites almost meet at a narrow part of The Street

Right by a busy junction

When all the new folks arrive

How's the traffic going to function

So goodbye to nice view and tree

Hold on, did someone say NIMBY

Here's a rural village ripe for development

No one cares about the environment

Ooh there's a small plot, Let's build there

Planning permission, no don't worry just go for retro

Carry on at this rate

We'll get a Tesco metro

Best Kept Village

You'll be lucky

And those fly tippers

Are so plucky

I could go on

But you get my drift

As you can tell

I'm really quite miffed

District Councillor Mick Burgess Report
Virtual Annual Parish Meeting 15th March 2021

We all know that the past 12 months have been unique in the history of local government. Most of the decisions were passed down from Central Government. The Leader of the Council together with the CEO has been publishing very frequent updates over the year to Parish Councils and others.

BREXIT & 10a

The main and most obvious outcome for Ashford Borough with Brexit, so far, has been the movement and parking of lorries. Currently, but ever changing, there is parking in Kent at Dover TAP; Operation Brock; New Sevington Site; Manston airport & TAP256 plus of course the regular Truckstops at Waterbrook; Stop 24 Dover Harbour. All of which has been helped by the completion of junction 10a of the M20.

COVID

Residents will no doubt have been keeping a close eye on developments regarding the spread of Coronavirus (COVID – 19), especially in light of Public Health England (PHE) confirming the first case in Kent on Monday 2 March 2020

On Monday 15th June 2020, the Reopening High Streets Safely Fund provided the council access to an allocated fund of up to £116,814 to put in place measures to establish a safe trading environment for businesses and customers, particularly in high streets. So it was disappointing that a second national lockdown had to be introduced. Concerned by the rising numbers of COVID-19 cases across the country, the Government's response to control the spread of the virus is to return to the mantra that underpinned the first lockdown – stay home, protect the NHS, save lives. Subsequently we had our third lockdown which we are now very carefully coming out of. Most of the arrangements that I mentioned at the beginning of this pandemic are still operating, others have been stood down but with easy access to restart if necessary.

FINANCE

Ashford's reputation as the best location to start a business has been confirmed by data. There were 1,635 business startups based in the borough in 2019, more than any other district or borough in Kent. With a 9.5% increase in company formations in 2020, according to the Centre for Entrepreneurs and Companies House, Ashford is best placed to continue seeing a growth in startups year-on-year. As we are all aware these figures have taken a terrific hit due to the pandemic. Everyone in these industries is keeping their fingers crossed that Covid will continue to subside so they can open up again.

CLIMATE CONTROL

In Jan 2020 in order to support this initiative, it was proposed to offer ten free tree saplings to each parish, as an incentive to participate in this project. In return, ABC asked each parish to provide simple data, size and number of trees for example on the tree stock held within land owned by each parish council. ABC itself is in the process of planting 6,666 trees by Aspire at Chilmington and across the Borough.

A CLIMATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE has been set up by ABC and is continuing to meet virtually as have all the other committee meetings of the ABC since the start of the pandemic. Not only does this help to control the spread of the virus, but also reduces the amount of travel required by about 95% and therefore the emissions are less as well which helps the climate agenda.

TENTERDEN

Tenterden is among the UK's best town centres and has been named the UK's third best high street in a national survey by retail experts and analysts Harper Dennis Hobbs. The research looked at a thousand shopping areas across the country, considering several factors.

CENSUS

Census 2021, to be held on 21st March, will provide a snapshot of modern society which everyone will benefit from. Households across Ashford borough will be asked to take part in Census 2021 this spring. I would like to stress how important it is for us to know who lives in our borough so that ABC can make sure our services are tailored to the residents.

REFUSE COLLECTIONS

During the bank holiday periods, recycling and refuse collections may take place on different days. Residents can look up their bin collection day, download their collection calendars and report missed collections.

COUNCIL HOUSING ENQUIRIES

The Housing team is working with new process for dealing with enquiries from members and also our MP, which will run as a pilot for six months. This is to ensure that the enquiries on housing issues are tracked and responded to in a timely manner. This will also allow each enquiry to go to the correct team leader for investigation. When this pilot is finished and successful, hopefully the plan is to roll it out to the rest of the borough.

