

Sedlescombe Parish Council



Annual Report and Directory 2016



Spring Fayre

This year the Spring Fayre will take place on
SATURDAY 14th MAY 2016



The Spring Fayre Committee works together to organise an Annual Fayre

*on the Village Green and
in the gardens of the Queen's Head.*

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

Committee Members:

**Barry Bradbury, Jean Dellow, Ralph Dellow,
Pat Evans, Reg Glew and Andy Limpkin.**

**Business or Community advertising for the 2017 printed Directory should be
sent to the Parish Council by the end of January 2017.**

**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.

Annual Parish Assembly 2016

Sedlescombe's Annual Parish Assembly will take place on Tuesday 26th April 2016 at 7pm in Sedlescombe Village Hall

What is a Parish Assembly (also known as a Parish Meeting)?

Every English Parish must have a Parish Meeting
(Local Government Act 1972, s13(1)).

This meeting consists of the local government electors registered for the area for which it is held i.e. all those who have a right to vote in Sedlescombe. It can be convened by the Parish Council Chairman, two Parish Councillors or six electors for the area for which it is to be held. The meeting must be held each year between 1st March and 1st June (incl.) and must be after 6pm in the evening!

So that's the law.....what happens in practice?

Doors open at 6.30pm where you will have an opportunity to view 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 also 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 28th April 2015
3. Presentation of the History Cup by Pauline Raymond
4. Reports from the groups and organisations of Sedlescombe
5. Report of Parish Council Chairman
6. Parish Council Financial Report
7. 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

Welcome to the 82 new residents in Sedlescombe. Whilst our village has always had a strong base of long term residents new families help keep our beautiful village vibrant.

I am pleased that after much campaigning we now have superfast broadband in the village. The internet has now become very much a part of our daily lives and we are more and more reliant on speed of access. This latest improvement will be an enormous benefit to all our employers as well as every resident in the Parish .

Our Neighbourhood Plan should have gone to referendum last year but as I have already reported a number of the government inspectors recommendations were entirely inconsistent with our communities clear desires for an acceptable plan. This caused a delay and the need to re consult our community on some new development sites. Very simply it will be worth the wait and extra effort to get a plan that is acceptable to the community and to avoid the large scale development proposed by the District Council which would cause a jarring change to our beautiful village. I ask you to be patient but stay involved at the next round of consultation.

Our Speedwatch though the village has been hampered over the last 12 months by the difficulty in obtaining the speed gun from the police which is shared across the District. We now have our own speed gun and are committed to getting our Speedwatch out on the B2244 regularly during 2016.

We continue to try to address the problem of traffic and parking problems in the village particularly around the village store. To this end we have made several proposals to the Highways Department who resist the reduction in speed limits both in the village and in the small lanes outside the village centre. Improving parking and reducing speed through the village will become increasingly important as we are required to build more homes in and around the village. We will continue to pursue the problem to try to find a way to reduce the effect of increased traffic and speeding.

Lastly, but never least, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who volunteer for the many jobs around the village and within the Parish. Our footpaths, village green, play areas are all maintained by volunteers as is the management of our Speedwatch and at no cost to our community. Whether it's arranging refreshments at our annual assembly or trimming hedges, thank you to everyone who contributes to making our village such a special place to live in.

Cllr. Jonathan Vine-Hall.

Chairman Sedlescombe Parish Council

March 2016

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held on Tuesday 28th April 2015
in Sedlescombe Village Hall - 19:00 to 20:30 (doors opened from 18:30)**

PRESENT: 136 people were present at the meeting including:

Cllr Pauline Glew (Vice-Chair of Sedlescombe Parish Council) in the chair
Parish Councillors Peter Anson, Michelle Brister, Roy Chapman, Lindsay Fraser, John Parsons,
Carol Hodgson (Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer of Sedlescombe Parish Council)
County Councillor Angharad Davies
District Councillor Tony Ganly
PCSO Demetrius Georghiou

1. Chairman's Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting including County Cllr Angharad Davies, District Cllr Tony Ganly and PCSO Demetrius Georghiou.

For Health and Safety purposes the emergency exits were pointed out in the Village Hall.

Apologies for absence had been received from the Parish Council Chairman Cllr. Jonathan Vine-Hall who was recuperating.

2. Approval of Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting held on 29-Apr-14

Item passed over in error.

3. Presentation of the History Cup by Pauline Raymond

Pauline Raymond thanked the Parish Council for providing the History Cup for an annual event. An entry to the competition could be based on any event that took place in the history of Sedlescombe. The subjects are endless to pass onto future generations. Pauline has during her time in Sedlescombe built-up an extensive archive of Sedlescombe history and created digital copies of the past. Anyone who is interested in seeing any of the photographs can contact Pauline after the meeting or by calling her on 870508. She is always looking for further material.

Pauline thanked all those who entered the 2015 competition. The winner of this years competition is Charlotte Williams an 8 year old pupil from Sedlescombe School. Her project entitled "15th century through to 2015" featured the Queens Head pub, where her grandfather John Cook was previously the landlord.

4. Presentations

Sedlescombe CEP School

Three year 6 children Elliot, Guy and Boris from Sedlescombe CEP School, gave an account of their daily life at Sedlescombe School. They told us of their link with a school in India, a new project 'Ready, Steady, Cook', trips to London, Greenwich, Drusillas Park, Bedgebury and more, of their two school productions each year at Christmas and in the Summer and performing at the Hastings Music Festival. They love their sports and take part in local inter-school tournaments of netball and football. They are proud to be part of a very successful school and try hard to learn their lessons.

Pestalozzi International Village

Two Pestalozzi students, Marvin from Uganda and Bigyan from Nepal described how the Pestalozzi International Village gives children a chance to study in the UK, a vision for the future and a lifetime opportunity which would not be possible in their own countries. They were grateful for being given this opportunity and for being so well accepted into the Sedlescombe community. Bigyan - 1st year A-level student, gave an account of the recent earthquake in Nepal and how Pestalozzi were helping by raising funds to provide food and water during this tragedy.

