

Parish Council News - May 2024

Our Neighbourhood Plan

The Regulation 16 Examination has been completed and the Report has been published - the Examiner, Christopher Lockhart-Mummery KC has recommended that, subject to changes, the Plan can go forward to Referendum.

We are currently making these amendments to the Plan and the finalised version will go forward to the Portfolio Holder for Planning at Wealden District Council to report on and make the final decision. Once we have more news we will update our website.

Annual Parish Assembly

The 2024 Annual Parish Assembly was held in the Village Hall on 13th May. Thank you to everyone who came and thank you to the 14 organisations who attended. The prize for the best display stand was awarded to the Tennis Club – congratulations.

Church Marks Lane Footway Improvements

Following a meeting with the contractor we were able to highlight a number of snags that are in the process of being resolved. Sadly, the new surface has already been damaged by vehicles parking with their wheels over the kerbs – please can we request that cars are not parked in this manner.

Fingerposts

Now that the weather is finally improving our contractor is able to start working on the refurbishment of the Finger Posts within the Parish. They are in the process of cleaning/re-staining them and the Post located on the junction of Ailies Lane and Graywood Road has been removed for refurbishment in their workshop.

Community Orchard & Wildflower Meadow

The Parish Council is in the process of applying for a grant for fruit trees to form a small Community Orchard at the top of the Playing field in the Wildflower area. We hope to bring you more news in the next Newsletter. The wildflower meadow is maintained for us and has been reseeded so, together with the wildflower area at the Fire Site by the Pavilion courtesy of the Carnival Society, we hope for a great display later this summer.

Stable Green Energy – Lightrock Power

Lightrock is planning to build a new grid stability project on land located on the north-west side of Sand Hill Lane, East Sussex which is just across the Parish boundary.

The project, known as Stable Green Energy, would comprise approximately 480 lithium-ion battery energy storage system (BESS) units, up to 3 control rooms, 3 transformers and a substation complex, as well as cabling, vehicular access, hard and soft landscaping and associated infrastructure, all in a 7.7ha site. The facility is expected to connect into the new National Grid Little Horsted substation, which has recently commenced construction at the junction of Eastbourne Road and the A22.

It is anticipated that a planning application will be submitted to Wealden District Council in late 2024. If approved, construction will commence within the next 5 years once the substation construction has been completed.

A community consultation will take place running for 5 weeks from 8th May to 14th June 2024 and the Parish Council have been informed that this will include:

- A webinar on Thursday 23rd May from 1730hrs to 1900hrs (a recording will be available after the event)
- Public Event on Tuesday 4th June at Blackboys Village Hall, Gun Road, Blackboys TN22 5JY
- Public Event on Wednesday 5th June at Blackboys Village Hall, Gun Road, Blackboys TN22 5JY
- There is a dedicated project website: www.stablegreenenergy.com
- An email address: info@stablegreenenergy.com.
- Freephone: 0808 168 7888 (9am-5pm Mon-Fri)
- Write: FREEPOST Stable Green Energy

Further details of the Consultation events and a registration link for the webinar can be found on the project website.

Councillor Vacancy

We currently have a vacancy for a councillor. If you would like to find out what is involved please contact either myself or our Clerk, Malcolm Ramsden (clerk@easthoathlywithhalland.org.uk)

Tania Freezer

Chair, East Hoathly with Halland Parish Council

Cllr.t.freezer@easthoathlywithhalland.org.uk