

Sedlescombe Sedlescombe Parish Council



Annual Report and Directory 2015





Spring Fayre

The Spring Fayre Committee works together to organise an annual fayre *on the Village Green and the gardens of the Queen's Head.*

The aim is to try to maintain the traditions of village Fyres and raise money for various deserving charities.

This year the Spring Fayre will take place on

SATURDAY 16th MAY 2015

Committee Members: Bob Harris, Barry Bradbury, David Tildesley, Andy Limpkin, Jean Dellow and Ralph Dellow.



To: Local Government Electors of Sedlescombe

You are invited to attend the
Annual Sedlescombe Parish Meeting
to be held in Sedlescombe Village Hall
on Tuesday 28th April 2015.

Doors open at 6.30pm when you will have an opportunity to look at the tables displayed by local businesses and organisations (PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH CLERK ON 075 310 654 69 IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BOOK A DISPLAY TABLE).

There will be a free prize draw for those attending
and one for Parish Council volunteers.

Agenda for the business part of the meeting, starting at 7pm

1. Chairman's welcome and to receive any apologies for absence
2. Approval of Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 29-Apr-2014
3. Reports from the groups and organisations of Sedlescombe
4. Report of Parish Council Chairman
5. Parish Council Financial Report
6. Electors' question and answer session with County Councillor Angharad Davies, District Councillor Tony Ganly, PCSO Demetrius Georghiou and Parish Council Chairman Jonathan Vine-Hall

Signed

J Vine-Hall,

Chairman of the Parish Council

At the end of the business part of the meeting, during the serving of light refreshments, those attending are invited to circulate around the hall to meet Parish Councillors, District and County Councillors, our PCSO and local organisations and businesses.

Parish Council Chairman - Introduction

The two main focuses for 2014 have been addressing issues raised at the Annual Parish Meeting in 2014 and finalising the Neighbourhood Plan.

Issues raised at the Annual Meeting provided an excellent 'to do' list for the Parish Council. A number of issues were highlighted specifically relating to highways matters. The Parish Council and Clerk have been working with East Sussex County Council to resolve these. One problem which has been on going for some years is the continual narrowing of the path between the Village Hall and the Church. After Highways failed to clear this, the Parish Council employed a digger supported by volunteers to clear and widen this path before Remembrance Day. The Parish Council has also applied to East Sussex County Council for a grant to address some of the parking and traffic problems faced in the centre of the village. A consultation of proposed options should take place in the first half of 2015 and we hope as many residents contribute to this as possible

The Sedlescombe Neighbourhood Plan completed its consultation in early May 2014 and after modifications were made a final Plan was submitted to Rother District Council who then completed a final consultation in August and September. Results were very similar with circa 90% of residents and stakeholders supporting the Plan. Preparing the Plan has been a highly involved process and we would like to thank everyone for contributing either directly or simply by filling in the questionnaires and consultation forms or attending the exhibition. The Plan passed its examination subject to a number of recommended modifications and the Parish Council is now in discussions with the District Council to finalise the Plan before a referendum is held. As you know, the Plan's focus is on delivering as much of the required housing onto brownfield sites or in ways which Pestalozzi and the Church benefit from their own developments.

Hopefully our Plan will be able to go forward for referendum in the first half of 2015. Not only does the Neighbourhood Plan deliver housing to our community according to the wishes of 90% of our community, but the very fact that we have one means we will receive 25% of the soon to be introduced Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). This compares with only 15% for those communities who don't have a Neighbourhood Plan. Our higher level CIL means our community will receive £5,000 for a typical 100sq metre house built in the Parish with the money to be used for local infrastructure projects (This is based on the current proposals to be approved by Rother District Council's cabinet and expected to be implemented by mid 2015. The CIL is not paid for affordable homes.)

Please make sure you participate in the Neighbourhood Plan referendum.

In November I acted as advocate for the Parish Council supported by Councillor Fraser in the appeal by developers wanting to build on Greenfield land at Street Farm. The Public Inquiry lasted for 3 full days. Because our Neighbourhood Plan was at a sufficiently advanced stage the outcome was decided by the Secretary of State who is determined to ensure Neighbourhood Plans are given due weight in these types of appeals. The appeal was refused because the District Council was shown to have a 5 year supply of housing and because our Neighbourhood Plan was sufficiently advanced that allowing the development would prejudice our community's plan. Thank you to all those members of our community who have worked so hard to keep Street Farm a greenfield.

Jonathan Vine-Hall, March 2015

**MINUTES OF ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PARISH MEETING OF SEDLESCOMBE ON Tuesday
29th April 2014 in Sedlescombe Village Hall - 19:00 to 20:45 (doors opened from 18:30)**

PRESENT: More than 154 people were present including:-

Cllr Jonathan Vine-Hall (Chair of Sedlescombe Parish Council) in the chair
Parish Councillors Peter Anson, Roy Chapman, Rod Eldridge, Pauline Glew, Simon Lawrence,
John Parsons, John Reynolds
Pauline Raymond (Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer)

County Cllr Angharad Davies District Cllr Tony Ganly PCSO Demetrius Georghiou
There were 12 displays around the hall arranged by the Police, the Garden Society, the Primary School, The Sedlescombe Bowls Club, Community Friends, Royal British Legion, Battle and District Lions Club, Sedlescombe Jobs Network, Pestalozzi International Village, Sedlescombe Parish Church, Sedlescombe News and the Parish Clerk.

1. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS

The Chairman opened the meeting with health and safety information. He welcomed all present including District Cllr Tony Ganly, County Cllr Angharad Davies and PCSO Demetrius Georghiou whom he thanked for their work for the community. Parish Councillors around the room were identifiable by their badges.

**2. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PARISH MEETING OF SEDLESCOMBE HELD ON
30th April 2013**

It was proposed by Pauline Glew and RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Annual Assembly of the Parish Meeting of Sedlescombe held on 30/04/13 are approved. The Minutes were printed in the 2014 Annual Report and Directory.

Cllr Vine-Hall thanked all the businesses whose advertising supported the printing and urged use of the businesses letting them know that they were found in the directory.

3. REPORTS

- 2 girls from Sedlescombe School, Mia Shaw and Izzy Lawrence, gave presentations on life in Sedlescombe School which they ably portrayed as busy but yet enjoyable. They ended with a charming song.
- Mark Fisher spoke as the new Chair of the Village Hall Management Committee thanking Pauline and Reg Glew, Jenny Mitchell and David Torrance, who had recently retired from the Committee after many years of very active involvement. The new committee will be considering plans such as a new kitchen for the hall and installation of a suspending ceiling. He was pleased to be able to report that the weekly village library that has operated in Sedlescombe for more than sixty years is set to continue supported by County Council staff. He urged residents to make use of it. The Village Hall can now be booked online through the new website (www.sedlescombevillagehall.org.uk)
- John Parsons spoke as chair of the Garden Society to inform the meeting that, recently, there was a successful Spring Show. The Summer Show celebrating the 70th Anniversary of the Society will be held on the Village Green at the beginning of August. Tickets are on sale for the Question Time event planned for June. John reminded those present that volunteers were being sought to run the 2015 Summer Fayre and Flower Show back at the Sportsfield.

