

Invitation to Village Consultation 2017

Back in the Spring of 2013 and 2014 the Parish Council held consultation meetings in the Village Hall with feedback sessions each time. The objective was to provide information from the Parish Council and gain opinions from householders on what they would like to see happening in Hilderstone over the next 5-10years, together with bringing about new ideas for community involvement.

Since that time the village has had success with four **new** ventures – the Village Christmas Concert – the Village Dinner Party – the introduction of Film Nights and the setting up of the Hilderstone Website together with continuation of the Village Christmas Dinner & Entertainment, the Summer Fair and Bi-annual Scarecrow weekend. Unfortunately 'The Roebuck' has *come and gone again* after a successful re-opening two years ago. At present Admiral Breweries wants to sell the freehold as they do not wish to install another tenant.

On the downside our village, through the Parish Council, has to take on board more responsibility for its general appearance and maintenance. Both the County Council and Borough Council are proposing that after April 2017 each village will have to take on more responsibility for its own affairs. e.g. grass cutting, road signs and minor highways maintenance etc. This could eventually mean that the Parish Council will have to increase Hilderstone's proportion of the Council Tax (Precept) to pay for this work to be done by contractors etc.

What the Parish Council needs to know **now** is what key points interest **you** and **your** family in the village life of Hilderstone and which requires attention? (*Not just about the traffic as that problem will not go away and, in fact, might get worse over time.*)

We need to improve and make our village more attractive, interesting and interactive. We need to bring more people together with like minds on ideas for enhancing the village. ***This is our village and where we live.***

We need your response before the Parish Council meeting on **Wednesday 26th April 2017** so that the Parish Council can convene a Village Consultation Meeting on the evening of **Thursday 25th May 2017** to present your responses.

To inform the Parish Council of your ideas and views please write a letter and place it in the black letter box to the right hand side of the Village Hall main door by: **Wednesday 19th April 2017 latest.**

(At the time of writing the future of 'The Roebuck' is unknown and, at the January Parish Council meeting, a number of people in the village attended and heard again the Parish Council's response.

The Parish Council suggested that a group should be formed which should then canvas everyone in Hilderstone to seek opinion on what they would like to see happen to the pub and the feasibility for its future. This would be a separate group to the Parish Council.)

Prepared by Roy Clark - Chairman Hilderstone Parish Council
12th February 2017.