

DUNTON GREEN NEWS

Dunton Green Parish Council

Issue 005 Spring 2017



The path from the station to the recreation ground on a beautiful summer's day taken by Freda England (Entrant in the Over 18 category of the Dunton Green Photographic Competition 2016)

What's been going on in Dunton Green? What's new?

Take a look inside to see what activities & events we have coming up and read some inspiring stories about Dunton Green residents who are volunteering in the community.

2017 is shaping up to be another great year in Dunton Green!



Dunton Green Parish Council
Working for a Better Community in Dunton Green

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DUNTON GREEN NEWS

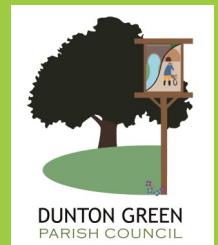
c/o Parish Council Office, Dunton Green Pavilion,
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Chairman's Blog

Last year *Kent Live* published an article on why Dunton Green was the best place to live in Sevenoaks.

I may be a little biased but I'm really not surprised. Despite pressures from developers and District Council we have managed to hold on to our unique village identity and this is something we should continue to fight for.

Many of our residents have grown up and lived in our community all their lives and I stand with them in being proud to be a part of it.

The Ryewood development has brought many more people into the village with skills and interests that can be shared. We have a diverse range of volunteers and community organisations already and I would welcome all residents (old & new) to join the many just like you who are already taking part. Get in touch with Tracy, the Parish Clerk, to get involved or contact the Community Development Officers.

We continue 2017 with an increasing number of activities for old and young. Many of these are aimed at our young people who we not only want to support but whom we want to give a sense of belonging in an age when sitting in front of the television or playing computer games is all too prevalent.

Recent Dunton Green activities for youngsters have included: football, fencing, boxing, dancing, art, tennis and archery. Older residents and families are not forgotten either with exercise classes, lunches, clubs, film evenings and more. Do keep an eye on our website and Facebook pages to know what's going on as there are often extra activities or events that are worth watching out for. We will be organising our normal popular events again this year which will include the village picnic, our annual firework display and the return of our photographic competition and exhibition. Do take the opportunity to get involved.

The Annual Parish Meeting takes place on 22nd March at 7pm in the Pavilion. I would very much welcome you along to hear what has been happening in the village over the past year and to take the opportunity to meet some of your Parish Councillors over refreshments.

We will also be having a fascinating talk by two local historians who will be showing photographs from a new book on the history of The Wildernesse School (somewhere I am sure many local residents would have attended) and sharing stories about life in a post war school. I look forward to seeing you there.





Parish Council precept

The Parish Council precept is a tax charged on each property in your parish to fund the parish council. It is used to fund all the activities that your parish council undertakes for the benefit of your community. The amount levied is collected as part of your Council Tax bill.

There will be an increase in this element of your Council Tax bill for 2017/18 which will equate to a real terms annual increase of £7.25 per Band D household (an increase of 72.5p for each of the ten monthly instalments that are paid if you pay monthly).



There is growing pressure on parish councils to take on more and more of the services currently undertaken by County and District councils, many of which have been cut back to the bare minimum over the last decade. Of course, supplier and contractor costs are also generally increasing year on year and whilst Dunton Green Parish Council has no immediate plans to take on devolved services in the next financial year the Council is looking at the likely future demands and is, therefore, planning its finances accordingly.

NEW WEBSITE COMING SOON...

www.duntongreenpc.org.uk

The Parish Council will be launching its new website before Easter (same website address). The new platform will enable the Parish Council to engage better with parishioners as you will be able to sign up for planning notifications and register for email alerts.

Look out for confirmation of the launch via Facebook or just keep checking!

Out and About

Information, Gossip and News from Kate our roving correspondent



1. Christmas, do you remember that? It seems so long ago now. Months of preparation and gone in a day. I had to take a photo of the Dunton Green tree in St Marys Church. I know it's Riverhead but it's now our closest church and they do run quite a few activities. Their two day Christmas tree festival was lovely and little junior had lots of fun judging which he thought was best. With a little guidance from me he obviously chose Dunton Green. It was decorated with photographs of the village from the November competition and showed our little community.