- Pauline Glew thanked the Lift Scheme drivers for the help they provide by helping people to get to hospital appointments. She also spoke of the desperate need for new editors who could take a turn at producing the weekly Sedlescombe News. As Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council, she thanked the Parish Clerk and Cllr Vine-Hall for their work for the Village.
- Michelle Brister spoke about the Sedlescombe Jobs Network which was launched in November 2013 arising directly from the Neighbourhood Plan Consultation. So far, 22 jobs had been publicised engaging with around 300 people. The aim is to double these numbers. The Network is open to individuals as well as businesses.
- Liona Muchenjane, a first-year student from Zimbabwe, who has been at Pestalozzi for eight months, said that she was pleased to be experiencing the advantages of living in a multi-cultural establishment where she could speak with people from other countries. She was impressed by the way members of communities in Britain communicate with each other and hoped to encourage this in her own country when she returned.

The Chairman reminded the meeting that Pestalozzi is an important part of the community and is one of Sedlescombe's top three employers. He suggested that residents should give the charity their support in any way they can.

- PCSO Demi congratulated the Village and spoke of his close connection with the Parish Council. He encouraged everyone in the Village to work with him to combat crime.

4. PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr Vine-Hall presented his report to the meeting:

Parking/Traffic Issues. At last year's Assembly, a number of residents brought up highway issues to do with parking, traffic, potholes and speed of vehicles through the village and lanes. Cllr Eldridge, assisted by Cllr Parsons and volunteers, had carried out a detailed traffic survey last summer in The Street and The Green. The headline results were as follows:

- Around 5,500 vehicles travel along The Street each working day including an average of 233 HGVs which appears to be a 64% increase over the volume of traffic in 2006.
- 16% of these vehicles travel over 30mph.
- An average of 450 cars drive along The Green each day.
- An average of nearly 2,100 cars travel on Brede Lane each day mostly centred around the School.

The Parish Council had been told by East Sussex County Council that speed limits on country lanes are unenforceable unless traffic calming cues are also introduced. The new white line around the corner of Brede Lane has been very successful in nearly eliminating parking problems on that corner but, generally, the feeling is that more lines should not be introduced. The Parish Council together with the County Council are looking at the area around the shop to see what can be done to improve access for pedestrians, stop cars clogging up the road on the shop side, parking all day outside the shop or using The Green as a cut through.

Cllr Eldridge had conducted a survey amongst residents of The Green to determine if they had a preference for The Green becoming one way and in which direction but the consensus was that it should remain two way.

Cllr Eldridge had used volunteers to do 17 days of speed camera work and aimed to continue this work once a month in different locations of The Street during the coming year. The Parish Council is planning to purchase its own speed gun to give more flexibility in times of use.

Although figures show that the revised road layout at the intersection of Paygate Road and the A21 has improved the safety record, after a recent meeting with our MP and the Highways Agency, the Agency will be positively reassessing the junction for a roundabout. This has been brought about by the offer of considerable funding towards both a roundabout and crossing from the owner of Blackbrooks in connection with housing development proposed at the rear of Blackbrooks Garden Centre in the Sedlescombe Neighbourhood Plan and proposals to introduce average speed limits on the A21.

Parish businesses. The Chairman mentioned and congratulated two businesses in the Parish who had had Gold success during the year. The first was Sedlescombe Vineyard for its products and the second was Kester House B&B for its service. Kester House has also been short-listed as one of five finalists across the whole of England for the VisitEngland Awards for Excellence 2014.

Local Author. The Chairman mentioned Patrick Roper's book called Brede High Woods which is about Woodland Trust land that partly lies within Sedlescombe Parish. Copies are available through Ralph Dellow.

Volunteers. The Chairman thanked the 80 volunteers who have been involved with working with the Parish Council during the last year. The work varies from delivering directories and bulletins to keeping the children's play area well maintained. Cllr Chapman has been instrumental in managing a team of maintenance volunteers who have saved the Parish around £5,000 in the last year. He drew the winner of this year's Volunteer prize draw which was for a dinner for two at the Queen's Head. The Queen's Head was thanked for providing the prize.

Neighbourhood Plan. The Chairman explained that the Government is making an unprecedented demand for houses to be built across the country. In order for local decisions to be made on what properties should be built and where, the Parish Council has undertaken a Neighbourhood Plan. The Plan has reached the consultation (Pre-Submission) stage. Examination should be reached by the end of August with a vote on the final Plan in a referendum by October.

The Chairman reminded the meeting about the Neighbourhood Plan process and the advantages of having a Neighbourhood Plan where parishes with Plans will receive 25% of the community infrastructure levy on each new house built to be spent on infrastructure projects (not yet introduced in the Rother area). It was stressed that the Plan must conform to government policy. The majority of the Sedlescombe Plan will provide investment for charities, the Church and main employers. The current stage is the first official consultation period as opposed to what is considered the informal consultation of the exhibition last year. Currently, a large majority of residents who have responded are in general agreement with the Plan with the main objectors focusing on the proposed development at the rear of Gregory Walk. Cllr Vine-Hall explained that the Gregory Walk site is partially within the existing development boundary and that the landowner could, if he wished, apply for permission to build houses on the site and still leave the Parish to find sites for 35 properties. He promised to discuss with the owner whether he is prepared to reduce the number of houses and to propose a different layout which could address the concerns.

5. PARISH COUNCIL FINANCIAL REPORT.

Each person attending had been given a copy of the Parish Council Financial Statement for 2012-13, draft 2013-14 and the budget for 2014-15. Mrs Raymond reported that the Council had been involved with two main projects during the past year. These were the completion of the tennis court refurbishment and the Neighbourhood Plan. Both had received grant aid. The Neighbourhood Plan grant from Government of £7,000 was entirely for the employment of a Planning Consultant. The Chairman had mentioned projects being undertaken in the coming year re traffic. Two other projects are in early stages. These are future use of the public conveniences in Brede Lane car park and provision of a small parking area next to the MUGA and playground.

6. ELECTORS' QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

The Chairman welcomed County Cllr Angharad Davies, District Cllr Tony Ganly and PCSO Demi to join him on the stage for the Q&A session. In brief, questions were asked on the following subjects:

Future use of the public conveniences and car park at Brede Lane. Sedlescombe Neighbourhood Plan. Improvement of Church Hill footpath. Condition of the road surface along Brede Lane. To make The Green one-way or not. A pond on The Green for the geese. Cost of vandalism to Parish Council. Engaging young people in politics. Extending the footway in Sandrocks to Hurst Lane. Changes to the Fire Service in Battle. The bushes and trees on the boundary of Scotch Down. Using the ex-car lot land in The Street for parking. Chapel Hill road mapping. Restricting the time lorries can enter Pumphouse Yard from Gammons Way.

7. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

The Chairman informed the meeting that the Parish Clerk is retiring having worked for the Parish Council since 1975. He gave her a voucher for tea at Kester House to thank her for all her work on the Council in the past year. Pauline gave a short presentation highlighting some of the major events that the Parish Council has been involved with during this time. Included were purchase of the Sportsfield, construction of a new sports pavilion, purchase of the land for a new village hall, Best Kept Village, Best Kept Village Green, South East in Bloom and Village of the Year Competition wins and being the first Quality Council in Rother and the first to do a Parish Plan and now the first to do a Neighbourhood Plan.

