

Great Chart with Singleton Parish Newsletter

Spring 2018



Keep in Touch

Website:

www.greatchartwithsingletonpc.kentparishes.gov.uk

Twitter: twitter.com/GCwSPC

Facebook:

facebook.com/greatchartwithsingletonparishcouncil

Inside this edition

Chairman's Report	Page 3-4
Ashford Borough Cllr Blanford's Report	Page 4-5
Ashford Borough Cllr Barrett's Report	Page 6
Let's tidy up Great Chart and Singleton	Page 7
Report a fault/view planned KCC Works	Page 8
Singleton Environment Centre Re-Opening	Page 9
Friends of Singleton Lake	Page 10
Great Chart Cricket Club	Page 11
Parish Council News	Page 12
Hillcrest Allotments	Page 13
Great Chart and Godinton WI	Page 14
Great Chart Cubs	Page 15
Singleton Village Sign	Page 16
Clubs and Groups	Page 17
Useful Information	Page 18
Parish Contact Details	Page 19
Parish Council Meeting Dates 2018	Page 20
Great Chart Playing Fields Boot Sale dates	Page 20
Advertising	Page 20

Great Chart with Singleton Parish Newsletter is published by the Parish Council and is distributed to every house within the parish. We are pleased to accept submissions for articles, events and group details. We are also able to offer advertising and sponsorship opportunities for local businesses.

Please contact the Clerk on 01233 616923 or email theclerkgcwspc@gmail.com. Any views or opinions in this

Newsletter advertising

We are able to offer advertising and sponsorship opportunities for local businesses. If you are interested please contact the Clerk on 01233 616923 or email to theclerkgcwspc@gmail.com

Chair's Report



Ian McClintock

Welcome to the second newsletter of 2018. It seems just a short while since Christmas but we are already in what's tuning out to be a chilly May.

Many of you will have seen the articles in the KE about the delay in the start of the widening of the A28. Talking to KCC Highways, they are as frustrated as the Parish Council about the delayed start – I am not going to enter the debate over why this is happening, nor join any other speculation, but I am told that it will start as soon as possible as all is ready to go ahead. I will try to keep everyone informed about this issue.

After sharing a Caretaker Scheme with Kingsnorth over the last 3 years we have found that our caretaker, Peter, needs his own vehicle for our Parish as sharing one has begun to limit the work he is able to do, so we are about to order our own smaller van for Peter to use exclusively. Soon, you will start to see our own van out and about around the parish, so if you have a small problem that you think Peter can help with, please contact the Clerk.

Regulars who walk around Great Chart will have noticed work has started on replacing the play park in Singleton Road. We have been collecting funds over the last couple of years and will finance the rest of the cost from our reserves enabling us to have a new park now when it is needed and recoup this money over the next 4 years from our precept. The designs for the new park, which will be completed by about mid June, can be found on the Great Chart Playing Fields Facebook page. The wooden one being removed was installed between 25 & 30 years ago during the time that I was a PFA Trustee – I can say I actually remember it being put in and also painting the huge slide & swings that were there prior to this.

At the other end of the parish we are also about to replenish the sand at Cuckoo Park. We have taken notice of some Facebook comments and we will be making a few changes to make this park more secure and get the bunds cut more regularly too – it will be brilliant to have a parish with three fairly new parks with such a great variety of play equipment.

May is the only month we host two meetings and at the time of writing our Annual Community meeting is next week, so I am sure our Clerk will soon be publishing our annual report, including some reports from the many organisations in the parish. Look out for this as hopefully we may again circulate a copy to everyone.