2. The speeding banner put up over Christmas was a bit of a shock. A bit of a harsh message which I didn't think was very Christmassy. I wonder how many of the speeding motorists even saw it as they whizzed by at 50 or 60 miles per hour? And don't get me started on Zebra crossings, I can be waiting five minutes before anyone decides to stop. The banner is down now and hopefully a few drivers passing through (we residents all keep to the speed limit) will have taken some notice and slowed down. Who knows, it may even have saved a life?



3. At last Bojangles has had a facelift. Not that it looked bad but the cracked window always made me a little nervous. A fresh lick of paint has smartened it up and it's a credit to the parade. Jason must be doing something right as its always busy and I sometimes have to hang around for a table. (A nice pot of tea and a roasted vegetable panini is my favourite lunchtime treat). One plea though if you drop in SHUT THE DOOR behind you. It's not difficult and keeps me and junior warm and cosy.

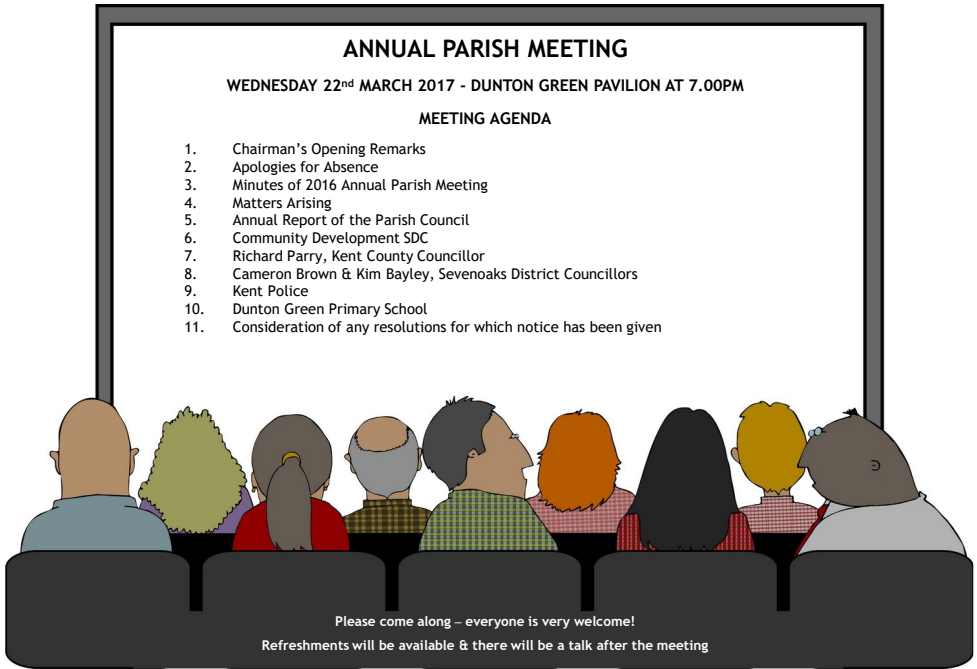


4. Whilst most dog owners in the village are responsible and do pick-up after their pets you do come across the occasional owner who doesn't notice that their pet has pooped on the pavement and I am quite adept at dodging said deposits with the push chair (doggy poo on push chair wheels can spread a long way). However, a walk up to Donnington Hotel recently left me with nowhere to go as the pavement was completely covered in horse poo. Risking life and limb I negotiated the buggy into the road to avoid wading through the manure. If you're a horse owner perhaps you should carry poo bags with you as well?



5. If you haven't used it then the cut through the Ryewood estate to Pounsley Road is jolly handy. Junior likes it for the little play area, it's handy for Tesco and very occasionally it's a short cut to the Miners Arms.

The Annual Parish Meeting is an opportunity for residents to hear about what has been happening with local and partner organisations over the last year. It is NOT a Parish Council meeting although it is chaired by the Chairman of the Parish Council and the Parish Clerk takes minutes. All are very welcome!



