

Graveney with Goodnestone Village Newsletter

October 2019



A note from the editor

It has been a rather eventful month in British politics with proroguing, votes on another general election and of course Brexit. One event at parliament stands out. A group of 50 people left Graveney and Goodnestone to bring the campaign to save Graveney Marshes to Westminster. Find out more in the updates from GREAT and Helen Whately MP.

On page 20 there is an update about a litter clean up organised by CPRE. Your feedback on the impact of this and litter in the village will be appreciated. Do get in touch on this.

As always get in touch and share your views at:

graveney.goodnestone.news@gmail.com

All Saints' Church

Everyone is welcome to all our services and events

6 October

8 am	Holy Communion	Boughton Parish Church
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10 am	Harvest Festival with Communion	Hernhill Church
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Please bring harvest gifts for Catching Lives who work with the homeless in Canterbury

10.30 am	Morning Worship	Graveney Church
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13 October

8 am	Holy Communion	Boughton Parish Church
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10 am	Morning Worship	Hernhill Church
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10.30 am	Holy Communion	Graveney Church
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20 October

8 am	Holy Communion	Hernhill Church
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10 am	Harvest festival with Sung Communion	Boughton Parish Church
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please bring harvest gifts for Porchlight who work with the homeless

10.30 am	Morning Worship	Graveney Church
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27 October *don't forget the clocks change today*

10.30 am	Benefice Sung Communion celebrating Graveney's patronal festival in All Saints' Church, Graveney	
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guest preacher Anna Drew, the diocesan *Director of Communications*

3 November

8 am	Holy Communion	St Barnabas, Boughton Street
10 am	Sung Communion	Hernhill Church
10.30 am	Morning Worship	Graveney Church

Wednesday Worship in St Barnabas

9 October at 11 am ~ a half hour service followed by refreshments

Lite Bite Lunch

Wednesday 9 October (2nd Wednesday of every month), drop in between 12-1.30 pm. Home-made soup, rolls, fresh fruit, tea, coffee. St Barnabas, Boughton Street,

Holy Rumpus

‘A family friendly way to discover church’

A brand new monthly programme for families starts on

Saturday 12 October in St Bs. We will be outside part of the time, please bring wet weather clothes if necessary. You are all very welcome to come along. 3.30 to 4.30 pm followed by refreshments.

Vicar: The Revd Jean Burrows 01227 751410
jeanburrows@jeanius.me.uk

Parish Council News

September Parish Council Meeting was held on September 20th. The news will be included in the November newsletter.

A Message from your Borough Councillors

The past few months have seen some of the worst traffic problems in Boughton we've ever experienced. It has spilled out into surrounding villages, and is getting to the point where you think twice before venturing out. Lorry parking continues to be a problem, and the destruction of the pedestrian barrier at the bottom of Dunkirk hill highlights the risk of speeding. Traffic noise is a blight, and there is the unseen impact of traffic on air quality.

So what's to be done? We won't be able to solve everything, but there are some things we can do to protect our villages. 20mph zones, and HGV restrictions may help, but to get these we need to show strong public support. We plan to arrange a public meeting soon, along with the parish councils of Boughton and Dunkirk, and our county councillor Andrew Bowles, to discuss ideas and options. Details of the meeting are not finalised yet but they will be posted on social media as soon as they are available. Of course, anybody from neighbouring parishes will be welcome too. We want to hear your opinions and ideas. In the meantime, if you want to raise an issue about the traffic or just want to be informed about when the meeting is happening contact Alastair using the contact details below.

Cleve Hill Solar Power Station

On September 10th Tim attended the hearing held by the Planning Inspectorate into the huge solar power station proposed for Graveney marshes. Our submission was heard alongside representations from the Faversham Society, GREAT, CPRE and several individual submissions. The range and quality of the evidence was extremely impressive. We heard well-informed expert evidence on wide range of topics including evidence that large-scale solar is not required by the grid, flood risk and the loss of carbon storage in the tidal salt marsh. A local sheep farmer raised concerns over whether the site would be suitable for grazing sheep as proposed. For Swale Green Party, Tim emphasised that local planning policy should prevail in the absence of any national planning statements for solar or battery storage. The site is classified as of 'high landscape value', and therefore the development is entirely inappropriate. We emphasised that solar works best on a small scale on the roofs of buildings and there is no advantage to putting 880,000 solar panels on one site.

