



SLRA ACHIEVEMENTS 2019-2020

In the past year your committee has continued to work to address issues of concern to YOU - including:

- **Ashford Local Plan 2030.** This plan has now been formally adopted. The SLRA and many of its members contributed to all stages of public consultation. Of the 7 original development sites in the SLRA area, only one (Eureka Park) was included and for that we secured a green buffer zone and no vehicle access from Sandyhurst Lane. The A20 Corridor sites, one of which was Land East of Hothfield Mill, were deleted.
- **Planning applications for Lenacre Hall Farm.** The SLRA lodged extensive objection comments to both applications. Following the refusal by the Council in 2018 for the application for 21 dwellings, an appeal was heard in November 2019. The SLRA and others lodged further objections and the appeal was dismissed.
- **Speeding in Sandyhurst Lane.** Following the SLRA survey of traffic volume and speed, which showed that the majority of traffic exceeds the 30 mph speed limit, we are working with local parish councils and KCC Highways to explore acceptable ways in which traffic speeds can be controlled.
- **Overnight lorry parking ban.** Following support from bodies including the SLRA, the trial overnight lorry parking ban on the A20 between Charing and Drivers Roundabout is now permanent. The SLRA also supported the expansion of Ashford Truck Stop by 200 places and spaces are now available every night.
- **First Aid.** The SLRA has installed a public access defibrillator, available 24/7, at the Hare & Hounds pub.
- **M20 noise.** The SLRA has reminded re-elected MP Damian Green that traffic noise from the M20 motorway remains a serious issue and has sought his assistance in ensuring that Highways England deliver on their earlier statement that the M20 is due for resurfacing in 2021/22. We have received a helpful reply.
- **Uniting the community** Following our successful campaigning on local boundaries, since the May 2019 elections 99% of the SLRA area is in the rural Downs West ward, and all of it within the parishes of Westwell and Boughton Aluph & Eastwell and the KCC Ashford Rural West division.
- **Telephone kiosk removed.** The telephone kiosk at the junction of Sandyhurst Lane and Lenacre Street, which had become unsightly and which was the subject of a long-running SLRA campaign, has finally been removed, following an admission by BT that it had not been used for any outgoing calls for a year.
- We also deal with numerous enquiries and other issues of concern to members.

We thank you for your continuing support