Ian McClintock

Chair - Great Chart with Singleton PC



*Cllr Jessamy
Blanford*

Ward Member—Great Chart with Singleton North

SPRING UPDATE

There has been a good deal of disappointment that the improvements to the A28 are not taking place this spring. This is largely due to the Chilmington Green developers having a change of heart as to when they would provide the financial bond to

KCC Highways to reimburse them for the cost of this work. The bond was originally planned to be handed over in January/February this year. Now it is not likely to be provided until 400 houses are built and occupied

which is allowable according to the terms of the planning consent. ABC is working to see if some compromise can be agreed but, in the meantime, we sadly contemplate the felling and emasculation of a number of mature trees.



to

I am working hard to prepare to become Mayor of Ashford on 17th May at a the Annual Council meeting. The Civic Service follows soon after on Sunday, 3rd June at 10.30am at St Mary's, Great Chart. The Rev Canon Tim Wilson will be my chaplain during the year and will conduct the service. Anyone in Great Chart or Singleton will be very welcome to attend – after all it is **your** parish church. The service will have a number of lively hymns and there will be a reception afterwards with refreshments in the village hall.

Recently I attended a reception at Guildhall in London with other Ashford people to witness the opening of a photographic exhibition entitled FIELDS OF BATTLE - LANDS OF PEACE displayed in the forecourt of Guildhall. This has excellent photos of the scenes of WW1 with text. We were invited as the Borough Council is one of the sponsors of this exhibition. After a month in London the exhibition is coming to the Memorial Gardens with an additional few panels describing Ashford at war. Following the Civic Service and Reception on the 3rd June, I will be opening the exhibition as Mayor. I do encourage everyone to view the exhibition during the month it is at the Memorial Gardens. It is really impressive.

Jessamy Blanford (Cllr)
Great Chart with Singleton North

Announcement

Great Chart with Singleton Parish Council would like to congratulate Cllr Jessamy Blanford on her appointment as the Mayor of Ashford. We wish her a good and enjoyable year ahead.



Great Chart and Singleton South Ward Councillor's Report

Dear Residents,



Cllr Bill Barrett

Spring appears to be here and it's only six weeks late! In many aspects things that are good sometimes deserve a waiting period. Politics is much the same and on that note I have a number of successes to report in this edition of the Parish Council magazine.

Firstly the situation regarding foliage, litter and dilapidations has improved at the Singleton Centre complex. The management company has been spoken to by ABC and suffice to say has upped their game.

This doesn't mean the area won't get my constant attention going forward, because it will. But it is positive news.



Added to which the new knee rail I organised to have put in place on the road next to the car park has eliminated obstructive parking on this kerbside, which was a real hazard to the kids as they walked to school. And it has now been turfed underneath and the Parish Council's caretaker has stained it for me, so a big thank you there!

At Singleton Lake the first four FPN (Fixed Penalty Notices) have been given out to rogue fishermen who have been fishing in the wrong location and thus causing grief to residents. These £100 fines will send a message to the "dark" community of individuals who have, for the last 5-10 years caused both physical and psychological harm to the residents of Singleton Lake. The PSPO (Public Space Protection Order) has done exactly what ABC hoped it would and reduce (significantly) ASB and Littering at the lake. With both down by approx. 70%.

But with the summer season approaching, and Kent Police's Rural Policing Team now fully geared and ready to help, the real test is yet still to come. Suffice to say the situation is far, far better than two years ago when I began to tackle the problem at Singleton Lake. Finally, the new TRO (Traffic Regulation Order) at the John Wesley school will come into effect in the next few months. Like the one outside Great Chart Primary School the hope is this will allow for a safer through-put of children and teachers in the mornings and afternoons and is really only stage one in the process of dealing with the traffic issues outside the schools.

Have a lovely spring.

Cllr Bill Barrett.

Let's tidy up Great Chart and Singleton

Great Chart and Singleton is a beautiful area full of nature and greenery. Residents are invited to help us maintain the tidiness and cleanliness within our surroundings.

We are asking all residents to please refrain from disposing of any waste in car parks, alleyways and streets. Please think of your neighbours and the overall presentation of the parish.

We are lucky to have a frequent waste disposal service, which



includes a service for garden waste. In addition, the waste disposal centre, close by in Brunswick Road, enables free disposal of larger items. Ashford Borough Council also provides a waste collection service for bulky items. The cost is £24 for four items. To reduce the cost, why not arrange a waste collection with a neighbour? Or if you have a small garden, share a brown bin with the neighbour?

With all these means of disposal, the dumping of waste in and around Great Chart and Singleton should not be necessary. Not only is it unsightly, but it can cause environmental issues.