PARISH COUNCIL GRANT

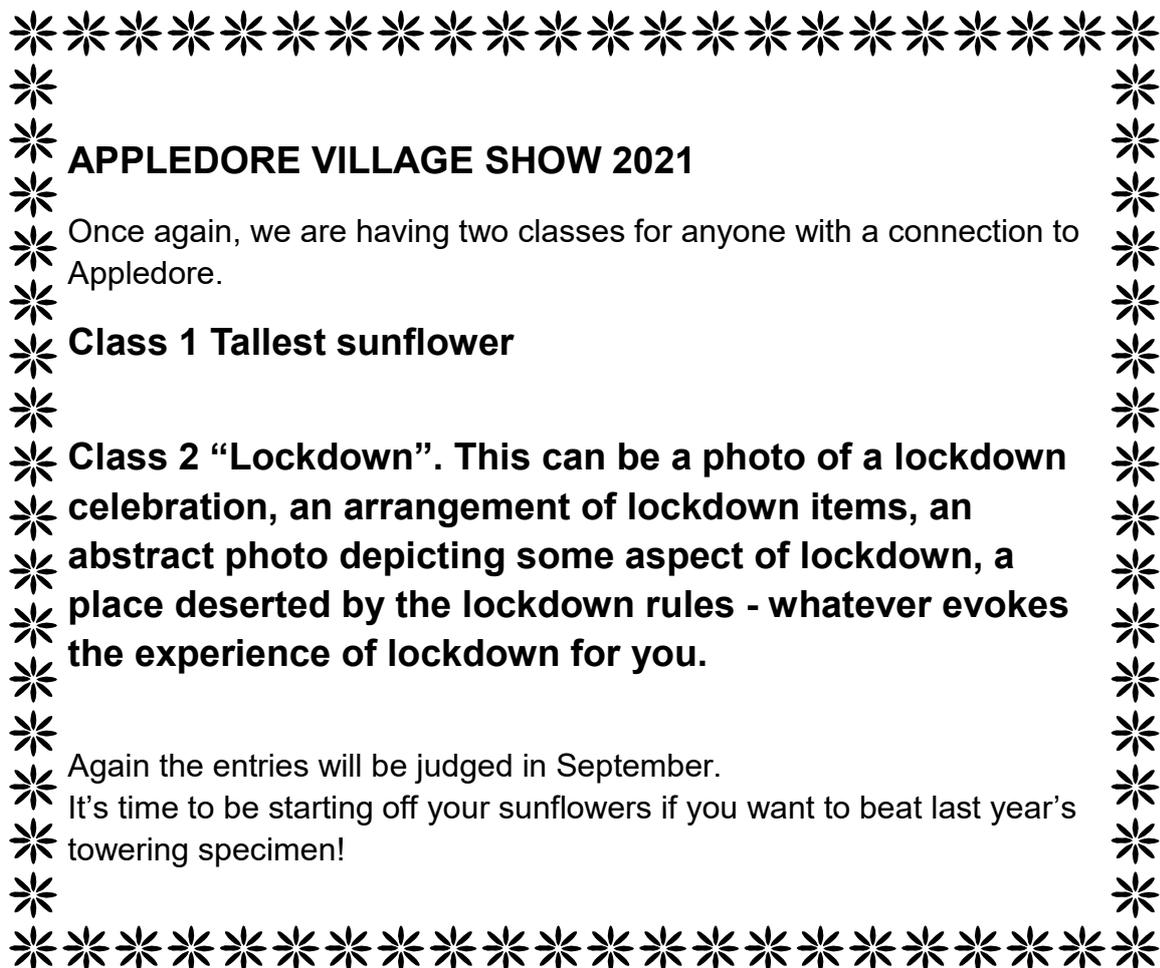
The ABC Overview & Scrutiny Budget Task Group highlighted the need to consider a one-off grant to those parishes disproportionately affected by the proposed removal of Council Tax Support Grant. A one-off grant passed by full council which is to be funded in 2021/22 from the Service Contingency Reserve now that the 2021/22 budget has been approved.

Community Warden

Jo Vos, your Community Warden, has returned from maternity leave.

She is ready to help you with any issues

Contact her on joanna.vos@kent.gov.uk,
telephone 07980 770578



Ashford Citizens Advice Bureau

Whenever you need advice, we're here

Ashford Advice will continue to remain **open during lockdown and will continue to do so if it is extended.**

People come to us with all sorts of issues. Ashford Advice will always give you free, confidential and impartial advice. We have specialist advisers in Housing, Debt, Employment and Welfare Benefits, plus many other subject areas, who can assist with tribunal and court cases.

We have access to pro-bono solicitors for family and immigration matters.

Legal Aid in Housing

Ashford Borough Citizens Advice has been awarded a contract by the Legal Aid Agency to offer free, confidential and independent legal advice in matters relating to housing, i.e. homelessness, disrepair, possession, judicial review, loss of home.

Email & Telephone Advice Service

Tel. no: 01233 626185, Email: ashfordadvice@gmail.com

Opening Times

Monday – Friday 9.00 am – 4 pm

Seabrooke House, Church Road, Ashford, Kent TN23 1RD

Website: ashfordadvice.org.

Village Hall Update

Dear Appledore resident,

Ashford Borough Council have agreed the outstanding planning matters regarding the redevelopment of the village hall. Consequently we have a date for the commencement of the works of 6 April 2021.