Tim Valentine (TImValentine@swale.gov.uk) 01227 752802

Alastair Gould (AlastairGould@swale.gov.uk)

Update from Helen Whately MP

What's going on in Westminster?

People often ask me what is going on in Westminster. It has been a strange – and sometimes difficult – few months.

I appreciate that Brexit continues to divide opinion. I've heard a full range of views from constituents – from those who want to see us leave without a deal to those who want to cancel Brexit.

I still believe the best outcome is to leave the EU with a deal – and the Prime Minister wants to see this as well. But we must hold our nerve in these negotiations and be prepared for any outcome.

As a Kent MP, I do not take the risks of no deal lightly. That's why I continue to meet regularly with Ministers from the Treasury and Department for Transport to make sure plans are in place to keep Kent moving under any Brexit outcome. And I was pleased to see the Government provide extra funding for Brexit preparations in Kent.

The Prime Minister has also announced extra funding for schools and hospitals – and I will continue to work hard to make sure Kent gets its share of this money.

Earlier this month I was made Minister for Arts, Tourism and Heritage. This is my first job in Government and while I'm excited to be taking on new responsibilities, my top priority will continue to be working hard for Faversham and Mid Kent.

Campaign to save Graveney Marshes goes to Parliament

Fifty campaigners travelled to Westminster earlier this month to protest against the massive Cleve Hill solar plant which would destroy the peace and tranquillity of Graveney Marshes.

I secured a debate in the House of Commons to highlight the local environmental impact of the development – which would be built on land earmarked for wetland restoration.

The debate was postponed, but we were able to meet Environment Minister, Zac Goldsmith, in Parliament. The Minister listened to concerns about the landscape being destroyed, wildlife being driven away, and the noise during and after construction of the development.

More money for Kent's schools

Every school in Faversham and Mid Kent will get an increase in funding as a result of the extra £14 billion the Prime Minister has committed to education funding between now and 2022/23.

As part of this, Minimum Funding Levels will increase to £5,000 per pupil next year, with every primary school getting a minimum of £4,000 from 2021/22. This will benefit Kent schools which have traditionally been lower funded.

Kent schools could also be in line for an additional £20 million to help children with special educational needs, so every pupil can access the education that is right for them.

Underpass upgrade good news for Faversham

The underpass at Faversham station is finally getting some attention. South Eastern has announced it has secured £130,000 of funding to carry out renovation work on the Grade II listed building. The plans include cleaning and repainting the

walls and stairwell and replacing up to 300 damaged or cracked tiles.

But there's no point having a station that looks good unless we have trains that run on time and people can afford. Earlier this month, I met the Rail Minister, Chris Heaton-Harris, to put your views about how to make trains better directly to him.

Brexit preparations get funding boost

Operation Brock is getting a £20 million funding boost as part of the Government's preparations to leave the EU on 31 October.

This will ensure Operation Brock – designed to keep the M20 open in the event of disruption to services across the English Channel – can be implemented effectively, if needed.

Much of this funding is for contingency planning. Ideally, we won't get delays at the ports and we won't need Operation Brock, but if it is going to be deployed, it needs to work properly. This includes making sure border checks are ready and the police and local authorities have all the powers they need.

Securing more money for hospitals in Kent

I'm determined to get Kent its share of the extra £1.8 billion NHS capital funding which has been announced for hospital upgrades in England. I've met other local MPs and the Chief Executive of East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust about a request to the Health Secretary, Matt Hancock, for £350 million for hospitals in our area.

People in East Kent have waited too long for better healthcare. With the medical school on the way, now is the time to sort out our hospitals.

Planning conditions must be enforced at recycling plant

I was shocked by the decision to allow East Kent Recycling to expand its plant near Oare Creek.

Consent has been granted with a number of conditions – including a limit on the number of HGVs that can enter and exit the site and the size of the load these lorries can carry.

These conditions are vital for controlling levels of traffic and air pollution, caused by the expansion of the site. I have written to Kent County Council to stress the importance of enforcing these conditions. This needs to include having a proper process for investigating complaints from local people.