Please help us create a clean and tidy environment to live in.

Report a Fault/ View planned KCC Works

If you see broken signs, overgrown vegetation, potholes, faulty street lights or traffic sign faults you can report it to Kent County Council following these three simple steps:

Step 1: Locate the fault on the interactive map. On the map you can also check and view faults that already have been reported.

Step 2: Describe the fault in detail. If possible, take a photograph of the fault and attach it to the report when prompted.

Step 3: Provide your contact details, phone number and email address and any other information relating to the fault you are reporting.

Kent County Council aims to repair most problems within 28 days, although some problems may take longer.

For more information please check their website:

[http://webapps.kent.gov.uk/
KCC.KHSFaultsGIS.Web.Sites.Public/Default.aspx](http://webapps.kent.gov.uk/KCC.KHSFaultsGIS.Web.Sites.Public/Default.aspx)

Report it!

Ashford Borough council has improved its online reporting system, making it easier for residents to report issues such as fly tipping, littering, dog fouling, vandalism, anti-social behaviour or planning enforcement issues.

The new system replaces some of their online forms and allows residents to report incidents and then track their progress via a unique reference number.

This is part of the council's tough but fair approach to enforcement and compliance. For more information please visit

<http://www.ashford.gov.uk/report>

Singleton Environment Centre

Grand Re-Opening

Saturday 16th June 2018

Starting at 12 noon

Opening by Cllr Jessamy Blanford, the Mayor of
Ashford.

Come along and celebrate the re-opening with us.

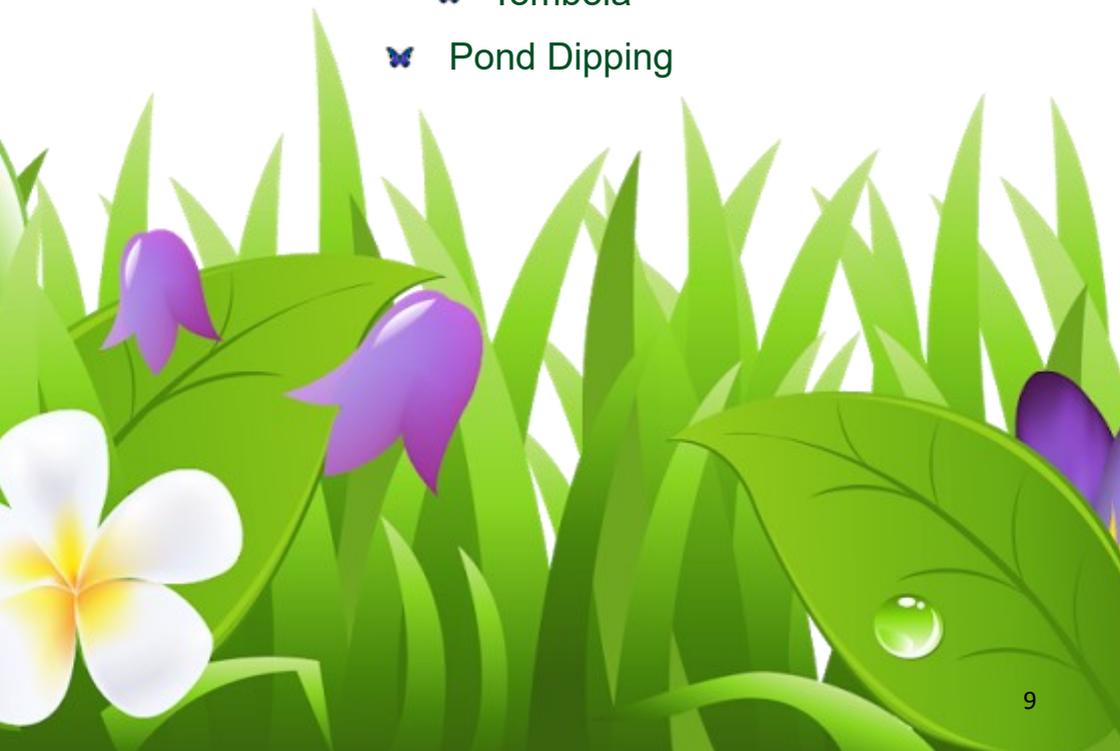
There will be activities for all ages including:

✧ Children's Art and Craft

✧ BBQ

✧ Tombola

✧ Pond Dipping



Friends of Singleton Lake

The years events from Friends of Singleton Lake kicked off with our most popular—a litter pick! We were amazed to have more than twenty people join us on a winters day to help tidy the lake and make it safe for visitors and wildlife. A big thank you to all who joined us. Our next litter pick is at 10.00am on Saturday, 2nd June.

