

Badgers Mount

PARISH COUNCIL



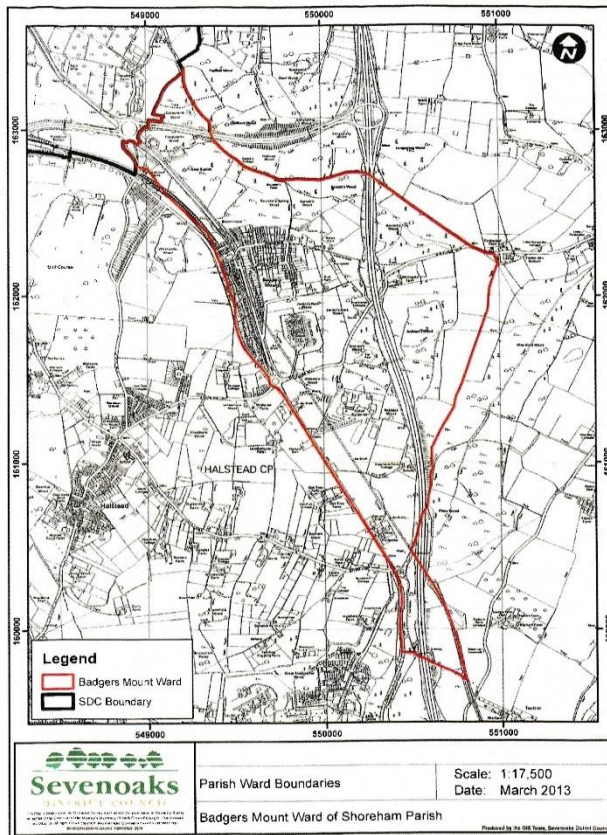
AUTUMN 2018 NEWSLETTER



A NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN: BADGERS MOUNT

At the recent open meeting held on 28th September 2018 about the possibility of a Neighbourhood Plan for Badgers Mount Parish, residents who attended were in favour. Bearing in mind previous experiences in fighting the F M Conway application and information gathered about other Neighbourhood Plans, Councillors feel that to produce an effective Neighbourhood Plan, this will need some professional input. Whilst we shall be applying for all relevant Grants, this is unlikely to be adequate to cover the costs and hence extra funding will be needed which will

result in increasing the Precept for a limited time. The Parish Council has now applied to Sevenoaks District Council for the Parish to be designated as a Neighbourhood Area (see map below).



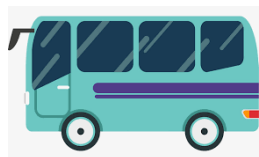
Once the area has been designated which we would hope will be achieved by Christmas or early in the New Year, then the Parish Council will seek to increase the precept for 2019/20 and establish a Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group to be attended by Parish Councillors and a number of resident helpers. The Parish Council will also be seeking a Grant from Locality to support the work.

Councillors were delighted that 8 residents have already indicated their commitment to working on a Neighbourhood Plan.

The aim of the proposed Neighbourhood Plan will be to take a strong role in future developments in the Parish. As many will be aware there are already two significant development sites earmarked in the Parish in the latest draft of the Sevenoaks Local Plan, with high housing densities proposed which are out of kilter with the character of the local area. This would also generate a large amount of extra traffic and infrastructure needs, for which the local area is ill-equipped. The Neighbourhood Plan will seek

to reduce the housing densities proposed and ensure these new developments can be supported by local infrastructure.

The Neighbourhood Plan will also seek to respond to residents' concerns on local Transport and protecting the local environment as well as good access to important services.



BUS SERVICE CONSULTATION UPDATE

The KCC 'Big Conversation' consultation on the future of rural bus services in Kent closed on 8th August 2018. We hope many of you sent in your views on future public transport in our community. Based on responses in the consultation, KCC should now be refining their proposals for the Bus Summit later this month. If approved, pilots could be put into action in the first half of 2019. We will keep you updated on any information that we receive in future newsletters.



BUS SHELTERS & GRAFFITI!

You may have noticed that in recent weeks, both of the wooden bus shelters have been repaired, roof covering replaced and the wood re-painted both inside and outside. The Parish Council would like to thank Paul Collier for undertaking the work on our behalf.





Sadly, just one night after the outside of the shelter by Crest Close was treated a large quantity of graffiti appeared and it has had to be re-painted. The brick building next to the bus shelter and some of the care home hoardings were also targeted. Please be vigilant and report anything suspicious to avoid further damage.



VILLAGE GATES

We are hoping to brighten up our village gateways by putting small flower beds either side of them very shortly. If you would be interested

in sponsoring plants or the materials needed to create one of the flowerbeds (or more if you wish!) please get in touch with our Parish Clerk. If you have suggestions of anywhere else that could benefit from a flower bed please let us know – a bed around the base of the Millennium Sign might be nice too!



ENVIRONMENT AND AMENITIES

We have formed a sub-committee to monitor various aspects relating to the environment and amenities in Badgers Mount which the Parish Council can monitor, report to the appropriate bodies where action is needed, or carry out work ourselves. The list already contains nearly 50 items which have been divided into fairly broad groups of Roads and Highways, Planning, Amenities and Parish Council (items for the Parish Council to action). The list will be available to view

on the website shortly, and if you have anything you think we should add, please send it to our Parish Council Clerk.

Key Upcoming Meeting Dates:

November 15th 2018 (Full Parish Council)

December 6th 2018 (Full Parish Council)

December 20th 2018 (Planning, if required)

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