Work is expected to last about 9 months. It is likely that there will be some disruption in the village at some time. The builders and the trustees want to be made aware if more than casual inconvenience is caused. We do not want issues to escalate when prompt action could ameliorate them.

Derek Winter has very kindly offered to act as liaison between the trustees and the builders.

As the Chair of the trustees, I have been looking at the constitution of the charity. This goes back to 1977. It specifies that the hall charity should have representatives from local Appledore groups including: the Women's Institute, the British Legion, the British Legion women's branch, the Wives Group, the tennis club and social club. In order to update the constitution I need to contact these groups or show that they no longer exist. It is of course very difficult to prove a negative but any information about these groups or representation from them would be most welcome.

The trustees would also like to hear from any groups of Appledore inhabitants who would like to have representation in the governance of the village hall. If this is you, please contact me.

We have not, unfortunately, been able to have an Annual General Meeting for the last year. I have however done an annual report which is posted on the Village Hall section of the village website. We will have an AGM as soon as the circumstances make one tenable.

Huw Jenkins

Elections 2021

Residents go to the polls on 6 May to cast their vote for our next Kent Police and Crime Commissioner and also in Kent County Council elections.

In addition to voting in person at a polling station, you can submit a postal vote or choose someone to vote for you in what's called a proxy vote. The deadline for applications for a postal vote is 20 April, and 27 April to apply for a proxy vote. Apply early please.

Visit www.ashford.gov.uk/ways-of-voting.

Or email your name and address to vote@ashford.gov.uk if you require a paper form.

As a result of pandemic health and safety measures, you may not be able to vote at your usual polling station and you may have to travel further to vote in a polling station. It may also take longer to vote than usual.

HOW APPLEDORE CAN HELP FIGHT THE UNFLUSHABLES!

Did you know that over the last year, Kent residents have experienced 8,375 blockages of their waste water pipes?

The most shocking thing is that nearly two-thirds of these blockages are preventable. Most are caused by people flushing unflushable items like wipes down their toilets, or putting fat, oil and grease down their kitchen sinks. This may cause a build-up in sewers which can create blockages. These blockages can result in sewage backing up and coming out of your toilet or waste pipes, into your home.

The good news is that it really isn't a difficult thing to help prevent; simply put all your unflushable items in the bin instead of down the toilet. You can also cool leftover cooking fat, oil and grease and then either scrape it into a container, such as a used yoghurt pot, or pour it into an empty bottle and throw it in the bin.

Southern Water and the Consumer Council for Water, the independent consumer watchdog, have joined forces to fight 'The Unflushables', a new campaign to help customers understand the impact of internal sewage flooding, and easy steps people can take to stop it. These few small steps can make a huge difference to sewer pipes and help prevent the misery of sewer flooding happening to you. For more information, visit: www.southernwater.co.uk/the-unflushables.

If you would like more information about 'The Unflushables' campaign, our Field Customer Engagement Officer, Tim Eaton, will be happy to attend local events or deliver a presentation. Please contact Daniel via email: tim.eaton@southernwater.co.uk.

BRODIE

MARCH/APRIL

Well, hello, I thought summer had arrived it was so hot! I'm not wearing my red coat anymore. I've been putting in a lot of practice with my tennis ball when we are out walking. I can catch it in mid-air and fetch it when told until it gets lost in the undergrowth. But I have to admit when I get back to the house I just sleep for England!

The other day we had a lovely long walk across the fields and down the lane. We arrived back at the house just as it was starting to rain. Then, blow me, we set off to do the whole walk all over again. What on earth is going on I ask myself? By this time, it's blowing a gale and pouring with rain and I am soaked through and quite tired. Something to do with some lost keys I heard her say. Anyway, by the time we get back to the house again she has found the keys and we can go indoors, not before time I thought. Then I had to have a major rub down of course. Life it seems is never straightforward.

And you would think that was enough excitement for one week, but no. Preparations were made for a trip to the allotment. A few treats for me plus a bottle of water, I get thirsty on a walk. The allotment is great fun as there are plenty of rabbits to chase and then I just plonk myself down on a rug for a rest whenever I feel the need to. It was a fairly muddy, wet outing and a decision was made to head back home as it was surprisingly quite cold. I climbed up on to the back seat of the car as usual. And that was when the trouble started. The car was stuck and so were we, for a very long time. I just settled down for a nap. Then I heard quite a lot of activity and three men came, one of them with a big truck and some ropes and pulled the car out. It all looked very exciting, and I wanted to pull on the rope, but my help was not required. They seemed very friendly, so I didn't bark at all.

That's quite enough excitement for now, so cheerio till the next time.