Pauline Raymond drew the name of the winner of the door prize. (The first name to be drawn was the same person who won the door prize last year and, therefore, another name was drawn.) The Chairman thanked Brickwall Hotel for supplying the prize of a dinner for two at no cost, Pumphouse Designs for providing the posters to advertise the meeting and Sylvia Beaney, Margaret Hudson and Rosemary Farley for organising tea and biscuits.

Those attending stayed on to chat to neighbours and friends and to visit the display tables. The Hall was cleared by 21:30.

To be signed by the Chairman at the next Assembly of the Parish Meeting.

Sedlescombe Parish Council is responsible for many village amenities, makes valuable observations on planning applications and supports the works of local groups and organisations.

The Parish Council is non-political and has 9 elected representatives from the local population. They volunteer their time to represent the views of the local community and help deliver services to improve the quality of life for everyone living and working in the vibrant community of Sedlescombe.

Over the last year Parish Council has been able to achieve much more with the support of local volunteers for which we would like to say a 'BIG' thank you.

Your valuable support has helped in so many ways and these are just ways in which people have helped.....

- delivering our regular Bulletins across the Parish
- helping Cllrs. Parsons and Eldridge with Speed Watch sessions in an attempt to educate drivers to travel responsibly through the Village
- footpath maintenance with Cllr. Vine-Hall, including cutting back overgrown paths, improving and updating stiles
- tackling small repair jobs with Cllr. Chapman such as -

Riverside Playground

- clearing the overhanging branches around the MUGA, draining water into the river, repairing the palings, strimming around the outside of the MUGA fence and replacing the posts along the MUGA drive

East View Kickabout area

- sweeping and tidying around the hard surface,

Village Green

- planting up the tubs, cleaning the Village Sign and making minor repairs to the Pumphouse

Red Barn Field

- strimming and clearing around the gateways, paths, pond, sitting area and along the boundary

If you would like to be involved please contact our Parish Clerk - Carol Hodgson.

Sedlescombe Parish Council's new History Cup

Sedlescombe Parish Council has decided to introduce a new annual competition to encourage interest in Sedlescombe's history. The winner will be awarded a Cup to hold for a year. The Cup has been named after Pauline Raymond who retired in 2014 after working for nearly 40 years as Clerk to Sedlescombe Parish Council. The competition will be open to anyone of any age, whether they live in Sedlescombe or not, and will take the form of a Sedlescombe local history project not exceeding 10 pages of A4 paper with or without illustrations. The closing date for the 2015 competition is 5 April and the rules of the competition can be viewed on the Parish Council notice board outside Sedlescombe Stores or a copy can be obtained from Pauline Raymond by phoning 01424 870508.



Jonathan Vine-Hall

Jonathan Vine-Hall - Chairman of the Parish Council

Contact: 07973 129505 Hurst House, Hurst Lane, Sedlescombe TN33 OPE

Jonathan joined Parish Council in August 2010, has been its Chairman since May 2012. Jonathan is an ex-officio member of every committee and is actively involved in general maintenance around the Parish. He is Chairman of Sedlescombe Neighbourhood Plan Committee. Jonathan has lived in Sedlescombe since 2003 and farms Hurst Estate between Brede Lane and Cripps Corner. He competes in Western Riding. He is also a trustee for Raystede Centre for Animal Welfare and has 3 rescue dogs and 2 rescue horses. In addition he works as a mediator for the Hastings and Rother Mediation Service.



Pauline Glew

Pauline Glew - Vice-Chairman of Parish Council and Chairman of Finance Committee

Contact: 01424 870258 Kagiso, 36 Park Shaw, Sedlescombe TN33 OPP

Pauline joined Parish Council in 2003 and is an ex-officio member of all Committees. Pauline runs the Sedlescombe Lift Scheme. She is Parish Council's representative on the Rother Association of Local Councils, Sedlescombe Neighbourhood Watch (as well as it's Treasurer!) and the Rother Transport Action Group. Pauline is also on the Sedlescombe Friendship Club Committee.



Roy Chapman

Roy Chapman - Councillor

Contact: 01424 870520 Ashdown Cottage, Cottage Lane, Sedlescombe TN33 ORR

Roy was elected to Parish Council in May 2011. A Member of Planning and Finance Committees and of the Parking & Traffic and Emergency Advisory Committees. Roy has lived in and been associated with Sedlescombe and its surrounding areas for more than 40 years and ran his own building business here. He is a member of Battle & Villages Lions Club and is on the Committee of Sedlescombe & District Garden Society. His interests include photography, the arts and conservation.



Peter Anson

Peter Anson - Councillor

Contact: 01424 870862 Durhamford, Stream Lane, Sedlescombe TN33 OPB

Peter joined Parish Council in 2012. A Member of Planning and Finance Committees. He is Council's representative on the Sedlescombe Sports Association Committee., Peter is a retired Chartered Surveyor and spent almost 50 years in the property business specialising in property investment, development and planning. He has lived in Sedlescombe for more than 15 years, is Chairman of the Restholme Trust and a Managing Trustee of The Revd. George Barnsley Trust. Peter enjoys gardening, fishing, cricket watching & entertaining grandchildren, the latter for limited periods!







John Parsons

John Parsons - Councillor

Contact: 01580 831996 The Candles, Swailes Green, Cripps Corner TN32 5QU

John was co-opted to the Council in July 2012. A Member of Planning, Parking & Traffic, Neighbourhood Plan and Emergency committees. John moved to Swailes Green in 2006. He is Councils representative on RALC and Co-ordinator of the Sedlescombe Community Speedwatch Scheme. John is Chairman of Sedlescombe & District Garden Society and represents them on the Village Hall Committee. He enjoys quizzes, music, genealogy and cooking.

 <p>Lindsay Fraser</p>	<p align="center">Lindsay Fraser - Councillor</p> <p>Contact: 01424 871064 10 Blacklands, Sedlescombe</p> <p>Lindsay was co-opted to Sedlescombe Parish Council in August 2013 after spending several months as a co-opted member of the Sedlescombe Neighbourhood Project Plan Advisory Committee. She is a member of the Neighbourhood Plan Committee and Emergency Advisory Committee. Lindsay moved to Sedlescombe in March 2010. She works at a London university carrying out research into the early detection of women's cancers. She enjoys walking the coastal paths, the countryside, gardens, films and the arts.</p>				
 <p>Michelle Brister</p>	<p align="center">Michelle Brister - Councillor</p> <p>Contact: 07801 034002 Dell View, Hawkhurst Road, Sedlescombe</p> <p>Michelle was co-opted to the council in February 2015. She administers the Sedlescombe Jobs Network Facebook Community Page connecting business and individuals to local people seeking work. She has lived in the village since 1996 and is a corporate relationship consultant working with the voluntary sector.</p>				
 <p>Mark Winchester</p>	<p align="center">Mark Winchester - Councillor</p> <p>Contact: 01424 870710 Blackbrooks Garden Centre, Sedlescombe</p> <p>Mark is the owner and manager director of Blackbrooks Garden Centre and Vice Chairman of a national buying group. He moved to the Sedlescombe in '87 and has continued to work here ever since. He is married with two teenage boys and enjoys anything to do with the countryside particularly walking and cross country running with his two Springer spaniels.</p>				
 <p>Carol Hodgson</p>	<p align="center">Carol Hodgson - Parish Clerk / Financial Officer</p> <p>Contact: 075 310 654 69 April Cottage, Church Road, Catsfield, TN33 9DP.</p> <p>Carol became Parish Clerk/RFO in July 2014. She is employed for 20 hours per week and her work covers all aspects of Council work. Carol lives in Catsfield with her husband and 2 children. She has been Parish Clerk/RFO to Catsfield Parish Council for 8 years. Carol enjoys travelling, cooking, sailing and fundraising.</p>				
	<p align="center">East Sussex County Councillor Angharad Davies</p> <p>Contact: 01580 831969 Alureds Barn, Northiam, Rye. TN31 6JJ</p> <p>Angharad was elected to ESCC in May 2013. She is the County representative for Northern Rother.</p>				
	<p align="center">Rother District Councillor Tony Ganly</p> <p>Contact: 01580 830704 Morgay House, Junction Road, Staplecross. TN32 5SH</p> <p>Tony was elected to Rother DC in May 2007. He is the Parish representative for Ewhurst and Sedlescombe.</p>				
<p align="center">Councillors retiring during the year</p>					
 <p>John Reynolds</p>	<p>John Reynolds retired in September 2014 after serving just over 3 years on the Parish Council.</p>	 <p>Simon Lawrence</p>	<p>Simon Lawrence retired in December 2014 after serving just under 2 years on the Parish Council.</p>	 <p>Rod Eldridge</p>	<p>Rod Eldridge retired in January 2015 after serving 3 years on the Parish Council</p>

