



Sedlescombe Parish Council

2018

Annual Report and Directory





The 2018 Annual Report & Directory is published by
Sedlescombe Parish Council

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April 2018

**The 2018 Sedlescombe Annual Parish Assembly will take place on
Wednesday 18th April at 7pm in Sedlescombe Village Hall**

The Annual Parish Meeting is a meeting of all the local government electors for the Parish, which the public can participate in. It is NOT a Meeting of the Parish Council. Anyone may attend but only registered electors of the Parish may speak. The purpose of the meeting is so that the Parish Council can explain what it has been doing over the last year and it enables the electors to have their say on anything they consider is important to the people of the Parish.

Doors open at 6.30pm where you will have an opportunity to view tables displayed by local businesses and organisations

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BOOK A DISPLAY TABLE, PLEASE CONTACT THE CLERK ON
075 310 654 69.

**There will be a free prize draw for those attending
and 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 29th March 2017
3. Reports from the groups and organisations of Sedlescombe
4. Report of the Parish Council Chairman
5. Electors' question and answer session with County Cllr. Carl Maynard,
District Cllr. Tony Ganly and Parish Council Chairman Cllr. Jonathan Vine-Hall

Signed

Jonathan Vine-Hall

Chairman of Sedlescombe 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 and local organisations and businesses.

Parish Council Chairman's Introduction

Our Parish has always been a trailblazer in Rother District and again we have led the way in becoming the first Parish in the district to have a completed Neighbourhood Plan. This was passed at a referendum on the 15th of March 2018 by an 86% majority. At a 46% turnout, this was over 40% higher than the national average of 32% for a Neighbourhood Plan referendum. As a community, we should take a moment to reflect on the success of this achievement which so many people have contributed towards over the last 5 years.

Thank you to everyone who voted and, as a result, thank you for playing a part in giving real future security to our village and to helping towards funding important infrastructure projects and protecting our valued green spaces.

The District Council has indicated in principle that they will transfer the land at Street Farm (which has now greater protection through the Neighbourhood Plan as a local green space) to the Parish Council as soon as it becomes available and the Parish Council will do everything it can to ensure that this actually happens. At this point, the Parish Council will then develop a plan for its long-term management for the benefit of the community.

I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome all those who have moved to the Village recently. Sedlescombe is a village which has always attracted new residents and this year we welcome 56 new residents to our community. It may surprise some to know that over the last 4 years Sedlescombe has welcomed 228 new residents representing nearly 15% of our population.

The Parish Council also welcomed back in September, Carol Hodgson as our Clerk who brings a wealth of knowledge and experience at a time when changes in legislation are placing considerably more demand on Parish Councils and Clerks.

We also welcome a new Parish Councillor - Sally Sidgwick who has long ties with the village and brings her individual talents to the Council. It has been a real strength to the Parish Council over the years to have new residents join, bringing fresh ideas and enthusiasm as well as working positively alongside longer serving Councillors.

This year we saw our Speedwatch programme revitalised by Andy Waters with many vehicles being reported for speeding through the village. The programme is having a real effect as we saw at the last session when not one car was caught over the speed limit in a two-hour session. However, volume of traffic through the village is still a problem and the Parish Council will be working with the Highways Authority to see how we can divert traffic away from the village and back onto the A21 in the future without causing problems for our smaller lanes.



Jonathan Vine-Hall
Chairman Sedlescombe Parish Council
March 2018

Annual Parish Assembly Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 29th March 2017 in Sedlescombe Village Hall 7pm to 9pm

PRESENT: 162 people were present at the meeting including:

Cllr. Jonathan Vine-Hall (Chair of Sedlescombe Parish Council) Chairing the meeting

Parish Councillors Peter Anson, Michelle Brister, Roy Chapman, Pauline Glew, Lindsey Fraser, Gareth Matthews, Deborah Veitch and Andy Waters.

Sarah Willoughby (Interim Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer of Sedlescombe Parish Council)

District Councillor Tony Ganly, County Councillor Angharad Davies. Police Inspector Dan Russell.

1. Welcome from the Chairman of Sedlescombe Parish Council

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. For Health and Safety purposes Cllr Vine-Hall pointed out the emergency exits in the Village Hall and mustering points outside.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Alan Olin (Sedlescombe Village Voice representative)

3. Approval of Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting held on 24th April 2016

It was proposed by Cllr Anson and seconded by Cllr Fraser to approve the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 26th April 2016.

4. Reports from the groups and organisations of Sedlescombe

Before moving onto hearing the reports from the groups and organisations of Sedlescombe the Chairman extended his thanks to the following:

- To all those organisations who have taken tables for the evening.
- To Rosemary Farley, Sylvia Beaney and Margaret Hudson who, every year, provide us with tea, coffee and biscuits as refreshments which will be served at the end of the meeting.
- To Margaret Hudson who creates such beautiful flower baskets on our village green.
- To all the local businesses who support the annual directory. I would ask that everyone tries to use these businesses whenever they can.
- To Pump House designs who print our posters free of charge.
- To all our volunteers who do a wide variety of jobs from delivering bulletins, to supporting Pauline Glew's lift scheme to Roy Chapman's band of workers who keep Sedlescombe tidy and well maintained.
- To the Queens Head and the Brickwall Hotel for providing the door prize and the volunteers prize for the 5th year running.
- And to our hard-working Parish Councillors who devote a large amount of time and effort over the year, and last but not least our clerk Carol Hodgson.

The chairman reminded all present about the forthcoming Spring Fayre on 13th May, to be held on the village green between 1 – 4pm and the Summer Fayre, which is being managed by Aidan and Louise Meldrum. Anyone interested in helping should contact Aidan. Pat Evens and Jean Dellow were selling raffle tickets in aid of the Spring Fayre at 50p each or £2.50 per book.

The Chairman advised that at the heart of an Annual Parish Meeting is the right for any resident on the electoral role, or anyone invited, to speak. A number of people had already requested to speak, of whom the following were called: -

Pestalozzi International Village: A student from the Pestalozzi Village introduced himself. The son of a farmer, he has come from a small town near Mumbai in India and will be living at the Pestalozzi for two years. He was excited to come to England to complete his studies in Maths, Physics and IT and has ambitions to work in Silicon Valley in America. He values his opportunity to study in England and wants to give back to those in his community in India who are not as lucky. This is the first time the student had been to a different country and finds England beautiful. The residents of Sedlescombe are kind and welcoming and he is happy to live here. He thanked the village for their support of him as a newcomer. He has embraced village life, helps at Sedlescombe School and recently ran in the Hastings half marathon.

Pestalozzi currently has students from nine different countries and encourages its residents to share their cultures and values. The chairman affirmed that the Pestalozzi village is a very important and unique part of Sedlescombe and thanked them for their presentation.

Sedlescombe CEP School: Caroline Harvey, the new head teacher since September 2016 introduced herself and four students to the meeting. Mrs Harvey wishes to build on the previous head teacher, Mrs Ham's legacy. Mrs Ham had been Head of Sedlescombe School for some years and continues to be involved in school life as a Governor. The school said a fond goodbye to Mrs Ham by holding a street party with maypole dancing, in which the students got hopelessly tangled! Since Mrs Harvey joined Sedlescombe School, they have entered the Hastings Music Festival and visit the Conquest hospital to sing to patients. The school has had sporting success in the netball local finals, in which they won the Fair play award. The school football team have entered tournaments in Rother and Hastings and are the area champions. They recently represented the local area in a tournament in Lancing and have won tournaments with the Chelsea foundation, Battle Abbey and Schools FA Tournament. The school take learning seriously and have excellent Key stage tests results and reading results. The teachers are proud of the students for all their hard work. Sedlescombe School are graded good by Ofsted, with pupils being attentive and interested, well behaved and smart. Mrs Harvey has made some changes to the school behaviour policy, encourages children to put others first and help and support each other to make the right choices, and wants to develop collective worship in the school.

Sedlescombe Village Store and Post Office - Nicholas and Jo Johnson: Nicholas and Joanne thanked all for their custom over the past year, without which the shop wouldn't be able to continue. Mr Johnson expressed his pleasure at getting to know all over the year. It has been a difficult year, with salary cuts by the Post Office cut due to austerity measures. To combat this, Mr and Mrs Johnson started an initiative to be a community shop, to which they had a great response. However, Mr and Mrs Johnson were approached by the shop owners in Staplecross, who may take over the lease. The shop will continue with new people running it. Mr and Mrs Johnson will continue to live in Sedlescombe and hope the village will support the new shopkeepers.

Special presentation by Inspector Dan Russell Inspector Russell introduced himself to those present and gave his background as Sergeant at Battle before becoming the Inspector for Rother. Inspector Russell informed all of the value of community intelligence in the fight against crime and praised John Caffrey and Alan Fuller for reporting suspicious activity. It transpired that people were stealing power cables, which is a big problem throughout the country, and resulted in the arrest of those involved. Inspector Russell thanked Mr Caffrey and Alan Fuller and presented Mr Caffrey with a special award. Inspector Russell would be available after the meeting to answer questions.

5. Report of Parish Council Chairman

Before Cllr. Jonathan Vine-Hall gave his report, he responded to some points raised by 11 residents regarding the Street Farm proposed development. His response is as follows:

- The Parish Council will continue to object to the development at Street Farm as this is the clear will of the majority of residents who have responded to 8 different consultations over the past 4 years. That is 214 from the recent planning application, and 419 from the recent Neighbourhood Plan consultation. The Parish Council have consistently objected to further development in Brede Lane over the last 80 years. The actions of this Council is no different from those in the past in that respect.
- The Parish Council has resolved to challenge the District Council through the legitimate process of a Judicial Review should the District Council issue a decision notice to approve a development at Street Farm. This is despite an offer to the DC to resolve their issues before they met at the planning meeting two weeks ago, which they ignored. It is the District Council's choice to face the cost of a Judicial Review because they chose to ignore the will of significant number of our residents. A Judicial Review is a process whereby an independent judge decides if the decision the District Council made was correct or not.