Four Horseshoes Pub

Hi everyone

Another great month at The Four Horseshoes

The improvements that we have made over the last few months are certainly proving to be successful, allowing us to accommodate more guests and growing all the time in order to make the pub more viable, thank you for your continued support

Our up and coming Cabaret and Carvery nights have been unbelievable Dolly Parton on the 23rd November is now a

complete sell out, we have a few tickets for Tom Jones on the 19th October please pop in for tickets £20 and that includes a 2 course Carvery and the show, dinner from 18:30hrs and the show starts around 21:00hrs

Christmas Party Nights are Robbie Williams on Friday 6th December, Swing vs King Show (Ray Pack & Elvis) on Friday 13th December and An Abba Night on Friday 20th December £25 a ticket 2 course Carvery and the show

Karaoke dates are :-

October Saturday 5th + Friday 18th

November Fridays 1st, 15th and 29th

and Saturday 7th December

Our clubs are doing well and welcome new members :-

Every Fortnight on a Wednesday Knit & Natter with Gwen from 2 o'clock

Every week on a Thursday from 2 o'clock is Bridge Club with Peter

Every Friday afternoon from 2 o'clock Ukelele Club with Janet & Keith all levels welcome from beginners to advanced

We look forward to seeing you soon, tickets for all shows either come into the pub or call 01795 538143 we are open from midday Wednesday to Sunday

Best regards

Steve, Kim, Lisa and baby Dolly



Helen Whately MP takes campaign to save Graveney Marshes to Parliament

Helen Whately has been campaigning against the project since the proposals were announced – including submitting evidence to one of the public hearings – and recently met

Ministers to highlight the damage the project could do to local habitat and wildlife. We were delighted that nearly 50 supporters joined us at Westminster, wearing campaign t-shirts (including Helen!) and demonstrating the actual size of one solar panel frame! Unfortunately, the Parliamentary prorogation meant this didn't go ahead however fantastic coverage was received including a press call and 30 minute private meeting with Zac Goldsmith (Environment Minister) and Helen. After the event Helen issued the following press release:

“Helen Whately welcomed campaigners fighting to save Graveney Marshes to Parliament yesterday (9 September). Fifty campaigners travelled to Westminster to raise their concerns about the 860-acre solar development, which is being opposed by the GREAT campaign and other local and national groups.

Helen had secured a debate in the House of Commons on the local environmental impact of the development – which would be built on land earmarked for wetland restoration. The debate was postponed, so instead Helen arranged a meeting

for the campaigners with Environment Minister, Zac Goldsmith, in one of the committee rooms in Parliament. The Minister listened to concerns raised by Helen and campaigners, including fears about the landscape being destroyed, wildlife being driven away, and the noise during and after construction.

Helen says: "It was fantastic to see so many campaigners in Westminster – and a sure sign of the strength of feeling locally about the solar power plant. Our meeting with the Minister was a great opportunity for people to put their concerns directly to him.

Tackling climate change and helping our wildlife are vitally important, but they need to happen together. If we trash our landscapes and drive away wildlife in our efforts to tackle climate change, then what good have we really achieved? We should be building solar power plants in industrial areas, making use of land that's already developed - or at the very least, not precious and rare habitats like marshlands. People nearby know that there is an alternative vision for Graveney Marshes. Returning them to a wetland habitat of centuries past - they could support many more rare species and lock away hundreds of tonnes of carbon.

I'm frustrated too that people feel that haven't been listened to in the planning process so far. The Minister definitely heard their arguments – and I'm going to try to get the debate scheduled again when Parliament returns in October."

The size of one table which holds the panels:



Helen talking with campaigners complete with t-shirt!



Meeting with Zac Goldsmith in the Commons:



Our story was also reported in the Faversham News (11 September), continuing the good local coverage we are currently receiving.

Examination Update

Four more hearings have now been held for the examination. There are no further hearings planned and the remaining examination period will now be undertaken via written requests and responses. A short summary of each hearing is included below, a fuller summary will be uploaded to our website shortly.

