



Paddock Wood Town Council – Quarterly Update

December 2017

Chairman's Update

We have a strong team of councillors who work hard on your behalf and we also have enthusiastic volunteers from the community that work with us. As a result of this engagement the Neighbourhood Plan is reaching its final stages and the Light Up Paddock Wood event with support from local business and PWTC was a roaring success in this its 3rd year.

Much time and effort has been expended on planning our new Community Centre over the last three years and we have established which facilities you would like to see in it and the best position for it.

In our consultations residents came out clearly in favour of siting the community Centre at the Memorial playing field and this is why that site was chosen. Further consultation was undertaken recently when many of you may have joined us outside KHP to fill in a questionnaire and those responses have been fed back to the architect and working group.

More news next quarter.

Cllr Elizabeth Thomas

If you have any suggestions about what you would like to read about in our next Quarterly update which we are going to publish in November, please contact either the Town Clerk or Cllr Derek Boyle via the contact details on the right hand side.

Clerk's update



Paddock Wood Town Council employs a total of eight members of staff and the centre of operations is The Podmore Building on St Andrews Field.

It is from here that the Town Clerk (Nichola Reay) and Deputy Clerk (Claire Stewart) oversee the running of the Council. The Estates Team are based at the workshops in Memorial Recreation Ground under the management of the Estates Manager (Kevin Butler).

There is usually one of us in the office every weekday until 4 pm. Do feel free to call in if you have anything to discuss or require any help. It might be best to phone first if you are making a special journey or have something specific you wish to raise with us.

We can be contacted on 01892 837373 or via email paddockwoodtc@btconnect.com

For planning or cemetery queries contact Claire at claire.pwtc@btconnect.com.

Nichola Reay
Town Clerk



Estates committee

During the last few months we have completed further improvement work around the Town and completed some of our planned projects for this Quarter.

Scallywags pre-school

Complete replacement and upgrade of heating system with ceiling mounted heating panels and removal of old heating system. This has improved the energy efficiency of the heating system,, stabilised the temperature and improved the heating to the offices and kitchen area.

Community Litter Picks

The Estates committee has agreed to coordinate future community litter picks around the town and set the dates for these throughout the year. We are looking to run these events twice a year in April and October, so please look out for details. On behalf of PWTC, we would like to thank all of the members of the community and the youth groups that have been supporting these events over the last year.

Additional baby and infant plots at the Cemetery

The estates committee has recently agreed to reserve further baby plots in the cemetery and is in the process of improving the landscaping around the newly designated area.

Paddock Wood Athletics club

The Committee had an informative presentation given to us about the great work that has been going on at PWAC and how they are supporting the development of local talent in the town. We are continuing to support the fine work of PWAC and are in discussion about improving the pathways leading to the track.

Paddock Wood Bowls club

The Bowls club came and gave an interesting presentation about the history of the Bowls club and how their facilities are used by club members and visitors. The chairman accepted an invite from the club to try out Bowls and had a thoroughly enjoyable time.

Paddock Wood Football club

The Estates committee agreed to support the renovation of the Elm tree changing rooms by members of the Football club to improve the facilities for home and away teams. We await an update from the club as to the progress of the work and to see the improved facilities.

Cllr Derek Boyle

Chair of Estates Committee



Neighbourhood Plan

In 2014 Paddock Wood Town Council made the decision, subsequently ratified by Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, to develop a Neighbourhood Plan. A steering group consisting of residents and town councillors was set up to take the project forward. There have been regular consultation events with the public of Paddock Wood and working groups were set up to develop individual policies. All data gathered was then collated by our Consultants Feria Urbanism into a draft Neighbourhood Plan.

The Steering Group continues to meet monthly and at its November 2017 meeting considered the first draft of the Neighbourhood Plan. Following comments from the Steering Group, Feria Urbanism is now revising the draft and a second version is expected by the end of the year. Once the draft has been agreed by the Steering Group it will be passed to Tunbridge Wells Borough Council who will decide whether an environmental assessment is required. If all goes smoothly the next stage will be a formal six week consultation period with the residents and businesses of Paddock Wood, during which there will be an exhibition attended by Feria Urbanism.

The Neighbourhood Plan is featured prominently on the Paddock Wood Town Council website where details of all agendas and minutes can be found as well as other key documents. There is also a link to the Feria-Urbanism website.

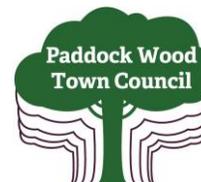
Meryl Flashman
Paddock Wood Town Councillor and Chairman of the Steering Group

Youth Council

The Youth Council has now been in operation since February 2016. It has undergone a few changes recently, due to young people leaving for work and university. I would like to offer my thanks to Peter Hammerton and Henry Atkins for their contributions and we wish them success with their studies and work. A big 'thank you' also goes to Josh Boyle, who has left the group due to competing demands on a Monday evening. We are now seeking new members on Youth Council. If any young people are interested, please contact Carol Williams or Emily Mackie via carolwilliamspwtc@gmail.com for a discussion.

Upcoming meeting dates

Planning & Environment	Tuesday 2nd January at 7:45pm
Finance	Monday 8th January at 7:45pm
Planning	Monday 15th January at 7:15pm
Full Council	Monday 15th January at 7:45pm
PPP	Monday 22nd January at 7.45 pm



PADDOCK WOOD COMMUNITY CENTRE

Several hundred people braved the wet weather recently to take a look at the proposed plans for the new Community Centre due to be built at the Memorial Field, Maidstone Road.

Residents were asked to give their views on how the building should look, what they wanted to see in it and how the Town Council should fund it.

Feedback has now been collated and passed to the architect. He will take the comments into account when moving forward with the initial designs. Further consultation will take place in the next few months.

The scheme is looking to provide a pre-school; three large flexible community rooms, which will be able to be opened out into one large hall with a capacity of up to 300 seats, There will also be kitchens, a café and office spaces.

The desired outcome is that the new building will be able to serve a wide variety of groups.

In order to deliver the scheme, the Council is seeking to obtain a contribution of around £1M from the developers looking to build new homes in Paddock Wood.

Until the funding is released the Council intends to take out a loan of up to £1.5 million so that work can start as soon as possible. Potentially, the council would need to increase the annual Council Tax by about £3.70 pa for a Band D property to deliver the scheme.

For more information on the project please visit www.paddockwoodtc.kentparishes.co.uk where there is still time to leave your feedback.

Paddock Wood Town Council, The Podmore Building St Andrews Field, St Andrew Road, Paddock Wood
TN12 6HT Tel: 01892 837373

For further details of the work and role of Paddock Wood Town Council, please visit our website:

<http://www.paddockwoodtc.kentparishes.gov.uk/>

You can also find us on Twitter

@paddock_wood_tc

And Facebook

www.facebook.com/paddockwoodtc/

The Quarterly update is compiled by Cllr Derek Boyle on behalf of Paddock Wood Town Council.