Parish Council Update April 2021

Council Field

At noon 12th March the planning approval was cemented with the signing of the infrastructure requirements and payments contract (section 106) between all parties. Shortly after Easter, Martello will start on the hall refurbishment works.

Public Toilets

The toilets have re-opened so please take a look. The parish council has received several compliments from far and wide. Sandhurst Parish Council has been in contact to say that the new toilets are a great attribute to an already lovely village.

Litter

The council would like to thank the various people who have been litter-picking to keep the wider parish tidy.

Tom already does a great job and it is extremely rare to see litter in the centre of the village. Tom also went along to tidy the pill box on the canal but someone had beaten him to it. He kindly finished cleaning it by sweeping it out. Many thanks to whoever removed all the bottles, tins and rags.

We are also very fortunate to have a young resident who has decided to collect litter and recycle it. You may see her and her mum and dad at the weekends walking the footpaths and quieter roads. This will help her to complete her Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award. We will hear how she got on when she completes 3 months.

Additionally, various residents have been out on their own roads or others.

Thank you to Terry and Alan. The council is looking into organising a litter pick. If you are interested drop us a line on apc.mphilo@gmail.com. If you go out on your own, please remember to wear a hi-vis jacket and appropriate warm and thick clothing and shoes. Just collect what you can dispose of in your own bins or take to the waste disposal centre.

Parish Meeting Reports

Reports made County Councillor Michael Hill and District Councillor Mick Burgess are printed in the magazine. Many thanks to the those who attended.

Next Council Meeting – Monday 12th April 7.30pm - zoom
Remember: Hands-Face-Space

Social distancing rules still apply to at the earliest 21st June.

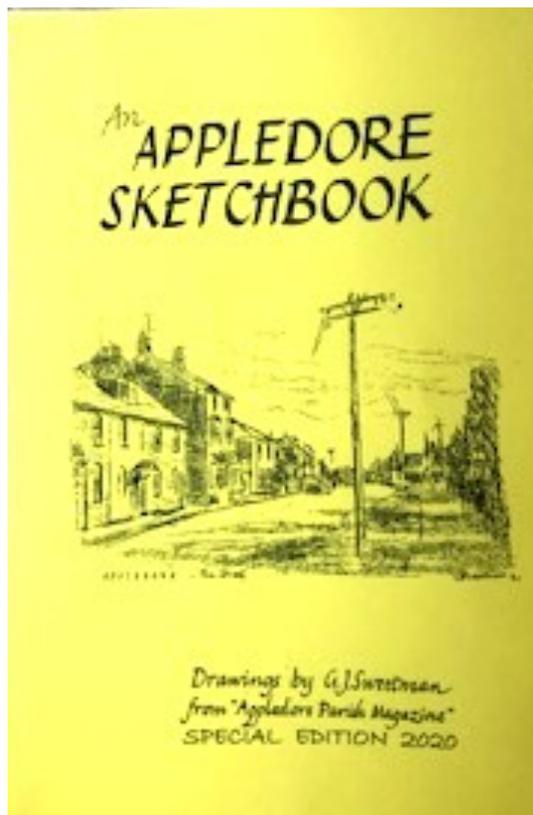
Wash your Hands, Cover your Face and Make Space.

Appledore Parish Councillors' Contact Details

Councillors' phone numbers are usually available on the noticeboard. However, from time to time the boards are very full. For full contact details, go to <http://www.appledorepc.kentparishes.gov.uk/our-team/>. Please make use of any answer machine services available.

James Perkins (Chair)	01233 758107, mobile 07789 916132 email apc.jperkins@gmail.com
Chris Vane (Vice-Chair)	01233 758198, mobile 07816 672919 email apc.cvane@gmail.com
Charles Wilkinson	01233 758316, mobile 07562 302809 email apc.cwilkinson@gmail.com
Helen Hennig (Highways issues)	01233 758436, mobile 07759 006324 email apc.hhennig@gmail.com
Roger Hiskey	01233 758097 email apc.rhiskey@gmail.com
Derek Winter	01233 758570 email apc.dwinter@gmail.com
Lyndsey Jenkins	07795 220909 email apc.ljenkins@gmail.com
Parish Clerk – Mary Philo	01797 270790 email apc.mphilo@gmail.com

FOR SALE!



As part of our 60th birthday celebrations we have put together a sketchbook of Appledore. These are drawings done in the 1960s by the first Editor of the Parish Magazine, Mr Sweetman. It is a fascinating glimpse into the history of Appledore and what the village looked like then. Mr Sweetman travelled all around the village sketching what he saw. Many of you will recognise your homes as they looked then. You might also see what the land looked like before your house was built!

Some of the individual buildings named include: the Methodist Chapel; the Forstal; Horne's Place Chapel; Oxney House; Swan House; the cottages on Court Lodge Road; the primary school; Victoria Terrace and Griffin Cottages; Hawthorn Cottages; many views of the Church - inside and out - as well as country views along the Military Canal and Gusbourne.