We have also enjoyed co-hosting a woodland walk from Singleton Lake to Ashford Community Woodland which lies behind Singleton Environment Centre. It was a wonderful spring walk with lots to see and lots learnt. A big thank-you to Jenny Tippen for leading the way.

Another of our April events was the Bird Watch. We had a good turn out and spotted more than thirty-one species of bird. Stars of the show were the Tree Creepers, a first time find at Singleton Lake proving how much of a diverse and valuable habitat we have on our doorstep.



Bird watch - Singleton Lake

A butterfly walk is scheduled for 10.00am on June 24th and we hope to see you there!

A Bat Walk and photography session are also planned so keep your eyes peeled to our notice boards and Facebook/Twitter/Instagram for news!

Great Chart Cricket Club

Situated just to the right as you enter the village, Great Chart Cricket Club has been established for more than 160 years. The club celebrated its 150th year with a game played against an Old England XI.



Now, we put out two sides each weekend through the summer and develop a colts section too. Our Saturday team plays good old fashioned friendly cricket with the emphasis very definitely on enjoyment and participation.



For the more competitive player our Sunday team currently sits in division three of the Kent Village Cricket League. Our colts play midweek evening matches and train at the ground on Sunday mornings. We also have our own “cricket week” at the end of July and play the occasional 20/20 too.

We're very lucky that our facilities are perhaps beyond that which might be expected of a traditional village club. We boast a bar with large open space ideal for the events and functions we run regularly. The setting, with farmland on two sides adds a very rural feel. In addition to playing cricket, to help keep everything going, we run a number of important fund raisers during the year, primarily boot fairs although we have been known for spectacular fireworks displays too!!

Cricket though is our priority and we're always looking out for new players of all abilities. Social members are also very welcome or if you fancy helping out in any other way, perhaps even with a bit of assistance on our grounds we'd love to hear from you.

We're at www.greatchartcc.co.uk or have a look at the Great Chart Cricket Club Facebook page.

If you'd prefer contact me, Chris Taylor christaylor103@btinternet.com or even better come along when we're playing, we'll be starting very soon!

A warm welcome awaits.

Parish Council News

Pop-up Café

The first pop-up café was held on Friday, 27th April. Despite the weather the café was well attended by local residents and it was a great success. Thank you to the Godinton and Great Chart WI Ladies for donating a cake. It was delicious! The café next pops-up between 2.00pm and 4.00pm on Friday 22nd June and again on Friday 20th July. Come and get together with old friends, make some new and have cuppa and a slice of cake. There will be all sorts of local information, too.



Pamela Grigg - Godinton and Great Chart WI

Annual Community Meeting

The Annual Meeting was well attended by residents and local groups. Those present received reports from the parish council chair, Borough and County councillors, Great Chart Primary School, John Wesley School, Great Chart After School Club, Great Chart and Singleton Village Hall, Playing Fields Association, the PCSO, Community Warden and Singleton Environment Centre, to mention but a few. This year the KALC award was given to Joanna Watts for all her hard work and commitment towards making the parish a better place.



Cllr Jessamy Blanford handing the award to Joanna Watts

HILLCREST ALLOTMENTS AWAITS THE START OF ITS FOURTH GROWING SEASON



Following a long, cold winter, the various members of the Barrow & Spade Brigade are now back at their plots on Hillcrest Allotments, with the season getting into full swing.

