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**PARISH
COUNCIL**

2019
ANNUAL REPORT &
DIRECTORY



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✉: clerk@sedlescombe.org.uk

**The 2019 Annual Report & Directory is published by
Sedlescombe Parish Council**

☎: 07531 065 469

✉: clerk@sedlescombe.org.uk

🌐: www.sedlescombe.org.uk

March 2019

The 2019 Sedlescombe Annual Parish Assembly will take place Wednesday 20th March 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 can enjoy a glass of wine kindly supplied by Sedlescombe Biodynamic Wines of England who are celebrating their 40th Anniversary with a grand re opening this summer. You will have an opportunity to view tables displayed by local businesses and organisations

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**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 18th April 2018
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 you are invited to circulate around the hall to meet Parish Councillors, District and County Councillors and local organisations and businesses.



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Sedlescombe Village Hall

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Parish Council Chairman's Introduction

2018 was a significant year for our Village. The successful referendum and consequent adoption of our Neighbourhood Plan made Sedlescombe first in Rother District to have a Neighbourhood Plan. More importantly, it means that we have both a much higher level of protection against speculative developments, protection of the valuable green spaces of the majority of Street Farm and Red Barn Field but also a guaranteed payment of 25% of the levy the district council will receive for new houses built.

Having established the Neighbourhood Plan the Parish Council has started planning how the funds it will receive will be used.

The first priority is to address how we as a village can both reduce the number and also the speed of vehicles travelling through the Village. Nearly half of our residents completed a traffic survey produced by the Traffic Advisory Group which is made up of both Parish Councillors and interested residents. A summary of the results from that survey are within this directory. This survey forms the basis on which The Parish Council will start to address the traffic problem in discussion with the Highways Authority in a way which achieves residents' objectives without damaging the look of the Village.

The second priority is to update the children's playground at the recreation ground. Plans have been created to assess moving the play area to the front of the recreation ground which is a lighter and more open area. The group working on this will be consulting with the Village over the coming months. Some more detail on this project can be read within this Directory.

I would like to add a special thanks to Pump House Designs, Blackbrooks, The Queens Head and the Brickwall Hotel who have been so supportive in providing everything from posters to free dinners and vouchers as incentives for residents to involve themselves in our surveys and Annual Assemblies. I would also like to thank all the local businesses who advertise in this Directory and would encourage residents to use those services wherever they can.



Jonathan Vine-Hall

Chairman Sedlescombe Parish Council

March 2019

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Annual Parish Assembly Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 18th April 2018 in Sedlescombe Village Hall 7pm to 9pm

PRESENT: 82 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, Lindsay Fraser, Gareth Matthews, Sallyann Sidgwick and Andy Waters. Carol Hodgson (Clerk / RFO of Sedlescombe Parish Council). County Councillor Carl Maynard. District Councillor Tony Ganly. Detective Sergeant Dave Pye and PCSO Demi Georghiou - Sussex Police.

1. Welcome from the Chairman of Sedlescombe Parish Council

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and for Health and Safety purposes pointed out the emergency exits in the Village Hall plus the Mustering points outside. The audience was advised that being a public meeting people may be recording the proceedings. The Chairman asked if anyone objected to raise their hand. No objections were indicated. Thankyous were extended to those involved with arranging the evening, to the organisations who had taken table displays and for the refreshments at the end. Apologies for absence were received from Jane Blanford, Jean Dellow, Rod Eldridge, Trevor Palmer and Ron Sunderland.

2. Approval of Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting held on 29th March 2017

It was proposed by Cllr. Anson and seconded by Cllr. Brister to approve the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 29th March 2017.

3. Reports from the groups and organisations of Sedlescombe

The Chairman called upon the following to report: -

Patient Involvement Group: Mr. Kevin Katner reported that every GP Surgery was required in their contract to have a Patient Group but not all surgeries do. This group was established over 2 years ago when Kevin moved into the village and approached the Sedlescombe and Westfield Surgery. An information leaflet – ‘Help My GP and Help My A&E’ was available on the table display in the hall. One of the main issues for all GP’s and that of the NHS was the pressure of expectations and the lack of resources to deliver the services patients want. This document provided ideas on how to better look after your own wellbeing and getting better use out of GP and A&E services. The other leaflet was about the group - ‘PIG’ and there was also an article in the Annual Directory. The role provided a link between patients, doctors and staff. All members of the group were volunteers. The core group had a maximum of 12 members of which there were currently 9 members. A further 5 people had also shown interest over the past week making the group oversubscribed. Most of the group were ‘of a certain age’ and people under 45 were encouraged to join to give a different prospective. What did the group do? They do not deal with complaints, fundraising, patient records or treatment. The group was looking at how they could enhance the service that the surgery offers. PIG feedbacks views of the community to the surgery and presents a viewpoint on what the service should look like. This would help the surgery to evolve in a rapidly changing time when not only health was being considered but social care too. The group had a link and worked with the 7 surgeries in their federation – the Rother Group of surgeries – and the 23 surgeries in Hastings, Bexhill and Rother area. The group was looking at developing and enhancing peoples view of their own health, how they access health care and social care and taking a role in signposting people to the help they need. Many patients go to GP surgeries not for medical purposes but for other advice as they did not know where else to go. This puts pressure on the GP surgeries and resources. The PIG had recently put out a questionnaire to patients – which received a good response and the results would shortly be published on their website (PIG link on Sedlescombe and Westfield Surgeries page - www.sedlescombeandwestfieldsurgeries.co.uk). All documentation, meeting minutes, Constitution etc. were all on the website for public access. The survey revealed that a lot of people did not use the internet and they were looking to support them in other ways. Other issues raised included the disabled access to the surgery – as the building was leased, this would be referred to the landlord. Some people did not like the new checking-

in system. On the positive side, 92% of the feedback was that the surgery was doing a really good job. The PIG and Surgery was pleased with this but would continue to improve even further.

