



Cuckfield

PARISH COUNCIL

News from
Cuckfield Parish
Council
November 2020

COVID-19 Update

Cuckfield Parish Council has provided an uninterrupted service throughout the pandemic, with office staff working from home. Our dedicated maintenance team has continued to keep our outdoor areas in great condition, working hard to ensure both the Queen's Hall and Cuckfield Village Hall are COVID-secure allowing our regular hirers to return to running their classes where possible. COVID-secure requires all visitors to the Queen's Hall to wear masks and follow the one-way system exiting at the rear of the hall.

If you usually attend a class at either hall, please check with the organiser to find out when classes will be running in light of the new lockdown imposed from 5th November to 3rd December 2020.

Whilst the office in the Queen's Hall is not open to drop-in visitors as before, it will be possible to make an appointment with a member of staff between the hours of 11am – 3pm should this be necessary once lockdown is lifted.

Staff remain available on telephone: 01444 454276 or via email as follows:

Sam Heynes (Clerk) sam.heynes@cuckfield.gov.uk

Caroline Hansen (Assistant Clerk) caroline.hansen@cuckfield.gov.uk

Jane Forester (Booking Enquiries) jane.forester@cuckfield.gov.uk

In the meantime, stay safe, and we look forward to returning to normal hopefully in the not too distant future.

Food Bank

Items can still be placed in boxes inside the front door of Queen's Hall which will be open Monday to Friday from 10am to 3pm throughout lockdown.

Post Office at Queen's Hall

Open every Tuesday and Thursday from 9.30am to 1.30pm, please ensure you wear a face covering when visiting and follow the one-way system. The Post Office will remain open throughout lockdown.

Christmas Scarecrow Competition

2020 is proving to be a challenging year, and even though it is not possible to hold many of the village Christmas events this year, we wanted to try and get some Christmas sparkle and joy sprinkled around Cuckfield. So, we are launching a competition and we would love as many households as possible to take part.

We would like you to create your most festive scarecrow or character to put outside your house to bring seasonal cheer to our streets. We would like you to email us if you are taking part, so that we can be sure not to miss any entries. The entry address is frances.laing@cuckfield.gov.uk.

1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes will be awarded to the best entries, and we will be taking photos of your fabulous creations to display on our website. We will need to be able to see your entry from the road or pavement nearby.

Judging day is the 12th December, so make sure you send in your email before 9am on that day to let us know your name and address. Keep an eye out for posters around the village to find out more.

Well-balanced and Well-being

This an affordable community-based programme for anyone over the age of 65, who has either experienced a fall, feels unsteady on their feet or perhaps has some concerns about falling in the future. Developed with qualified postural stability instructors, the classes are focused on building balance and strength. Participants are offered:

- Local regular classes in Mid Sussex.
- Home support packs
- Practical advice
- 1 to 1 strength and balance assessments

Even during a pandemic, it is important to keep moving and remain sociable! The service now offers even more support options to choose from the comfort of your home;

- Online workouts
- Virtual coffee mornings
- Support calls

For more information visit our website wellbalancedprogramme.co.uk, call us on 01444 657099 or speak with your doctor. Well-balanced for Wellbeing is run by AHS Wellbeing, in partnership with Places Leisure, on behalf of Mid Sussex District Council.



Make A Change, Become A Local Councillor

Cuckfield Parish Council is calling on residents passionate about their community to consider becoming a Parish Councillor, as we currently have 1 vacancy to fill.

What do councillors do?

Councillors are the champions of their community and give residents a voice on the decisions the council makes. Becoming a councillor will allow you to make a real difference in your community by engaging with residents, local groups and businesses to find out their needs; making decisions on which services and projects the council should take forward; and getting involved locally to ensure the services are meeting your community's needs.

The main areas of focus for Cuckfield are:

- Reviewing planning applications against the Neighbourhood and District Plan and making recommendations to MSDC.
- Working with WSCC Highways to identify and implement changes to the roads infrastructure to make Cuckfield a safer place for both pedestrians and traffic.
- Focus on the immediate environment to ensure Cuckfield maintains its green spaces for the benefit of local residents and visitors.
- Key areas of responsibility are:
 - The Cemetery, Observer Field and Nuclear Bunker
 - Allotment sites at Courtmead Road and Whitemans Green
 - The Queen's Hall and Cuckfield Village Hall
 - Horsefield Green
 - Summer and winter planting schemes within the village centre
 - Speedwatch and the roving Speed Indicator Device
 - The annual Christmas Street Festival
 - The future transfer of the green site at Buttinghill Drive
 - Commenting on all planning applications relevant to Cuckfield

How long does it take?

The National Association of Local Councils (NALC) Local Councillor Census Survey found that councillors put aside, on average, three hours a week for council work. This often includes attending meetings, engaging with residents and speaking on behalf of the council to other bodies. Obviously, there are some councillors who spend more than this – and some less, but in the main, being a parish councillor is an enjoyable way of contributing to your community and helping to make it a better place to live and work. Currently Cuckfield Parish Council meets once every 3 weeks.

Can I stand?

There are only a few rules to stand for co-option. You must be:

- A British citizen, or a citizen of the Commonwealth, or the European Union
- 18 years of age or older
- Live or work within Cuckfield

How can I get involved?

Contact Sam Heynes, Parish Clerk, Cuckfield Parish Council at 01444 454276 or clerk@cuckfield.gov.uk to find out more.



YOUR PARISH
COUNCIL

Cuckfield Parish Council – Opening Hours
Monday to Friday 10am - 3pm

For full details of all our Councillors please see our website:
www.cuckfield.gov.uk/administration/the-council
www.cuckfield.gov.uk

www.facebook.com/CuckfieldParishCouncil

Chairman – Andy Burton

andy.burton@cuckfield.gov.uk

Vice-Chairman – Andrea King

andrea.king@cuckfield.gov.uk

Councillor – Jill Butler

jill.butler@cuckfield.gov.uk

Councillor – John Dickie

john.dickie@cuckfield.gov.uk

Councillor – Frances Laing

frances.laing@cuckfield.gov.uk

Councillor – Steve Oversby-Powell

steve.oversby-powell@cuckfield.gov.uk

Councillor – Adrian Podmore

adrian.podmore@cuckfield.gov.uk

Councillor – Martin Sheldon

martin.sheldon@cuckfield.gov.uk

Councillor – Andrew Symonds

andrew.symonds@cuckfield.gov.uk

Parish Clerk – Sam Heynes

sam.heynes@cuckfield.gov.uk

Assistant Clerk – Caroline Hansen

caroline.hansen@cuckfield.gov.uk

Administrator – Jane Forester

jane.forester@cuckfield.gov.uk

Operations Officer – Paul Stevens

paul.stevens@cuckfield.gov.uk

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