There have been moments, though, when the sheer quantity of rain falling from the sky almost prompted us to rip up our sheds and rebuild them as a gigantic ark, so wet did the allotments become. On the positive side, all four of our 1,000-litre water containers are now full, so we will have plenty available to keep the crops well irrigated in the summer.

As per last year, our intention is to offer some surplus produce to local residents by hanging carrier bags full of runner beans, courgettes and so on from our fence (the one on the path down towards the wood) and you are more than welcome to take some. You'll find the taste is better than anything you can buy in the shops!

Hopefully, some local residents will also be inspired to take up a plot themselves. At the time of writing, we do have a few available at £22.50 (7m x 6m) or £32.50 (15m x 6m) annually. If you've never tried growing fruit and vegetables before, don't worry: help is at hand and lots of advice is available. Most current plot holders were originally total newbies.

We are also developing an environmental area in the far corner of the site, featuring a pond and lots of specialist areas for bugs, animals and birds, which we hope will become an added attraction for visiting groups of children in the near future. We already have an experienced coordinator in place, but if you would like to be a part of that project, do also get in touch.

Contact: the parish clerk at: theclerkgcwspc@gmail.com

Great Chart & Godinton WI

The Club has had an interesting program over the last 5 months. One particular speaker gave members a peep behind the scenes of Strictly Come Dancing as her profession being that of Dresser to the Competitors and Stars of the Show.

We had two Party nights one for Burns Night and then in March our Birthday Meeting was themed Greek/Mumma Mia.

The venue for the Club is Godinton Village Hall where we meet the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm.

There is also an Activity Meeting the 1st Wednesday also held at the Godinton Village Hall at 7.30pm

Our Darts Team meet on a Thursday. Dates are announced at Club evenings.

Knit & Natter meet the 4th Monday at the Grapevine Cafe in Singleton Village Hall 10.30-11.30am

Future Program:-

- ◇ Activity Group Wednesday June 6th Fish & Chips by the Sea
- ◇ WI Club Meeting Wednesday June 20th Collage Making
- ◇ Knit & Natter Monday June 25th Grapevine Cafe
- ◇ Activity Group Wednesday July 4th Pub/Coffee evening
- ◇ WI Club Meeting Wednesday July 18th Garden Party
- ◇ WI Club Meeting Wednesday August 15th Outing TBA
- ◇ Activity Group Wednesday September 5th TBA
- ◇ WI Club Meeting Wednesday September 19th WW1 Themed Trails

For further information contact Secretary Janet Goodwin 01233 332510

Committee Member Pamela Grigg 01233 878013

Great Chart Cubs

Friday 27th April First Great Chart Cubs went litter-picking as part of their Environmentalist Badge. They managed to fill six bags in total – five with recycling and one with rubbish – helping to create a cleaner, more pleasant community for all to enjoy. Whilst clearing the litter, they also learnt about the dangers it can pose to wildlife and the environment. Most of all they had fun!

We would like to thank the Parish Council for lending us the litter picking equipment and the parents who came along to help out. Thank you.

If you are aged between 8 and 10 and think Cubs might be for you, please contact us and we will add your name to our waiting list.