Sedlescombe Summer Fayre - Cllr. Peter Anson

Cllr. Anson reflected on the very emotional appeal from Bigyan for Nepal and hoped that the Summer Fayre maybe be able to provide some support for the Nepalese.

Peter spoke as Chair of the Summer Fayre, which is a joint association of the Parish Council and the Sports Association. The Sedlescombe Garden Society will also be hosting their annual Flower Show. The driving Committee includes Peter Anson, Sally Sidgwick, Judy Torrance, Derek Wright and Brian Croucher. Local groups and societies are being offered stalls to raise their own funds - 20 have taken up the offer so far including Sedlescombe CEP School, Pestalozzi. St Michaels Hospice and The Queens Head Pub. As a side attraction the Committee would like to run a 'Car Corner' but has not yet found an organiser. Anyone who is interested in stepping forward should see a member of the committee. Other associated events: Parish Council is organising and running the Grand Draw. Monies raised will go towards a local charity. John Brownsden is running a 'Goose Poop'. 1000 squares are on sale. The winner will receive half the proceeds and the balance will go to the Doctors Fund to provide medical equipment. Campbell's Estate Agents has agreed to provide advertising boards. Evening entertainment will be in the form of Mike Hatchard and Herbie Flowers together with a two course meal including a glass of beer or wine. Tickets cost £20 and will go on sale to the Village at the Spring Fayre on 16th May 2015. Proceeds from the evening events will also go to the Doctors Fund to provide medical equipment.

Cllr Glew invited any other societies to speak:

* Marc Lynch spoke on the newly formed 'Sedlescombe-Westfield Archaeology and History Society' (SWAHS). A dig was currently taking place at the Pestalozzi Estate for Roman remains. Anyone is welcome to come along.

* On behalf of the 'Sedlescombe News' Cllr. Glew made a plea for more editors to come forward to keep this weekly informative flyer going. Anyone interested in getting involved can contact Reg Glew and Jill Foss for further information.

* Cllr. Glew advised that sadly Bob Harris had passed away over the weekend. Audrey and Bob have been involved in many village events and Bob will be greatly missed.

* The Spring Fayre Committee has asked for anyone who put their name down on a list (which Bob has holding) to help at the Spring Fayre on 16th May to get in touch with Ralph Dellow on 870223.

5. Report of Parish Council Chairman

Cllr. Glew presented the Chairman's report:

Highway Issues. This year Parish Council set aside funding for Traffic Calming. With ESCC Community Match Funding - which has been given first stage approval earlier this year - the proposal to improve access and parking around the shop is now moving forward. PC is currently waiting for ESCC to come back with a design which will be used to go out to public consultation with the community so that everyone can have a say before the final decision is made. All being well, it is hoped that the work will take place towards the end of this year. A speed gun has been ordered but due to problems with the supplier, has not yet been received. Owning our equipment will help make life easier in not having to take it in turns to borrow Sussex Police's and will lead to a more effective speed check programme.

Neighbourhood Plan. Our NHP passed the examination stage earlier this year. The Inspector recommended a number of modifications. The NHP is now with Rother District Council. Once the elections are over Parish Council and Rother DC will meet. The outcome will be reported back to the village - possibly via the next bulletin.

Street Farm Appeal. After two and a half years, a planning application and a public enquiry lasting 3 days the Government Inspectors recommendation to refuse development on Street Farm was agreed by the Secretary of State. Having the Neighbourhood Plan at an advanced stage definitely

helped. Jonathan Vine-Hall would like to thank all those who made the effort to write in against this unwanted development.

Cllr. Anson also asked that Cllrs. Vine-Hall and Fraser were thanked for their involvement.

Cllr. Glew thanked the following:

- * Sylvia Beaney and Rosemary Farley for providing the teas this evening.
- * The local businesses who support the Annual Report and Directory with advertising which paid for the printing of the booklet.
- * Pumphouse Designs who provided the poster used to advertise tonight's meeting. The posters were designed by Cllr. Fraser.
- * To the many people in the village who give their time and expertise delivering bulletins, keeping their eyes open and reporting any problems.
- * The Lift Scheme drivers which is a very needed service in the village.
- * Cllr. Chapman's band of volunteer workers who have saved our village around £5,000 this year.
- * The Councillors and Parish Clerk who work so hard for the village and of course Reg. All who have supported me during the last few weeks - well Reg a little longer.

6. Prize Draw for Sedlescombe Volunteers by Cllr. Roy Chapman

The winner of the Volunteers Prize Draw is Rod Eldridge, drawn by Cllr. Chapman. Cllr. Glew thanked Rod for all his hard work with Speed Watch and also to the Queens Head for donating this prize.

7. Parish Council Financial Report

An update of Parish Council's income and expenditure for the year ended 31st March 2015 is available on the back of the Agenda. Total expenditure for the year is £66,537. The figure in Staff Costs included a gratuity payment to Pauline Raymond on her retirement last year. Income for the year was £46,501 of which £42,295 came from the precept. It was a quiet year financially for projects though a lot of preparation has been going on to bring these projects to fruition hopefully in this coming year. Cllr. Glew has provided an update on the Speed Gun and the Traffic Calming Project. Of the remaining balance £4408 went on Neighbourhood Plan expenses. Also from this budget Councillors agreed to spend £1500 on professional assistance for submitting a case for the Street Farm Appeal. Of the normal year on year spending the main expenditure was for repayment of two loans for the Pavilion and MUGA £5636, grounds maintenance £2500 and insurance £1100.

8. Electors' question & answer session with County Councillor Angharad Davies, District Councillor Tony Ganly, PCSO Demi and Parish Council Chairman

Cllr. Glew made an apology to the Village Hall Committee for the misprint in the Annual Report and Directory 2015. The Parish Council does not own the Village Hall, the Village Hall Committee owns the Village Hall. The item should have said that Parish Council owns the 'Village Hall Car Park'.