- **10 September** – Open Floor Hearing:
 - Richard Francis (CPRE) questioned the flood risk assessment;
 - Chris Lowe (CPRE) raised concerns about damage to the environment;
 - Stephen Ledger asked questions about the feasibility of sheep grazing on the solar park;

- Harold Goodwin (Faversham Society) talked about the IPCC (carbon sequestration) and food security, and that the local emergency services should be more involved in the application;
 - Lut Stewart highlighted a court case and the disingenuous remarks by Hive that they have been involved in building solar parks;
 - the Parish Council raised questions about the equality impact assessment that was submitted by the applicant, the cameras and the threat of terrorism;
 - Bruno Erasin talked about hazardous waste in relation to the battery storage, and supported Harold that a substantial bond (£45m+) should be in place to cover decommissioning and replacement during the 25 year lifetime costs;
 - Sir David Melville talked about the statement of need using the latest available data to show the development is not needed;
 - Cllr Tim Valentine talked with emotion about the potential loss of the Graveney Marshes and said that solar should go on buildings.
- **10 September** - Issue Specific Hearing 5 on the draft Development Consent Order
 - The Applicant answered questions from the Examining Panel about their application and changes made since the last hearing.
- **11 September** - Issue Specific Hearing 6 on Environmental Matters.
 - One of the big concerns that people have taken away from this session is that Natural England

proposes to put mitigation away from Graveney Marshes for the marsh harriers.

- **12 September** – Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 2
 - No-one attended other than the applicants and it appears that most people are comfortable with the offers.

We have received excellent support from a local Barrister who has provided advice on the court case (mentioned above) and a suggested submission for Deadline 5, and an energy expert who supported us in the Need and Environmental Matters hearings.

Full details of the application, including recordings of the above hearings, can be found at <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/south-east/cleve-hill-solar-park/>.

Friends of Graveney Church

Village History weekend, it's not too late to submit and stories or photos, please phone Linda 07961427997. Wendy Tait Mayfield will be giving a talk on Friday 18th at 7pm, wine and cheese provided. There will be a question and answer time after.'

We are also looking for stall holders for our Christmas Fare, if interested please phone Linda.

GRAVENEY HISTORY

FRI 18TH OCTOBER7pm

A talk by Wendy Tait Mayfield
“An Introduction to Graveney History”

Wine and Cheese

Donation suggested

SAT 19TH OCTOBER10am – 4pm

SUN 20TH OCTOBER12pm – 4pm

Come along and view photos from the past, help us identify people in them. See if your ancestors lived in the village and what they did. Read stories told by villagers. Plus lots more.

Refreshments served all day.

Artists Open House Studio

In October the Artists Open House Studio is taking place across East Kent. The dates are 12th/13th, 19th/20th, 26th/27th October 11 – 5pm. Further details available from the website (<http://ekoh.org.uk/>) and trail books of all the artists and where they live are available from the Four Horse Shoes pub, Creek Creative, Fleur de Lis and library.

Graveney Art Group

First and Third Monday of each month, 10:00am until 12:00 noon. Back at the village hall, from October. Refreshments and good company. All for £4.00 per morning. If you wish to know more contact:
Val on 07866 984 678

Village Hall Events and Notices

As many of you probably know, our chairman Penny sadly lost her husband, Bob, earlier this year. She has temporarily taken a bit of a back seat from Village Hall affairs but we are confident she will soon feel up to resuming her position.

We have had to cancel Wednesday Club, but hope we shall be able to resume our meetings next year. Meanwhile, huge thanks to all our faithful members for their support. We shall have already had our seaside trip to Bexhill-on-Sea by the time you read this. We will be able to announce dates of our Panto Trip and Post-Xmas party in the next issue of this publication.

Our Boot Fairs have been a great boost to our funds this year enabling us to have much needed security cameras fitted to the hall. Also we have had a lot of work done to improve the electrical system in the hall.

We must close by thanking Colin Relf for all his help this

year, and to John from Vincent's farm for the grass cutting of the hall field.

Thought of the Month

Be gentle when you touch bread. Let it not lie uncared for, unwanted. So often bread is taken for granted.

There is so much beauty in bread:

beauty of sun and soil

beauty of rain and toil.

The winds and the air caressed it, Christ often blessed it.

Be gentle when you touch bread. Back of the bread is flour, back of the flour is the mill and back of the mill is wind and rain, and the Father's will.



