



Udimore Parish Council Newsletter

www.udimore.org

Issue 27

November 2017

Next Council meeting

*The Parish Council will meet on
Wednesday 15th November 2017 at
6.30pm in Udimore Community
Hall. All are welcome to attend*

The agenda at a glance:

2018-19 Budget

Planning matters

Correspondence

Finance

Your councillors

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Parish Emergency Plan

The Parish Council has deliberated for some months about an appropriate parish emergency plan. Given the limited resources of the Parish Council and the professionalism of the emergency services, (Police, Fire and Rescue, Ambulance) we have concluded that the most constructive role for the Parish Council to play would be to ensure the emergency services have all the local knowledge necessary for them to respond promptly and effectively to any major incident affecting all or part of the parish.

We have now adopted a revised parish emergency plan which is available on our website. This plan sets out the role of the emergency plan manager and emergency co-ordinator who would operate the plan during an incident. I would like to thank Keith Dean for his work in devising the new plan.

Recent planning applications

The Parish Council has recently considered three planning applications which raised issues of wide concern. The Parish Council supported a planning application for five huts to be let as holiday accommodation on Road End Farm. Rother District Council granted permission subject to conditions to ensure that the huts could only be used as holiday lets and that they would have minimal impact on the countryside.

We also supported, subject to requesting a number of conditions, an application for a large tent on a wooden platform to be erected on Billingham Farm. The intention is that the tent would be let to people seeking a rural get-away. The Parish Council's proposed conditions were directed to protecting the privacy and freedom from noise, intrusion of nearby residents and to minimising the effect on the landscape. Rother refused the application on the grounds that it was not an appropriate use in an area of outstanding natural beauty.

The Parish Council opposed an application to build two, three storied, four bedroom houses on the former Udimore garage site. Previously the Parish Council had supported applications to build two smaller houses on the site. Our first objection was that the three storey houses would be too intrusive in their location on the Udimore Ridge and were unsuitable for an area of outstanding natural beauty. Secondly, it is proposed to site two double garages backing directly on the B2089. We considered that the blank walls along the road would create an urban character, unsympathetic for Udimore with its road frontages of gardens, hedges or fields. Finally, the Parish Council considered that the height of the proposed houses and their proximity to the site's boundaries would affect neighbouring properties' natural light and privacy. Rother has not yet made a decision on this application.

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Drones over Udimore

In September a drone was seen flying low and intrusively in the Billingham and Newman's area. This was reported to the Police, who asked from which public open space it was suspected the drone was being flown. The police said that it was illegal to fly a drone more than 500m from the place of launch, hence their interest in the likely launch site. Of course, Udimore has no significant public open space but many sites from which a drone could have been flown.

If you see a drone flying low or in a manner that could cause a nuisance to people or grazing animals, it can be reported to the police on the 101 number, with as many details as possible (time, location, size of drone, direction of flight etc). Subject to their resources, the police may decide to investigate.

However, note that the police themselves operate drones to pursue suspects and to search for missing people. Also in and around Udimore, there are legitimate uses of drones for land and woodland surveys.

St Michael's Hospice News:

Christmas on the Coast

Following the success of last year's event, Santa's helpers are returning to Hastings Old Town on Saturday 9th December (11am – 4pm) for some more festive fun for all the family, in aid of St Michael's Hospice. Come along to Christmas on the Coast at The Stade Hall and take part in lots of free activities that will fill you with the spirit of Christmas! Meet Santa (and his elves!) and receive a free gift, take part in some Christmas crafts, take your photo with our beautiful Huskies and much more! Free entry.

Time to Care

Time to Care is an exciting new volunteering programme at St Michael's Hospice, offering two new opportunities to get involved with the day to day running of the clinical wards. The first new role is Volunteer Nursing Assistant (VNA). This role is perfect for those who have worked in healthcare in the past, or are considering entering the field.

The second role is Ward Liaison Volunteer. The role of the Ward Liaison is to be the first point of contact for family and friends who wish to know the latest information and status of a patient (e.g. receiving medication, personal care or are asleep). This role is critical in giving the best support to the families of patients and will help reduce pressure on nursing staff.

Keep in touch

The support St Michael's Hospice receives is invaluable and they only want to send out information their supporters want to receive. It's quick and easy to 'keep in touch', simply fill in the form on their website (www.stmichaelsospice.com).

Forthcoming parish council meetings will be held in Udimore community hall at 6.30pm on the following dates in

2018:

17th January

21st March

16th May

18th July

19th September

21st November

Udimore planning applications.

All planning applications are decided by Rother District Council.

Udimore Parish Council is always notified of new applications in the parish so that it can submit relevant local information or comments to the planning department at Rother DC.

Since your last newsletter there have been no planning applications but one decision:

RR/2017/1624/P Roadend Farm, Float Lane, Udimore. Siting of 5 mobile holiday huts with associated parking area.

Granted

Full details of all applications and decisions can be found at www.rother.gov.uk