Q: There are no refuges for pedestrians to go along the lane between Westfield and Sedlescombe which has a speed limit of 60mph. Where can I get advice on reducing the speed limit?

Also...the Greens around the Village are being eroded away by the traffic. It is not an attractive approach to the Village. How or who can reinstate these?

A: Cllr. Glew recommended contacting Highways. If the gentlemen wished to bring the issue to Parish Council he could write in and PC would help as much as they can.

Q to Cllr. Tony Ganly: 'I have received your election leaflet and noted that there is no mention to the NHP or reference to you helping or assisting with the NHP. As 90% of the Village are in support, why was it not mentioned'?

A: Cllr. Ganly: 'I do support the Neighbourhood Plan as it will give the village some control over the future development of Sedlescombe. It was an oversight and I apologise for missing it'.

Q: Has anyone had problems with accessing the Internet?

A: Other residents commented they had had problems with the broadband service and the fault seemed to rest with BT and an 'overloaded capacity' problem.

PCSO Demi Georghiou spoke on how the Police, local residents and SpeedWatch had worked together as a team. So many people had been involved and he thanked all that had helped him out. Local crime over the last year - there had been a lot of 'Cold Calling'. Demi advised everyone not to ignore these incidents but to report them in as they can lead to distraction burglaries. These people are usually known to the Police. 101 calls come up on Police radios and they can quickly attend if in the nearby area. There had been a large amount of scam emails which are a particular problem to the old and elderly who are most vulnerable. Demi advised not responding to these emails and also to the bogus telephone calls regarding delivery notes. In general there had not been a great deal of crime. Sussex Police had recently announced changes in Policing. Demi assured everyone that this is nothing to worry about and that they are still here working with the community as a team.

Jean Dellow advised 101 is the non emergency number for the Police.

Cllr Davies advised that Broadband information was available on ESCC website. Should service issues continue she is happy to be contacted and will take this up.

9. Prize Draw for those in attendance by Cllr. Davies

The winner of the Door Prize Draw is number 79 white - Sally Martin, drawn by Cllr. Davies. Cllr. Glew thanked the Brickwall Hotel for donating this prize.

Cllr. Glew invited those attending to stay for refreshments and see the display tables.

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

Sedlescombe Parish Council's History Cup

Sedlescombe Parish Council sponsors a 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 is open to anyone of any age, whether they live in Sedlescombe or not.

The rules of the competition can be viewed on the Parish Council notice board outside the Sedlescombe Village Stores or a copy can be obtained from Pauline Raymond.

*For details of the **2017 Competition** please contact Mrs. Pauline Raymond on 01424 870508 (email candpraymond@outlook.com)*

Pauline is also keen to obtain further copies of photos, postcards or documents for inclusion in the Sedlescombe Archive Collection.

The Sedlescombe-Westfield Archaeology & History Society (SWAHS)

*A new society was launched in May 2015
The Sedlescombe-Westfield Archaeology & History Society (SWAHS)*

For further information please contact:

Paul Humm 07842 514961

Marc Lynch 01424 870955 or 07531 128444 Email: marklynk@hotmail.com

Sedlescombe Parish Council would like to thank all those volunteers who carry out many jobs throughout the village without asking for recognition or praise.

Your valuable support has helped in so many ways and below are just a few ways in which people helped during 2015.....

- delivering this Annual Report and Directory to every household in the parish as well as our Bulletins three times a year
- inspecting and looking after the range of public rights of way across the Parish
- tackling small repair jobs with Cllr. Chapman such as -

Riverside Playground and MUGA

- keeping the MUGA clean and clear
- mending the tennis net posts
- making safe the play equipment where necessary to conform with required health and safety standards
- removing graffiti and litter

East View Kickabout area

- sweeping and tidying around the hard surface
- keeping the hedge cut

Village Green

- planting up and maintaining the flower tubs
- cleaning the Village Sign
- checking the trees are in good order and not a public danger
- making minor repairs to the Pumphouse

Red Barn Field

- installing a new gate and fence
- replacing broken well covers
- doing general ground maintenance and looking after the fruiting hedgerows

Our volunteers not only help to keep the village tidy but also help save a lot of money. If you would like to be involved as a volunteer we would be pleased to hear from you. Just make contact with our Parish Clerk - Carol Hodgson.

Councillors inspect the Riverside Playground, MUGA and Kickabout area at East View Terrace on a weekly rota basis all year round, where many of the above repairs are identified.



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 - Vice-Chairman of Parish Council,
Chairman of Finance Committee and Chair of Red Barn Working Group**

Contact: 01424 870258 Kagiso, 36 Park Shaw, Sedlescombe TN33 OPP
Pauline joined the Parish Council in 2003 and is an ex-officio member of all Committees. She is Parish Council's representative on SALC, RALC, Sedlescombe Neighbourhood Watch (also the Treasurer), Rother Transport Action Group. Pauline runs the Sedlescombe Lift Scheme and is also the Treasurer on the Sedlescombe Friendship Club Committee.



Roy Chapman - Councillor

Contact: 01424 870520 Ashdown Cottage, Cottage Lane, Sedlescombe TN33 ORR
Roy was elected to Parish Council in May 2011. He is a Member of the Planning, Finance, Neighbourhood Plan, Parking & Traffic, Emergency Planning Advisory and Red Barn Working Group 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 the Sedlescombe & District Garden Society Committee and Chairman of Battle Writers Group. His interests include photography, the arts and conservation.



Peter Anson - Councillor

Contact: 01424 870862 Durhamford, Stream Lane, Sedlescombe TN33 OPB
Peter joined Parish Council in 2012. He is a Member of the 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 - Councillor

Contact: 01580 831996 The Candles, Swailes Green, Cripps Corner TN32 5QU
John was co-opted to the Council in July 2012. He is a Member of the Planning, Parking & Traffic, Neighbourhood Plan and Emergency committees. John moved to Swailes Green in 2006. He is Parish Council's representative on SALC, 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.