If you would like to purchase a copy - the cost is £5 - please contact either the Editor on 01233 758249 or Brian Knight on 01233 758319.

Photocopying & Printing

The Parish Magazine provides a Photocopying & Printing Service. Prices are: Black & White 6p per page, Colour 15p per page. We can print single- or double-sided.

For further information or to place an order please contact Brian Knight. Tel: 01233 758319 or email thrknng@aol.com.

An update from Gusbourne

As Gusbourne is one of your most local vineyards, I thought it would be of interest to readers to provide a short update on what we are up to, outlining some things to look forward to this year.

Looking back

2020 was a challenge for everyone, and Gusbourne was no exception. However, in vineyards, you are close to nature and the cycle of the seasons doesn't stop, even when there's a pandemic happening! We were grateful to be able to get outside and tend to our vines during the growing season last year, and I'm delighted we were able to complete a successful harvest in 2020 - the quality of the wines we have produced is looking really good.

We saw a lot of people buying local wines on our website over the past year; a really heart-warming and welcome trend that has continued in 2021. We'd like to say a huge thank you to all these wonderful supporters – your support is so valuable to us.

Looking forward

At the moment, we are busy hand-pruning each and every vine on the estate, which sees our dedicated team out in all weathers tending to several hundred thousand vines.

I am also really excited that Gusbourne now carries the Sustainable Wines of Great Britain (SWGB) mark – an accreditation for wines that meet specific guidelines for sustainable practices. Of the more than 500 commercial vineyards and 160 wineries in England and Wales, only 14 have been certified under the SWGB scheme.

You might well ask, what does sustainable vineyard management mean in practice? It includes maintaining and improving soil health, promoting biodiversity and reducing energy input, greenhouse gas emissions and carbon footprint. For example, at Gusbourne we plant wildflower blocks near vineyards to encourage biodiversity, we use natural organic fertilisers such as seaweed and composts, and we've been experimenting with lots of new techniques to share knowledge with the industry and speed up the pace of change.

Dates for the diary

If you'd like to visit us, we are hoping to reopen for outdoor tours, picnics and our free self-guided tours on 12th April, and for a full spectrum of tours and events from 17th May, in line with government guidance. If you like the sound of a Pinot Noir masterclass, a Michelin-starred chef pop up dinner, or want to try our superb picnics, check out our website or sign up for updates to hear about them first.

Jon Pollard, Chief Vineyard Manager

www.gusbourne.com

Gusbourne, Kenardington Road, Appledore, TN26 2BE

County Councillor Michael Hill
Annual Parish Meeting Report – March 2021

This report provides an update on some of the work Kent County Council (KCC) has undertaken in response to the COVID-19 pandemic over the past twelve months.

It is almost a year since the country went into a national lockdown in response to the global COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic and the restrictions and measures put in place to control it have had an impact on virtually all aspects of life. From the start of the pandemic, Kent County Council (KCC) has needed to respond to a huge number of unprecedented challenges, urgently adapting how it works and working with our partners to find new ways to continue to provide our services and meet people's needs across the county.

In the summer of 2020, the challenge for KCC shifted from that of immediate response to starting to address the economic and social consequences of COVID-19 and planning a route to recovery. The period from October 2020 to early January 2021 was characterised by a much larger upswing in COVID-19 cases than in the first wave. The County Council's focus had to switch again, and huge efforts were put into contact-tracing activity and asymptomatic testing as well as supporting the county through another lockdown. The detection of the 'Kent variant' resulted in a period of intensive partnership work as authorities took action to minimise its impact.

The County Council's five crucial actions for responding to COVID-19 are:

- Reminding residents of the importance of adhering to rules and guidance;
 - Developing widespread testing, both for people who are symptomatic and Symptom-free;
 - Effective contact tracing; and
 - Explaining and enforcing rules for businesses.
- As far as possible continuing to deliver public services to our residents.

Delivering with our partners

The Kent Resilience Forum (KRF) is a multi-agency partnership to plan for and respond to emergencies. It includes representatives from key local public services and facilities such as Local Authorities, Police, Fire, NHS, Environment Agency and many others. Kent County Council is a lead agency within the KRF. From March 2020, KRF's strategic command structures were activated to oversee vital workstreams to respond to the pandemic as it took hold. This enabled partners to be able to leverage in support locally and from Government and apply a programme management approach to what were diverse tasks and responsibilities. This included the convening of Cells and workstreams.

Whilst the Districts were leading on the co-ordination and provision of Community Hubs, KCC added resilience and capacity to the process by developing the Kent Together webpage and phone line. As of 28 February 2021, 5944 requests have been made to Kent Together.

