

RINGMER PARISH COUNCIL

June 2008 Newsletter

Chairman
Mr. A. R. Peters, MBE
Plashett Park Farm,
Ringmer BN8 5SJ

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PROPOSED CLAY HILL RESERVOIR - PUBLIC EXHIBITION RINGMER VILLAGE HALL WEDNESDAY 25 JUNE 2PM – 8PM

This is being mounted by South East Water and will show an updated aerial map of how a reservoir could potentially look at this site. The proposal has very significant implications for the parish and the Council urges as many residents as possible to drop into the exhibition and gain an insight into what is planned. The Council wants to obtain early information on how residents feel about the proposal in principle and will be seeking feedback from those attending the exhibition.

Bob Peters – 50 years a Parish Councillor

The May Council meeting marked Bob Peters 50th year as a parish councillor. After the meeting, at which Bob was re-elected chairman, councillors, family and friends paid tribute to his tremendous record of service to the village and the wider community. Presented with a card and a cake Bob was also presented with a copy of the House of Commons Order Paper which included a motion from local MP Norman Baker congratulating Bob on his 50 years of service. Both are pictured below:



Cycleway from Ringmer to Lewes

Progress has been very disappointing and the Council wrote to East Sussex County Council complaining about repeated delays and the failure to keep it informed of developments. The latest information is that the County Council appears to have decided against its original plan of building the cycleway in two sections: firstly from New Road to the nature reserve and later from the reserve to connect to Mill Road in Lewes. Apparently it now wishes to construct the whole cycleway at one time but is examining an alternative route to

avoid the nature reserve. The County Council is investigating ideas for combining the cycleway with its plans for a bus priority lane on the approach to Earwig Corner. No decisions will be taken until the A27 road improvements are complete and the impact on traffic flows at Earwig Corner has been measured. Clearly all this will have significant implications for the timescales involved but as yet there is no further information.

Broyle Close Play Area

Pictured below this area was refurbished late last year at a cost of £28,000 paid for by a developer's contribution. It is designed for children up to 6 years of age and this summer will be great place for younger children to enjoy themselves.



Drainage of the Village Pond

As many will have noticed the wet winter, coupled with drainage problems, meant the pond flooded and the top end of the Green was saturated for a long period. The Council have agreed to lay a new drain in September at a cost of approximately £4000 and it is hoped that this will solve the problem.

Bus Service 129 to Lewes & Uckfield

Following representations made on behalf of local residents this new service was implemented in April. The bus is routed through Springett Avenue, Mill Road, Shepherds Way and Harrisons Lane and provides three services a day to Lewes and Uckfield at off peak times. It can be 'hailed' and stopped along this route and its continuation will depend on how well it is used. This additional service has not been at the cost of existing arrangements serving the village.

Vehicle Activated Signs

These have now been installed in Lewes Road on the approaches to the Community College. Unfortunately one is not operational at present as there is an electricity supply problem that is dependent on repairs currently being undertaken by EDF.

Affordable Housing – Potato Lane

Progress is being made, albeit slowly. Some very preliminary design work has been seen and discussions are being held to agree details regarding the leasing the land. Once a full design proposal has been prepared this will be submitted to Council and then presented to a public meeting for comment.

Local Housing Strategy

The Council recently held a public consultation on its proposed local housing strategy. The level of attendance meant that the event was more in the nature of a focus group discussion than a village-wide consultation. The Council's Planning Committee will now consider the comments made and decide what the next steps should be. The objective is to get Lewes District Council to include our strategy document within the supporting documents for the new Local Development Framework which is being prepared to guide all development in the Lewes District

RINGMER'S CURRENT COUNCILLORS

PARISH COUNCILLORS: Chairman : Mr. A. R. Peters - Plashett Park Farm

Vice-Chairman & Chairman of Planning Committee: Dr. J. E. Kay - "Fair Meadow", Rushey Green.

Chairman of General Purposes Committee: Mr. P. Longhurst – Dart Cottage, The Elms

Chairman of Greens Committee: Mr R. Wilcox – 5 Gote Lane

Mrs E Pitts – Chanctonbury, Broyle Lane

Mr. R.B. Truman – 1 Cheyne Cottages, Lewes Road

Mr. A. J. Grindley - 25 Springett Avenue.

Ms. P. Lewis – 3 East View Cottages, Harrisons Lane

Mrs. V. C. Humphrey - 26 Oakmede Way.

Mr. K. White – Celandines, Bishops Lane.

Mrs. J. Fordham – 53 Broyleside Cottages, Broyle Lane

Mrs. J. Woollons – 36 Christie Avenue.

Mr I Wilson – Dorian, Rushey Green

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS: Mr C A Bowers, Mr P Gander, Mr P Gardiner;

COUNTY COUNCILLOR: Mrs R St. Pierre

COUNCIL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Full Council and Planning Meetings are held respectively on the second and fourth Thursdays of most months at 7.30 p.m. in the St. Mary's Room, Ringmer Village Hall and Committee Meetings on some other Thursdays. The Clerk can provide full details.

Local Food and Produce

With growing interest in 'healthy eating' and 'food miles' the Council is happy to draw to your attention to sources of local produce. These complement the excellent local shops we are so fortunate to have and which sit at the heart of our community:

Ringmer Country Market

Held every Tuesday in the Village Hall from 10am – 11am and run by local people. A wide choice of home cooked food including savouries, bread, cakes and preserves. Also seasonal vegetables and plants available together with local honey and free range eggs. Do give the Market a try, and see what it has to offer, but try to arrive early as regular customers queue waiting for it to open.

Gote Farm Milk

Farm gate and doorstep delivery of home produced unpasteurised (green top) milk. Deliveries Mon., Wed., & Fri. Contact Will Craig on 01273 812303 or email willycraig@btinternet.com

Gote Farm Beef & Lamb

Home produced beef and lamb via a box scheme. Various sizes available and can be collected or delivered. Contact Matt Craig on mobile 07796 938183 or email matt@gotefarmlamb.wanadoo.co.uk

Free Mediation Service

A free charitable mediation service is available for local people. It offers mediation for families, particularly parents and teenagers. Mediators can visit people in their own homes in the day or evening or at another convenient location. The service is also looking for volunteers from the Ringmer area to train as mediators in September 2008. For more details contact Mediation + at Southview, Western Road, Hailsham, East Sussex BN27 3DN. Telephone 01323 442781 Fax: 01323 449505.