Garden Maintenance

Mowing ☆ Strimming ☆ Edging ☆ Pruning ☆
Hedge Cutting ☆ Weeding ☆ Blowing/Raking ☆
Planting ☆ Fence Painting

Any gardening jobs considered

Weekly, Fortnightly, Monthly or One Offs

Call now to arrange a free quote!

Hardworking and reliable gardener

R. Brett Garden Maintenance
Phone 01227 918953

CPRE Green Clean

CPRE held a Green Clean in Graveney on Sunday the 8th September. A couple of villagers did turn out along with CPRE members and a great day was had by all.

Hundreds of bottles, cans, bags and even a scooter were collected. Also, tragically a dead mouse was found in one of the glass bottles, which is why litter is so damaging and poses such a threat to wildlife.



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info@chucklebounce.co.uk

www.chucklebounce.co.uk

The advertisement features a vibrant blue sky background with white clouds and several colorful balloons (yellow, pink, red, green). At the bottom, there is a cartoon illustration of four children playing on a large, colorful inflatable structure that resembles a castle or a bounce house. The children are wearing party hats and are in various playful poses. The overall design is bright and cheerful, aimed at attracting parents for children's parties.

Neighbourhood Watch

Please be safe: DO NOT LEAVE YOUR HOME UNLOCKED
WHILE YOU ARE AWAY OR AT NIGHT

DO NOT LEAVE YOUR WINDOWS OPEN WHILE YOU ARE
AWAY OR AT NIGHT

DO NOT LEAVE OUTBUILDINGS UNLOCKED, DO NOT LEAVE
TOOLS OR MACHINERY IN PLAIN SIGHT

REPORT ALL INSTANCES TO THE POLICE

Use 999 if it is urgent or 101 if it is after the fact. After you
have reported it to the police, notify

Neighbourhood Watch - Mr. Kevin Castle

Contact: 07749 736669 - kevincastle@btinternet.com

Will Ferguson – Local Plasterer

Professional, high quality plastering services

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Friendly helpful advice and free quotes

Telephone: 07753 690740 or 01795 536505

ABBEY UKULELE CLUBS

WEDNESDAYS – Ukulele Club

Graveney Village Hall

Sandbanks Lane

Every week for the time being 2pm – 4pm

Starting on Wednesday 7th August

William Gibbs Court

Orchard Place, Faversham

every **THURSDAY** 1pm – 2.45pm

Acoustic Club

Graveney Village Hall 7.30pm

Thursday 1st August & 15th August

The Four Horseshoes Pub

Graveney

FRIDAYS every week - 2pm – 4pm

Ukuleles & Banjos are welcome at all Clubs

Beginners & players all welcome. For more information please contact: JANET & KEITH
01795 530854 / janetipayne47@gmail.com

<http://janetipayne.wix.com/abbeyukeplayers>





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01795 530881 or 07974 146353

liz@wilsonsmithphysio.co.uk

www.wilsonsmithphysio.co.uk

Walnut Cottage, Nursery Lane, Sheldwich, Faversham, ME13 0DZ

Woman's Institute

We meet in the Village Hall on the second Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm. Visitors always very welcome to attend.

Upcoming Events:

October 8th Annual Meeting - Carol Mitchell Photographic Tour

October 26th Quiz Night - Tables of 8 or less, £6 per person (Bring your own drinks)

November 13th - Matt Spanton - Asparagus

December 11th - Christmas Meal

For further information contact: Teresa Bowles on 07966 299648 or e-mail teresa.bowles22@btinternet.com

Articles for this Newsletter

For any comments, corrections and contributions please email: graveney.goodnestone.news@gmail.com

Please ensure all submissions are made by the 20th of each month to ensure inclusion in the following months' edition.

Please also get in contact if you would also like to receive a pdf of the newsletter via email every month. Versions of current and prior editions are available on the Parish website:

www.graveneywithgoodnestonepc.kentparishes.gov.uk/

If you are missing a copy, please email, alternatively spare copies are available at All Saints Church, The Four Horseshoes Pub and Mallards Farm Shop.

Adverts are welcome at a cost of £2 per half page. Please get in contact via the above email or on 07410 500 855, to discuss placing an ad.

Village Notice Boards

We now have two sets of keys for the village notice boards. If you wish to put up a notice please contact:

Carol Mitchell

01795 532 372

Elaine Cooper

07922 461 543