- The PC will act cautiously and prudently before committing to the Judicial Review by establishing that a case exists, taking one step at a time. It would be irresponsible of the PC not to take the proposed steps given the level of objection to this development and the fact it entirely seeks to undermine the Neighbourhood plan. However, The PC 's cost in this matter will be limited to the reserves we prudently and conservatively put in place to protect the Neighbourhood Plan. Should a Judicial Review progress private funding have already been established by a group of individuals and organisations prepared to support this for Sedlescombe. The details of this is at the moment confidential for legally sensitive reasons.
- We also ask you to remain concerned about the area of Street Farm on offer to the District Council by the developer. We have asked the District Council on numerous occasions for a commitment that this land would be transferred to the Parish Council or put in trust in perpetuity. However, the District Council have not given any commitment despite these repeated requests. This gives cause for real suspicion as there is no reason not to give this undertaking. For legal reasons the land cannot be given directly to the Parish Council.
- Until the details of any transfer or lease are forthcoming, there is no guarantee that the rest of Street Farm will not be built on.
- East Sussex County Council has not given assurances that the land promised to the school will be retained as a sports field or that finances are available to convert it or maintain it or that it will not be built on to create a larger school to house more children from outside the village and the resultant problems that would generate.
- There is no guarantee that this land will actually be given to anyone, on what the terms, for what length of time and how those terms could be revoked at a later date. This demonstrates the District Council's lack of transparency and commitment. Little weight has been given to residents' opinions and no commitment made, which raises concern.
- Across the country communities, through their PC's, are finding themselves pitched against their District Councils who wish to build in locations against the majority of the community's wishes; those same communities who voted their Councillors to represent them.
- At the planning meeting two weeks ago, the District Council refused a near identical site to Street Farm in Ticehurst causing serious concern for the consistency of decision making at Rother about planning approvals in the AONB.
- District Councillors have not been given any training in Neighbourhood Planning and it became clear when they made the decision about Street Farm that with the exception of two Councillors from other villages, the district Council had a very limited understanding of the fact that Neighbourhood Plans and not District Councils direct where new housing is sited, as set out in their own policy RA1. As a result, Sedlescombe have been successful in securing Councillors training in the near future. It's a pity that the training did not take place before this decision was made and its resultant problems.
- The landowners or developers of Street Farm did not come forward when the new sites were considered and submitted to allow any proposal to be considered. They are aggressive in their approach and put a planning application in at exactly the time the Neighbourhood Plan went out for consultation appearing to undermine the plan. There have been 8 consultations on this site and each have come back with the same result - a large number of residents rejecting any development.

Neighbourhood Plan.

Via a resident survey and many consultations over the past 4 years, the village, through the Parish Council, has been preparing a Neighbourhood Plan. Neighbourhood Plans are about democracy and majority decisions taken by the community. The plan is not about the Parish Council but has been led by the majority view as expressed through five detailed and thorough consultations. Our plan is now with the government examiner, who will hopefully recommend the plan goes forward to a village referendum within the next 2 months.

The plan allocates sites for 39 houses against the District Council's requirement of 35. The reality is that the 39 may end up as 36 or 37. It is always prudent to build in a buffer in these plans against unexpected issues that arise when the actual planning applications are assessed. The word 'allocate' is an important technical planning term and only where the plan uses the word 'allocate' can housing go ahead without special or highly controlled permission.

All of the sites in the plan have received minimal objection by those who responded to the various consultations which were heavily publicised and included an exhibition in the village hall last August to which everyone was invited. Rumours that the plan allocates development for 73 or more houses are untrue; it allocates development for a maximum 39 houses.

The plan refers other sites like the Church, Pestalozzi, Pump House Yard and the Sawmills, who wish to use profits from some housing to provide a car park for the church, volunteer accommodation for the charity, affordable housing and car parking for the school staff. All of these can be carried out under the District Council's special planning policies with or without the Neighbourhood Plan. The Neighbourhood Plan simply recognises these and includes references to these, so the community is aware of their existence.

The Plan does not give approval or permission to any of these sites it - simply acknowledges they exist. Rother's rigid policies on development prevents any of these sites contributing towards the 35-house target and they have refused any flexibility in this area.

There is also a boundary change at Balcombe Green. No housing is allocated on this site. This change was requested by the District Council and was included for that reason. This means that the land has a presumption in favour of development, but the owners of that land will have many significant hurdles and objections to overcome, including the District Council's own objections to the land's development.

At the recent final consultation run by the District Council, just under 500 responses were received. The Parish Council made sure that every household received a consultation form to have the opportunity to make comment, (and that at the previous consultation in 2016) made sure that every household received two consultation forms and was invited to an exhibition to see and ask questions about every aspect of the plan.

Rother District Council has audited all responses to the consultation and has removed any that appeared a problem. Our consultation attracted a record number of response for any consultation in Rother, with 429 residents or 87% supporting the plan. Only 2.5% or just 13 residents objected to the plan and 4.5% or just 22 objected to one or other of the sites in the plan. An amazing 85% or 419 residents supported keeping Street Farm as a Green Space not to be developed. A few families encouraged the younger members of the family to engage in this process as they will be the ones who inherit the plan in the longer term.

The Neighbourhood Plan is a democratic process with each resident having one equal vote. Sedlescombe Parish Council acknowledge that not everyone will agree with the plan. Typically, across the country an average of 12% people voting in Neighbourhood Plan referendums vote NO but the Council asks the 13 residents who disagree with the plan and the rest of the community to respect the outcome even though it may not be exactly what they want. This is a time when we must come together as a community, Respect the democratic process, be cohesive and galvanised.

The benefits for Sedlescombe with a Neighbourhood Plan will be significant, giving its residents a higher level of protection against unwanted aggressive developers and giving them a larger share of the Community Infra Structure Levy on new housing. This would amount to an estimated £200,000 going directly to Sedlescombe. With no plan, the amount received would be a maximum of £65,000.

Over 70% of the cost of putting the plan together has been funded through government grants.

Neighbourhood Planning is a key initiative for central government and Sedlescombe is one of the top 15% of over 2000 Neighbourhood Plan in progress. The Parish Council understands that a minority of 13 residents (less than 1% of our Parish population) are against the plan. However, development will go ahead in Sedlescombe with or without the neighbourhood plan, because the District Council by its own

calculations has effectively lost control of delivering housing, giving developers the opportunity to build along village boundaries. With a plan in place, Sedlescombe can have some control of this. Regardless of the Neighbourhood Plan, all of the sites in the plan could get planning permission because of Rother DC's failure to deliver housing in the right places.

The Neighbourhood Plan will deliver a higher level of protection against extra development in Sedlescombe and bring £200,000 of much needed cash for new infrastructure in Sedlescombe that would not otherwise come to our community, plus the protection of the valued green spaces of Red Barn Field and Street Farm. With or without the Plan the same number of houses will be built in Sedlescombe. Is it not wise to protect the greenfield sites of Red Barn Field and Street Farm, have £200,000 for our own village projects and give ourselves a higher level of Protection with a Neighbourhood Plan in place? Rother District Council want to force villages like Sedlescombe to take on extra developments like Street farm, over and above the Neighbourhood Plan, because this is the easy solution to their problem regardless of the cost to our community in an environment where there is already an over stretched school, poor public transport and traffic issues.

Rother has spent many thousands of Officer hours trying to force the development of Street Farm onto Sedlescombe, whilst failing to ensure it delivers the current 650 house shortfall in the District. Rother needs to find 40 developments the size of Street Farm to solve their problem, which equates to 2 extra developments like Street Farm in 20 villages and towns across Rother. The levies from these will largely go to pay for new infrastructure, not in Sedlescombe or other villages but in Bexhill. This is a published fact. Our Neighbourhood Plan will give us extra protection against Rother's failures and an extra £135,000 in infrastructure payments instead of £65,000.

We have been advised this week by Rother District Council that the much-publicized promise of affordable housing at Street Farm will not go to children of Sedlescombe, or those with connections to Sedlescombe, as Rother's policy is to rehouse at least the top 50 of the 1100 people currently on the housing register anywhere across Rother. None of these people have any direct connection to Sedlescombe and they will be housed here regardless of the lack of infrastructure and transport links offered by Sedlescombe.

Another benefit of the Neighbourhood Plan is that the Parish Council can stipulate through section 106 agreements that the children of Sedlescombe residents and those with actual connections to Sedlescombe, as opposed to the broader definition used by Rother, have first preference to the affordable housing delivered by the Neighbourhood Plan. Our Neighbourhood Plan will deliver as much if not more affordable housing than that promised by Street Farm.

An officer from the Highways authority was invited to come tonight to answer questions on how we can control speeding and how the housing at the north end of the village will be used to reduce speeding into the village, as we appreciate that some residents have understandable concerns.

We need to get a YES vote at referendum, so can we please ask everyone to come out and vote YES at the referendum to secure a higher level of protection against the District Council placing further unwanted development on our community. Upward of £200,000 in funds could be used for infrastructure like road calming and investment in play areas or cycle tracks. The Parish Council will consult with everyone on the best use of the funds at a later stage. All this plus affordable housing for the children of Sedlescombe!

A NO vote will deprive our community of at least £135,000 of funding for Infrastructure, it will open Sedlescombe to uncontrolled development, will not put the children of Sedlescombe residents first for affordable housing and will have the continued risk of development of Street farm in the future.

The Parish Council asks everyone who has some objection to the plan to try to put aside those differences and come together as a cohesive, galvanised community. Anyone who wants to speak to the Council about the Plan or has a neighbour or friend who could not come tonight to contact the clerk, or any Councillor and we will arrange to meet with you to discuss any issues raised.

Public Toilets and Car Park

Cllrs Michelle Brister and Peter Anson have been investigating the possibility of the Parish Council taking on responsibility for the Brede Lane toilets and car park. Rother District Council wish to devolve responsibility for the car park and toilets to the Parish Council, which Rother currently own and run, paid by means of residents' Council tax. If the Parish Council takes the car park and toilets on, they will pay for them by increasing the Parish precept. The Parish Council carry out functions within their annual budget, financed by the precept, which is added to Council tax. The total of Council tax and precept makes up the resident's bill, which will increase if the car park and toilets are taken over. If the Parish Council decide not to take on responsibility for these, they will become redundant and Rother may sell them for development. However, running costs for the car park and toilets, would cost the Parish Council more than it costs Rother as Rother have existing contractors and a direct labour force. Rother cannot advise the possible costs should the Parish Council take over. If the Parish Council agreed to take on the car park and toilets, they would have to set aside money each year to meet future expenditure, such as the car park resurfacing, etc. The Parish Council do not want to take out a loan or have a financial crisis. In order to arrive at a decision, Council need to know whether there is a need for the car park and toilets. Use of the car park spikes between 8.45 and 9am and during school closing time. Cllrs Brister and Anson have carried out some research and have visited the school and doctors to enquire whether they have a need for them. Mrs Harvey, head teacher at Sedlescombe School, will ask the governors if they want additional car parking spaces. They have toilets in school for parents' use so don't see a need for the public toilets for school use. The doctor's surgery does not need additional parking spaces or use of the toilets for storage. Pumphouse have no need for them either. There will be a public consultation, with a questionnaire, before Council make a final decision on this matter.

