

# ANNUAL REPORT 2017/18

Kings Hill Parish Council have a variety of responsibilities to the residents of Kings Hill. Below is a summary of the work in 2017/2018 and the council's plans for 2018/19.

## Planning, Highways and Environment



The Kings Hill Allotment site is establishing well. The parish council has purchased a lawn mower to maintain the area in-house in order to reduce costs. The Council has been lobbying for action in Kings Hill for various planning and environmental issues including keeping Tower View open on Christmas Day, lining up the X1 and X2 bus

services with the train timetable at West Malling station and improving the safety of the Kent Street junction. The plans for Phase 3 are under constant scrutiny by the council's planning committee, parking and transport plans are being challenged to reduce future road issues. The parish council are also working with the borough council to alleviate existing parking issues and are reviewing the most troubled areas with a view to how inconsiderate parking can be addressed.

## Sport and Recreation



The Kings Hill Sports Park has had a much improved year. The council has made significant improvements to the quality of the pitches and this, along with better planning, has enabled more games to be played than ever. The council took the decision to bring the catering provision in-house and early feedback is very positive. With a new chef and waiting team delivering a variety of eat in and take-away food, the new menu started in March 2018 and the café is now open to the public every evening and weekend. New sports have been welcomed to the park this year including touch rugby and the council is now working with Liberty on an extension to the pavilion and integrating other sports courts such as tennis and netball. Dog fouling continues to be an issue and the council are investigating enforcement options.

## 2018/19 The Year Ahead

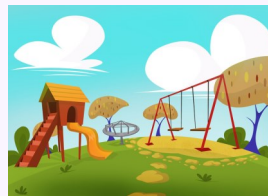
In order to further develop its community assets the parish council decided to make a modest increase in the precept for 2018/19. The rise equates to 3% against last years Band D equivalent, which in real terms is an extra £2.15 per year. For a Band G property this will mean an extra £3.58 per year. The rise generates an additional £13,758 which will be used to make improvements to the community centre and the sports park.

## Kings Hill Parish Council

### Expenditure

	2017/18		2018/19	
	Gross	Net	Gross	Net
	£	£	£	£
Planning, highways and environment	29,900	21,600	29,350	26,875
Sports and recreation	403,377	50,606	390,902	34,052
Community centre	135,621	-259	159,975	13,350
Other running costs	208,241	207,191	219,620	218,620
Total	777,139	279,138	799,847	292,897
Council tax at Band D	£71.49		£73.77	

## Council projects



The council have been working on many projects over the year which will continue into 2018/19. A new play area is due to be installed at the Sports Park which will include challenging equipment for older children, something that the council

recognises is lacking in Kings Hill. Further investigations took place into replacing the play equipment in Anson Avenue, a new council website has been planned and will be ready for launch in 2018. The council will canvassing all residents for their views on what they would like the council to do for them in a forthcoming community survey.

## Community Centre



The Community Centre has performed better than expected against budget under new management of Morgan and her new booking clerk Michelle.

The council are currently working on an expansion project with Liberty Property Trust as daytime bookings are at capacity. The expansion will also include better kitchen and bar facilities along with more booking spaces for local groups.

New hirers that have joined us this year include Bravura Gymnastics, Crazy Climbers and Active Tots. The very successful 'Come Dance on the Hill' will start soon and will also offer a fully stocked bar service. The Blood Donors service continues to be a huge success with all places being booked out before they even arrive to set up!

Although the main halls are packed daily with all sorts of activities, licensed functions have not been so successful this year. To combat this the council has appointed a new enthusiastic and fully trained bar staff team to deliver a great service to residents for all their party needs. If you are considering booking an anniversary or birthday party, wedding or engagement 'do' or any type of family celebration please contact us on **01732 220919** for details of our party packages.