Michelle Brister - Councillor

Contact: 07801 034002 Dell View, Hawkhurst Road, Sedlescombe
Michelle was co-opted to the Parish Council in February 2015. She administers the Sedlescombe Jobs Network Facebook Page connecting business and individuals to local people seeking work. She is a Member of the Planning, Neighbourhood Plan and Red Barn Working Group Committees. Michelle has lived in Sedlescombe since 1996 and is a corporate relationship consultant working with the voluntary sector.



Lindsay Fraser - Councillor

Contact: 01424 871064 10 Blacklands, Sedlescombe

Lindsay was co-opted to the 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 2010. She works with a research team in London looking at women's cancers.



John Page - Councillor

Contact: 01424 870455 Nuthatches, Balcombe Green, Sedlescombe

John was co-opted to the Parish Council in 2015. He has lived in Sedlescombe for 15 years. He is Secretary of the Sedlescombe RBL branch, an enthusiastic member of the Sedlescombe Garden Society and Secretary of the Ewhurst, Staplecross, Sedlescombe and Robertsbridge Conservative Branch. He is a Member of the Planning, Finance, Neighbourhood Plan and Red Barn Field Working Group Committees. He is Chair of Sedlescombe Public Playing Field & Recreation Ground Trust. In retirement, John is an enthusiastic offshore sailor & an amateur carpenter.



Debra Veitch - Councillor

Contact: 01424 870914 The Meadows Harts Green, Sedlescombe

Debby was co-opted to Sedlescombe Parish Council in July 2015. She moved to the Village in August 2010 and has been a keen and active member of the community since then. Among other groups and societies she is a member of the Sedlescombe Players and is currently the Chair of the Sedlescombe Societies Association. Hobbies include gardening, baking, reading and sailing.



Carol Hodgson - Parish Clerk / Financial Officer

Contact: 075 310 654 69 April Cottage, Church Road, Catsfield, TN33 9DP.

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 9 years. Carol enjoys travelling, cooking, sailing and fundraising.



East Sussex County Councillor Angharad Davies

Contact: 01580 831969 Alureds Barn, Northiam, Rye. TN31 6JJ

Angharad was elected to ESCC in May 2013. She is the County representative for Northern Rother which consists of the Parishes of Beckley, Bodiam, Ewhurst, Northiam, Peasmarsch, Rye Foreign, Salehurst and Robertsbridge and Sedlescombe



Rother District Councillor Tony Ganly

Contact: 01580 830704 Morgay House, Junction Road, Staplecross. TN32 5SH

Tony was elected to Rother DC in May 2007. His current Committee Membership is: Cabinet, Rural Affairs and Town Council Liaison, Waste and Recycling, Joint Waste Committee, Planning Committee. He is the Parish representative for Ewhurst and Sedlescombe.

2015: Welcome and Farewell.....

Sedlescombe had an uncontested election in April 2015 where 7 Councillors were elected. Two new councillors were co-opted by the Parish Council shortly afterwards. We are pleased to **WELCOME** John Page and Debra Veitch.

We said **FAREWELL** to Mark Winchester and would like to thank Mark for his time with the Parish Council. He continues to support the village and we wish him and his business well.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THREE YEARS 2014-15, DRAFT 2015-16 & BUDGET 2016-17

	Final 2014-15	Draft 2015-16	Budget 2016-17
	£	£	£
INCOME			
Precept on District Council	42,295	42,479	45,054
Local Council Tax Support Grant	1,946	1,569	1,334
Agency income from Authorities	319	266	267
Interest and investment income	91	11	15
Sale of footpath leaflets / parish maps etc	20	0	0
Sale of advertising - Annual Directory	335	528	500
Total Income	45,006	44,853	47,220
EXPENDITURE			
General administration	3,409	3,819	4,772
Election Expenses	0	165	0
Clerk's employment (2014/15 inc. Gratuity for retiring Clerk)	46,617	14,873	15,192
Website	77	232	244
Neighbourhood Plan expenses	5,908	0	4,700
Grounds Maintenance / Amenities	2,548	2,458	3,550
Red Barn Field	25	381	1,000
East View Kickabout Area	0	24	300
Village Green	20	28	500
Sportsfield Car Park	0	0	232
Dog bins	325	341	358
Riverside playing field	475	2,434	1,570
Multi-Use Games Area	365	0	1,500
Grants and prizes	150	150	200
Loan repayments	5,636	5,636	5,636
Maintenance of Assets	0	0	5,300
Total Expenditure	65,555	30,541	45,054
GENERAL FUND			
Balance as at 1st April	62,783	42,234	
Add: Total Income	45,006	44,853	
Total Income	107,788	87,087	
Deduct : Expenditure	65,555	30,541	
Total General Fund	42,234	56,546	
Reserve Balance as at 31st March	42,234	56,546	

NB. The Draft 2015-16 figures were calculated mid March in the financial year. The final figures for the year to 31st March 2016 will be available at the Annual Assembly.

Responsible Financial Officer's (RFO) report.....

Parish Council strives to obtain good value for money and adopts a 'Best Practice' approach when negotiating contracts of work. There is a dedicated Finance Committee who monitor PC's financial affairs and report their recommendations / concerns back to the Full Council.

Parish Council is in good financial health and prudently hold's any surplus funds in designated reserves for future planned projects, replacement and repair of assets and/or unexpected events.

Parish Council is mindful that funding to the County and District Council's is being reduced year on year by Central Government which results in either the loss or devolution of a service from these local authorities down the line toyes you've guessed..... Parish / Town Council's.

Due to the annual increase in the cost of some services to Parish Council and also to remain in a financially strong position in preparation for any imminent devolved services, it was agreed to increase the precept for 2016/17 by 1.94% (in line with the increase by Rother DC) from £42,479 to £45,054. This will result in an increase of Band D from £67.67 to £68.98 per annum.

What did the Parish Council spend money on this past year?