Farewell, Thank You and Welcome.....

A healthy Parish Council needs to change over time

to ensure it does not become stale and that it is also able to reflect different parts of our community. In the last year, three councillors have retired and two new councillors have been co-opted. Elections will be held in May 2015 for all Parish Councils as well as District Councils.

Farewell and Thank you

Rod Eldridge retired as a councillor in January this year after serving 3 years. He was a member of the Planning committee, the Neighbourhood Plan committee, the Finance committee and the Traffic and Parking advisory committee and was responsible for carrying out an extensive traffic and parking survey in the village. Rod has also co-managed much of the speed watch activity in the village with Councillor Parsons. We thank Rod for his time and commitment and wish him well in the future.

Simon Lawrence retired as a councillor in December last year after serving 2 years. Simon served on the Finance committee, the Neighbourhood Plan committee and was Chairman of the Public Playing Field and Recreation Ground Trust. We thank him for his time and commitment and wish him well in the future.

John Reynolds retired after moving from the village. He has served on the Council since May 2011 and was Chairman of the Planning Committee and also served on the Neighbourhood Plan committee. John was extremely active in getting residents involved in the Neighbourhood Plan. We thank John for all his commitment and wish him well for the future. John still maintains a connection with the village through the Recreation Ground Trust.

Pauline Raymond retired after nearly 40 years of service in June 2014. A farewell afternoon tea was held in the Village Hall on the 1 July attended by a large number of our community. Pauline was a highly dedicated, respected and experienced clerk and contributed enormously to our community over her long period of service. She was committed to our community and ensured that Sedlescombe was a leading professionally run parish. We wish her the very best in her well earned retirement.

Welcome

Mark Winchester was co-opted to the Parish Council in January 2015. Mark owns and runs Blackbrooks Garden Centre which is used by most residents in our village. We welcome him as someone who can bring his experience in managing an important and successful business, and also to give a voice to our local businesses and employers to the Council.

Michelle Brister was Co-opted to the Council in January 2015. Michelle has been a resident of Sedlescombe for 19 years and has been running the very successful Sedlescombe Jobs Network Face Book Page for the last 14 months. We also welcome her experience as she brings her knowledge as a consultant to the Council.

Carol Hodgson our new Clerk began work in July 2014. Carol is also clerk to Catsfield with over 8 years' experience, so comes to Sedlescombe with a wealth of knowledge and experience. Carol has spent her first 6 months getting to know our community. We very much welcome her to Sedlescombe.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THREE YEARS 2013-14, DRAFT 2014-15 & BUDGET 2015-16

	Final 2013-14	*Draft 2014-15	Budget 2015-16
	£	£	£
NET BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD (a)	57,977	65,143	46,236
INCOME			
Precept	41,000	42,295	42,479
Grant Income	16,500	700	
Other Income	3,237	2,759	2,609
Total Income for Year (b)	60,737	45,754	45,088
EXPENDITURE			
Staff Costs *	14,763	46,615	15,609
Loan Repayments	5,636	5,636	5,636
Total Other Costs	35,532	13,250	21,234
Total Expenditure for Year (c)	55,931	65,501	42,479
ACCRUALS AND PREPAYMENTS			
VAT repayments awaited/due	(1214)	(1047)	
Debtors	(1025)	(725)	
Creditors	4599	2612	
Total Accruals and prepayments for year (d)	2,360	840	
BALANCES AT YEAR END (a+b-c+d)	65,143	46,236	***46,236
Represented by			
Barclays Bank	12,131	23,256	23,256
West Bromwich Deposit Account	22,969	22,980	22,980
Barclays Active Saver Account	30,023		
Petty Cash	20	0	0
Balances in Funds	65,143	46,236	46,236
Council Tax Base	606.37	625.00	627.74
Band D Council Tax - Parish Council	67.62	67.67	67.67**
ASSETS based on historic values	291,524	291,524	291,524
BORROWINGS – amount outstanding			
Pavilion at 3.86% fixed interest rate	38,219	35,021	31,697
MUGA at 1.91% fixed interest rate	8,175	7,334	6,477
Total Borrowings	46,394	42,355	38,174

*Draft 2014-15 figures above were calculated mid March of the financial year.

The final Figures for the year to 31st March 2015 will be available at the Annual Assembly.

**There will be no increase in the parish element of Sedlescombe's Council Tax in 2015-16

***The year end balances hold funds for future projects - Traffic Calming, Purchase of a Speed Gun and potential Refurbishment of the Brede Lane toilets. Annual reserves are also being accumulated to cover the future maintenance costs of the MUGA and outdoor play facilities.

The primary source of income for Sedlescombe Parish Council comes from the Precept, which is a local tax collected by Rother District Council on behalf of the Parish Council.

This money is required to run the council and pay to maintain and improve the facilities, activities and services that Sedlescombe Parish Council provides. A proportion of this money is prudently held in reserve for either future planned projects and/or unexpected events.

The Precept in Sedlescombe for 2013/14 was £42,295. For Tax Band 'D' this equates to £67.67 per household per year or £1.30p per week.

So what do residents get in return?

- ELECTIONS every four years to allow you to vote for local candidates to sit on the Council.
- An ANNUAL RESIDENTS MEETING in April of each year for you to voice your opinion on the important issues affecting Sedlescombe.
- Access to a LOCAL COUNCILOR, who will live within easy distance of you and easily contactable and will help wherever possible or sign post you to someone who can.
- The right to ATTEND ANY MEETING of the Council or its Committee's, (except meetings or part of meetings that may be confidential) where a time is reserved during every meeting for the public to participate re matters on the Agenda at the Chairman's discretion.
- We are a formal consultative body for all PLANNING APPLICATIONS that are lodged in Sedlescombe. The Council comments on all applications and will object to or support applications as it feels necessary.
- We own and manage an asset base of around £291.5k on behalf of our residents
- We own and manage FOUR 'OPEN SPACES' at Riverside Playground, The Village Green, Red Barn Field and East View Kickabout Area.
- We own and lease a Village Hall to the Village Hall Management Committee.
- We own NOTICE BOARDS located at Sedlescombe Stores and Red Barn Field where we post local information.
- We provide LITTER BINS and SEATING + erect SIGNS and NOTICES as necessary on our land.
- We provide financial help via GRANT AID to Battle Area Community Transport.
- We produce a quarterly bulletin and Annual Report and Directory, which is delivered free to every Sedlescombe household.
- We are TRANSPARENT in all our dealings and with the exception of those protected by law, all other documents and financial records are available for public inspection and scrutiny and most are available to view on our WEB SITE www.sedlescombe.org.uk
- ALL INCOME, whether from the precept or our operations, is directed towards undertakings and projects that the Council believe will benefit Sedlescombe and/or its residents.