The advantage of having a car park is that should yellow lines be introduced to Sedlescombe in the future, residents and visitors will have use of the car park. Cllrs Brister and Anson have calculated that it would cost around £5,000 to run the car park, although there could be additional costs such as charges by Southern Water for waste and surface drainage. Running costs include administration and maintenance. However, some houses access their garages through the car park and it is unclear whether they have a maintenance agreement. The recommendation from the Parish Council are that the perceived costs are acceptable, and that the Parish Council acquire the car park.

The two most obvious users of the toilets are the school and doctor's surgery. However, the school has their own toilets, as do the doctor's surgery. There is no way of telling how many people use the toilets. The perceived cost of running the toilets are around £15,000 per annum, which could be reduced by £1,600 if the business rates are withdrawn. Problems associated with taking on responsibility of the toilets are that sanitary ware, tiling and partitions need to be renewed every 10 years or so. The recommendation of the Parish Council is that they do not take on toilets. The Parish Council wants the views of the residents of Sedlescombe and asks that all residents take part in the consultation. Forms are in the village shop and the box at the back of the hall. The more forms received, the better informed the Parish Council will be when making a decision. It is important to remember that a decision to take on either the car park or toilets will have a long-term impact on Council tax.

Red Barn Field.

Much work has been undertaken in Red Barn Field at Pauline Glew's initiative, funded again through grants. The Parish Council invites all to come along on the 25th of June for a special event. More will be published closer to the date.

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

The winner of the Volunteers Prize Draw is Ashley Davey as drawn by Cllr. Chapman. Cllr. Vine-Hall thanked Cllr Chapman and his team of volunteers who carry out an enormous amount of work, much of which is behind the scenes. Their contribution makes the village a happier place and saves a lot of money.

Cllr. Vine-Hall advised that the Parish Council's Financial Report had been printed in the Annual Directory and asked for those who had any questions to ask these during the Q and A session or to email the clerk. Before the Q and A session Cllr Vine-Hall welcomed two new Councillors Andy Waters and Gareth Mathews. Andy is already well connected with the Council as he looks after the footpaths and does an enormous amount of maintenance work with Roy Chapman. Andy will co-ordinate the speed watch campaign, which needs more volunteers. Speeding primarily affects people on The Street and it would be good to have residents of The Street as part of the speed watch team. Gareth has been connected to the village for many years and the PC are looking forward to working with both men.

7. Question and Answer Session

District Cllr. Tony Ganly, County Councillor Angharad Davies and Inspector Dan Russell joined Cllr. Vine-Hall on the stage for a Q and A session. Some of the questions are as follows:

Q: Relating to the future of the Public Toilets in Sedlescombe – would Rother DC demolish them?

A: Cllr. Ganly responded that District Council is waiting for Sedlescombe PC's response regarding the Car Park and toilets. No discussion has taken place by the DC on what would happen if the response from the PC is negative. As a guess he presumed also that demolition is possibly an option.

Cllr Vine-Hall responded that PC has investigated several possible alternative uses but the £1,800pa business rates and other associated costs make most options unviable. RDC have not commented what they would do one way or the other, but common sense says the public toilets will be demolished.

Q: To Cllr Davies, on the effect of new housing on the roads

A: Cllr Davies responded that there will have to be a consultation on the road safety issues. Monies will be available from the CIL to go towards this sort of thing. PC with CC have met with the Road Safety Officer to discuss traffic problems through the central village but due to on road parking and the bus route it is difficult – as in all villages - to install things like humps etc. Cllr Vine-Hall added that he was with the Highways Officer looking at proposed housing at the end of the village and as Angharad has commented Highways approach to slowing traffic is with visual cues. PC has met and had discussions with Highways several times over the years, but their problem is with lack of funding. The only way to get things done is through the 'Match-funding programme' which is why the CIL is so important to the village.

Q: On ensuring all new houses have footpaths and is that condition explicit in the Neighbourhood Plan to the village and if there was building at the sawmills, you'd have a footpath then all the way from there down into the village?

A: Cllr Vine-Hall responded that any of the allocated sites in the Neighbourhood Plan basically have to have a footpath access to the village – it is one of the key things, which is part of what they call sustainable development. Walking. The ability to walk to a central point. The Sawmills site is classed as an 'enabling development' and as an employment site is very important to RDC especially as Sedlescombe is listed in their Core Strategy as a village that needs more employment. For example, this development might have some affordable housing and live/work units, so people might have a house with a little workshop. It means that they're not walking and driving around so much.

Q: Concerning the public toilets being available for Ramblers and the number of houses on the Street Farm development

A: Cllr Vine-Hall responded – Street Farm: The initial proposal was for 50 houses and other associated items but finally went in on a planning application as 18. The current one is for 16 on the same site. At the exhibition of which 330 people attended, the forms (completed anonymously) should that Street Farm was rated the second-last preference that nobody wanted. The allotments being the least wanted development.

Public Toilets: Many Ramblers use these facilities, but they do not pay Sedlescombe PC Council Tax. If residents wish to subsidise the Ramblers coming to the village and using the toilets, then that's something that, as a community, we have to decide on. Historically toilets are provided across Rother by the District Council for people moving around. It was a general cost across the whole district, but this is now changing so we have to ask 'Well, who uses it? And if we don't use it, do we want to pay for those people who do come for some reason, for whatever your reason is, or not, or do we charge for it? It might seem like a small issue, but it's quite complicated to try to manage it.

Q: Further comment on the public toilets: It is not just the Ramblers that use the Car Park. There is a lot of overflow from the Brickwall Hotel (also in the street) if a huge do is on. The School when various events

are on. The toilets have also acted as a useful backup when the surgery toilet was out of use. They are beautifully kept at the moment.

A: Cllr. Anson added that the Doctors Practice and the School had both commented they had sufficient toilets for their establishments.

Q: Reducing the speed limit north of the village hall from 50 to 30mph around the Church

A: Cllr Vine-Hall responded that PC has had numerous meetings with CC to ask them to reduce the speed in the small lanes and they will not do it. However, at the north end of the village they will move the 30-mile-an-hour limit right out, and I think it's at that point we might actually go back to them now as result of the comments made to say, "Can we have that staging?" especially as Highways England have introduced 40 and 50mph speed limits along local stretches of the A21 and you go through Stream Lane which is technically 60mph – it is illogical and wrong.

Cllr Davies (ESCC) responded that PC could certainly have the discussions. She had no idea at present whether they would agree to – if it's just a case of moving the signs, there might be a possibility. If you're just shifting the signs along in some way. Insp Dan Russell (ES Police) responded that it's an issue raised in a number of villages. Through the Community Speed Watch, he would provide a Police Officer to support them to do some enforcement on the street. They will obviously consult with Highways and ask some questions about danger, etc., from them and Highways will look at accident figures. A lot of the time, they look at accident figures and say, "Is this a red area for accidents?" and if it's not, they probably wouldn't consider it, because Sussex Police do have discussions, but Insp Russell was happy to take part in those discussions and put their proposals forward, because road safety is key.

Q: The Neighbourhood Plan – Sedlescombe not receiving the CIL funds and the Street Farm Judicial Review costs of £80,000

A: Cllr Vine-Hall responded that PC do offer to come and speak to anyone about these issues – in groups or in any other way. The balance of the Community Infrastructure Levy will go to the District Council, and that will go to developments and infrastructure in Bexhill - not in Sedlescombe - because there is already a published plan, the 123 List. Cllr. Vine-Hall calculated that RDC would collect a minimum of £10m from development in rural Rother, none of which will be seen in those villages. If the Sedlescombe NHP goes through SPC will receive £200,000 in CIL, if it does not SPC will receive £65,000 maximum. The Judicial Review will not cost SPC £80,000. The process is being taken step-by-step and evaluated at each stage. Parish Council is spending a small amount of money and the balance is being funded through a number of individuals and organisations. It may cost Rother DC £80,000, but that is their choice. Parish Council has offered an 'Olive Branch' to RDC to resolve this matter.

Q: Further question to why Parish Council is against including Street Farm in the NHP

A: Cllr. Vine-Hall responded that it was explained in his earlier presentation but to recap: The Street Farm developers did not come forward with their site when SPC were appealing for new sites for the Neighbourhood Plan. They simply and aggressively put a planning application in, with the knowledge that the NHP just at that moment wasn't quite to the point where it had the weight and with the knowledge that RDC did not have their then five-year supply, which exposed them. The developers were aware of that, as they had submitted an earlier application for 18 houses (not 16) which failed at the appeal – it was refused by the Secretary of State. Why? (1) Because of the Neighbourhood Plan, because the weight that it was given and (2) at the time, RDC had a five-year supply. At this point the developers could have approached SPC (as everyone else did) to include the site in the SNP but they simply aggressively put in a planning application.

Comment: A resident commented on Street Farm and the Neighbourhood Plan that the 'Keelings' had previously approached PC - before Cllr. Vine-Hall's time – to consider the Street Farm site.

A: Cllr Vine-Hall responded that the site was considered by PC and also went out to the exhibition.

Q: From a Non-Parish Resident commenting on the ownership and intention of the field proposed for development by the Church.

A: Cllr Vine-Hall responded that the Precious Field was the least objected to and supported because of the issues with parking and the more elderly attending the Church. It is for the Church to decide to progress the site and nothing to do with the PC. The inspector of the earlier edition of the NHP assessed the site and agreed that that it was acceptable in all sorts of planning terms. Cllr. Vine-Hall referred the question to Mr. Palmer – the Church Warden

Mr. Trevor Palmer (Church Warden) responded that Precious Field was originally sold by the Diocese to an individual which was subsequently bought from that individual with monies raised by public subscription. The terms on the field is that it is to

be used for the provision of a car park, possibly, and for raising funds for the renovations required by the Church. During the Quinquennial Reviews (5-year review of the building) the survey highlights the work required to the building which the Church cannot afford. The Parochial Church Council felt that the cost of giving up a third of the existing land to protect the church and to use the rest of the land for future extension of the churchyard made sense both morally and ethically.

Cllr. Vine-Hall commented that in the planning policy, both Central Government and District Council, there is special provision for the maintenance of particularly Grade II buildings for religious purposes.

Q: Parish Council's consideration of the Street Farm development as part of the NHP

A: Cllr Vine-Hall responded that it is not the responsibility of the District or Parish Council to promote a planning application on anyone's site. PC did in this instance alert residents to this major planning application. It did not have to be included in the consultation. The consultation was for people to comment on the NHP, not alternative sites. This would have caused the NHP to fail at examination.

Q: A resident referred back to their earlier question on the Judicial Review – and completed their request to 'ask for a show of hands on the Judicial Review'

A: Cllr Vine-Hall responded that PC had already taken the decision to apply for a Judicial Review and reiterated that this point had already been explained.

