

## News from the Parish Council



### Lee Kidd – Community warden - RIP

I was saddened and shocked to hear about the death of Lee Kidd last month. Lee used to be our community warden before he was promoted a few years ago to group leader for the Dover and Thanet area. He always looked jolly, with his trim white beard and ready smile. I remember meeting him, as a very new, naive and motivated councilor, to be told that “Dog poo and parking” is as good as it gets. He wasn’t far wrong!

I remember him particularly as he accompanied me to talk to the workmen who had erected a 100 ft effigy of Teresa May on our very own White cliffs at the bottom of Granville road, at the time of the last general election. Do you remember? – we made the national press. Here’s hoping this latest election is less invasive.

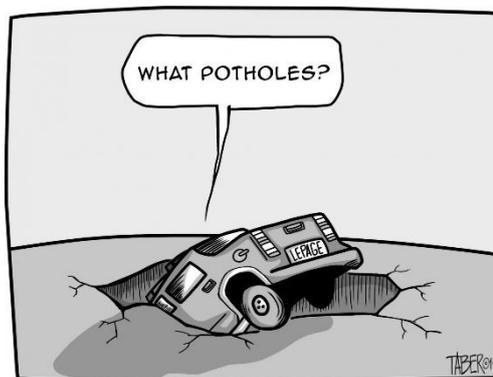
Lee was always a friend to the village, helping direct the traffic so we could put up our Christmas tree ; helping me survey our beach, looking for a section that would allow dogs to enjoy the sea all year round or him trying to supporting our homeless visitor who had pitched his tent up in the village. What surprised me was the amount of work he did in the village that he didn’t share, neighbourhood dispute resolutions, vulnerable resident support including the lonely elderly - Many of us may have a private memory. My thoughts are with Lee’s family and loved ones at this time.

One of his last actions were to recruit and train a new warden for our village, which includes Guston and Kingsdown. Mr Steve Noddings. - A former policeman, who has hit the road running, is visible in the village and who introduced himself in the last edition of the village mag. Do welcome him if you see him. A reminder of his contacts are:

St Margaret's-at-Cliffe	Steve Noddings	07977 982184 <a href="mailto:stephen.noddings@kent.gov.uk">stephen.noddings@kent.gov.uk</a>
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### Potholes

On a mundane mater, our pothole population seems to be increasing and as a recent convert to cycling, they can be downright dangerous. Having moaned and complained ineffectually about 3 large potholes that appeared to be out to get me, I finally used the link off the Parish Council website (top one off the links page) and reported them, not really expecting anything to happen for a long while. The holes were filled in within 24 hours.



The online process wasn't too arduous, I just need to give an idea of size and particularly depth and describe exactly where they were. Please, if you notice something, report it. The man with the bucket of tarmac will not do his magic unless the problem is logged, and a work request generated.

<https://www.stmargaretspc.co.uk/useful-links/>

## **Facebook**

We are setting up a St Margarets Parish Council Facebook page. Please look out for it. It will be available for everyone to see, including visitors and you will not need to join a Facebook Group. It will be used to keep you up to date of the goings on at the Parish level and any other council matters that affect us locally.



## **Village Handyman/Gardener**

Our current contractor Mr Ian Miller is rapidly approaching a well-deserved retirement. The village won't be quite the same without Dusty and his trusty van tending our special home. We wish him well.

The Parish Council are pulling together a job description and will be advertising this work early in 2020. So if you are a gardening contractor or know of someone who may be interested, please do think of applying. Own equipment, training, and Health & Safety provision a requirement. There is a preference for someone local.

## **District Councillor**

Our District Councillor Keith Morris announced his resignation from the District Council on the 14<sup>th</sup> October. He has been the representative for the Guston, Kingsdown and St Margaret's-at-Cliffe ward since May 2011 and the Leader of the council since 2017. This means St Margaret's will be also be having a by-election in due course to elect his successor.

Keith was a regular face at our Parish Council meetings and has always been supportive and helpful to our local issues. Whenever we got stuck in the bureaucracy, he could often suggest a way forward, We will miss him and wish him well in the next chapter of his life.

## **Lastly**

We still have 3 vacancies on the Parish Council...

Councilor Rebeca Simcox (chair)