Footnote

Sedlescombe Parish Council considers that the community is well served by the facilities and services provided by the Parish Council but only residents themselves can judge whether the outlay represents 'value for money' in sustaining its local council.

Notwithstanding, the Council is committed to making Sedlescombe a great place to live, work, visit and enjoy and will continue to add facilities and improve services where appropriate.....

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AUTHOR

Mrs Julia Chapman
Ashdown Cottage, Cottage Lane, Sedlescombe
01424 870520
Author of the following books about
Sedlescombe.....

'LIFE THROUGH THE LENS'
A Pictorial history of the village

'HOP-SCOTCH & SPINNING TOPS'
The history of the old Primary School

'THE TIMES OF OUR LIVES'
Memories of local people

Books can be purchased at the local shop or
contact Julia at the above address

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	DISCLAIMER
<p>Sedlescombe Parish Council acknowledges with thanks the contributions made by local businesses towards the printing of this booklet.</p> <p>Applications for advertising space in the 2016 booklet should be sent to the Parish Council by the end of January 2016.</p>	<p>Please note that the inclusion of traders in this Directory neither implies nor confirms that any trader is an approved supplier or contractor to Sedlescombe Parish Council. The Parish Council does not vouch for the financial stability of any company or for its health and safety procedures.</p> <p>All information is provided in good faith to assist consumers in exercising their own best judgment. No guarantee is given or implied as to the accuracy of the information provided.</p>

Keeping up with the Village News.....

Sedlescombe News is a weekly news-sheet produced by a team of volunteers. It comes out each Friday and is available - price 20p - from Sedlescombe Village Shop. Items for inclusion can be left in the Village Shop - by 12 noon on Wednesdays please. Entries are FREE. The Editorial team is totally voluntary and they are always on the lookout for additional helpers. If you are interested in being involved, please contact 870258.

Village Voice column in Battle Observer.

The Village has its own village voice column published in the local Battle Observer which comes out every Friday. It provides information on Sedlescombe, local events, groups and organisations. There is no charge for this promotion. If you have an event coming up in the local area or would like to have a small piece outlining your club or organisation aims, activities, membership etc., then please drop your information into Asselton House, send via e-mail to judy@asselton.co.uk or call 870344.

Notice board

Items for posting on the Parish Council notice board outside the shop may be left in the Sedlescombe Village Shop or sent by email to the Parish Clerk at clerk@sedlescombe.org.uk

Our Police Community Support Officer (PCSO)

PCSO Demetrius (Demi) Georghiou,
Mobile 07788 565 576

Email: demetrius.georghiou@sussex.pnn.police.uk

Police station address: North Trade Road, Battle. TN33 0EX

SEDLSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

Check the website regularly to keep updated on the work of Sedlescombe Parish Council

www.sedlescombe.org.uk.

If you press the "Website Changes" page,
you will be able to access all the latest information.

Contact The Parish Clerk Carol Hodgson on

075 310 654 69 or at clerk@sedlescombe.org.uk

Sedlescombe Jobs Network

Have you heard about Sedlescombe Jobs Network? It's an on line community resource connecting local companies and individuals with job vacancies to local people seeking work. The jobs network has been active for just over a year and has already successfully created over 55 employment opportunities. The network also offers a platform for organisations who are seeking volunteers. Village news and events are also being promoted. Here's how to connect:

- Facebook users search for Sedlescombe Jobs Network page 'Like' to receive information and post updates
- Email michelle.brister@btinternet.com or call 01424 870589 with job opportunities or village news & events

Some useful Contacts.....

Lift Scheme	The Parish Council runs an informal scheme to help Sedlescombe residents who find it difficult to attend hospital/surgery appointments because of lack of transport. A list of names of drivers who are willing to provide lifts is published (see Parish Council notice board outside shop). Those wanting lifts simply make a telephone call to anyone on the list and pay the driver. Contact: Cllr Pauline Glew 01424 870258 (Please contact Cllr Glew if you would like to become a Lift Scheme driver)
Battle Area Transport (BACT)	Bus passes can be used on all services after 09:30. Contact: Lyn on 01424 772001 (Mon-Fri 9-12) Email bactoffice@tiscali.co.uk Website www.bact-online.co.uk
Public Transport	Stagecoach Service 349 Hastings to Hawkhurst via Sedlescombe-Staplecross. Monday to Saturdays, 2-hourly daytime. Some summer Sunday bus services. Contact: Stagecoach in Hastings 08702 433711 Contact: General 0345 60 80 194
Sedlescombe Village Library Est. 1953	A small village library run by volunteers at <u>Sedlescombe Village Hall Committee Room 2</u> - side entrance. Available on Tuesdays between 13:30 and 14:30.
ESCC Mobile Library	Books for adults and children, DVDs, audio books, reference materials and energy monitors. There is a wheelchair lift. They also deliver some services for people with disabilities. Stops alternate Thursdays - 10.50-11.25am - Park Shaw Contact: 0345 60 80 196
Battle Library	Free books for loan and reference, audio books for hire, DVDs for hire, local history material, free internet and computer access, free energy-saving monitors, Rhyme-time every Tuesday 10:30 - 11:00, photocopier, bus passes for older and disabled people, bus travel discounts for young people, Connexions 360, carers discount card. Contact: 0345 60 80 196 Battle Library - 7 Market Square, Battle TN33 0XB
East Sussex County Council	County Hall, Lewes BN7 1UE Contact: General switchboard 0345 60 80 190 (08:00-17:00)
Rother District Council	Town Hall, Bexhill on Sea TN39 3JX Contact: 01424 787000 (01424 787868 Emergency no.)
Sussex Police	Non-emergency Service Contact: 101 or Email contact.centre@sussex.pnn.police.uk Emergency Service Contact: 999
Crimestoppers	An independent charity working to fight crime. Call Crimestoppers anonymously to report any type of crime. Contact: 0800 555 111
Victim Support	Victim Support is the independent charity for victims and witnesses of crime in England and Wales. Set up 40 years ago and has grown to become the oldest and largest victims' organisation in the world. Contact: 0845 38 99 528 (Sussex Office)

Sedlescombe Societies' Association

The Association is run by an elected committee who organise the annual Summer Village Fayre on the Village Sports Field. The aim of the day is to involve everyone in the community, to provide an enjoyable event for all villagers and visitors. All local groups are welcome to participate **free** of charge. The AGM takes place in October when surplus funds raised from the event are awarded to local village organisations.