APM Key Speakers—Alan Williams & Ed Thompson

Remember your school days? Alan and Ed take a fascinating look back at post-war education with a special interest in The Wildernesse School.

Join us for a nostalgic look back at the school days of yesteryear – we may even have some Dunton Green history for you too!

Alan & Ed's presentation will follow the formal Annual Parish Meeting

WHO SHOULD I CONTACT IF...

...I NEED THE POLICE?

Dial **999** if there is threat to life or a crime is in progress.
Call **101** for all non-emergency matters.

PCSO Amy Hardy Telephone **101** or Email: csu.sevenoaks@kent.pnn.police.uk

...I NEED TO REPORT A STREET LIGHTING ISSUE?

If the street light in question belongs to the Parish Council then you will need to report the fault directly to the Clerk. Details of where DGPC columns are located:

Barretts Road	London Rd Slip Road
Donnington Road	Lusted Road
Hillfield Road	Milton Road
Ivy House Lane	Pounsley Road
Kingswood Road	Rye Lane
Lennard Road	Vicarage Lane
London Road Footpath to Station	



All other street light issues must be reported to KCC's Highways Department via the 24hr Contact Centre on **03000 41 81 81**.

PLEASE NOTE that whenever you report a lighting fault you will be asked for the **column number** (which is on the street light) and the location. Please ensure that you have these details to enable a prompt response.

...I NEED TO REPORT A HIGHWAYS ISSUE?

If you identify a problem with roads or pavements such as potholes, broken kerbs or missing signs you should report these to KCC's Highways Department via the 24hr Contact Centre on **03000 41 81 81** or via KCC's online reporting tool www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem

...I WANT TO REPORT GRAFFITI IN DUNTON GREEN?

Graffiti can be reported via SDC's **online graffiti reporting form** (www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/services/housing/crime-prevention/graffiti-reporting-and-removal.) or by **calling SDC on 01732 227000**.

Sevenoaks District Community Safety Unit

Are you a Local Business or Organisation that would like to get noticed?

Contact the Clerk (email & phone details are available on page 2) to find out how you can promote your business or organisation and support the parish by advertising here.

Sure Start
Children's Centres **stay & Play**
Sevenoaks District

Play,
Learn
and
Grow...
Together!

Every Thursday (term time)
9.30am - 11.00am
At Dunton Green Pavilion

Come and join our friendly group that supports your child's learning in preparation for nursery and school with:

This encourages children & parents/carers to engage with each other. Stay & Play provides creative learning opportunities & access to activities that promote children's development that co-incident with the Early Years Foundation Stage.

For more information please contact
Spring House Children's Centre
02000 421127



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU



If you would like to let everyone know what your community group or club are doing then please get in touch or simply submit an article.

We want to highlight as many of the activities, services, sports that are going on in Dunton Green.

Just send us your articles /
comments:
clerk@dutongreenpc.org.uk

Dunton Green Parish Council
Working for a Better Community in Dunton Green

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Playhouses/Sheds
Radiator covers
Mirrors/Pictures hung
Stair spindles
Storage Hooks
Kitchen units adjusted

TV's installed
Skirting boards
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Do you need extra support during a power cut or do you know someone else that would need extra support? Our services are free to customers who need support.

Power cuts don't happen very often but if the electricity network is damaged or develops a fault it's our job to get your power back on. Our engineers will work around the clock 24/7 to restore your power as quickly and as safely as possible. If you live in London, the East or South East of England, then being on our Priority Services Register will ensure you will receive extra support if you experience a power cut.

What help should I expect to get during a power cut?

- ✓ A priority number that you can call 24 hours a day
- ✓ A dedicated team who will contact you to keep you updated during a power cut
- ✓ We can put you in touch with an expert who can offer you advice on energy bills and energy saving tips if this is important to you
- ✓ Tailored support if needed such as home visits, hot meals, advice and keeping your friends and relatives updated
- ✓ In certain scenarios we may also offer a free hotel overnight and transport to the hotel

Who can register to receive extra support?