- ❖ Engaging grounds maintenance contractors to cut and trim the grassed areas at The Village Green, Brede Lane Car Park, East View Kickabout Area, Riverside Playground and Red Barn Field.
- ❖ Arranging the weekly collection of Parish dog waste bins.
- ❖ Purchasing a Speed Gun to tackle the issue of speeding vehicles through the Parish
- ❖ An annual donation to Battle Area Community Transport
- ❖ An annual safety inspection of the children's play equipment at the Riverside Play Ground by a 'Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents' approved contractor.
- ❖ Replacing the fencing at the Riverside Play Area
- ❖ Printing of the Annual Directory and Report + 3 bulletins
- ❖ Keeping the Councillors and Clerk/RFO up-to-date with relevant training
- ❖ General repairs around the village.

If you have any questions regarding the financial statement for Parish Council, please feel free to contact the Clerk/RFO - Mrs. Carol Hodgson

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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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Nr Battle, East Sussex, TN33 0RP.

Mobile: 0790 586 3031
Email: julie@cottagegardenretreat.co.uk

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Sedlescombe News

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

Sedlescombe Parish Council Website - www.sedlescombe.org.uk

Check the website regularly to keep updated on the work of Sedlescombe PC. If you press the "Website Changes" page, you will see all the latest information.

Contact The Parish Clerk Carol Hodgson on 075 310 654 69 or at

clerk@sedlescombe.org.uk

Sedlescombe Jobs Network

The Sedlescombe Jobs Network has been active since 2014 and has publicised many job opportunities. The network also offers a platform for organisations who are seeking volunteers. Village news and events are also being promoted.

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

Facebook users search for 'Sedlescombe Jobs Network' page and 'Like' to receive information and post updates.

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 can be found on Parish Council's notice board outside shop and at the Doctors Surgery in Brede Lane. 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. Contact: Stagecoach (Hastings) 08702 433711 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.
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: T: 101 / E: contactcentre@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. It has grown to become the oldest and largest victims' organisation in the world. Contact: 0845 38 99 528 (Sussex Office)

Allotments

Private allotments at rear of Bulmer Lodge, The Green.

Contact Reg Glew 01424 870258

Sedlescombe and District Flower Club

Where Sedlescombe Village Hall

When Every 2nd Wednesday in the month Time 7.30pm

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.

Sedlescombe and District Garden Society

Where Sedlescombe Village Hall

Contact Secretary Mrs. 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.

Badminton

Where Sedlescombe Village Hall

When Tuesdays Time 6.00pm

Contact Shirley Davies 01424 870475

Chapel Hill Church (United Reformed)

Where Chapel Hill, Sedlescombe

When Sundays Time 10:30am

Contact Mrs. Doreen Meredith 01424 870634

Minister Reverend Andrew Birch 01424 447003

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 - Mrs Doreen Meredith - above for details.

Sedlescombe Church Bellringers

Where Parish Church

When Every Wednesday Time 7.30pm

Contact Jane Blanford 01424 751298

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.

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 find out more.....

When 2nd Monday of each month Time 8.00pm

Contact 0845 8335826. Visit the website for Battle & Villages Lions Club

Sedlescombe Neighbourhood Watch

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

Members: Reg Glew 01424 870258 / 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.

Parish Church - St John The Baptist

What: Family Friendly Service without Eucharist - 1st Sunday in the month*
Parish Eucharist - 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sunday in month
Joint Benefice Service with Whatlington -5th Sunday in the month.

When: 10.30 am.

* *Eucharist available at Whatlington at 9.30am on 1st Sunday in month.*

Contact: Vicar	Fr. Kevin Mephram	- 01424 870471
Churchwarden	Trevor Palmer	- 01424 870830
Churchwarden	Jane Wallis	- 01424 870240

Sedlescombe Players

Contact Chairman 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.

Sedlescombe Pre-School

Where Sedlescombe Village Hall
When Mondays, Tuesdays (9-12 only), Wednesdays and Fridays
Time 9.00am-3.00pm, term time only
Contacts Chairperson Jenny Eldridge 01424 870761
Email sedlescombepreschool@yahoo.co.uk

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

Sedlescombe Rangers Football Club

Contacts Chairman Nick Gardner 07809 562448
Secretary Rod Cornelius 07870 741222
Charter Standard Coordinator – Chas Tibbutt 07855 374886
Email: info@sedlescomberangersfc.co.uk
Website: www.sedlescomberangersfc.co.uk

Based at Oaklands Park, Sedlescombe, our football club offers football for all age groups from U6s to U18s within the youth section and tiered senior and veteran teams. All teams have fully certified coaches and are supported by a committee that includes a Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Charter Standard Coordinator and two Club Welfare Officers.

Following our Charter Standard Development Club accreditation in 2015, recognising excellence in running a football club, we continue to develop and grow. We are currently looking to develop female (girls' and women's) football across the club so please contact us if you or your daughter would like to get involved.

Matches take place on both Saturdays and Sundays throughout the season, along with our own tournament that is held each year in July (2nd, 3rd and 9th July for 2016).

Training is spread across a number of venues and days each week, with the winter period utilising all weather surfaces at various schools in the area before moving to Oaklands during the spring.

We always welcome new players and volunteers across the club, particularly at entry age, so please contact us for further information.

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

Royal British Legion, Sedlescombe Branch

When Meetings on 3rd Wednesday in January, April, June + October

Where The Queens Head in Sedlescombe Time 10:30 am

Contact Chairman - Anthony Morton King 01424 870218

Secretary - John Page rbl.sedlescome@gmail.com / 01424 870455

The Legion is active in helping the welfare of ex-servicemen, women and their dependents in the area and runs the local Poppy Appeal. Membership is open to all who wish to support this noble and important cause. The annual subscription is £18.50. If you would like to join or know of someone who might need British Legion help, please contact the Secretary.

Sedlescombe Short Mat Bowls Club

.....established June 2006

Where Sedlescombe Village Hall (3 bowling mats)

When Meets each Tuesday and Thursday. Time 2.00-4.30pm

Contacts Chairman Mr K Smith 01424 883473

Vice-Chairman Mr Trevor Palmer 01424 870830

Secretary Mr Roger Arnsby 01424 871451

Treasurer Mrs Eve Bradbury 01424 870401

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

Contact any officer for further details.