Contacts: Chairman Mr Peter Anson 01424 870862
Secretary Mrs Sally Sidgwick 07803937220

Sedlescombe Short Mat Bowls Club

.....established June 2006

When Meets each Tuesday and Thursday.

Time 2.00-4.30pm

Where Sedlescombe Village Hall (3 bowling mats)

Contacts Chairman Mr K Smith 01424 883473
Vice-Chairman Mr Trevor Palmer 01424 870830
Secretary Mr C Clark 01424 871441
Treasurer Mrs Eve Bradbury 01424 870401

Fee Joining fee £5 + Annual fee £6 + £1.60 per session

Contact any officer for further details.

Badminton

Where Sedlescombe Village Hall

Contact Shirley Davies 01424 870475

Sedlescombe Pre-School

When Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays

Time 9.00am-3.00pm, term time only

Where Sedlescombe Village Hall

Contacts Chairperson Jenny Eldridge 01424 870761
Email sedlescombepreschool@yahoo.co.uk

We offer a full range of exciting activities for children aged 2-5years that encourage their early years development.

We also provide a Toddler Group session for children aged 0-5 years and their parents/carers with a range of activities that encourage play, movement and creativity.

When Tuesday

Time 10.00-11.30am, term time only

Where Sedlescombe Village Hall

Contacts Chairperson Jenny Eldridge 01424 870761

Sedlescombe Village Hall

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Contact Fill in the form on-line or call Stella Brabants 871436
Email sedlescombevillagehall@gmail.com
Website www.sedlescombevillagehall.org.uk

Sedlescombe Dance Club

When Most Fridays throughout the year

Time 7.30-10.00pm

Where Northiam Village Hall

Contact Les Gordon 01424 424763

Emphasis is given to ensuring members enjoy the social atmosphere of Old Time and Modern Sequence dancing to familiar tunes. New members, from the experienced to the novice, are given a warm welcome and established members are always happy to help newcomers to settle in.

Royal British Legion, Sedlescombe Branch

When Meetings on 3rd Wednesday of every month except August

Where The Queen's Head Pub in the Village

Time 10:30

Contact President: Mr E Burgess 01424 870219

Chairman: Mr Anthony Morton-King 01424 870218

Secretary/Treasurer: Mr John Page 01424 870455

The Legion is active in looking after the welfare of ex-service men, women and their dependents in the area. Membership is open to all, particularly younger volunteers, who wish to support this noble and important cause. The annual subscription is £16.50 which includes £2.50 to Branch Funds. If you would like to become a member or help with the Poppy Appeal, please contact the Secretary.

Sedlescombe Youth Club

When Thursdays

Time 18:00 - 20:00

Where Sedlescombe Village Hall

Contact Matt Davey 07891 524500

An opportunity to meet new friends, take part in new activities, learn new skills and achieve awards. For Year 7 & above.

Chapel Hill Church (United Reformed)

When Sundays
Time 10:30am
Where Chapel Hill, Sedlescombe
Contact Doreen Meredith 01424 870634

Chapel Hill Church Hire

The well-heated, comfortable, multifunction chapel, seating 45, and the smaller meeting room are available for use by other village groups, under certain conditions. Includes toilet and basic kitchen, also overhead projector and fixed screen. Please contact the Secretary - Doreen Meredith - above for details.

Sedlescombe Players

Contact Chairperson Tara Buchanan 01424 870694
Email sedlescombeplayers@hotmail.co.uk
Website www.sedlescombeplayers.co.uk

The Players are a very friendly group with an enthusiastic membership of all ages. We rehearse on Monday nights in the village hall and aim to put on two productions a year, which vary from farce and straight plays to musicals and pantomime. If you are interested in joining us - either onstage or backstage - we would be delighted to hear from you.

Lions Club - Battle and Villages.

Lions Clubs are an international network of men and women who work together to answer the needs that challenge communities across the world - it is the largest voluntary service organisation in the world. Battle and Villages Lions Club serves the area of Battle and surrounding villages. The running costs of Battle & Villages Lions Club, like those of all other Lions Clubs, are met by subscriptions paid by the members, so all monies raised from the public are used for charitable purposes, both locally and worldwide.

If you would like to come along to a meeting or would like to find out more.....

When 2nd Monday of each month
Time 8.00pm
Contact 0845 8335826 or visit the website for Battle and Villages Lions Club

Rother Seniors' Forum

Established 2006. Rother Seniors invites local people who are 50+ years to have their say about public services. The Forum speaks out on issues such as Transport, Life-long Learning & Leisure, Health & Care, Housing & Pensions, and Crime & Safety. We work with Local and County Council Service Providers so that members keep abreast of, and help shape, developments that affect them.

Contact Ron Sunderland 01424 870801

Community Friends

Community Friends' focus is about helping people in the Village, particularly older people. A range of help offered is listed as follows: -

Aromatherapy	Befriending
Cooking	Gardening
Letters	Pet care
Collecting prescriptions	Shopping
Small jobs	And many others.

Please ring 01424 230143 where a volunteer will try to find help for you

Sedlescombe Neighbourhood Watch

Contacts Chief Co-ordinator	Jean Dellow	01424 870223
Treasurer	Pauline Glew	01424 870258
Secretary	Sally Martin	01424 870353
Member	Reg Glew	01424 870258
Member	Ralph Dellow	01424 870223

Sedlescombe Neighbourhood Watch:

- * Offers home security advice and will fit security equipment if needed. This offer is free of charge but is subject to availability of funds.
- * Loans an engraving appliance free of charge.
- * Will pay the installation charge and first month's rent for Lifeline for Sedlescombe residents.
- * Local e-mail system in operation.

Sedlescombe Rangers Football Club

Based at Oaklands Park, Sedlescombe, the club provides football for all age groups and currently has nineteen teams from Under 6s (mini-kickers) to seniors, making us one of the largest clubs in the area.

The senior teams play in the East Sussex Football League and the junior teams play in the Rother, Crowborough or Sussex Sunday Leagues. Training is provided throughout the year on grass, G3, astro or indoors at several local venues. All our Team Managers and assistant Coaches are FA Enhanced CRB, Safeguarding and Emergency Aid certified. Many of the coaches are also FA Level 1/2 certified. We welcome new players and volunteers across the club, particularly at the entry level ages, so please contact us for further information.

Contact Chairman	Nick Gardner	07809 562448
Secretary	Rod Cornelius	07870 741222
Email	info@sedlescomberangersfc.co.uk	
Website	www.sedlescomberangersfc.co.uk	

Allotments

Private allotments at rear of Bulmer Lodge, The Green.

Contact Reg Glew 01424 870258

Sedlescombe and District Garden Society

Where Sedlescombe Village Hall
Contact Secretary Sue Parsons 01580 831996
Membership Secretary Dave Brabants 01424 871436
Website www.sedlescombegardensociety.org.uk/

See notice board on Sedlescombe Stores for dates / times of events. Speakers, outings, shows, plant market etc. Anyone with an interest in plants is welcome to join. Discounts on purchases for gardening items available to members.

Sedlescombe Wine Club

A members' club that meet socially in the Village for talks on wines at members' homes, tutored tastings in the Village Hall and trips to wineries. Please contact the Secretary for Membership details

When Monthly
Contact Secretary Derek Wright 01424 870035
Chairman John Brownsdon 01424 870036

Sedlescombe Sports Association

An umbrella organisation that promotes sport and manages provision of facilities for sport at Sedlescombe Sports Field. The membership comes from clubs that use the sports field. The pavilion is available for hire for birthdays and other events. For further information and bookings contact the Secretary.