The Kent Support and Assistance Service (KSAS) has worked with the Districts and other statutory partners to provide discretionary support in the form of supermarket vouchers, school uniforms, white goods, school meal vouchers, and much more.

The voluntary and community sector (VCS) has played a central part in supporting individuals and communities during the pandemic. In the early stages of lockdown, the decision was taken to award £200K to Kent Community Foundation's (KCF) Emergency Fund. This was in recognition of the need to provide support to VCS organisations facing financial difficulty due to lost income. In December KCC launched a Strategic Recovery Fund to provide grants to the VCS to support adaptation and recovery post COVID-19. 145 applications were received, and it is hoped that all eligible applications can be funded.

Impact on Business

The economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has been severe: the UK economy contracted by around 11.4% in 2020. Within this, the sectoral impact has been diverse, with 'shutdown sectors' in hospitality, retail and the creative arts especially badly hit. The Government's emergency response has been substantial. It is likely that total Government financial support to businesses in Kent and Medway amounted to around £2.5 billion in 2020. This is in addition to payments made to employers to retain staff furloughed under the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme.

In August 2020, Kent and Medway Economic Partnership adopted the Kent & Medway Renewal and Resilience Plan. The Plan sets out principles to support the county's recovery and outlines workstreams through which activity is being driven to support business and jobs.

Public Health

KCC's Public Health team have been working closely with the NHS and Public Health England (PHE) at both local and regional level since the beginning of the pandemic. Public Health consultants have provided expert advice on response and recovery planning and work closely on a daily basis with NHS colleagues to address regional issues across the health system. Consultants were involved in the initial rollout of vaccinations to health and social care workers (particularly in care homes) and are now working with partners to address vaccine uptake.

Testing of symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals is key to managing infections. The Testing Cell provides leadership in all aspects of testing, including the setting-up of ten Local Symptomatic Testing Sites (LTS), two Regional Testing Sites (RTS) and the direction of Mobile Testing Units (MTU) where needed. There has been additional testing arranged for care homes where outbreaks are suspected. Asymptomatic testing for COVID-19 was initiated in December and with initial military assistance, 24 sites have now been set up across the County using Lateral Flow Devices.

KCC and partners have worked together to understand the impact of the pandemic on both public mental health and mental health services. Advice and support has been provided on KCC's website and a 'One Stop Shop' for mental health information has been developed with partners. Suicide prevention work has been enhanced through monitoring and modelling of risk. Vulnerable groups have been identified and offered psychological and emotional support including for those with existing mental health problems, carers and frontline workers. Support for people who have been suddenly bereaved has also been commissioned.

Adult Social Care and Strategic Commissioning

Adult Social Care, along with other KCC frontline services took immediate steps in responding to the unfolding challenges associated with the COVID-19 crisis. The Directorate worked tirelessly to ensure that there was appropriate support in place for all providers, including the distribution of much needed Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

As care providers in the county came under financial pressures as elsewhere, and to help maintain the resilience of the local market, KCC stepped in and responded with practical financial support by making two payments totalling £13.5 million to all residential, nursing, homecare and supported living and supporting independence providers, (including providers located outside Kent) looking after people placed by the council.

Children's Social Care

Throughout the pandemic, keeping vulnerable children safe and supported has continued to be a key priority. Integrated Children's Services have adapted their service provision as required and in the early stages of the pandemic made thousands of calls to vulnerable children and young people to check on their welfare as well as maintaining face-to-face visits where needed. Since September, routine face-to-face visits have resumed across all children's social work and early help units, taking care to follow infection prevention and social distancing measures.

The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated the pre-existing pressures on the county to receive Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC). KCC was forced to take the difficult decision in August that it was unable to accept new arrivals until a solution could be found by the Home Office to fairly distribute the children to other councils. As numbers of new arrivals dropped going into the winter, and some young people were transferred, these duties were resumed on 7 December.

Schools and Education

KCC has provided information, advice and support to schools throughout the pandemic to assist them in adapting with the changing circumstances. There has been a constant dialogue between KCC and Headteachers. KCC has offered a wide range of support to help schools and families adapt to home learning. KCC has helped to allocate IT devices to vulnerable Kent children through the Government's IT devices initiative to support remote learning.

The pandemic and necessary restrictions have had a significant impact on the lives of children and young people and providing emotional and mental health support is an important priority. HeadStart Kent is an existing scheme that offers a wide range of advice, information and toolkits to parents, staff and schools to improve the emotional and mental wellbeing of children and young people.

Since the start of lockdown, KCC and partners have developed a virtual youth offer, delivering a range of exciting and innovative activities to young people and helping them stay connected to other young people.