Q: Questions on the Judicial Review and concerns for SPC's relationship with RDC and its residents

A: Cllr Vine-Hall responded that every PC Member was aware that the potential cost to RDC could be upwards of £80k as stated in PC's letter to RDC just before their planning meeting. The whole process of the Judicial Review was fully discussed at a Parish Council meeting with resolutions passed. It would be RDC's decision to commit residents to this level of expenditure. Parish Council had met several times with District Councillors and Senior Officers who all agreed to work collaboratively together to achieve this plan and Members felt let down by RDC's actions. Regarding 'souring future negotiations between SPC and RDC, especially Planning,' Cllr. Vine-Hall did not feel this was would be the case.

Q: On the cost of the Judicial Review versus the cost of PCSO's and discuss if a referendum debate could be arranged

A: Cllr Vine-Hall responded that as much as he would like to see a referendum debate – which would be a decision for the PC – PC is not legally permitted to do this as the Referendum Rules prevent the PC promoting a 'Yes' vote. Cllr. Vine-Hall clarified this was during the 'Referendum' period. The NHP is a reflection of several consultations – of which the comments are available to read on the website. Out of a population of 1,400 there have been 34 objections. PC has done everything to encourage people to make comments and those who do not get involved, that is their choice.

Q: A comment on lobbying taking place around the Neighbourhood Plan and Street Farm

A: Cllr Vine-Hall responded that the PC is not involved in lobbying and has no control over those that wish to lobby. Lobbying does bring a level of awareness to a situation, so should be seen as a good thing. Lobbying has taken place here tonight which is absolutely fine, it is an expression of opinion. Many people have attended this evening as they have issues with the NHP.

Comment from a past Sedlescombe resident who had grown-up in the Village. She was in support of the Neighbourhood Plan and the need for affordable housing to allow people growing up the village to be able to stay in the village. (This was met with applause)

Comment from a resident that she had gained support from over 360 residents in East View Terrace against the development at Street Farm and for the Neighbourhood Plan and thanked the Parish Council for their work in putting the plan together

Q: Comment on witnessing 'coercive' type lobbying for the Neighbourhood Plan. Question on the Village being aware of the boundary changes – from Bexhill and Battle Constituency to Maidstone and The Weald Constituency for the next election.

A: Cllr Vine-Hall responded that in the coming County Council elections boundaries had changed from Sedlescombe and Ewhurst to Sedlescombe and Westfield – which will also affect the next District Council elections.

Q: The current Neighbourhood Plan does not and cannot reflect the views of the Village. The initial consultation views were for brown-field sites, sites that gave employment, sites that were actually outside the village.

A: Cllr Vine-Hall responded that was a problem in all villages across the country, the initial reaction was the same. There was the issue PC faced with the rigid approach of the District Council who would not support that. There has been much comment on this topic and sadly it would have been a good test case to show RDC how you could improve housing, improve villages and have minimum impact. Sites were chosen, put forward for consultation and responses came back, with a very low level of objection. Wherever possible PC has tried to incorporate the original objectives. The houses will come anyway but the NHP gives us more say. The only difference is that we would have substantially less funding, less control and no control over the affordable housing

A comment that the Neighbourhood Plan is hugely complicated and should be supported to avoid the problems seen in other villages across the South East.

A letter from a resident who wishes to remain anonymous in support of the Neighbourhood Plan and a warning against the potential impact of unwanted housing should it not progress.

A letter from a resident commenting that the Neighbourhood Plan delivers all the housing required and that the environmental effects should be considered of the impact of development on Street Farm as well as the additional negative effect of traffic on Brede Lane which will result. RDC should not over-ride the democratic process of the Neighbourhood Plan.

End of Q and A

Cllr Vine-Hall called Carol Hodgson to the stage. He announced Carol Hodgson will be leaving after nearly 3 years as Clerk to the Parish Council. Carol has worked extremely hard over this time and has gained the respect and appreciation of not only the Council but of many residents who have met and spoken with her. She will be missed, and we would like to present her with a gift as thanks for all her hard work.

8. Prize draw for those in attendance

The Door Prize, a dinner for two at the Queens Head, was won by Anne Harrod. Cllr Vine-Hall thanked the Queens Head for donating the prize.

9. End of meeting

Cllr. Vine-Hall thanked all for attending and invited them to stay for refreshments. He also reminded all present to see Jean Dellow and Pat Evans for Spring Fayre raffle tickets and to see Aidan if they wanted to volunteer for the Summer Fayre and see the display tables.

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 the general public use will remain free.

Group bookings or commercial use should be booked through the Parish Clerk.

The cost for 2018 is £12 per hour.

Please note there is no parking on the site.

Please park in the road or in the public car park a short distance away in Brede Lane.

(Public toilets are also available here).

Sedlescombe Parish Council is grateful to every single one of our fantastic volunteers. Your valuable support throughout the year has helped in so many ways and we would like to share with our community some of those tasks.....

Tackling minor repair jobs with Cllr. Chapman such as -

Riverside Playground and MUGA

- Repairing the tennis nets
- Keeping the MUGA clean – clearing leaves and debris
- Keeping the play equipment in good repair – replacing swing seats
- Picking-up litter discarded on the ground

East View Kickabout area

- Clearing leaves, debris and grass off the pitch
- Cutting back the hedges
- Boundary fencing repairs

Village Green

- Maintaining the growing number of flower tubs
- Repairing vehicle damage to the grass
- Checking the trees are in good order and not a public danger
- Keeping the Pump House in good repair and tidy

Red Barn Field

- Repairing damage to the noticeboard due to vandalism
- Removing / retrieving posts thrown into the pond by vandals
- Upkeep of the meadow help to increase the range and number of flowers that it supports, increasing the quantity and quality of foraging habitat
- doing general ground maintenance and looking after the fruiting hedgerows

Sports Field

- Strimming nettles around the dog bin
- Removing a plastic chair from the river

Church Hill

- Clearing the footpath from the Village Hall up to the Church

We also have an amazing group of volunteers who deliver this Annual Report and Directory, Sedlescombe Neighbourhood Plan Consultations and Bulletins (three times a year) to every household in the Parish. Thank you, volunteers! We couldn't do it without you.....

Thanks also go to Blackbrooks Garden Centre for doing the planting up of the tubs on the village green.

If you would like to be involved as a Parish Council volunteer, we would be pleased to hear from you. Just contact our Parish Clerk on ☎: 075 310 654 69 or by email clerk@sedlescombe.org.uk

The Councillors also on a weekly rota basis inspect the Riverside Playground, MUGA and Kickabout area at East View Terrace 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 the 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 all aspects of the Parish Council's work representing the Council on a number of related bodies. Jonathan has lived in Sedlescombe since 2003 and farms Hurst Estate between Brede Lane and Cripps Corner. He competes in Western Riding is also Chairman of 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, Rother Transport Action Group and Sedlescombe Neighbourhood Watch (also the Treasurer). Pauline runs the Sedlescombe Lift Scheme, Treasurer on the Sedlescombe Friendship Club Committee and Secretary of the Spring Fayre .

Roy Chapman - Councillor

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



Roy was elected to the Parish Council in May 2011. He is Chairman of the Playing Field Trust, 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 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 the Parish Council in 2012. He is a Member of the 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 over 20 years and is Chairman of the Restholme Trust. Peter enjoys gardening, fishing, cricket watching & entertaining grandchildren, the latter for limited periods!

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 also a member of the Red Barn Working Group Committee. Michelle has lived in Sedlescombe since 1996 and is a Business Development Consultant

Lindsay Fraser - Councillor

Contact: ☎: 01424 871064 **10 Blacklands, Sedlescombe**



Lindsay was co-opted to the Parish Council in August 2013. She is a member of the Neighbourhood Plan and Emergency Advisory committees. Lindsay moved to Sedlescombe in 2010. Her professional background is in research into the early detection of women's cancers. She is working full time on a research PhD at the Institute for Women's Health and has recently joined the Sedlescombe & Westfield Surgeries Patient Involvement Group.

Andy Waters - Councillor



Contact: ☎: 01424 870693 **Bulmer Lodge, The Green, Sedlescombe TN33 0QA**
Andy joined the Parish Council in February 2017. He is a retired company director, and has lived in Sedlescombe since July 2013. Andy is a member of the Red Barn Working Group Committee and Coordinator for the Sedlescombe Community Speedwatch Group. He is also actively involved in general maintenance around the Parish. Andy is a Committee member of the Sedlescombe and District Garden Society, and member of the Rural Past Times Group, and Warden for the Sedlescombe footpaths. His interests include walking, gardening and cooking.

Gareth Matthews - Councillor



Contact: ☎: 075811 76936 **22 Gorselands, Sedlescombe TN33 0PT**
Gareth joined the Parish Council in February 2017. He has lived in Sedlescombe for 6 years. Gareth is a keen sportsman and is a PE Teacher at a local secondary school. He is still involved with the Bonfire Society in Staplecross - where he grew-up.

Sallyann Sidgwick - Councillor



Contact: ☎: 01424 871081 **Stream Farm, Stream Lane, Sedlescombe TN33 0PB**
Sally was co-opted to the Parish Council in November 2017. She is Secretary of Sedlescombe Restholme Trust, and works locally as a self-employed bookkeeper. Sally moved to Sedlescombe in 1998.

Carol Hodgson - Parish Clerk / Financial Officer



Contact: ☎: 075 310 654 69 **April Cottage, Church Road, Catsfield, TN33 9DP.**
Carol first became the Parish Clerk/RFO to Sedlescombe PC in July 2014. Following a brief break in 2017 due to health problems, she returned in September 2017 to continue with her previous role. She is currently employed by the Parish Council for 25 hours per week. Carol lives in Catsfield with her husband and her 2 teenage children. She enjoys travelling, cooking and fundraising.

East Sussex County Councillor Carl Maynard



Contact: ☎: 07595 462 528 **Dines Wood, 22 Baldslow Down, Westfield, TN37 7NH**
Carl was elected councillor for Brede Valley and Marsham in 2005 has been a ward councillor on Rother District Council since 1999. His current Committee Membership is: Lead Member for Adult Social Care and Health, Lead Member for Adult Social Care and Health, Cabinet, East Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board, ESBT Strategic Commissioning Board and Full Council.

