

## NEWS FROM LYMINGE PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council did not meet in December so here are some items of general interest.

**Good Citizen Award** - Nominations are now closed. Look out for information soon, with details of Judging and the Award Ceremony.

**We still need a Volunteer** to help the Council plan the refurbishment of the concrete bus shelter opposite Mayfield Road. If you have the time to help us work out what materials we need please contact the Clerk on 10303 239500.

**Rhodes Minnis Bus Shelter** - We have experienced delay after delay on this project and can only apologize to the residents of Rhodes Minnis. We are continuing to work on it and will complete it as soon as possible.

**We still have vacancies for Councillors** - If you care about the future of our villages and think you can make a contribution to our efforts, please contact the Clerk or come along to a meeting and watch proceedings. All Councillors are volunteers and receive no payments except the reimbursement of out of pocket expenses.

**Parish Walk** - Get your New Year resolution to get fit off to a good start! The Walks are open to everyone, dogs included. Starting from the Post Office Car Park at 10am on the third Sunday of each month (except where advertised) we take varied footpaths around the Parish returning in plenty of time for lunch. The next walk is on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> February. We look forward to seeing you. For information please contact Richard Chubb on **01303 862015**.

**Red Telephone Kiosks** - It has been agreed with BT that the telephony equipment in the Grade II listed K6 telephone kiosk at the New Inn, Etchinghill is to stay. We have decided to adopt the kiosk in Woodland Road, Lyminge without its equipment

**Salt Bins** - The salt in the bins is there to be used to make the roads and pavements safer. In light of reports that users have been challenged whilst carrying out this task, we double checked with Kent County Council and received this reply *"The salt in bins is there for the sole purpose of spreading onto the roads and pavements to help make them safer in these severe weather conditions. Anyone public spirited enough to do this is providing a valuable service. The salt is provided by Kent County Council and Kent Highway Service carries out the work of filling the bins, which in turn is for the benefit of people in that location to spread as required"*. During the recent snowy spell, the salt bins in the Parish were filled by Kent Highway Service on Friday 8 January. By lunchtime on Sunday 10 January several of the bins were almost empty but with little sign of any spreading on pavements and roads. We suspect that the grit may have been stolen in quantity by someone with a vehicle. Spreading the grit on public roads and footpaths by anyone is perfectly acceptable and is encouraged. However, taking the grit for private drives and paths is theft and this is what the Police guard against. If there are any further challenges, and you are using the grit legitimately in public places, please refer the challenger to the Parish Council via the Clerk.

**Volunteer Transport Service** - Do you know about this service that runs throughout the Shepway District to help the elderly and disabled get to their medical appointments as well as to day centres and other vital journeys? All the drivers are volunteers using their own vehicles who are reimbursed for the mileage costs currently at 40 pence per mile, calculated from the driver's home to the appointment venue, and return. For more information call the Shepway Volunteer Centre on **01303 253339**.

**Love the outdoors?** Have you seen the free Countryside Events booklet published by the White Cliff Countryside Project? It has details of guided walks, cycle rides, conservation days and children's activities and is available from Lyminge Library or contact them on **01304 241806**.

**Safety Mirror** - at the junction of Church Road and High Street. Although removed by persons unknown it has been recovered and will be re-installed as soon as the weather permits.

**Task Force** - Do you know there is a Task Force that provides a basic gardening service for elderly or disabled residents who can no longer look after their gardens? The workers are volunteers, (who themselves need some support because of learning difficulties or mental ill health) working under supervision. The work can include grass cutting, hedge trimming, pruning, weeding, small fence repairs and general tidying. Volunteers bring equipment with them, as many clients do not have their own. There is a small hourly charge (currently £5.00) to help cover running costs. If you are interested in finding out more please phone **01303 259007** and leave a message. The Co-ordinator will call you back. There may be a waiting list for this popular service.

**LPC Website - Under construction.** Calling all local groups and societies - send your details to the Parish Clerk for possible inclusion on the Council's new website. Contact the Clerk at [lymingepc@btconnect.com](mailto:lymingepc@btconnect.com)

**Are you a cyclist?** Have you heard of Spokes, the East Kent Cycling Campaign? Check out their website on [www.spokeseastkent.org.uk](http://www.spokeseastkent.org.uk) for details of rides, most of which are suitable for families.

**Have you heard of the Shepway Karrier service?** It is a fully accessible dial-a-ride service and for Lyminge Residents this is a Friday service going to Canterbury on the first Friday each month or to Hythe/Folkestone on the other Fridays. Membership is open to residents who have a medical condition that makes travelling on conventional public transport difficult, or who live in a rural area more than 500 metres from a conventional bus route and costs £5 per year, with a small fee payable for each journey. Contact Kent County Council on **01622 605349** for an application form.

**Speed Watch** - our volunteers in Etchinghill and Lyminge are doing a sterling job having noted over 100 speeding motorists since we began but we need more volunteers in order to carry on. If you are able to help, please contact the Parish Clerk.

#### **Next meeting dates and venues:**

The Full Council meets on the last Monday in the month - the next one is on Monday 22nd February, 7.30 in Etchinghill Village Hall and the following is on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March, 7.30 in Rhodes Minnis Methodist Chapel Annex.

The General Purposes Committee meets on the first Monday in the month in the Parlour of the Lyminge Methodist Church Parlour at 7.30. The next one is on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2010 and again on 1 March 2010.

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