Shorne Parish Council

Borough of Gravesham

THE PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

November 2026

The Ridgeway Traffic Monitoring W/C 9th November

As reported previously, KCC has determined that the vehicle activated 30mph sign in The Ridgeway is beyond economic repair, and they do not intend to replace it. The Parish Council has therefore requested KCC to install ATC monitoring tubes in The Ridgeway to obtain an accurate picture of traffic volumes and speeds. It is expected that the tubes will be in place during the second week in November. Please note that vehicle speeds are significantly affected by parked vehicles, so residents are requested to avoid parking outside the Recreation Ground in The Ridgeway during that week.

On a positive note, KCC has approved the use of the Parish Council's Speed Indicator Device (SID) in The Ridgeway, utilising the post previously used for the vehicle activated 30mph sign. We will therefore include this in our rota, along with the current sites in Pear Tree Lane, Tanyard Hill, and Thong Lane. Although it will only be deployed periodically, the data collected will provide useful information over a period of time. All traffic data summaries are published on our website at https://shorneparishcouncil.gov.uk/category/sid-traffic-data/.

30mph Speed Limit Request in Green Farm Lane

The Parish Council has submitted a comprehensive re-application to Kent County Council to extend the 30mph speed limit in Green Farm Lane to include the 650-metre section that is currently subject to the national speed limit. KCC refused our previous request in March 2025. The Parish Council considers that a 30mph speed limit is fully justifiable under the Department for Transport 'Setting Local Speed Limits' guidelines, as it would help improve safety for pedestrians, cyclists, horse riders, and other vulnerable users of the highway, as well as motorised vehicles, and would improve the quality of life of the local community.

Crown Garage

The Parish Council is aware of the problems caused by the new car sales business at Crown Garage, including obstructions to Crown Lane and the cycle way in Gravesend Road. The Parish Council has been in contact with JMV Cars on several occasions, but despite promises, the problems have not been resolved. The matter has been raised with Kent County Council as the highways authority, and with our local Police officer, and Gravesham Borough Council have been requested to investigate any street trading or planning irregularities. We hope that the car sales business cooperates soon and confines its activities to its own premises.

Lower Thames Crossing

Work is ramping up on the preliminary work for the Lower Thames Crossing, with the establishment of haul routes across the site and bell mouth junctions along the A226, one of which will be traffic-light controlled. A strip of woodland has been cleared alongside the A2 between The Inn On The Lake and Brewers Road, to accommodate a gas pipeline diversion. Part of the environmental mitigation for this work includes the construction of a new bat shelter near Puckle Hill, to replace the old air raid shelter alongside the A2 that will be removed.

During the coming weeks, the trees and vegetation on the A2 central reservation at Shorne will be cleared, and the A2 Esso fuel station will permanently close in early December. We can also expect to see a significant increase in construction traffic along the A226 during 2027.

Shorne Common

Our thanks go to Cllr Pauline Clifton, who kindly cleared the rubbish left behind by campers on private land close to Shorne Common. The rubbish was promptly collected by Gravesham Borough Council.

Keep Safe on Dark Nights

With the end of British Summer Time 02.00 on 25th October and the clocks going back one hour, this is our regular reminder to residents to take a torch with them if they venture out late in the day, and where possible to wear something bright or reflective. Where there are no pavements, you should walk facing oncoming traffic if it's safe to do so. Drivers are requested to take extra care when driving at night through streets and lanes without pavements, and to be aware that pedestrians may be walking in the roadway.

Remembrance Sunday

The Parish Council will be laying a wreath at Shorne War Memorial at 11am on Sunday 8th November. Why not come along at 10.45am to pay your respects to the residents of Shorne who gave their lives in two World Wars?

Parish Council Meetings in November

The meetings scheduled in November are:

Thursday 12th November	-	Planning & Highways Committee
Thursday 26th November	-	Parish Council Meeting

The meetings will commence at 7.30pm in the conference room at Shorne Village Hall.

Bob Lane
Shorne Parish Council