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. Tony is also Rother DC's representative on AiRS. He is the Parish representative for Ewhurst and Sedlescombe.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THREE YEARS 2016-17, DRAFT 2017-18 & BUDGET 2018-19

	All amounts are GBP	Final 2016-17	Draft 2017-18*	Budget 2018-19
I N C O M E	Precept on District Council	45,054	46,344	47,734
	Local Council Tax Support Grant	1,334	667	0
	Agency income from Authorities	222	0	0
	Interest and investment income	23	15	15
	Grant Income	10,751	3,150	0
	Sale of footpath leaflets / Parish maps	30	20	20
	Sale of advertising - Annual Directory	347	55	480
	CIL	0	7,320	0
	Other Income	0	13,450	0
	Total Income	57,761	70,969	48,249
E X P E N D I T U R E	Allowance	200	200	200
	Printing	822	793	717
	Audit	320	562	450
	Computer and Software	0	627	100
	Website	228	228	2,000
	Data Protection and DPO	35	35	2,035
	Election Expenses	0	0	165
	Hall Hire	181	150	300
	Insurances	998	1,036	1,067
	Legal Expenses	0	0	2,000
	Maintenance of Offices	200	100	200
	Miscellaneous	331	315	300
	Phone	132	80	120
	Stamps	25	46	50
	Stationery	185	182	500
	Subscriptions	500	627	649
	Training	254	223	1,000
	Travel	0	134	100
	Clerk Employment	15,123	16,607	21,700
	General Amenities	0	0	200
	Grants and Prizes	300	465	500
	Loans and Repayments	5,636	10,547	4,643
	Grounds Maintenance	2,585	3,017	3,000
	Dog Bins	345	351	360
	Traffic Calming	1,529	0	0
	Neighbourhood Plan	8,305	16,973	0
	Speed Watch	0	0	1,000
	Prof Playground Inspections	65	65	70
	Red Barn Field	2,645	395	1,000
	East View Kickabout Area	0	400	2,200
	Village Green Assets	177	112	0
	Sportsfield Car Park	21	0	200
	Bus Shelter	10	0	100
Brede Lane Car Park	0	57	300	
Riverside Playing Area	186	645	2,000	
Multi-Use Games Area	0	118	1,000	
Maintenance of Assets	0	452	2,000	
	Total Expenditure	41,338	55,542	55,226

	All amounts are GBP	Final 2016-17	Draft 2017-18*
R	General Reserves	26,491	30,903
	Earmarked Reserves as follows.....		
E	Neighbourhood Plan	9,745	0
	Refurbishing Toilets	1,000	1,000
S	Traffic Calming	10,031	10,031
E	MUGA	6,000	6,000
	Riverside Playing Field	9,200	9,200
R	Red Barn Field	1,000	1,000
V	Red Barn Field Grant Income	729	729
	Maintenance of Assets	2,000	2,000
E	Repayment of PWLB Loan	5,600	193
	Anonymous Donation re: Street Farm	0	11,000
S	CIL	0	7,320
	Reserves Balances as at 31st March	71,796	79,384

*NB. These are Draft 2017-18 figures are to the end of March 2018 and will change for the year end.

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

The Parish Council applies for funding from Rother District Council on an annual basis following agreement of the budget. The amount awarded is known as the annual precept and is the Parish Council's main source of funding. To cover the rising costs of services and to compensate for the loss of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme Grant, the 2018/19 precept was increased by 3% to receive a total of £46,344.06. The actual increase to households amounted to 2.28% as there had been an increase this year in the number of Sedlescombe households paying Council tax.

Income

Parish Council has been very fortunate this year to receive the following additional income

- £3,150 in grants from Groundwork to support the Sedlescombe Neighbourhood Plan
- £13,450 in anonymous donations to support the Judicial Review of the Street Farm Planning Application
- £7,320 in Community Infrastructure Levy (Cartref Development)

Expenditure

Every year there are one-off costs to contend with. In most cases these are predicted as part of the planned preventative maintenance. In 2017/18 these one-off costs included:

- £5,407 for early repayment of the Public Works Loan taken out to complete the MUGA.
- £890 for tree works at East View Terrace and the Riverside Play Area
- £155 to replace the cradle swing seat at the Riverside Play Area
- £628 to replace the office computer and printer
- £13,370 to apply for a Judicial Review of the Street Farm Planning Application

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

ARCHITECTURAL	AUTHOR
 <p>PumpHouse DESIGNS Architectural Consultants</p> <p>Plans and Local Authority Applications for ~Extensions ~ Alterations~ ~Loft Conversions ~ Garage Conversions~ ~Barn Conversions ~ New Build~</p> <p>Contact us for your FREE no obligation consultation and quotation</p> <p>01424 871120 www.pumphousedesigns.co.uk Pump House Yard, The Green, Sedlescombe</p>	<p>Mrs Julia Chapman Ashdown Cottage, Cottage Lane, Sedlescombe 01424 870520</p> <p>Author of the following books about Sedlescombe.....</p> <p>'LIFE THROUGH THE LENS' A Pictorial history of the village</p> <p>'HOP-SCOTCH & SPINNING TOPS' The history of the old Primary School</p> <p>'THE TIMES OF OUR LIVES' Memories of local people</p> <p>Books can be purchased at the local shop or contact Julia at the above address</p>
CHIROPODY / PODIATRY	CONSTRUCTION/BUILDERS
 <p>Chiropodist/Podiatrist Home Visiting Service HCPC Registered Over 25 Years NHS experience.</p> <p>Andrea Birtwistle DPodM MChS</p> <p>Home 01580 831780 Mobile 07931 974486</p>	 <p>PARKER & SON BUILDING, ROOFING & SURVEYING Est. 1929</p> <p>BUILDING THE FUTURE · RESTORING THE PAST</p> <p>Parkers Yard, Little Acre The Green, Ninfield Battle, East Sussex TN33 9JG</p> <p>t: 01424 892933 info@parkerandsonconstruction.co.uk www.parkerandsonconstruction.co.uk</p> 
COUNSELLING / THERAPY	DRAINAGE SOLUTIONS
 <p>Lesley Ballard Counsellor BSc (Hons) Registered member BACP 07599 413864 www.miltherapycentre.co.uk</p>	 <p>SPECIALISE IN</p> <p>Recycling solutions to Septic Tank, Treatment Plant Soakaway issues. Reducing escalating cesspit costs. Septic Tank Maintenance Surface Water Issues</p> <p>T: 01424 871081 or M: 07840 172432 www.ecoflo-irrigation.co.uk Stream Farm, Stream Lane, Sedlescombe</p>

GARAGE SERVICES



BAVARIAN MOTORSPORT

**Bridge Garage Workshops
The Street,
Sedlescombe,
East Sussex.
TN33 0QB**

Tel: 01424 870202

Local MOT Test Centre

GARDEN CENTRE



Tel: 01424 870710

So much more than a Garden Centre

A21, Sedlescombe, Battle, East Sussex TN33 0RJ

HOTELS

*Brickwall Hotel
& Restaurant*



**The Green, Sedlescombe, TN33 0QA
01424 870253
www.brickwallhotel.com
info@brickwallhotel.com**

PLUMBING & HEATING



Richard Jordan Limited
Millstones Cottage
The Street
Sedlescombe
East Sussex
TN33 0QB

01424 871165

PUBS



The Queens Head Sedlescombe
www.thequeensheadsedlescombe.com
Call: 01424 870 228

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Sedlescombe Parish Council acknowledges with thanks the contributions made by local businesses towards the printing of this booklet.

Business or Community advertising for the 2019 printed Directory should be sent to the Parish Council by the end of January 2019.

The Council reserves the right to refuse an advertisement request.

Sedlescombe
News

The Sedlescombe News brings you a weekly round-up of the news and events in the Village and is available to purchase from the Village Shop for 20p or £10pa to receive 50 weekly copies by email. Items for inclusion can be left in the Village Shop by 12 noon on Wednesdays. 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, The Green or send via e-mail to ✉: judy@asselton.co.uk or call ☎ 01424 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

Sedlescombe
Parish Council
Website

Please bear with us..... the Sedlescombe Parish Council website **www.sedlescombe.org.uk** is the process of being redesigned. The current website continues to be updated with the work of Sedlescombe Parish Council but (hopefully!) very soon we will be launching a more user-friendly site that is compatible with most media devices.

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 ☎: 01424 870589 ✉: michelle.brister@btinternet.com
Facebook users search for 'Sedlescombe Jobs Network' page and 'Like' to receive information and post updates.

Woodland Trust walk at Brede High Woods

Spring Bird Walk at Brede
Wednesday 9th May 2018, 7-9am

Join us for an early start at Brede High Woods! We will listen out for the songs of the many resident birds including song thrush, robin and great tit at this wonderful woodland. These species will be joined at this time of year by summer migrants and we would hope to hear chiffchaff, willow warbler and blackcap, and if luck is with us, the amazing loud fluty song of the nightingale. We might even see a few birds, in particular woodpeckers and possibly even cuckoo, if we stay reasonably quiet! There should also be displays of bluebells and other spring flowers at this time of year.

The walk starts at 7am and will finish at 9am. Your guide will be local wildlife expert, Martin Allison.
Booking is essential. Cost: £10 per adult; £5 per child.

Due to the need to be quiet to listen out for the birds, the walk is not suitable for young children or dogs.

Tickets: <https://woodlandtrusttickets.cloudvenue.co.uk/springbirdwalkatbrede>

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 the Village 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.

Please contact Cllr Glew ☎: 870258 if you would like to become a Lift Scheme driver

Battle Area
Community
Transport

BACT operates Regular Bus services serving Sedlescombe as follows:

Tuesdays and Fridays for Battle + Wednesdays for Battle and Sainsbury.

Bus passes can be used on all services after 09:30.

For further details on all Bus services (Regular/Flexible/Shopping Trips)

contact: ☎: 01424 772001 (Mon-Fri 9-12)

✉: bactoffice@bact-online.co.uk 🌐: www.bact-online.co.uk

Public
Transport

Stagecoach Bus Service 349: 2-hourly daytime service as follows:

Mon to Sat: Hastings - Sedlescombe - Bodiam – Hawkhurst (and return)

Sun: Hastings – Sedlescombe – Bodiam – Hawkhurst – Cranbrook (and return).

Contact: Stagecoach (Hastings) ☎: 08702 433711 / General 0345 6080 194

Sussex Police

'Sedlescombe, Ewhurst, Staplecross, Cripps Corner and Bodiam neighbourhood area' comes under the **Rother district**. The nearest Police Station is in North Trade Road, Battle. TN33 0EX. **Battle Police Station** front office is open Monday to Friday from 10am until 2pm. ☎: 101 or 01273 470 101. ✉: 101@sussex.pnn.police.uk

To report a crime or incident please use the online reporting

<https://www.sussex.police.uk/contact-us/report-online/> or call Sussex Police ☎101.

To contact your local team for advice or concerns you have in your community please call or email. Local teams DO NOT take crime reports.