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.

Contact this years Chairman: Debby Veitch on 01424 870914

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 & other events. For further information and bookings contact the Secretary.

Contacts: Vice-Chairman Ashley Davey 01424 870615

Secretary Position currently vacant

Sedlescombe Theatre Club

For information please contact:

Shirley Davies 01424 870475 or

Jenny Mainwood 01424 871445

New members always welcome.

Thursday Club

Where Committee Room, Sedlescombe Village Hall

When 1st Thursday in every month except August. Time 10:00 to 12:00

Contacts David and Anthea Post 01424 871675

Eve Bradbury 01424 870401

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

Sedlescombe Village Hall

Established 1920 and completely rebuilt on a new site in 2001 this superb facility is available for hire. There is a large Main Hall, fully-equipped stage and 2 Committee Rooms. Excellent Kitchen facilities, Car Parking and Wi-Fi.

For Bookings Check our website for availability on our 'Diary' page.

Contact Fill in the form on-line or call Stella Brabants 871436

E: sedlescombevillagehall@gmail.com www.sedlescombevillagehall.org.uk

Sedlescombe Wine Club

A members' club that meets socially in the Village for talks on wines at members' homes, tutored tastings in the Village Hall and trips to wineries.

Please contact the following for Membership details

Chairman: John Brownsdon (MW) 01424 870036 john@brownsdon.com

Hon. Treasurer: David Post 01424 871675 davidandtheapost@gmail.com

Women's Institute - Sedlescombe Green (Evening)

Where: Sedlescombe Village Hall

When 4th Wednesday in month. Time 7.30pm

Contact: President Mrs. Rosemary Farley 01424 870533

12 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.

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.

Sedlescombe C of E Primary School

Where Gammons Way, Sedlescombe, Battle, East Sussex, TN33 0RQ

Contact Head: Mrs Marian Ham 01424 870585

E: head@sedlescombecep.e-sussex.sch.uk W: www.sedlescombecep.e-sussex.sch.uk

Mrs. Ham is retiring after 25 years as the Head Teacher of this wonderful village school – she leaves on 31st August 2016, after a very happy, rewarding and successful time. The Governors hope to be successful in appointing a new Head teacher to start in September 2016. There will be news and updates to read on the school website.

There are 218 children on roll, aged 4-11 years. The school has 7 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 (the ABC Alliance = Active Battle Cluster) and work closely together on a wide range of educational developments. We network with other schools through the 'Rother Area Alliance' and work closely with Battle and Langton Primary School.

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 2015 are well above East Sussex expectations, and also the National expectations for all primary schools. Our phonics national assessment for 6 year olds are also very high, well above County and National averages. 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 open to the village community are on Fridays at 2.45pm, please feel welcome to join us. We welcome our local community to lunch - 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, Art, writing, yoga, reading, dodgeball, tag rugby, swimming, film club, guitar, recorder, violin, keyboard, 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 new website (January 2016). 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. 01424 870585.

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.

Pestalozzi



Inspiring young people to make a difference in the world

Pestalozzi is more than just a scholarship. Our vision is to inspire young people to make a difference in the world. Our mission is to produce campus-ready, globally conscious young leaders by supporting their further education in the multi-cultural, multi-faith environment of the Pestalozzi International Community. Central to everything we do are our core values of Respect, Integrity, Diversity, Commitment and Fun.

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



Summary of County Council achievements 2015/16

These points have been arranged under the four overarching priorities the Council is trying to achieve for local people. The Council Plan provides details of those priorities, the action we plan to take, how we allocate resources and measure our performance. Details can be found on our website at www.eastsussex.gov.uk/yourcouncil/about/keydocuments/councilplan/default.htm
The Council Plan for 2016/17 will be on our website from 1st April 2016.

Driving economic growth

* A bid for devolving additional powers to East Sussex, Surrey and West Sussex has been presented to Government. If successful, the 3SC (Three Southern Counties) bid will help unlock new growth and spearhead a transformation in how public services are delivered in the region, with organisations working together to help tackle the congested road and rail network, pioneer new digital technology, close the skills gap that is holding businesses back and build new affordable homes. The 3SC devolution bid has been developed in partnership with 44 organisations including 23 district and borough councils, 3 local enterprise partnerships, the South Downs National Park and East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service. The 3SC Devolution Newsletter gives regular updates on devolution developments; to subscribe please sign up at: https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKESCC/subscriber/new?topic_id=UKESCC_121.

* A new service has been launched as part of a Government-backed drive to provide a one-stop shop approach to business support, with the aim of boosting economic growth. We have contracted the Let's Do Business Group to launch Business East Sussex, which provides a single point of contact for people looking to start a new business or grow an existing company, providing links to organisations that can provide support, access to research and development, networks and funding. Business East Sussex can be contacted by calling 0845 6018326, by emailing info@businesseastsussex.org.uk, online at www.businesseastsussex.org.uk or on Twitter [@BizESussex](https://twitter.com/BizESussex).

* Work under the Employability and Skills Strategy continued throughout 2015/16 and we are now planning ways to further increase opportunities for residents. During 2015 we encouraged contractors to create 785 hours of work experience and 100 hours of on-the-job training. The 'You're Hired' East Sussex Campaign, which seeks to support work-ready young people into apprenticeships, generated 699 work opportunities against a target of 500.

* Ofsted, the national body that inspects and regulates services that care for children and young people and services providing education and skills for learners, has reported back on their inspection of the Council's arrangements for supporting school improvement. The School Improvement Service had previously been rated as 'ineffective' (June 2014). The latest inspection took place in November 2015 and the report, which no longer gives rating categories, recognises the impact of Council improvement activity and the difference this is making to the performance of schools and the outcomes for children and young people. Ofsted has not identified a need to re-inspect the service.

