



Community Alert

Loose Parish Council (LPC) – Keeping you updated

Issue No. 35

LPC Upcoming Meetings

Members of the public are welcome to attend any meetings, usually held on Monday evenings at the Loose Parish Pavilion, King George V playing field, Walnut Tree Lane, ME15 9RG. Agendas are published on the parish council website, plus the three LPC noticeboards on Loose/Linton Road during the week prior to the meeting.

- 13 Nov 18.45 LPC Planning Committee
- 13 Nov 19.30 LPC Pavilion & Community Hub Committee (Budget setting meeting)
- 20 Nov 19.30 Loose Parish Council Main
- 27 Nov 18.45 LPC Planning Committee
- 27 Nov 19.30 LPC Environment Committee (Budget setting meeting)
- 11 Dec 18.45 LPC Planning Committee
- 11 Dec 19.30 Loose Parish Council Main

Consultation Outcomes

Parish Boundary changes

Following the Community Governance Review public consultation Maidstone Borough Council (MBC) have announced that there will be significant changes to the Loose Parish boundary. Hubbards Lane will join Boughton Monchelsea parish and the currently unparished North Loose Residents Association (NLRA) area (from Lancet Lane north to the Wheatsheaf pub) will join Loose Parish, increasing its size from approximately 1000 to 3000 homes.

The larger Parish will give Loose strength and a weightier voice on MBC and KCC matters such as planning, highways and community development. It will also give greater protection to the former NLRA area which has always relied on the highly admirable volunteer force led by Sean Carter, who openly admits they are an “ageing force” with many people, quite understandably wishing to step back. With a lack of new volunteers coming forward, bringing the area under the Parish will enable NLRA owned amenities and projects to be managed and maintained along with those in the existing Parish. Households will pay a precept on their Council Tax, but the voluntary NLRA membership will no longer exist. Whilst still in the early days of merger discussions and budget planning, LPC are aware of the cost of living issues and will keep the precept to the minimum to cover required costs. Those in the existing Parish should see a reduction on what they

currently pay as the budget requirements will be spread between many more homes.

What is extremely important to LPC is that there are representatives from across the whole new Parish on the Council. We hope some of the amazing NLRA team will continue to volunteer as their expertise on the NLRA area will be invaluable. But now is the perfect time for anyone else to get involved too. So if you care about what you see and hear going on in and around the Loose community, and want to play a real part in making decisions that shape and protect where you live, why not get involved?

We need new recruits to join our current volunteers who attend Parish Council and Committee meetings, discussing and making key decisions for Loose. We would also welcome anyone who would like to volunteer for any of our practical working parties, helping keep Loose looking great (as the recent pond working party certainly did!) The only qualification you need is to CARE about your local area and the main resource is a little of your time.



Contact the Clerk at office@loose-pc.gov.uk if you would like to know more, or come along to a meeting to see how the Council operates.

20mph zone consultation outcome

In June the Council consulted all existing Parish households on a 20mph scheme that some residents wished to see put in place on designated roads in the village. As it had a significant cost, and the proposal was not supported by KCC Highways, it would have to be funded by an increase in the precept. LPC therefore had to seek the views of all Parish residents. Results were as follows: 54.4% against, 43.4% in favour and 2.2% undecided. As there was no majority support, LPC will not be taking it forward or using Parish precept fund.

Some members of Loose Amenities Association (LAA) and residents who live in or around the identified zone requested a

03 November 2023

public meeting following the result, as they wish to explore other sources of funding a 20mph zone. If you support the scheme and would like to get involved please contact LAA directly: info@loose-amenities.org.uk

Thank You Pond Works Volunteers!



Back on the subject of volunteering, over a recent October weekend, the Loose Stream received its annual makeover as 3 skips of watercress and pond weed were removed by helping hands. Thank you everyone involved in this very smelly, mucky but essential task!



Community Coffee Morning Dates

Can you believe we only have 2 coffee mornings left in 2023! Hope to see some of you there!

LOOSE COMMUNITY COFFEE MORNINGS

at King George V Pavilion Walnut Tree Lane
Loose ME15 9RG
9.30am-12noon
All Welcome!

Wednesday 8 November
Wednesday 13 December
Wednesday 10 January
(& every second Wednesday of each month)

- Are you sitting indoors with nothing to do?
- Would you like to meet other Loose residents?
- Free tea and coffee (though donations always welcome!)
- Book and Jigsaw swap service – 50p per item
- Companion Dogs welcome too

If you require more details, or can offer help by making drinks, washing-up, or meeting and greeting, please email: office@loose-pc.gov.uk

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