

# NEWS FROM LYNSTED WITH KINGSDOWN PARISH COUNCIL

## LYNSTED LANE HOUSING APPLICATION 'CALLED IN'

Swale's Planning Committee voted unanimously to reject the proposal to build a housing estate on agricultural land East of Lynsted Lane – only for the Council's Head of Planning to 'call in' the application.



Apparently only ten homes, the developers have made clear in their submission to the Local Plan consultation that their ultimate aim is to build 50 houses on this plot. None of them would be 'affordable' housing.

It would cause traffic congestion and air pollution in the narrow Lynsted Lane to deteriorate further. Residents who currently park their cars outside their own homes would be forced to park further down the lane on a blind bend. And pedestrian access would be through a busy joinery yard.

Around 40 Lynsted residents travelled to Swale House to observe the committee's deliberations, and many more watched online - demonstrating the strength of opposition to this development.

The 'calling in' means a report will now be prepared looking at any reasons why the developer might win if they were to appeal and the cost implications for ratepayers if the Council were to lose. As we went to press, the application was scheduled to be discussed again at the committee's meeting on 12 May.

## LOCAL PLAN UPDATE

There was a massive response to the latest consultation on the Swale Local Plan – a total of 3,475 comments. Overwhelmingly, residents objected to the proposals for excessive housebuilding on our precious green spaces. A subsequent highways report has demonstrated that local infrastructure simply could not cope with this level of development. The Borough Council are now re-examining the plans and a revised 'Regulation 19' document is not expected until the Autumn.



*Around 50 Lynsted residents turned out in support of Save Kent's Green Spaces action day. Thirty groups across Kent gathered to protest against plans for development on more than 18,000 acres of prime agricultural land. The Lynsted protestors met on the ancient Coffin Path that leads from London Road to Lynsted church.*

## BUS SERVICES UNDER THREAT

Kent County Council are looking to axe local bus services. The cuts threaten the 662 from Teynham to Faversham schools and the 664 from Conyer to Lynsted primary school via Teynham.

The 343/344/345 routes would be withdrawn completely. These operate Monday to Saturday providing the only public transport for rural parts of Sittingbourne including Lynsted.

If we lose these services, we will never get them back. Vulnerable groups will face greater isolation, further pressure will be exerted on stretched household budgets and the roads will become even more congested. The Parish Council has objected strongly to the proposed cuts.

## PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

An exciting schedule of events has been organised in Lynsted to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, as well as the planting of a commemorative oak tree:



**Thurs 2nd June**  
*Hog roast, bands and lighting of the beacon*

**Sat 4th June**  
*Picnic, fun and games at Lynsted Primary School*

**Fri 3rd June**  
*Coronation film & local history and evening quiz*

**Sun 5th June**  
*Jubilee family Church service and Street Party*

For full details visit [lkpc.uk](http://lkpc.uk)  
**ALL WELCOME!**

## NEWS IN BRIEF

- Residents have complained about Shaw Haulage lorries speeding down Lynsted Lane carrying earth to Tonge Golf Club. Attempts at enforcement action have been unsuccessful but we hear the Club will open in mid-June - so the lorry movements should soon stop
- Our SpeedWatch campaign, on hold during the pandemic, has now resumed. We monitor and report any vehicles driving in excess of the speed limit through Lynsted



***Our iconic village sign, destroyed by a vehicle speeding round the bend at the Claxfield Road/Lynsted Lane triangle, has been lovingly restored by local craftsman Mick Redsell.***

- We are working with KCC on a Highways Improvement Plan following a traffic survey. Ideas include 30mph repeater signs from the A2 through to The Vallance, 'pedestrians in the road' signs on the blind bend near Claxfield and reducing Kingsdown Road to 40mph
- There's a new section on our website promoting local groups and societies: The Community Kitchen Garden, Park Farm Community Cherry Orchard Group and Lynsted with Kingsdown Society. Visit [lkpc.uk](http://lkpc.uk) for more details
- The regular community newsletter is no longer being published following the retirement of the editor. If anyone is interested in taking it on, please contact the Parish Clerk

## YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

**Julien Speed (Chairman) • Peter Delaney (Vice Chairman) • Linda Morgan • Vanessa Ross Russell Jacqui Langdon-Bassett • Trevor Carr • Janet Bott Alastair Stewart • Marion Mulley (Clerk)**

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