- Customers who rely on medical equipment
- Customers who are chronically ill
- Customers with a disability
- Customers who have dementia
- Customers who are blind or partially sighted
- Customers who are deaf or hard of hearing
- Customers who are of pensionable age
- A nursing or residential home
- Customers with children under five in their household
- Any other case that you would like us to consider



You can register for this service online (www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk). Alternatively we do have some information leaflets at the Parish Council office.

Please contact the Clerk (contact details on page 2).



How many villagers are aware of the huge transformation taking place at Dunton Green School?

The school is benefiting from the support and direction of two very experienced Headteachers. Mrs Saunders, who is currently also Headteacher at Lady Boswell's in Sevenoaks and Mrs Marchetti who was Headteacher of Pre-Prep at St Michaels School in Otford for nineteen years.

The school is rapidly going from strength to strength. The generous donation of funds from the Parish Council has enabled the school to revamp the front entrance thereby making it much more welcoming to visitors and new parents. The PTA kindly donated money to restore the original oak floor in the school hall. Kent County Council have also agreed to funding which will enable us to make significant improvements to the school buildings.



Revamped reception area



New historical wall of interest & new carpet

The introduction of new schemes of work and additional educational resources is ensuring that all children are motivated and inspired to learn.

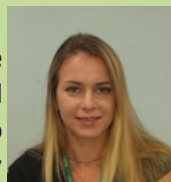
Mrs Marchetti and Mrs Saunders said, "Our goal is to ensure that our children thoroughly enjoy their time with us and develop a lifelong love of learning. We are therefore committed, in addition to high academic expectations, to ensuring that our wider curriculum is exciting and stimulating and this term we are introducing whole class musical tuition and placing an increased focus on sport."

If you are interested in coming and viewing our lovely school do make an appointment with the school office on 01732 462221.



Kathryn Bone

There are now numerous events and activities in Dunton Green but if you have ideas about other activities that you would like to see (and get involved with) please do contact Kathryn & Yulia, the Community Development Workers for Dunton Green.



Yulia La-Kruz

Call 01732 227000 or send an email to communities@sevenoaks.gov.uk.

Easy Netball

Bring a friend, mum, daughter, sister, aunt or niece to join us for some fun NETBALL sessions. Everyone over 14 is welcome.

When: Every Wednesday starting 1st March

Time: 6.30 until 7.30pm

Cost: £2 pay as you go

Where: Multi Use Games Area (MUGA), near) Dunton Green Pavilion, Recreation Ground



Easy Netball is a coach led, fun and informal netball session. It's ideal for complete beginners, those who haven't played in a while or anyone wanting to get together with like minded friends &/or family. Sessions are open to everyone over the age of 14. For more information, contact us as per the details as above.

Street Dance

When: Every Wednesday (term time)

Time: 5.15pm to 6.15pm

Cost: £2.50 per person per class if paid on pay as you basis. £2 per person per class if a 10 week course is booked and paid for in advance.

Where: Dunton Green Pavilion, Recreation Ground

If you've always wanted to learn how to dance or create your own dance routine – come and give it a try! For more information use the contact details above.



Dunton Green Movie Night – Save the date!

Bring friends, family and neighbours along to this fantastic FREE community event.

The next event will take place on
Saturday 25th March 2017.

For more information search for Dunton Green Parish Council on Facebook; visit www.duntongreenpc.org.uk or call 01732 462966



8-12s Project Dunton Green

When: Every Monday (term time)

Time: 3.30-5.30pm

Cost: £2 per week

Where: Dunton Green Pavilion, Recreation Ground

WestKent

Places to live. Space to grow.

This weekly club for children aged 8-12 offers young people a safe place to meet friends where the focus is about encouraging acceptable behaviour and responsibility whilst having fun. Young people will participate in a wide range of activities and in the process children will develop their self confidence.

For more information and to refer someone to the project please contact Kate Craib on 01732 749945 or email kate.craib@wkha.org.uk.

FREE Football Training for 10 to 18yr olds (younger if accompanied)

When: Tuesday

Time: 5.30pm to 6.30pm

Where: Dunton Green Recreation Ground

No booking required – just turn up!



