



# BIRLING PARISH COUNCIL

## UPDATE ON CONSULTATION

### 2021

Thank you to everyone that completed our survey asking your views on what we could do to improve our lovely parish.

We published the results on our website and at the meeting in July we decided a priority list based on your responses.

#### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

You said you want community events and a book exchange. We are:

- ✓ Donating £250 to this year's fete
- ✓ Investigating using the telephone box as a book exchange

#### **PHYSICAL SPACES**

You said you want to improve the benches, the verges and reduce litter.

We are

- ✓ Organising more litter picks
- ✓ Renovating the benches
- ✓ Planting bulbs on the verge at The Close and at the War Memorial

#### **ENVIRONMENT**

You said you are worried about fly-tipping. We are

- ✓ Work closely with the borough council, police and our local association to address fly-tipping and push for enforcement action

#### **SAFETY**

You said you are worried about speeding traffic and the lack of pavements. We are

- ✓ Working with Kent County Council to deliver our Highways Improvement Plan that we consulted on in 2020.

#### **HEALTH AND WELLBEING**

You said that you are concerned about the effect of the smart motorway, the decline of bus services and the quality of broadband services. We are

- ✓ Lobbying the MP and Highways England to reduce noise pollution and rat-running caused by the M20
- ✓ Supporting the new bus service to the hospital and promoting use of buses in general
- ✓ Looking at the Whatsapp Group comments and taking significant matters forward for residents
- ✓ Investigating broadband speeds with KCC and working on how we can join the Government's programme to increase broadband speed to all residents

## **UPDATE ON HIGHWAYS IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

We conducted a highway safety survey in 2020 and were overwhelmed with responses. You can read the results of the consultation on our website under 'Highway Improvement'.

We prepared the priorities in a plan and submitted it to Kent County Council so that we could work on designing and implementing various schemes that residents asked for.

Whilst we can't be sure all of our ideas can be implemented, below is a list of what we are in discussions with KCC about right now:

- ✓ **Reducing the speed limit on Birling Road and Snodland Road from national speed limit to 40mph**
- ✓ **Removing the existing 'build out' on Bull Road and replace with a more effective speed restriction 'table top' feature.**
- ✓ **Installing speed limit repeater signs along all roads reminding motorists**
- ✓ **Applying a 20mph limit throughout the parish**

You can keep up to date on the progress of these plans on our website, please check the minutes of our meetings for more information or do come along and visit us at meetings. Agendas are published on our website and all are welcome to attend.

Visit our website [www.birlingparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.birlingparishcouncil.gov.uk)

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