

Parish Council News

December 2020

Goudhurst Parish & Council News -1.

Communications, COVID, climate change, lockdown's, Christmas and hope.

Perhaps more than ever, and especially in these COVID restricted times, communication becomes even more important. For that reason, Goudhurst Parish Council will launch an **e-newsletter** containing Parish and **Parish Council News** (a letter will also continue to be included in the Goudhurst Parish Magazine). We hope our e-newsletter will eventually be emailed to every household in the parish (Goudhurst, Kilndown and Curtisden Green). Or rather it will be emailed to every house that has registered as wishing to receive it because GDPR restrictions do not permit us to just send it to everyone. However, we will be emailing everyone for whom we have email addresses, inviting them to sign up to receive it. This can be done through our website www.goudhurst-pc.gov.uk or through direct link using <http://eepurl.com/hh4bBH>, via our **Facebook page** or by simple email to clerk@goudhurst-pc.gov.uk. Issue No.1 of our new Goudhurst Parish and Council News will be our January 2021 edition; though we hope to trial it with everyone who has already signed up with a December edition -1. The e-news will feature Parish Council News supplemented by fuller articles featuring the activities of our council committees, what is going on, their issues and what is planned. We will also include content from community clubs and organisations that would wish to communicate with our, hopefully, extensive mailing reach. So, sign up as soon as possible and please tell your neighbours how to do it as well.

Meanwhile your council continues to work to keep our wonderful parish functioning, your committees are endeavouring (in person or on zoom) to keep projects moving through the difficulties, though it cannot be claimed some projects have been unaffected. **Destination Goudhurst** aimed at ensuring we keep and use our wonderful shops and hospitality venues has not been helped by current restrictions and shutdowns. So many of our plans will not come to fruition till mid-2021. Meanwhile, socially distancing Parish Clerk – Claire or Deputy Clerk – Anthony can be reached most days at Headquarters, otherwise known as The Hopbine at Risebridge.

St Mary's will be welcoming their **new Vicar** shortly before Christmas when the Reverend Rachel Robertson and her family move into the Vicarage. Rachel will

be licensed on 7th January. We wish her much success and happiness in her new parish and look forward to meeting her.

The rains may have returned and might seem plentiful, yet the underground flows have not yet recovered, and much more is needed if changed pattern of our weather is to be survived. Global warming appears to be arriving and whilst it may seem wonderful to have months of sun, dry weather and heat, it may prove disastrous for the countryside as we know it. What has this got to do with Goudhurst and the parish council one may ask? What do you think? More in our January issue.

As noted above, the Parish Council are keen to improve **communication with the community**, especially during these restricted times. To ensure you, family, friends and neighbours keep up to date on Parish and Council News sign up or contact clerk@goudhurst-pc.gov.uk and we will ensure you receive a copy by email monthly.

Councillors and clerks wish everyone the very best of Christmas celebrations despite the restrictions that will make it a very different year for Goudhurst.

Best wishes and good health for Christmas, New Year and into 2021 with hope.

Your Parish Councillors: David Boniface, Craig Broom, Chris Ditton, Alan Foster, Antony Harris (Chairman), Phil Kirkby, David Knight, Barry Noakes, Caroline Richards, Jayne Russell, Guy Sutton and Peter Wood.

Clerk to the Council: Claire Reed, 01580 212552 or clerk@goudhurst-PC.gov.uk

Parish Council Meetings in December (via Zoom):

Tuesday 01 – Policy & Staffing Committee, 7.30pm

Monday 14 – Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm

Tuesday 15 – Planning Committee, 6.30pm, Highways Committee, 7.30pm

If you would like to join any of the ‘virtual’ meetings listed please email Clerk@goudhurst-pc.gov.uk who will send you the joining details.