Community Wardens

During the past 12 months of the pandemic, the KCC Community Warden Service has been reprioritised to support the most vulnerable in our communities, working alongside the Community Hubs. Community Wardens have supported between 3,600 and 4,500 vulnerable individuals during the lockdowns. This is in addition to their role of providing information, advice and guidance to their communities on the frequently changing/evolving COVID rules. It is anticipated that the demand for the Community Warden Service will increase as restrictions begin to ease and the warden role begins to broaden out again, as the issues associated with public spaces reopening and a return to group gathering will require close multi-agency working to resolve.

Trading Standards

Since March 2020 Trading Standards has been given additional responsibility for the enforcement of the Regulations covering the restriction and closure of businesses to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Over 4,000 referrals have been received from the public covering issues such as scams, fake PPE, and prohibited shops trading. The service is providing advice and guidance to the public and businesses on COVID-19 restrictions. The service is tackling the proliferation of COVID-related scams and financial abuse by implementing a social media and digital plan to inform and help protect residents and businesses.

Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) and Waste

Social distancing measures and a booking system have been installed at the HWRCs to provide a COVID-safe environment for employees and residents.

Libraries and Registration Services

During the closure of libraries, work was quickly undertaken to develop and promote digital library services and enable easy online joining so customers could gain immediate access to e-books, e-audiobooks, e-magazines and e-newspapers. Use of these resources has increased by 94%. A varied programme of virtual activities has been delivered throughout the year. As the initial lockdown eased, Home Library and Postal Loan services returned and a new book service 'Select and Collect' was developed for people to get books without having to enter a library. When possible, use of computers has been provided where essential. A phone befriending service was quickly established from April for vulnerable libraries customers. The LRA service is proposing a phased recovery programme that will see the service take sensible, safe steps over the next three months. LRA's recovery closely reflects the Government's roadmap: Essential library PC use resumes from 15th March and the reopening of libraries for browsing and study space commences from 12th April.

In March 2020, all Registration services were suspended with the exception of death registrations. As key workers, the Registration teams across the county have delivered 16,247 death registrations since 1st April 2020, a 26% increase on last year's figures. Face-to-face birth registration appointments were re-established in June, working to clear the backlog of 4,000 outstanding births. Socially distanced wedding ceremonies were introduced in July, although from November's lockdown only emergency ceremonies were allowed to continue and birth registrations were again suspended. March 2021 sees the return of face-to-face birth appointments and ceremonies (from 29th March).

The Archive search room will reopen in April for bookable appointments.

Country Parks and Public Rights of Access (PROW)

KCC's Country Parks were able to stay open throughout the pandemic, with only a brief 6-week closure of the carparks during the first lockdown. Individual Parks have been between 50% and 220% busier than normal. PROW have experienced up to a tenfold increase in users on certain routes. Both Parks and PROW attracted a considerable number of new users across the year, which reflects the value of these local assets particularly in contributing to the wellbeing of our residents during this challenging time.

Coroner Service

There has been a significant increase in numbers of new death referrals to the Coroner Service. Straight-forward inquest hearings have been conducted virtually, but a substantial backlog of more complex inquests (with or without a jury) has developed. Existing court facilities were not COVID-19 compliant for jury cases and so an additional venue was established. The increased workload is expected to continue through summer 2021 and may run into the next winter period. Courts have resumed a full timetable to address the backlog.

The new variant of COVID-19 put significant pressure on the NHS and in turn, its mortuary capacity, creating some delays from point of death to releasing the deceased into the care of a Funeral Director. In response to the escalating death rates in December, Aylesford Temporary Place of Rest (TPoR) was set up to provide additional capacity to support the hospital mortuaries across the County. It was mobilised within 48 hours and for the first six weeks of 2021 and the facility held between 130 and 200 deceased at any one time. Over the course of its operation, KCC has closely monitored and responded to the NHS Trust and funeral directors' needs for chiller, bariatric and freezer provision at Aylesford TPoR. Modelling analysis indicates that, by mid-March, hospitals will be back within their mortuary capacity and Aylesford TPoR will no longer be required.