Monthly Older People's Lunch Club

When: First Wednesday of the month

Time: 11.45am to 2pm

Cost: £4

Where: Pavilion, Recreation Ground

To confirm that you will be attending or to book transport please call Age UK on 01732 454108



FLY-TIPPING

This is an issue increasing in frequency across the district. Below is some sound advice with regard to how to effectively report it:



Fly-tipping on highways, footpaths and public land should be reported promptly (at any time) to Sevenoaks District Council on **01732 227000**.

(If out-of-hours, an automated message will tell you that the SDC offices are closed – but hang on until the end of their recorded message at which point you will get through to a real person in the Council's CCTV Control Room.)

Please supply a description of the waste and approximate bulk (so that SDC know what size of lorry to send, and if there might be hazardous waste included in there) and its exact location (just naming a road may not be close enough for them to find easily, especially if there is a second heap of fly-tipping in the same road). It would be helpful to state exactly when you first spotted the waste as well, which might be of some use in tracking down a culprit.

Taking photographs is also good, but please do not put yourself at risk of being run over or of being assaulted. If you see the fly-tipping incident in progress you can dial 101 – but do still note a description of the vehicle and culprit(s), and the registration if not hidden; direction of travel; and date/time - provided it is safe to do so).

Please do not move the waste (unless blocking your way) nor open sacks in order to try and find incriminating evidence, because if the rubbish is tampered with, it invalidates any evidence-gathering.



If the fly-tipping is on private land it is the responsibility of the land-owner only and there is little the Council can do to assist (unless there is a public health issue as well, and this would include the dumping of animal carcasses, etc).

The Council cannot investigate fly-tipping on private land - but where a landowner wishes to share evidence or information about possible offenders (for intelligence purposes only) they should call SDC on 01732 227000 during normal working hours.



INTRODUCING.....DOT

Dot Carpenter is one of the driving forces of the community led Over 55s Social Club. We have had a chat with her.

Dot, have you lived in Dunton Green for long? I have lived in Dunton Green for two years now, Before that I lived in Edenbridge.

What made you want to set up the Over 55s Social Club? Well, the Community Development Workers from Sevenoaks District Council put forward the initial suggestion of setting up a club when they visited Hamlyn Court They asked if people were interested and they were. I was put forward to take the lead which I was happy to do.

What's helped you with setting up the club? I used to be a youth leader and that's helped even though it is a different generation.. We've had support from SDC but we are now running on our own

What sort of things do you do at the Over 55s Social Club? We have all sorts of games—dominoes, cards and so on. We have tea and cakes to keep us going. We have also just started up bingo which has gone down very well. And we have a raffle. The club gives people a chance to meet up with friends that they don't get to see at other times. People can keep in contact with each other.

Where do the people that attend the club come from? Most are from Dunton Green, with a few from further afield. Everyone's welcome—the more the merrier! In fact, we would like more people to come along. There are lots of older people who find it very quiet at the weekend and if they don't get out of their homes they don't see anyone. The club is a nice way to get some contact with other people. We're really pleased that lots of the people who attend the monthly lunch club in Dunton Green also come along to the Over 55s Social Club. Both are opportunities to meet up with old friends and make new.



It's really encouraging that this monthly club is run by the community for the community . It's an excellent example of what can be achieved and hopefully will inspire others to think about doing something for the community.

Many thanks to Dot for talking to us!

If you would like to attend the Over 55s Social Club you can contact Dot (details are on page 17) or you can just go along to the next session.

The Over 55s Social Club takes place at Dunton Green Pavilion on the third Sunday of the month, 2pm to 4pm.

Easter 2017

FREE

Sevenoaks District Family Fun Days

Monday 3 April, 10am to 2pm

Brasted Pavilion, Brasted Recreation Ground TN16 1HJ

Tuesday 4 April, 10am to 2pm

Rickards Hall, 72a High Street Edenbridge TN8 5AR

Wednesday 5 April, 10am to 2pm

West Kingsdown Village Hall, Gamecock Meadow TN15 6BZ

Thursday 6 April, 10am to 2pm

Halstead Recreation Ground, Station Road TN14 7DH

No booking required, simply turn up and enjoy what's on offer!