✉: rother@sussex.pnn.police.uk ☎: 01273 404934 🌐: www.sussex.police.uk

Crimestoppers

Crimestoppers is an independent charity helping law enforcement to locate criminals and help solve crimes. They have an anonymous 24/7 phone number, **0800 555 111**, that people can call to pass on information about crime; alternatively people can send them information anonymously their 'Giving Information Form' -

🌐: <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/give-information/give-information-online/>

You don't have to give your name or any of your personal details. They do not trace calls or track IP addresses.

For more information visit their website at 🌐: <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/#>

Rother District Council

Rother District Council can provide help with a range of issues such as Benefits, Building Control, Bus Passes, Council Tax, Data Protection, Dead Animals, Elections, Food Hygiene, Freedom of Information, Grants, Housing, Jobs, Land Charges, Licensing, Parking, Pest/Dog Control, Planning, Pollution/Noise, Road/Pavements, Schools and Waste/Recycling.

☎: 01424 787000 ☎: 01424 787868 (Out of office hours number)

✉: customerservices@rother.gov.uk 🌐: www.rother.gov.uk

📍: Rother District Council. Town Hall, Bexhill on Sea. TN39 3JX

Rother Member
of Parliament

The Member of Parliament for Bexhill and Battle is Huw Merriman MP

Constituency Office contact: 29-31 Sea Road, Bexhill on Sea, E. Sussex, TN40 1EE

☎: 01424 736861 ✉: huw.merriman.mp@parliament.uk

House of Commons contact: House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

☎: 0207 219 1852 ✉: huw.merriman.mp@parliament.uk

Battle Library

Battle Library at 7 Market Square, Battle offers Books, audio books and DVDs. Free computers with Internet access. Opening times @ 26th March 2018 as follows: -

Tues: 10am-4pm. Wed: 10am-1pm. Thu: 11am – 6pm. Fri: 10am-5pm Sat: 10am-5pm

Free Wi-Fi. Local history material. Photocopier. Bus pass forms for older people. Bus travel discounts for young people. Disabled access. Display facilities. Bookends pop-up store. 'Rhymetime' every Tuesday 10.30am to 11am – Places are limited please book in advance. Computer help from volunteers Wednesday 10.30am to 12 noon. Thursdays 12 noon to 2pm – available in library or book in advance

Contact: ☎: **0345 60 80 196**

UK Power Networks

Advice from UK Power Networks..... Anyone experiencing a power cut should:

- **Call** ☎: **105** to report power cuts and damage to the electricity network, or ☎: 0800 3163 105 (from a corded phone or mobile phone if you have no power)
- **Visit** 🌐: www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk for the latest updates
- **Visit** 🌐: www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk/powercut - type in their postcode to view our live power cut map
- **Tweet** @ukpowernetworks to report a power cut or to receive updates.

Stay clear of power lines and report damaged power lines immediately by calling ☎: **105** free from either a landline or a mobile phone. If they see electricity lines that are down or causing significant risk to the public, they should call 999.

We provide extra help to customers on our **Priority Service Register** during a power cut. Households with **older** or **disabled people**, those with **children under five**, or where someone uses **medical or mobility equipment** that requires electricity as well as other reasons can join the register. You can find out more information about our Priority Service on our website: ukpowernetworks.co.uk/priority.

Do you, or someone you know, need **extra support** during a power cut?

@UKPowerNetworks provides free services to vulnerable customers. For more information visit 🌐: www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk/priority

East Sussex Highways

East Sussex Highways is a partnership between CH2M, Costain and East Sussex County Council. They maintain over 2,000 miles of highway in East Sussex and look after roads, pavements, street lights, grass and winter maintenance. Problems on anything from Potholes to Overhanging Trees can be reported via:

🌐: www.eastsussexhighways.com

Customer contact centre ✉: customer@eastsussexhighways.com

☎: 0345 608 0193

If you provide them with your details, they will keep you up to date about your report and let you know what action will be taken.

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 evening in the month

Time: 7.30pm

Contact: Sheila Benson, Chairman ☎: 01797 223927 ✉: benson.ferryhouse@gmail.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: Events held at Sedlescombe Village Hall

Contact: Chairman Rod Eldridge ☎: 01424 870983

Membership Secretary Dave Brabants ☎: 01424 871436

Website: www.sedlescombegardensociety.org.uk

Shows, outings, plant exchange and social events throughout the year. Contact as above or ☎: 870455 or see Shop Notice Board for dates/times.

Anyone with an interest in any aspects of gardening is welcome to join at only £7 per person per year (£10 for Family membership).

Badminton

Where: Sedlescombe Village Hall

When: Tuesdays Time: 7.30pm

Contact: Shirley Davies ☎: 01424 870475

Chapel Hill Church (United Reformed)

Where: Chapel Hill Sedlescombe TN33 0QX

When: Sundays Time: 10:30 am

Contact: Marie Jackson Local Church Leader ☎: 01424 870512 or ☎: 07842 145341

The CHAPEL can be opened by arrangement for visits, contemplation and quiet times.

Everyone is welcome to draw near in faith. We are a friendly bunch who believe in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour, do come along and find out more ☺

Other key events during the year are often held at 3pm; including Easter, Chapel Anniversary, Harvest, & Christmas celebrations; please keep an eye open in the 'Sedlescombe Village News' for more information.

The Chapel is well heated, and seats 45 people; there is a fitted screen, organ, and a small side room with seating for up to 12; this is fitted with a modern kitchen. Toilet facilities are available. The premises are for HIRE to village groups under certain conditions.

Contact the Church Secretary Peter Jackson ☎: 01424 870512 for more information.

Sedlescombe Church Bellringers

Where: Parish Church

When: Every Wednesday Time: 7.30pm

Contact: Jane Blanford ☎: 01424 751298

Sedlescombe Book Club

If you enjoy reading, sharing your enthusiasm for a good read and the idea of a monthly meet up over a cup of tea with a small informal and friendly group, then please get in touch with Glynis on ✉: gds01620@gmail.com or ☎: 870804

Sedlescombe Brownies

1st Sedlescombe Brownies is for all girls aged 7 to 10 years
For more information please contact Andrea Hunneman ☎: 01424 424112

Community Friends

Community Friends' focus is about helping people in the Village, particularly older people. A range of help offered including Befriending, Gardening, collecting prescriptions, Shopping, Small jobs, Letter writing and many others. Please ring Pat Evans ☎: 01424 870709 or Reg Glew ☎: 01424 870258 or Alan Olin ☎: 01424 870007 who will try to find help for you.

Eastern Rother Conservative Association

The local branch of the Conservative Association supports the local Conservative Member of Parliament and Councillors (or candidates) by raising funds and promoting Conservative ideas locally. Regular enjoyable social events are held where residents can meet their MP and Councillors to discuss and influence how their local area and indeed their country are administered. If you wish to take part, please contact either:

Chairman Dr Angharad Davies. ✉: aed45@tiscali.com ☎: 01580 831969
Secretary John Page. ✉: essr.conservatives@gmail.com ☎: 01424 870455

Sedlescombe Cricket Club

Where: Sedlescombe Sportsfield for home games
When: Sundays Time: 2.30pm
Contact: J Carthew ☎: 01424 774589
Aaron Maynard ☎: 01424 430526 – New Players

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).

Sedlescombe Dance Club

Where: Northiam Village Hall
When: Most Fridays throughout the year Time: 7.30-10.00pm
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 warm welcome & established members are always happy to help newcomers to settle in.

Friends of Sedlescombe Parish Church Heritage Trust

Contact: Pauline Williams ☎: 01424 870412 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.

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. Several 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, Jean Dellow, Maureen Hayes, Pauline Glew and Joan Firth.

Sedlescombe Guides

1st Sedlescombe Guides is for all girls aged 10 to 14years. We meet weekly during term time for 2 hours. For more information please contact Jo Mozley on

✉: jomozley@hotmail.co.uk or ☎: 07739 352148

Lions Club – Battle and Villages

When: 2nd Monday of each month Time: 8.00pm

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

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.....

Sedlescombe Neighbourhood Watch

Contacts:	Chief Co-ordinator	Jean Dellow	☎: 01424 870223
	Treasurer	Pauline Glew	☎: 01424 870258
	Member	Reg Glew	☎: 01424 870258

Sedlescombe Neighbourhood Watch: Offers home security advice. Loans an engraving appliance free of charge. Will pay the installation charge and first month's rent for Lifeline for Sedlescombe residents.

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 1st Sunday in month)

Contact:	Vicar	Fr. Kevin Mepham	☎: 01424 870471
	Churchwarden	Trevor Palmer	☎: 01424 870830
	Churchwarden	Jane Wallis	☎: 01424 870240

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 or ☎: 01424 848 572 or ✉: montaguenick@hotmail.co.uk

Sedlescombe Players

Contact: Chairman Tara Buchanan ☎: 01424 870694
Email ✉: sedlescombeplayers@hotmail.co.uk
Website 🌐: www.sedlescombeplayers.co.uk

The Players are a friendly, welcoming group, with a strong membership of all ages and a core production crew. We tackle a wide variety of productions, aiming for 2 a year, and rehearse in the hall on Monday nights. Actors come and go, and return, depending on the genre of show and newcomers are always welcome both onstage and backstage. At the moment, we are **actively looking for** an additional set designer and builder.

Sedlescombe Rangers Football Club

Contacts: Chairman Nick Gardner ☎: 07809 562448
Secretary Paul Wenham ☎: 07930 639424
Charter Standard Coordinator – Chas Tibbutt on ☎: 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.

Matches take place on both Saturdays and Sundays throughout the season, along with our own tournament that is held each year in July.

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

The local branch of the British Legion is active in supporting the welfare of ex-service personnel and their families in the area and runs the annual Poppy Appeal. Membership is open to all who wish to support this noble and important cause irrespective of age and whether supporters have served in the forces or not. The annual subscription is £18.50. If you would like to join, help with the Poppy Appeal or know of someone who might need RBL help please contact the Secretary.

When: The first Wednesday in most months at 10:30

Where: The Queens Head Sedlescombe.

Contact: Chairman: John Page. ✉: rbl.sedlescombe@gmail.com ☎: 01414 870455
Secretary: Peter Jackson. ✉: shernold@hotmail.com ☎: 01424 870512

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 Trevor Palmer ☎: 01424 870830
Vice-Chairman Bea Morris ☎: 01424 777048
Secretary Chris Escott ☎: 07753 252449
Treasurer Eve Bradbury ☎: 01424 870401

Contact any of the above for further information

The Breakaways

Where: Sedlescombe Village Hall Committee Room
When: Every 3rd Thursday in the month Time: 10.00 until 12.00
We are a new group of ladies from the village who meet once a month and we will be having demonstrations and talks by local villagers as well as other speakers.
Refreshments will also be available and new members/visitors will always be welcomed.
For further information please contact Mrs. Rosemary Farley ☎ 0142 870533.