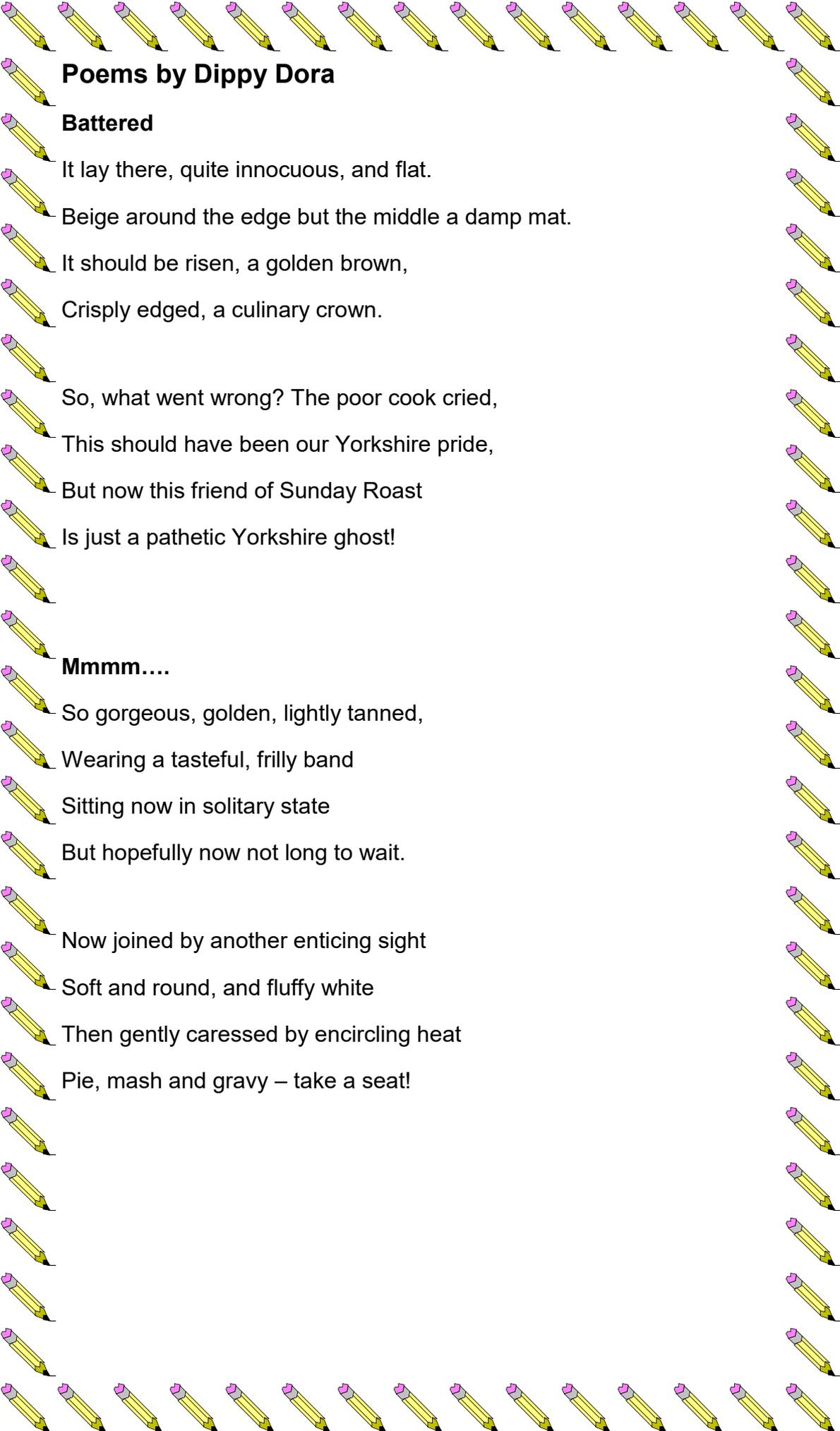
Transport

The Department for Transport (DfT) allocated the County Council £1.6m for Emergency Temporary Active Travel schemes in June 2020 to encourage walking and cycling. The aim was to create safe spaces for these activities to continue the significant growth they experienced during the first lockdown. Due to the deadline imposed by DfT and the prospect of losing significant inward investment in the County, twenty-four schemes were implemented in the first tranche without it being possible to undertake the usual public consultation. Subsequently a number of these schemes were dropped in response to the feedback received about them. However, the majority remain in place and KCC was successful in gaining a further £6.4m for larger, permanent schemes for the second tranche of the programme, which are now the subject of full public consultation and engagement in order to implement them successfully.

Buses

The Public Transport team have supported bus operators to adapt to reduced demand and new restrictions. This has included supporting them to develop new cleaning and operating processes to keep users safe and adapting network provision to changing demand over the last year. KCC has supported bus operators with continuity payments to keep the network stable.

Michael Hill, OBE
Cabinet Member for Community and Regulatory Services and
Local Member for Tenterden



Poems by Dippy Dora

Battered

It lay there, quite innocuous, and flat.

Beige around the edge but the middle a damp mat.

It should be risen, a golden brown,

Crisply edged, a culinary crown.

So, what went wrong? The poor cook cried,

This should have been our Yorkshire pride,

But now this friend of Sunday Roast

Is just a pathetic Yorkshire ghost!

Mmmm....

So gorgeous, golden, lightly tanned,

Wearing a tasteful, frilly band

Sitting now in solitary state

But hopefully now not long to wait.

Now joined by another enticing sight

Soft and round, and fluffy white

Then gently caressed by encircling heat

Pie, mash and gravy – take a seat!

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