Daniel Carroll, Isla Medlan and Joe Gathern

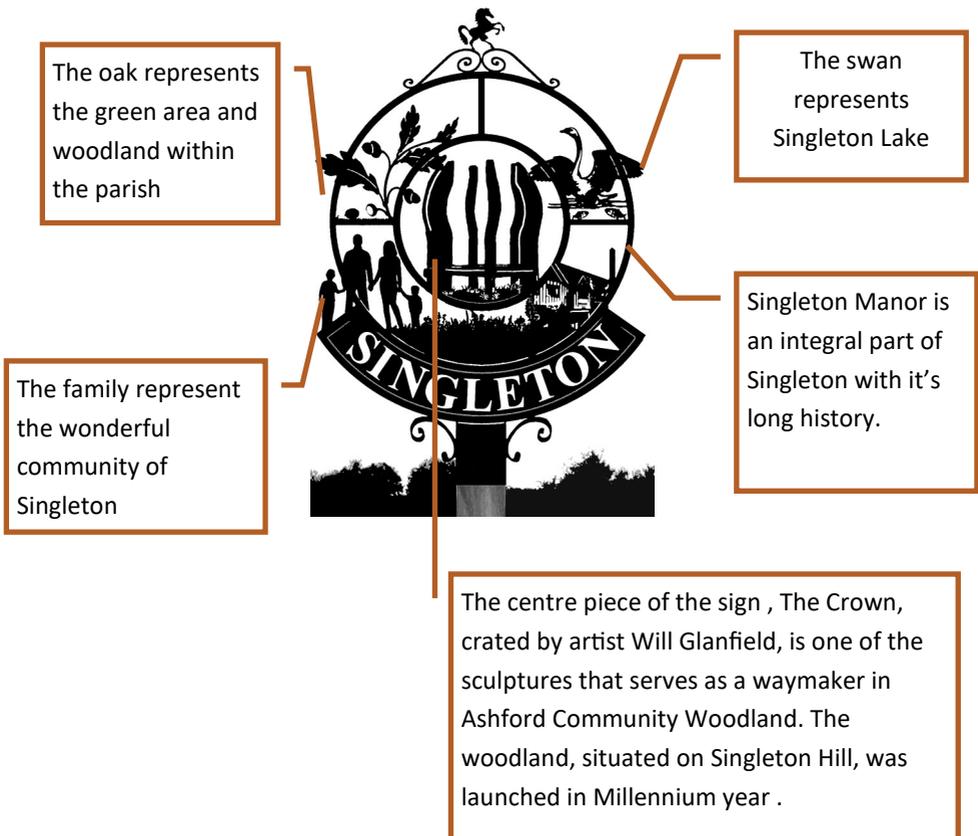
Equally, we are currently seeking adult volunteers to join our pack. We're a very friendly group and all training is provided. It really is great fun and a very rewarding way to give to the community. If you think this could be you, please contact Sally Gathern on 01233 633966.

Singleton Village Sign

The parish council is pleased to let all our residents know that the village sign designed by local resident Claire Simpson, is ready and will be installed once planning permission is approved.

The sign will serve as a beautiful and ornate piece that distinguishes, identifies and celebrates Singleton. It will be a marker for newcomers to the area and will serve as a reminder of the wonderful community of which all Singleton residents are a part.

An unveiling event is planned so please check our website and social media for further details.



Clubs and Groups

<p>Beavers—Thursdays 5:30-7 pm at GCVH, boys and girls aged 6-8 Contact Stuart Norman 07786 633959</p>	<p>Singleton Rainbows Wednesdays 4:15-5:15 pm at SVH Fridays 4:15-5.15 pm SVH</p>
<p>Cubs—Fridays 6:30-8 pm at GCVH boys and girls aged 8-10 ½ , Contact Jill Lane 01233 641773/ 07799 886549 jillmlane@msn.com</p>	<p>1st Great Chart and Singleton Guides Mondays; 6:30 - 8:30 pm at SVH- Contact Terry Lockwood – 07704 359434</p>
<p>Scouts—Mondays 7-9 pm at GCVH boys and girls aged 10 ½ -14 – contact Dave Gathern 01233 633966/ 07961202097</p>	<p>Dream Dragons Theatre Wednesdays 7-10 pm at SVH contact 01233 668767 or www.dreamdragons.co.uk</p>
<p>Paek Ma Taekwondo Tuesday 5.30pm-6.30pm Beginners 6.30pm-8pm Advanced Thursday 6.30pm-8pm Juniors 8pm-9.30pm Seniors SVH– Master Geoff 6th Dan - 07836621060</p>	<p>St Mary's Great Chart & Singleton Sunday services 9:30am at St Marys in Great Chart; 11am at St Mary's in Singleton Village Hall, Hoxton Close Contact Rev Tim Wilson 01233 620371 E mail rector@stmarysgreatchart.org Website www.stmarysgreatchart.org Pastoral Care: 07756 805507</p>
<p>Youth Club Fridays 7-9 pm SVH Ian McClintock email: ian.mcclintock59@yahoo.co.uk</p>	<p>Speed Watch-Gary Parry Great chart with Singleton Speedwatch Coordinator 01233 640110 gary@wthp.co.uk</p>
<p>Great Chart Cricket Club www.greatchartcc.co.uk</p>	<p>The Grapevine Community Café at Singleton Village Hall Mon & Thu am</p>
<p>Singleton Giant Email:peter@singletongiant.org.uk Phone: 01233 610241</p>	<p>Stardust Studios – Children's Dance Classes— Classes held at SVH, Contact Natalie Kitts 01233 625786/07899 844956 info@starduststudios.co.uk</p>
<p>Pilgrims FC (Youth Football Club) Contact Name: Kyran Wilford Contact Number: 07984352008 Email: kyranw.pilgrimsfc@gmail.com</p> <p>Friends of Singleton Lake Email: friendsofingletonlake@outlook.com</p>	<p>Grace Fellowship at Singleton Road http://www.gracefellowship.org.uk/</p> <p>Ashford Community Woodland Email: ashfordcommunitywoodland@hotmail.co.uk</p> <p>Barrow & Spade Brigade Email: theclerkgcwspc@gmail.com</p>