* The Bexhill Hastings Link Road (Combe Valley Way) opened to traffic on 17th December 2015. The road will bring an estimated £1 billion of economic benefits to the area, providing new jobs, new homes and cutting congestion on the A259 and other local roads. It is expected to reduce congestion on the A259 by up to 40% and there is evidence of reduced journey times for people using the Link Road to access the Conquest Hospital. The route and design of the road were chosen to minimise the impact on the environment and new 'greenways' for walkers, cyclists and horse riders will be completed this year.

Keeping vulnerable people safe from harm

* Sixteen direct contacts to the Trading Standards Rapid Action Team were made between April and September 2015, all of which were responded to within the two hour target response time. Two additional visits were made to victims as a result of a relative discovering that their family member had fallen prey to rogue traders. The intervention of the Rapid Action Team saved the consumers a total of £34,850.

* The new Specialist Domestic and Sexual Abuse Service, led by RISE (Refuge, Information, Support and Education) in partnership with Survivors Network and the Crime Reduction Partnership was launched in January. The service provides information, advocacy and practical and emotional support to women, men and children living with domestic or sexual abuse or violence in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove.

* The rate of children with a Child Protection Plan per 10,000 children (age 0-17) has reduced to 42.3 against a target of 44.7, demonstrating sustained improvement as a result of steps introduced to safely reduce the number of children with a Plan. Examples of actions include working with Independent Reviewing Officers (whose role is to monitor how the local authority treats children) and Child Protection Advisers to reinforce mechanisms to safeguard children. Many of these children remain Children in Need and continue to be supported by social workers

* A number of Safe Place Schemes are being developed through the goodwill of businesses, organisations and the staff working within them. The schemes aim to provide vulnerable people, particularly those with a learning disability and older people, with a safe place to go and get help if they are feeling scared or upset while out on their own in the community.

* Working with East Sussex Young Carers, a charity that supports carers aged between five and 18 across the county, we have launched a new 'working together' policy aimed at ensuring young carers and their families get the support they need. The policy stresses the responsibility of all agencies to identify any issues or needs young carers might have when they first come into contact with them and aims for a more coordinated approach within and across the organisations to ensure young carers' needs are identified and met at the earliest opportunity.

Helping people help themselves

* Good progress has been made on East Sussex Better Together (ESBT), the three year programme led by two local NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups (Eastbourne, Hailsham & Seaford CCG and Hastings & Rother CCG) and East Sussex County Council to transform health and social care services. The integrated locality teams that will support older adults and those with long-term conditions will be implemented by April 2016 and reformed commissioning functions across health and social care will be implemented by July 2016. The ambition of ESBT is to develop a fully integrated health and social care system in East Sussex by 2018, ensuring every patient or service user enjoys proactive, joined up care that supports them to live as independently as possible and achieve the best possible outcomes.

* Between April and November 2015, 100% (4,588) of working age adults and older people receiving our support received self-directed support. 91% of new clients who received short-term services to increase their independence made no further request for support. This means that more service users are planning how they want their social care needs met and have more control over their support.

* More than 14,000 young people voted in the elections for the East Sussex Youth Cabinet. The Big Vote elections saw 14,258 votes cast for 39 candidates across 30 schools and colleges, with the 20 winners being announced at a special event in December. Areas of focus for the coming year are expected to include challenging and reducing bullying and abuse, and making local areas a safer and more enjoyable place to live for 11-18 year olds.

County and District Councillor reports.....

* We are working with five community and voluntary organisations to support the development of Good Neighbour Schemes, which offer practical help and support to those in need and fight social isolation. East Sussex has one of the largest populations of people over the age of 85 in the country, with around 10% saying they feel lonely. Information about Good Neighbour Schemes, how to set one up and volunteering in the local community can be found on our website: https://new.eastsussex.gov.uk/community/volunteering/good_neighbour_schemes/

Making the best use of our resources

* The Council's budget & Council Plan for 2016/17 were approved at the meeting of Full Council on 9th February. For details see <https://new.eastsussex.gov.uk/yourcouncil/finance/budget/>

* The Orbis partnership between East Sussex County Council and Surrey County Council was launched in April 2015 to improve the quality and resilience of business services and provide savings to both authorities. One of the first Orbis projects is the introduction of a paperless billing service that is expected to save the councils around £180,000 annually within three years through reducing the time spent on completing and processing around 125,000 invoices annually. It is estimated that it will cut invoicing costs for businesses by up to 40%, and around 1000 suppliers have enrolled to carry out transactions with us using the paperless service.

* This year, projects delivered under the SPACES programme, the collaborative partnership formed of public and third sector organisations in East Sussex with the aim of reducing the cost of the public sector estate through partnership working and co-location, include the Let's Do Business group moving into St Mary's House in Eastbourne and our Bexhill traffic team co-locating with Rother District Council at Bexhill Town Hall. This year's projects reduced revenue expenditure by over £100,000 and we have worked with charities to recycle unwanted furniture and stationery items, saving them in the region of £20,000. The SPACES programme has recently been awarded a Certificate of Excellence by the Improvement and Efficiency Social Enterprise (iESE).

* A new seven-year contract for the provision of highway services in the county will start on 1st May. The contract with the civil engineering and construction company Costain CH2M will replace the existing arrangement which sees three separate contractors responsible for highways, street lighting and traffic signals. The new deal gives us greater certainty over the cost of highway services for the next seven years and includes a number of incentives and penalties to ensure the best possible service is provided to the public. Highways Stewards, who are responsible for inspecting the county's roads, will be given more powers to fix minor road defects, allowing the work to be carried out more quickly and efficiently.

* Diverting waste from landfill during annual maintenance works at the Newhaven Energy Recovery Facility saved around £23,000 and reduced the impact on the environment. Waste that would otherwise have been sent to landfill during the planned shutdown was diverted to other energy recovery facilities in the south east. Around 3,500 tonnes of waste, which would otherwise have been destined for landfill, was diverted to facilities in Kent and south east London. This not only saves money but means rubbish is turned into electricity to power homes and businesses via the National Grid, which makes it a greener, more cost-effective way of dealing with the annual maintenance shutdown.