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.

Secretary Paul Wenham

Sedlescombe Theatre Club

New members always welcome. For information please contact:
Shirley Davies ☎: 01424 870475 or Jenny Mainwood ☎: 01424 871445

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

The Venue for your events, party, fundraiser, celebration, class, group or gathering.

Group and individual hire, one-off or regular booking

Main Hall * Fully equipped stage * Excellent kitchen facilities * Meeting room * Car Parking * Wi-Fi
Tables * chairs * crockery * cutlery * glassware to cater for up to 100 at tables, 150 seated in rows.

Check availability on the website Diary page and full details of this fantastic Community Venue

Book Now, Contact Stella Brabants sedlescombevillagehall@gmail.com 01424 871436

Sedlescombe & Westfield Patient Involvement Group

Did you know that the doctors' surgeries in Sedlescombe and Westfield now have a "Patient Involvement Group" that you can join?

Groups like ours are set up with encouragement from government to support the work of local doctors and health workers by giving a voice to local people. The idea is to improve the mutual understanding of patients and doctors, to aim to continue to improve and develop the service offered to patients and to inform villagers about the challenges and new policies that doctors are dealing with.

We meet at the Westfield surgery roughly every six weeks. We hear reports from the surgery business manager about the latest NHS strategies and developments. Our aim is to make the service to local people as good as it can possibly be, given the constraints that every part of the NHS has to face. One of our latest initiatives has been to send out a patient questionnaire to find out how people in Sedlescombe and Westfield view the work of the surgeries and to ask for ideas. One of the latest technical developments has been to install booking-in screens in the waiting rooms so that it is no longer necessary to queue at the desk when you arrive for an appointment. This also frees the receptionists to carry on with their phone calls & admin work. What do you think about your local surgery? How would you try to improve the service? Would you like to work with a small group of locals to understand the day-to-day business of local health care? How could we support our doctors and nurses in their jobs and local people in caring for their own health?

If you would like to join the Patient Involvement Group there are two ways. Either you can become a "Virtual" member and participate through writing, email or online contact without actually attending the meetings, or you can apply to be part of the group that meets every six weeks. Please contact Keith Newman, the business manager on 01424 751609 if you would like to find out more about the group or to volunteer'.

Sedlescombe and Westfield GP Surgeries

We are a partnership of 4 GPs working from two sites, in the villages of Sedlescombe and Westfield in rural East Sussex and our aim is to provide a friendly, welcoming and safe environment for all our patients whilst also providing high levels of up-to-date clinical care. On registration patients are given a named GP but you are free to consult whoever you feel can help you best at the time. ☎: **01424 870225**

Sedlescombe Wine Club

We are a very friendly group of wine lovers who meet once a month for great wine tastings and talks mostly in the village hall. Become a member, annual subscription is £35 per person. Major event and outside visits extra. All events at 7.30pm on a Friday of each month, unless otherwise stated.

Guest members are welcome and can pay a fee of £7.50 for each event attended.

Contact: Tina Mitchell ☎: 07788544988

Email: ✉: tinasixtytwo@btinternet.com

Sedlescombe Youth Club

Where: Sedlescombe Sports Pavilion. When: Thursdays Time 18:15 - 20:15

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.

Pestalozzi



Inspiring young people to make a difference in the world

Pestalozzi is a vibrant international village and proud to have been a part of the Sedlescombe community for nearly 60 years. We help educate bright young people from disadvantaged communities around the world. We share values of respect, integrity, diversity, commitment and fun.

Our students live and learn together in the Pestalozzi International Village in Ladybird Lane and gain an education they could not access in their home countries. The students' experience of life in the UK, sharing their cultures and ours, helps prepare them to become leaders of the future in their chosen fields.

As a national charity we aim to raise awareness, supporters and funds. Do join us for some of our events this year. They include a Doggy Dawdle walk around the estate in May, a Cheese and Wine evening, our Cavalcade of Transport in July, Golf Day in September and our usual Quiz night and Christmas Fayre at the end of the year.

In 2019 we are celebrating our 60th anniversary and we would love you to join us for a host of special events over the year.


Why not join the Pestalozzi family and become a volunteer, host parent or tutor? Or become a Friend of Pestalozzi and help us raise funds to support the amazing young people living here.

However, you choose to help, you can make a real difference to a Pestalozzi student and ensure they always remember Sedlescombe for its warmth and welcome.

You'll be glad you did!

: www.pestalozzi.org.uk

: office@pestalozzi.org.uk

: 01424 870444

Twitter

Facebook



Sedlescombe CE Primary School

Where: Gammons Way, Sedlescombe, Battle, East Sussex. TN33 0RQ
Contact: Mrs. Caroline Harvey – Head Teacher ☎: 01424 870585
Email: ✉: office@sedlescombecep.e-sussex.sch.uk
Website: 🌐: www.sedlescombecep.e-sussex.sch.uk

Welcome from the Head Teacher – Mrs. Caroline Harvey

I would like to offer you a very warm welcome to Sedlescombe Church of England Primary School.

We are a happy and successful, small primary school at the heart of the picturesque village of Sedlescombe. We have a strong ethos of learning built on Christian Values and have good links with St John the Baptist Church in Sedlescombe. We make the most of our rural location with weekly Forest School sessions.

At the heart of our school is each and every child. As a small school we are able to know each child as an individual and can build on their strengths and nurture and support their weaknesses. Our children are taught by dedicated, hard-working staff who make learning fun and exciting whilst ensuring that we provide a high-quality education so that every child realises his or her potential.

We believe that children thrive in an environment in which they are happy, challenged and safe. We therefore ensure that the classrooms are well-resourced and provide the children with a creative and stimulating learning environment.

We believe it is important to work in partnership with our families, so we are an open and friendly school who are eager to work together to provide the best opportunities for our children.

I hope you will find the information on our website helpful. The best way to find out more is to come and look around. Please feel free to make an appointment and we will be delighted to show you around.



Sedlescombe Pre-School

Where Sedlescombe Village Hall
When Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays
Time 9.00am-3.00pm, term time only. (Early start also available from 8.30am).
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. Contact us to arrange a visit to this wonderful pre-school!

Summary of County Council achievements 2017/18

This summary sets out some of the key achievements of East Sussex County Council in 2017/18 (up to February 2018) under the four strategic priorities of the Council. The Council Plan provides further detail of these priorities at:

www.eastsussex.gov.uk/yourCouncil/about/keydocuments/Councilplan/default.htm

The Council Plan for 2018/19 will be on our website from 1st April 2018.

Driving sustainable economic growth

East Sussex County Council (ESCC) is one of seven local authorities that have formed a partnership called **Transport for the South East** (TfSE). The new partnership brings together the area's 16 transport authorities and a range of other organisations to work directly with the Department for Transport. TfSE is currently operating in shadow form but intends to secure full Government backing and statutory powers. At the first meeting of TfSE in June 2017, **partners elected Cllr Keith Glazier, Leader of East Sussex County Council as chairman.**

Companies in East Sussex are now able to benefit from a new £2 million grants and **business support** service, aimed at boosting the county's economy. South East Business Boost offers grants of between £1,000 and £10,000 to existing small and medium sized businesses and start-ups for capital projects to help them grow and expand operations. So far £300,000 of grants have been awarded which will bring in over £850,000 in match funding. In addition, £227.4 million has been spent with local suppliers over the last 12mths; 55.8% of total Council spend.

East Sussex Highways, our partnership which looks after the roads, pavements, street lights, grass and winter maintenance won a number of prestigious awards during 2017/18. The customer service team won a silver award at the UK Customer Experience Awards and gold at the European Contact Centre and Customer Service Awards, following their introduction of a new more personalised way of working and a high-tech software system which has seen average call response times slashed from 90 seconds to just nine. In addition, East Sussex Highways has been recognised for its work to boost skills in the area, with work in schools and a clear commitment to apprenticeships.

Over 150 carriageway asset improvement schemes were delivered in the first three-quarters of 2017/18. The continued investment by the County Council into **highway maintenance**, and specifically the resurfacing of roads, has stemmed the rate of deterioration and maintained road conditions across the county at an acceptable and affordable level. The condition of A, B and C roads across the county have largely remained stable, and as anticipated when Cabinet approved the current investment strategy in 2013. The additional £10m invested in rural lanes, also approved by Cabinet in 2013, has resulted in a noticeable improvement of unclassified roads across the county.

A number of large scale **infrastructure projects** have also been progressed, including the Newhaven Port Access Road, improvements to Terminus Road in Eastbourne and funding secured to build a new two-lane bridge to replace the current one-lane Exceat Bridge over the Cuckmere river.

Our e-Sussex project to rollout faster **broadband** in previously isolated areas has continued to improve access to services, jobs and education. Over 70,000 premises have been connected during our first and second contracts. A final phase of works is being procured with the aim to connect as close to 100% of premises in the county as possible.

There was a further improvement in the percentage of secondary **schools** judged by Ofsted (as at August 2017) to be good or outstanding to 77.8% from 74.1% at the end of 2016/17. The Early Years Improvement Team has also worked with providers, such that 96% of all East Sussex early years settings are graded good or outstanding, up from 76% in 2013. Work continues through our new Excellence for All 2017-2019 strategy to raise standards across all our educational settings. In addition, ESCC was successful in securing funding from the Government's Strategic School Improvement Fund to set up a Secondary Inclusion Partnership which will see county schools working together to share expertise with a focus on disadvantaged pupils and those with special educational needs.

In July 2017, ESCC welcomed funding of nearly £12 million for the **arts**, announced by Arts Council England for seven projects across the county. This includes funding for Glyndebourne to support its education and outreach work, for the de La Warr Pavilion in Bexhill to promote visual arts, for the Towner Art Gallery in Eastbourne and the Jerwood Gallery in Hastings.

Keeping vulnerable people safe

In June 2017, the Safer East Sussex Partnership launched a new pilot scheme called 'Ask Me'. The scheme widens opportunities for survivors of **domestic abuse** to access the help they need from their communities. It provides free domestic abuse training for people to become 'ask me ambassadors' who can respond to a disclosure of domestic abuse and know where to signpost people for help. 16 Days of Action for the Elimination of Violence Against Women ran from 25 November 2017. Over the 16 days a range of organisations and individuals came together to work to end all forms of violence against women.

ESCC's **Children's Services** Department was runner up in the Social Worker of the Year Awards 2017 in the category of Best Social Work Employer. The Council's submission highlighted our achievements in supporting staff to create a high quality, sustainable system that secures the best outcomes for children and young people.

ESCC were successful in securing a £174,000 Warm and Healthy Homes grant from National Energy Action and £440,000 from the Warm Homes Fund to enable eligible vulnerable individuals to benefit from significant home improvements to help them **keep warm** in cold weather. This means over £1 million in external fuel poverty funding has been secured during the past two years.