Children must be supervised by a parent or carer at all times.

For more information, please call **01732 227000**

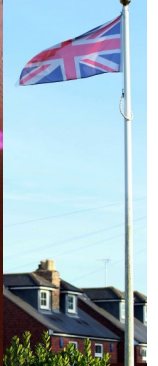
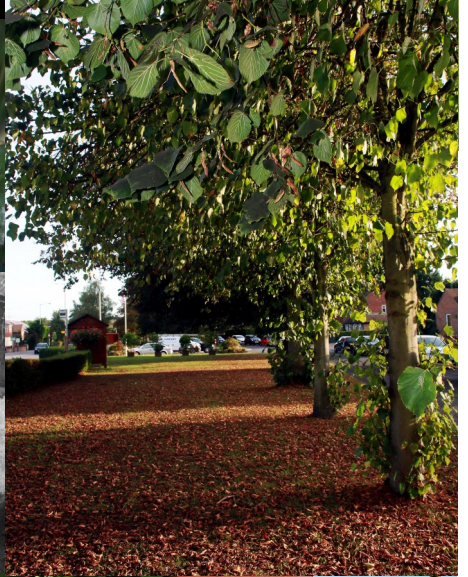
or email communities@sevenoaks.gov.uk

Funded by Sevenoaks District Council,
run by IMAGO and supported by
town and parish councils

**IMAGO**
.community

**Sevenoaks**
DISTRICT COUNCIL

LOOK OUT for Summer 2017 Activities in Dunton Green in the next edition....



Beautiful Dunton Green!
Village Picnic - Sunday 9th July
Fireworks Saturday - 30th September
Save the dates – more details in the next issue!

LET'S MEET.....TIM

Tim Fox is a local resident who volunteers each month at the AgeUK Older People's Lunch Club. Tim volunteered about six months ago after seeing the lunch club advertised in the Dunton Green News. Here's what Tim has to say about his experiences of the club from a volunteer's perspective:

About 25 guests attend the Dunton Green lunch club. The atmosphere is good with lots of conversation and good humoured banter—I get sacked at least twice a session for my poor waiter skills!

Guests receive coffee, tea and biscuits and a hot two course meal.

The club is run by a small team of volunteers supported by team AgeUK and the Community Development Officers.



I prepare the dining area, serve the meals, talk and listen to the guests and help clear away.

Our pre-Christmas lunch was a great success. There was bubbly, crackers, a free mystery raffle and a traditional Christmas meal. The highlight being carols sung by the primary school choir and the attendance of the head girl and head boy who also came to help.

Feedback from guests is very positive, they think the volunteers are very kind and helpful; they like the atmosphere and enjoy the food. They would like it to happen more often!

Why did I volunteer? Having retired and got through a number of health issues including a knee replacement and a back operation I wanted to be involved in the local community, to feel useful and help others enjoy their lives.

I have met some wonderful people: other volunteers, the Community Development Officers and the guests. I would recommend others to get involved; it is an enjoyable and positive experience.

Thanks to Tim for telling us about the Dunton Green Lunch Club.

The Dunton Green Lunch Club takes place at the pavilion (in the recreation ground) on the first Wednesday of each month from 11.45am to 2.00pm and costs £4. For more information or to book transport please call AgeUK on 01732 454108

DUNTON GREEN OVER 55's SOCIAL CLUB

- 2pm to 4pm
- Third Sunday of **every month**
- Price 50p includes tea and cake

Come, have a chat and play games with friends and neighbours.

Dunton Green Pavilion, Recreation Ground, off London Rd TN13 2UR



For more information call
Dot Carpenter on **07818 081 003**



Supported by **DUNTON GREEN
PARISH COUNCIL**

Dunton Green

Older People's Lunch Club

Starting from 4 May 2016

First Wednesday of the month | 11.45am | Price £4
Dunton Green Pavilion, Recreation Ground, off London Road, TN13 2UR

For more information or to book transport,
please call **Age UK** on **01732 454108**



Supported by
Dunton Green Parish Council

Sevenoaks & Tonbridge
ageUK

Sevenoaks
DISTRICT COUNCIL

PLEASE JOIN US!