Contacts: Vice-Chairman Ashley Davey 01424 870615.
Secretary Derek Wright 01424 870035

Sedlescombe Friendship Club

Established in 2007, the club was founded with the aim to advance the welfare of the older people and, in particular, to endeavour to counteract loneliness and isolation. A number of events will be planned each year including visits to interesting places often with lunch. Our programme also includes computer lessons which take place on a Monday. Dates and times of these and other events will be published in the Sedlescombe News and elsewhere that is appropriate.

Members of the Committee are:-

Valerie Wright, Ron Sunderland, Shirley Coleman, Pauline Glew and Ralph Dellow.

Sedlescombe Church Bellringers

When Every Wednesday
Time 7.30pm
Where Parish Church
Contact Jane Blanford 01424 751298

Sedlescombe C E Primary School

Where Gammons Way, Sedlescombe, Battle, East Sussex, TN33 0RQ
Contact Headteacher Mrs Marian Ham 01424 870585
Email head@sedlescombecep.e-sussex.sch.uk
Website www.sedlescombecep.e-sussex.sch.uk

There are 216 children on roll, aged 4-11 years. The school has seven classes and is built in a beautiful, peaceful location within the Village. We have strong links with our local Parish Church, Sedlescombe Preschool and Village Community. All staff firmly believe in, and work hard to achieve, the vision: Every child matters ~ Together we enjoy learning ~ Together we achieve ~ Together we succeed. We have a school value of RESPECT, which underpins all of our work. We are a fully inclusive school and believe in the whole development of every child. We are an active, exciting, hard-working school with bright, stimulating learning environments, and a warm, caring Christian ethos.

We have high standards and are particularly noted for our music, sport and art achievements, as well as our forward thinking developments in creative learning. We belong to a very active Schools Alliance consisting of 5 local village primary schools (this is called the ABC Alliance = Active Battle Cluster) and work closely together on a wide range of educational developments

Our standards in reading are particularly high. We are very proud of the academic achievement of our children in reading, writing and maths as our end of year test results for 2014 are well above East Sussex expectations, and also the National expectations for all primary schools. Our phonics national assessment for 6 year olds were the highest in the County! Our Reception children's data is also well above East Sussex and National expectations. You can read more about the academic results of our children on our school website.

We welcome parent/carer helpers and helpers from the local community to listen to reading, cooking, working with children on times tables, craft skills etc. Our school assemblies on Mondays (10.20am) and Fridays (9.15am) are open to families and the village community, please feel welcome to join us. We welcome our local community to lunch, for example, Wednesdays are roast dinner days – cost is £3.00 per person for main course and pudding! If interested, please telephone the school office to book giving at least 2 days notice.

We offer a wide range of after-school clubs, which allow our children to develop a broad range of talents and enrich their school experience. These clubs include choir, netball, football, ICT, tennis, book club, ballet, dodge ball, swimming, GLEE club, film club, recorder, guitar, violin, keyboard, baton twirling, art, gardening and others depending on the time of year. We offer a daily breakfast club, opening at 8.00am, and a daily child care after-school club (called our 'Twilight Club') until 5.30pm.

Please enjoy viewing our School Learning Platform accessed from our website. This will keep you up-to-date with all school news, the school calendar, class news, school prospectus, and school celebrations, plus lots more useful information. Visits to our School are always welcomed, please telephone the school to make an appointment on 01424 870585.

ICT SUITE. The School has a high quality ICT suite for use by children of the School and the local community. Courses can be arranged for adults of the Village. Please contact the School for further information.

SCHOOL SWIMMING POOL. The School has an outdoor, heated swimming pool, with smart changing areas for children and adults, and toilet facilities. It is open from Easter to end of August, for school children and the local community. We timetable sessions for preschool children, and the village community. For further information, and to express an interest in using our pool, please contact Mrs Ham at the School.

We are keen for this resource to be enjoyed by the whole village community.

Women's Institute - Sedlescombe Green (Evening)

When 4th Wednesday in month.
Time 7.30pm
Where: Sedlescombe Village Hall
Contact: President Andrea Hogwood 01424 871625
15 East View Terrace, Sedlescombe

Established in 1975, we are a friendly and sociable group with a membership of **ALL** ages. Every month there is always something different on the programme whether it will be a speaker, craft class, going out on trips or some other interesting activity. In addition we supply teas to visiting groups.

This is a great opportunity to meet new friends, learn new skills and take part in new activities.

Our programme for 2015 includes

22nd Apr Cocktail Making. Have a go and taste your creations - Derek Wright
27th May Resolutions Meeting followed by Wilshire Farm Foods
17th Jun Summer Outing. Beachcombing at Winchelsea Beach followed by Fish and Chips
22nd Jul The life of Catherine Cookson - Sian Trevellion
26th Aug Craft Club - Crochet - Have a go and create a creation - Shelagh Duffill from Battle Wool Shop
23rd Sept Land Womens Army - Ian Everest
28th Oct Annual Meeting followed by cheese and wine social
25th Nov Bletchley Park - Betty Houghton
2nd Dec Winter Outing - Christmas Celebrations

Thursday Club

When 1st Thursday in every month except August.
Time 10:00 to 12:00
Where Committee Room, Sedlescombe Village Hall
Contacts David and Anthea Post 01424 871675
Eve Bradbury 01424 870401

Speakers on a variety of interesting topics. Meetings are open to all refreshments available.

Sedlescombe Cricket Club

When Sundays
Time 2.30pm
Where Sedlescombe Sportsfield for home games
Contact J Carthew 01424 774589
Aaron Maynard - potential recruits 01424 430526

The Club plays its main matches on Sunday afternoons during the season and maintains the tradition of amateur sport by engaging in friendly matches (rather than league matches). It welcomes new players.

Friends of Sedlescombe Parish Church Heritage Trust

Contact Mrs S J Brown 01580 830813 to become a friend.

This charitable trust was established by the late Beryl Lucey for the purpose of assisting in maintenance and restoration of our beautiful 13th century Parish Church and churchyard. It provides a means for anyone in the community to contribute to ensuring the long-term survival of this historic building. Several fund-raising events are organised throughout the year.



Inspiring young people to make a difference in the world

PESTALOZZI INTERNATIONAL VILLAGE TRUST

Our mission is to make a real and lasting difference by applying the Pestalozzi principles of educating the Head, Heart and Hands. We are a UK-based charity with more than 50 years' experience of offering life-changing opportunities to young people from disadvantaged communities around the world. We award scholarships to exceptional 16-19 year olds who are academically gifted but have limited educational prospects in their home countries. These young people have all demonstrated their enthusiasm for helping to make a difference in their communities.

Pestalozzi students live for two years in a multi-cultural, multi-faith community in East Sussex, UK, where they welcome difference and embrace diversity. They study at Sussex Coast College Hastings and undertake a broad range of extra-curricular activities, gaining a holistic education focused on the Pestalozzi principles of Head, Heart and Hands. Our scholarships give these young people an opportunity they would not otherwise receive – the chance to develop their potential, pursue their dreams and go on to make a real and lasting difference in the world.