Abbreviations:

SVH- Singleton Village Hall—GCVH-Great Chart Village Hall

Useful Information

Allotments

Parish Clerk – 01233 616923-
theclerkqcwspc@gmail.com

Litter/Overflowing bins/ fly-tipping:

streetscene@ashford.gov.uk

Dog Warden

Colin Leek – 01233 330340 –
colin.leek@ashford.gov.uk

Mobile Library

Knoll Lane: Thursdays 15:50-16:05
Coronation Drive: Saturday
(fortnightly) 10:55-11:25
Aske's Court Friday 15:45-16:15

Emergency Contacts

Emergency Services **999** Non-emergency police **101** or email to
csu.ashford@kent.pnn.police.uk

KCC Community Support Warden – Joanna Watts

Joanna.Watts@kent.gov.uk or **07969583917**

Environment Agency, General Enquiries: **03708 506 506**

Floodline 0345 988 1188 Incident Reporting **0800 80 70 60**

UK Powernet General Enquirers **0845 601 4516**

Power cut **0800 31 63 105** and the new number **105**

Gas Leaks **0800 111 999** South East Water **03330 001122**

Kent County Council/ Enquiries/ Social Services **03000 414141**

Booking Venues

Great Chart Village Hall— Tel: 01233 610173

Email greatchartvillagehall@yahoo.co.uk.

Singleton Village Hall—Tel:07887 575647,

Email: singletonvh@btinternet.com

Great Chart Playing Fields—Buxford Pavilion— Tel: 01233 427407

Email: gcpfa@barkercomputersolutions.co.uk

Parish Contact Details

Great Chart with Singleton North Parish Councillors

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Singleton South Ward Councillor

Bill Barrett—07449 454044
barrettwbarrett@aol.com

Kent County Councillor

Charlie Simkins -01233 756705
charlie.simkins@kent.gov.uk

Kent County Councillor

Dara Farrell
Dara.Farrell@kent.gov.uk

Parish Clerk - Aniko Szocs—01233 616923 or theclerkqcwspc@gmail.com

Parish Office Singleton Village Hall, Hoxton Close, Ashford TN23 5LB
Office opening hours 9 am -1pm other times by arrangement.

Parish Council Monthly Meeting dates 2018

Date	Venue
Monday 11 th June 2018	Singleton Village Hall at 7.30 pm
Monday 9 th July 2018	Great Chart Village Hall at 7.30 pm
Monday 10 th September 2018	Singleton Village Hall at 7.30 pm
Monday 8 th October 2018	Great Chart Village Hall at 7.30 pm
Monday 12 th November 2018	Singleton Village Hall at 7.30 pm
Monday 10 th December 2018	Great Chart Village Hall at 7.30 pm

Great Chart Playing Fields Boot Fair Dates

Sunday 10th June 2018

Sunday 8th July 2018

Sunday 12th August 2018

Sunday 9th September 2018

Thinking of selling or letting your property in or close to Great Chart?

For straightforward sale or letting advice regarding the value of your house please contact us.

01580 766766

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