**FRIENDLY MONTHLY
COFFEE MORNING
(Over 50s)**

on

**THIRD THURSDAY
EACH MONTH**

at 10.30 am in

**DUNTON GREEN
VILLAGE HALL**

ALL WELCOME

**We look forward to seeing
you**

Want to find out what's going on BEFORE everyone else

It's frustrating to find out about free events, great activities or general news after everyone else or even after the event has taken place. Here are a few ways to ensure you never miss out:

Free Mailing List

Dunton Green Parish Council offers a free emailing list service to residents who want to be kept informed of what events the Parish Council is organising. Don't know what's on? Then look out for the Parish Council's new website (see page 4) where you will be able to register for email alerts which will keep you informed and up to date.

Facebook

Search for Dunton Green Parish Council on Facebook. We make regular posts keeping you updated on all the latest news.



Find us on
Facebook

Parish Council Website

Visit the parish council website at: www.duntongreenpc.org.uk

The site is being revamped and will launch before Easter with a host of new functions.

Details about the Dunton Green Pavilion, including how to hire it and special rates for residents, are also available here.

Notice Boards

Not everyone is high-tech so we still post important information on the noticeboards around the village.

The large noticeboard on the village green contains a little more extra information in a dedicated 'parish council' section.

Other posters can be informative but are not endorsed by the parish council.

Parish Council Meetings

Another way of getting to know about the village is to come along to one of the monthly parish council meetings held in the pavilion, normally on the second Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm. Everyone is very welcome!

**CONCERNED ABOUT LITTERING N THE VILLAGE?
THEN PLEASE JOIN US AT THE PARISH COUNCIL'S NEXT LITTER PICK**

Heroes Wanted.

It's time to clean up our village!

**Sunday 19th March
11am**

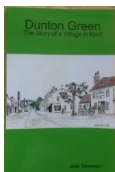


Meeting at:
**Dunton Green Pavilion, Recreation Ground
off London Road**

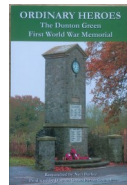
Let'ss get Dunton Green gleaming!!

DUNTON GREEN PARISH COUNCIL BOOKS

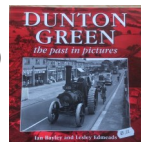
Ordinary Heroes retails at £5 and encapsulates the histories of those listed on the village's World War One memorial



Dunton Green The Story of a Village in Kent is Jean Newman's recollections of life in Dunton Green when she was growing up (available in paperback (£5) and hardback (£12) formats)



The Parish Council also stocks 'Dunton Green the past in pictures' at £9



CONTACT THE PARISH COUNCIL IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PURCHASE
(details page 2)



DUNTON GREEN
PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH COUNCIL VACANCIES

If you have been inspired or encouraged to get involved please don't hesitate to contact the Clerk.

The Parish Council is looking to fill **three vacancies** at the moment and we are interested to hear from anyone who would like to get involved be it as a member of the Council or as an unofficial volunteer.

We could always do with more help delivering newsletters, marshalling at events and all manner of things! If you want to get involved in any way please do contact us.

COPY DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE

Any items or articles for possible inclusion in the next issue of this magazine must be forwarded to the Parish Council Office,
Dunton Green Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Dunton Green, Kent
TN13 2UR

1st MAY 2017

We really do want to hear from you so please send your ideas, articles and photos by email to clerk@duntongreenpc.org.uk



For more information please call **01732 462966**
email clerk@duntongreenpc.org.uk or search for Dunton Green Parish Council on facebook.


Sevenoaks
DISTRICT COUNCIL



LATEST NEWS: We will be showing **The BFG** (PG)

Getting **IT** Working  

www.getting-it-working.co.uk

07481 903 088 / 01959 525 315

"Our system is now robust and reliable and we have since appointed Getting IT Working as our new IT support service provider going forward." **DAC Architects**

"I am delighted with changes we have seen since Getting IT Working has managed our IT" **Penge Churches Housing**

"We now have a robust IT system that works for us" **Marketing Pro Group**