By the end of December 2017, 61 organisations had joined the **East Sussex Against Scams** Partnership (ESASP) Charter which aims to make East Sussex a scam-free county. Over 687 residents have participated in Friends Against Scams awareness sessions which aim to reduce the likelihood of them, or people they know or care for, from becoming vulnerable victims of fraud and scams.

Helping people help themselves

Plans for closer health and care integration were given the green light by the Alliance partners (Eastbourne, Hailsham and Seaford CCG, Hastings and Rother CCG, ESCC, East Sussex Health Care NHS Trust and Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust) in the **East Sussex Better Together** (ESBT) programme in July 2017. Our ambition is to deliver a fully integrated health and social care system in East Sussex that will ensure every service user enjoys proactive, joined up care that supports them to live as healthily and independently as possible. We are now developing a single health and care entity to manage the £850 million spent each year on the health and care needs of people in East Sussex. In recognition of this work, the ESBT Alliance won the 'Improved Partnerships between Health and Local Government' award at the prestigious 2017 Health Service Journal Awards. Examples of more integrated services include Locality Link Workers who act as a conduit between the statutory services, the voluntary sector

and the community. Integrated locality teams (ILTs), made up of nurses, therapists, social workers and proactive care practitioners from East Sussex Health Care Trust (ESHT) and ESCC, have also been rolled out across the Eastbourne, Hailsham and Seaford and Hastings and Rother CCG areas.

There have been improvements against **Adult Social Care** key measures. Delayed transfers of Care (delayed days) from hospital per 100,000 population (aged 18+) has improved from 24.4 in April 2017 to 12.7 in November 2017. The proportion of older people (aged 65+) who are still at home 91 days after discharge from hospital into reablement / rehabilitation services for April to September 2017 is 91.7% - up from 90.5% in 2016/17.

An initiative helping **young people with disabilities** travel independently to school, college or training won national recognition. The Learning Independence for Travel (LIFT) training programme was one of just seven schemes shortlisted for a 'best service' award at the GO Excellence in Public Service Awards 2017/18.

One You East Sussex launched in October 2017 offers those who are struggling to make healthy lifestyle changes a bespoke support programme for help with weight loss, stopping smoking, getting active, drinking less and eating a healthy diet. Our **Beat the Street East Sussex** mass participation physical activity initiative saw more than 42,000 people take part and new Health and Wellbeing Community Hubs are due to be established in Hastings and Bexhill, helping people improve and manage their health by giving them access to information and support in one convenient place.

Schools across the county have been able to access additional funding to improve **children's physical and mental health**. Last year, 183 schools and colleges across the county received grants of £10,000 to develop and implement school health improvement plans and this year all schools were entitled to an additional £7,000 to further develop activities to boost health. In addition, the ESCC primary school menu was accredited with the Soil Associations Food for Life Served Here Gold Standard, which recognises pupils are being served meals with the freshest, ethically sourced ingredients, free from additives and excessive salt and sugar.

Making the best use of our resources

The Council's **budget** and Council Plan for 2018/19 were approved at the meeting of Full Council on the 6th February 2018. The budget includes spending of £371 million on services for East Sussex. It also includes savings of £17 million, a 3 per cent Adult Social Care levy and a 2.99 per cent Council tax increase.

The Council's **Stand Up for East Sussex** campaign, which made the case for East Sussex's particular needs to be recognised, gathered almost 6,000 signatures and was delivered to the Prime Minister in December 2017.

The **Orbis partnership** between East Sussex County Council, Brighton and Hove City Council and Surrey County Council aims to improve the quality and resilience of business services and provide savings to both authorities. After surpassing its initial financial targets by achieving £4.5 million savings in 2016/17 against a target of £1.1 million, Orbis is currently on target to deliver £3.9 million efficiencies in 2017/18. Teams from across the three Councils have been working together to improve the way Orbis delivers services to its customers, including an online pensions portal and a new e-recruitment system.

Feb-2018

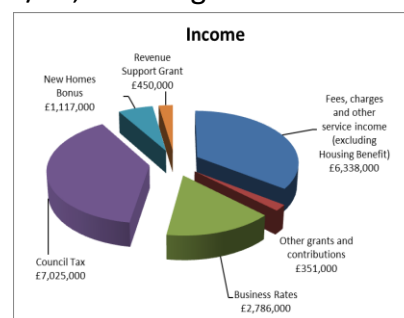
Contact: Alice Pippard: ✉: alice.pippard@eastsussex.gov.uk

☎: 01273 481816

Annual Parish Assembly 2018

1. Since 2011, the Government has cut its general grant to Rother District Council by more than £6 million. The general grant is primarily funded from the national pool of business rates. This amount of £6 million includes the reduction of £620,000 in 2017/18, reducing the Government's support grant down to £450,000. In 2018/19, the support grant is down to just £72,500. By April 2020 the Government will not pay us any general grant.

2. What this means is the income to Rother District Council has changed a great deal. It used to be that a significant part of our funding came from Government grant but now it makes up only a small proportion of the money we receive.



3. When we take into account other changes to our spending and income generated from other sources, we expect there to be a shortfall in our income peaking at £1.7m in 2021. To address the shortfall, a number of projects were started in 2017/18 to cut costs and increase income. These projects include adding information technology to get more automation, systematically reviewing each of our systems and processes to improve efficiency, devolving or selling some land and buildings and investing in new assets that will bring in more income. Each of these projects has a financial target. They are all on target, to date.
4. More detailed information on the Council's finances can be read in our Medium Term Financial Strategy. Our Sustainability and Efficiency Plan sets out how we will decide which services to prioritise and how lower priority services might be delivered over the next three years. You can find both documents on the Council's website at <http://www.rother.gov.uk/article/1059/Budgets-and-accounts>
5. Last year I reported that demand for some of our services rose and it continues to rise in the area of housing and homelessness. In response to concerns about the cost of housing and the lack of affordable housing, we are undertaking a scrutiny review to understand the issues and develop recommendations regarding how we might increase affordable housing provision. We continue to work hard to address local concerns, along with our partners:
- Last year homelessness applications were up by a third and households accepted as homeless were up 103% over the previous year. This year, applications remain at the same high level and homelessness acceptances are up another 26% (based on the first half of 2017/18). The impact of new legislation means we predict more increases in households registering with us in 2018.
 - Rother does not have enough affordable housing, especially social housing and low rent private sector housing. Due to demand, private sector rents have risen and are well above housing benefit allowances, for example. This is making it more and more difficult for us to help vulnerable households into the private sector
 - As a result, on 31 December 2017 we had our highest ever recorded number of households placed in temporary accommodation at 42 households. When we have to place a household in temporary accommodation it is not usually in Rother because there are very few suitable places. This year we started a pilot arrangement to lease local temporary accommodation.
 - Last year (2016/17) 83 new affordable homes were built. In 2017/18, 35 new affordable homes were built, these being in Bexhill and Northiam and we are on target for a further 76 new homes to be built by the spring of 2018 in Bexhill, Burwash and Peasmarsch.

- e. We are pleased to report that reports or complaints about housing disrepair against private sector landlords have gone down. Last year we had record levels at an average of 19 reports a month. This year it has gone down to an average of 13 reports a month.
- 6. In response to residents' concerns we have created a new part-time role of community warden to work with the police to enforce low level anti-social behaviour. This is on a trial two-year basis, after staff training.
- 7. We are undertaking a scrutiny review on the implications of moving to civil parking enforcement (CPE) throughout Rother so that we can form a view and give a response to East Sussex County Council. This work is due to go back to scrutiny on 19 March, through to Cabinet and thereafter Full Council on 21 May 2018. A number of stakeholder events and presentations have taken place that indicate businesses and residents would welcome East Sussex County Council adopting CPE.
- 8. The waste contract is coming up for renewal in 2019 and work is currently progressing in procuring a new contractor along with Hastings Borough Council and Wealden District Council. The future collection service is likely to consist of fully co-mingled dry recycling service, with chargeable garden waste and residual waste, collected fortnightly.
- 9. Our staff and grants have supported 28 tourism and cultural events across Rother in Rye, Robertsbridge, Battle, Burwash, Etchingham and Bexhill. In the first six months of the year, our arts and tourism grant support brought in an additional £170,000 into Rother. We supported 12 sport and health events up to December, including new opportunities for older people and disabled people to try out new activities and events around walking, running and cycling.
- 10. Over 31,800 residents receive a My Alerts email, an increase of 8% on last year. This means around 70% of Rother households get our My Alerts service. Clicks through from the emails to websites with more information have increased by 31%.
- 11. Attendance and visits to the leisure centres in Bexhill and Rye are up by 10.5% compared on the same period last year (April – December).

Councillor Tony Ganly

Office of the Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner

Strengthening local policing



As your elected Police and Crime Commissioner, one of my responsibilities is to set the budget for policing in Sussex and ensure that, what local people tell me matters most to them, is reflected in the delivery of policing.

The public tell me that they want to see their financial contributions fund more visible, local policing. They rightly want to feel safe at home, in public spaces, at night time and on the roads. They also expect their police force to be easily contactable when they need to reach them.

I am delighted to announce that Sussex Police has re-opened officer recruitment which I'm sure, is very welcome news to people across our county.

Sussex Police is aiming to attract 200 police officers each year for the next four years and I am pleased that this has been made possible by the public's support to pay more for local policing.


The majority of Sussex residents who responded to my precept consultation said they were prepared to pay more and I want to see their contributions going into visible and effective local policing.

I have always maintained that protecting neighbourhood policing is a top priority because it matters so much to local people. It's about keeping the community in policing and the police in the community, providing a reassuring police presence.

The additional funding that the rise in the police precept gives us also means the force has to save less money over the coming years so we can protect 476 police posts that would otherwise have been lost.

As your PCC I will continue to listen to your concerns and ensure you can see the difference that your contributions to policing will make.

To watch my video on officer recruitment, please visit: : www.sussex-pcc.gov.uk/about/our-videos/

To sign up to my weekly newsletter, visit: : www.sussex-pcc.gov.uk/about/pcc-newsletter/

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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.

*The Sedlescombe Spring Fayre
Committee invites you to the*

2018

SPRING fair

The word 'SPRING' is in large, purple, outlined letters, and 'fair' is in smaller, purple, outlined letters. The text is surrounded by colorful flowers (red, pink, yellow) and green grass. A small orange butterfly is perched on the letter 'I' in 'SPRING'.

SATURDAY 12th MAY 2018

*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:

**Trevor Palmer, Jeremy Eldridge,
Jean Dellow, Pat Evans, Reg Glew and Pauline Glew**