Contact: Anna Mutter.

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T: 01273 481816

7th March 2016

Rother District Councillor Tony Ganly Annual report 2015/2016.

- Government funding for local authorities has continued to fall and further reductions have been made in the recent financial settlement. Rother's funding has been reduced by £800,000 for 2016/17 but we believe that with the savings we have already achieved we can still deliver a balanced budget for that year. The challenge continues in the following years when savings of £450,000 (2017/18), £800,000 (2018/19) and £840,000 (2019/20) will have to be found. By 2019/20 the funding Rother receives from government will have been reduced by approximately £6 million since 2010.
- A reduction of around 16.5% was expected (in line with the reductions in government departmental allocations to the Department for Communities and Local Government) for 2016/17 but the actual cut in funding equates to just under 43%.
- The further funding reductions in subsequent years mean we will need to continue to find ways to meet this challenge.
- Whilst delivering substantial ongoing savings, Rother has continued to use its reserves to help manage the reduction in funding and maintain services and will continue to use some reserves to bridge part of the funding gap over the period up to 2020.
- The combined effect of reduced funding, reduced staffing and reducing reserves will clearly have an impact on services either through changing the way they are delivered and who delivers them or by reductions in service. So far we have been able to maintain the majority of our services but this is likely to change over the next year.
- Rother continues to have the lowest Council Tax in East Sussex and one of the lowest staffing levels of any authority in the country, delivering over 60 services.
- The amount of waste sent for recycling and re-use continues to improve year on year. The result for the whole of 2014/15 was 45%. In 2015, performance month on month is comparable and currently about 49%. Our target is to achieve at least 50% and any help Town and Parish Councils can give to promote increased recycling rates will be gratefully received. For further information on how you can help please see www.liveloveryrecycling.co.uk
- Rother has been working with a number of Town and Parish Councils to devolve assets in the rural areas. As part of a new Asset Management Strategy that will ensure we are getting the best use out of the assets we own we will be examining those assets we have been unable to devolve to local bodies and looking at alternative uses.
- Rother continues to run its Community Grant Scheme which gives funding to community projects and good causes, especially in the rural areas. This year, the Council set aside £10,000 for a small grant scheme to help celebrate the 950th Anniversary of the Battle of Hastings in October 2016.
- Regeneration of the district remains a key priority of the Council and this was given a huge boost by the opening of the Bexhill to Hastings Link Road in December 2015. This will bring wider economic benefits to the district as the road will provide an estimated 1,500 new homes and 50,000 sq. m. of business space. A further gateway road from the link road has already provided new business space and 90 jobs.
- Work continues on Neighbourhood Plans with those towns and parishes who have expressed an interest and have the resources.
- The benefits system continues to change following the roll-out of Universal Credit in the district from mid-2015. There is still a considerable caseload of Housing Benefit work for the Council to deal with and this is unlikely to reduce in the medium term.
- Despite the financial climate, our services continue to perform strongly:
 - > Our performance for processing major housing development planning applications significantly improved compared to last year. In April to December 100% of applications were determined inside 13 weeks or met an agreed timetable with developers. The number of major developments

County and District Councillor reports.....

coming through Planning has slightly increased, continuing the rise from last year. These applications are good news indicating the strength and health of the district's economy.

> 91% of planning enforcement complaints had a site visit from an enforcement officer within 14 calendar days.

> 99% of invoices to the Council have been paid in either 30 days or by agreed deadlines, an improvement on last year.

> Our main website www.rother.gov.uk has been up and running 99.96% of the time. Our website has had nearly 500,000 unique hits in nine months. That is nearly 100,000 more unique website visitors than the same period last year (if someone re-enters the website several times in the same day or following days they are only counted as one unique visit.) This shows our hard work has paid off to get more services online for our local customers so they can access Council services 24 hours a day.

> 98% of customers contacting our Customer Services got an answer on their first contact and didn't have to be transferred or call again. This is an improvement on last year, when it was 92%, and the year before, 87%.

> Between April and December we answered nearly 70,000 telephone calls. In July 2015 we brought in a new telephone system that had an immediate effect by greatly reducing the number of calls hitting the engaged tone. The transition was virtually incident free and we have had positive feedback from callers.

> 97% of all food businesses in Rother are broadly compliant with food hygiene standards (scoring 3 'good' or higher). Last year it was 91%. Back in early 2012 only 85% of food businesses were broadly compliant. The improvement is a tribute to the hard work of our environmental health officers carrying out inspections, giving local businesses advice and support and, if necessary, doing prosecutions. We helped to improve the score of 13 non-compliant food businesses between April and December 2015. A food business can be anything from a café or takeaway to a catering company or a local shop or supermarket and Rother has nearly 1000 of them.

> We have supported 25 arts, cultural and tourism events in Rother, through direct funding and working with the organisers. This included six events in Bexhill and four events in Rye. It also includes helping ten community groups in Rother to use the De La Warr Pavilion for their events, through a funding grant.

Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA)

This area is managed by the Parish Council on behalf of the Sedlescombe Public Playing Field and Recreation Ground Trust.

Any ball game can be played on the MUGA and general public use will remain free. Group bookings or commercial use should be booked through the Parish Clerk. Please note there is no parking on the site. Please park in the road or in the public car park in Brede Lane which is in easy walking distance. (Public toilets are also available here).

Tennis Coaching

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

Contact: Nick on 07824 799 632 / 01424 848 572 or montaguenick@hotmail.co.uk

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DISCLAIMER:

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 PC. The Parish Council does not vouch for the financial stability of any company or for its health and safety procedures. 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.

Sedlescombe Summer Fayre 2016



Saturday 16th July 2016

Sedlescombe Sports Field

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

Please contact

Chairman : Debby Veitch

on 01424 870914

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March 2016



The Big Green Cardigan
Festival of Music

SEDLEScombe, EAST SUSSEX, TN32 5SA

FRI 9TH
SUN 11TH
SEPT 2016