Pestalozzi is located in the beautiful countryside of the High Weald AONB. We host cultural events and hire out our meeting rooms, summer accommodation and outdoor spaces to groups, schools and businesses to help support our student scholarships. For more information about Pestalozzi, including our latest news, forthcoming events and facilities hire, please visit

www.pestalozzi.org.uk email office@pestalozzi.org.uk or call 01424 870444

Sedlescombe & District Flower Club

When Every 2nd Wednesday in the month

Time 7.30pm

Where Sedlescombe Village Hall.

Contact Sheila Benson - Chairman. 01797 223927

benson.ferryhouse@btinternet.com Our annual programme consists of several demonstrations of flower arranging, practice meetings, workshops and social events. Visitors are warmly welcomed.

K9 Rescue Remedy

(The Sedlescombe dog club for RESCUE DOGS)

We believe that we are the only dog club in the area that exists primarily for rescue dogs and their owners. K-9 Rescue Remedy is Kennel Club registered. We run dog training classes to Bronze, Silver and Gold levels of the Good Citizen Award Scheme. Classes are in Sedlescombe Village Hall on Sunday mornings during school term time. In addition, we run agility classes during the lighter summer evenings, obedience classes when there is sufficient demand and walks in the community to help socialise dogs with difficult backgrounds.

We also hold occasional workshops on topics of interest for dog owners such as 'First Aid for Dogs,' 'Dog Law Acts and Amendments' and Behaviour Workshops. All such workshops are open to non-members and members alike.

K-9 Rescue Remedy also rescues, rehabilitates and re-homes a modest number of dogs in need every year. Sadly, the number of dogs we can help every year is limited by the number of foster places we have, availability of funds and our small size because we do not own any kennels.

When a dog comes into our care they are given any medical care that is required, are trained and micro-chipped while being given a good, loving home until a suitable permanent 'forever' home is found. They go through a lot of food so financial donations are gratefully received.

We coordinate with other K-9 organisations where possible, to help both dogs and owners in need. We have just started our "Sponsor a Dog" scheme, whereby you could help to support one of our Rescue Dogs.

For more details or methods of contact - Facebook page 'K-9 Rescue Remedy Support Group Sedlescombe,

Website: www.k9rescueremedy.org

Tel: Nick - 07446231015 .

Parish Church - St John The Baptist

When Parish Eucharist Sundays

Time 10.30am

Contact Andrew Corbett-Nolan 07912 113730 (Churchwarden)

Father Kevin Mepham 01424 870471

Sedlescombe Jobs Network on Facebook

The jobs network has been active for just over a year and has already successfully created over 55 employment opportunities. The network also offers a platform for organisations who are seeking volunteers. Village news and events are also being promoted.

Contact Michelle Brister 01424 870589 E: michelle.brister@btinternet.com

Tennis Coaching

Nick Montague provides Adult and Junior Tennis Coaching for 'The Sedlescombe + surrounding' areas. Group or individual sessions available at the MUGA.

Contact 07824 799 632 / 01424 848572 or montaguenick@hotmail.co.uk

Parish Council would like to thank the following for submitting their lovely photographs and paintings of life in Sedlescombe for inclusion in this Directory, sorry we could not include them all.....

*Mr Colin Boyd
Mr David Brabants
Cllr. Roy Chapman
Mr. Mark Fisher
Pestalozzi
Sedlescombe CEP School
Mr Ron Sunderland
Cllr. Jonathan Vine-Hall*

Business or Community advertising for the 2016 printed Directory should be sent to the Parish Council by the end of January 2016. Standard Business Listing on the www.sedlescombe.org.uk website can be purchased at any time for £4 including VAT (expires on 31 March each year)

The Council reserves the right to refuse an advertisement request.

The 2015 Annual Report & Directory is published by
Sedlescombe Parish Council,
April Cottage, Church Road,
Catsfield, East Sussex. TN33 9DP

Tel: 075 310 654 69

E-mail: clerk@sedlescombe.org.uk

www.sedlescombe.org.uk

March 2015



Annual report – Rother District Councillor Tony Ganly

The funding climate remains extremely challenging. The Government grant to the Council has been cut by around 30% over the last two years and with further cuts coming over the next two years Rother will need to find an additional £1.5 million of savings. This is on top of almost £2 million of savings found in the last two years through a range of measures. These include shedding over 30 staff, selling buildings and sharing office space, investing in new technology to help us work more efficiently, devolving some services and working jointly with other councils and partners.

To give some perspective on how efficient Rother District Council is: we have the lowest Council tax in East Sussex (which, in 2015/16 will remain frozen for the fifth year in succession), one of the lowest staffing levels of any authority in the country and we deliver over 60 services.

It is likely any further savings will now have an impact on those services either through changing the way they are delivered and who delivers them, or by seeing some reduction in service or in the quality of service. Councillors face some very difficult choices around further staff losses and which services could see a reduction in funding.

We recently introduced the new Joint Waste Collection contract with Hastings, Eastbourne and Wealden Councils. This will provide the authorities with a common waste contractor and save all parties a combined £30 million over the next 10 years. A much wider range of recyclates, including glass bottles and jars, is now collected kerbside.

Rother and Wealden now have shared services for legal, audit and environmental health. These bring significant savings but residents and businesses will not notice any changes to the services they receive. Another example of joint working is the new Grounds Maintenance Contract between Rother, Hastings Borough Council and Amicus Horizon. This will bring estimated savings of £200,000 p.a. for Rother over the duration of the contract.

Despite the financial climate Rother continues to run its Community Grant Scheme which gives funding to community projects and good causes, especially in the rural areas. Recent grants have gone to the Sedlescombe Multi Use Games Area, one in Staplecross, the allotments in Staplecross and the new Ewhurst Parish Sports Pavilion.

We remain a key player in the regeneration of the district and have supported East Sussex County Council with their construction of the Bexhill to Hastings Link Road. This will have wider economic benefits for the district, as the road will provide an estimated 1500 new homes and 50,000 sq. m. of business space.

Our services continue to perform strongly:

- Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit claims are processed faster this year than last. On average, a new claim has a decision in less than 20 calendar days, shaving two days off last year's processing speed. A prompt decision for vulnerable families means fewer problems with landlords and debt.
- The speed of processing planning applications for the average householder has held steady compared to last year, despite staffing and resource pressures. It takes, on average, 8 weeks to get a decision for an ordinary planning application and that meets the national guidelines.
- Anyone buying food in Rother, from shops or in cafes and restaurants, will be pleased to learn that 86% of local food businesses are rated as "good" or higher by our Food Hygiene Team.
- 28 empty homes in Rother have been brought back into use due to the work of the Council, so far this year. By the end of March this figure will exceed last year's. It includes homes in Bexhill and Northiam, Battle, Fairlight, Guestling, Camber, Hurst Green, Winchelsea and Rye Harbour.
- We have prevented twice the number of households from becoming homeless than we did in the previous year. This is because we've had more families coming to us for help and we've had more schemes available to help them, particularly with putting families with private sector landlords.

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**It's
Back!**

Sedlescombe Summer Fayre 2015

Saturday 18th July 2015

Sedlescombe Sports Field

If you or your group would like to raise money, promote yourselves support your village by taking part

Please contact

Sally Sidgwick on 07803937220

Peter Anson on 01424 870862

Don't Miss IT!