Kevin encouraged the audience to read the leaflets available at the back of the hall and if anyone was interested in getting involved, to get in touch. A 'Virtual Group' had also recently been set-up with electronic communication and this would be accessible through an app soon

Cllr. Vine-Hall began by welcoming the new shop owner, San, who had managed to revitalise the shop over the past year.

Cllr. Vine-Hall spoke of the changes in the way the Annual Parish Assembly had been presented over the years. Previously all Parish Councillors had sat on the stage which made the meeting feel like a Parish Council meeting which it was not. As Councillors had changed over the years, the Chairman felt it would be useful for each Parish Councillor to briefly introduce themselves.

Cllr. Vine-Hall reported that he had joined the Parish Council in 2011 and became Chairman in 2012. The post of Chairman was elected every year in May as were all the positions on the Parish Council. The Parish Councillors were not volunteers they were either co-opted when a vacancy became available or elected through the normal election process which usually happened at the same time as the District Elections. Cllr. Vine-Hall had lived in the village since 2003 where he and his wife had a farm running between Cripps Corner and Brede Lane. He was involved in most aspects of the Parish Councils work but had been most deeply involved with the Neighbourhood Plan. He was a mediator with Hastings and Rother Mediation Service and Chairman of Raystede Animal Sanctuary in Ringmer.

Cllr. Anson reported that he came to Sedlescombe nearly 21 years ago and was fortunate to live in a very beautiful house in Stream Lane. By profession he was a Chartered Surveyor and was semi-retired. He had served on Parish Council for 6 years – Full Council and the Finance Executive Committee. Due to his professional involvement in planning he did not serve on the planning committee. Cllr. Anson explained why he served as a Councillor. Sedlescombe had a lot of lovely people and it was a great pleasure to be one of their Parish Councillors. Endless hospitality was extended to him and residents had a keen interest in what happened in their Village. The lengthy process of the NHP resulted in a good turn-out at the Referendum with a resounding 'Yes' but also people voted 'No' which demonstrated how people had thought through about the future of the Village. Being a Parish Councillor was about the people and their attitude towards the Village.

Cllr. Fraser reported that she had moved to Sedlescombe in 2010 and lived in Blacklands on Brede Lane. She was co-opted to the Parish Council in 2013 and was a Member of the NHP and Emergency Advisory Committees. Her professional background was in Health Research, with a particular focus on the early detection of cancers in women. She was currently working full-time on a PHD at the Institute for Women's Health in London.

Cllr. Chapman reported that he had lived in the village over 40 years. Majority of that time he ran a building business. When he retired he wanted to put something back into the village and got involved with the Parish Council running the Volunteers scheme in carrying out renovations and repairs to Parish Council property in the Village. He was a putting to use his knowledge of planning as a member of the Planning Committee. Cllr. Chapman had served on the Parish Council for 8 years and had thoroughly enjoyed that time.

Cllr. Waters reported that he had served on Parish Council for just over a year. He was a retired Company Director and had lived at the bottom of the Village Green for nearly 5 years. He was a member of the Red Barn Working Group, Coordinator of the Community Speed Watch group and the Footpath Warden. He was also actively involved with Cllr. Chapman and the volunteers who undertake repairs around the village. Outside of Parish Council he was a member of the Sedlescombe and District Garden Society.

Cllr. Vine-Hall gave a special thanks to Cllrs. Chapman and Waters who for the second time, had cleared the path from the Village Hall all the way up to the Church with the aid of a digger and dumper. This was a task which should be undertaken by the County Council but was difficult to get them to do it.

Cllr. Matthews reported that he had lived in the Village since 2012 and was currently in Gorselands. He was a Teacher at a local secondary school in Hastings. He had served on Parish Council for just over a year. He was a Member of the Finance Committee and was also looking into improvements at the Riverside Play Area.

Cllr. Brister reported that she had lived in the Village for over 20 years. She was a Business Development Consultant mainly worked with the voluntary sector. She started in the village by volunteering and setting-up the Sedlescombe Jobs Network page and from there was co-opted onto the Parish Council around 4 years ago. She was a Member of the Red Barn Field Working group. Outside Parish Council she was an Executive Director of Pestalozzi Enterprises.

Cllr. Sidgwick reported that she had lived in the Village for 20 years – currently in Stream Lane. She was a self-employed Bookkeeper and had clients within a 20mile radius of Sedlescombe. Cllr. Sidgwick was co-opted onto Parish Council around 6 months ago. She felt it was time for her to give something back to the village as the village had given her so much by living there over the past 20 years.

Cllr. Glew reported that she was the Vice-Chair of the Parish Council. She had been in Sedlescombe since 1997 and lived in Park Shaw. She had served on Parish Council since 2003 and was currently the longest serving Member. Cllr. Glew was Chair of the Finance Committee, Chair of the Red Barn Working Group and ran the well-used and much needed Sedlescombe 'Lift Scheme'. She represented the Village on various other outside Committees. Her leisure time was taken-up working voluntary for the National Trust which she had done for the last 19 years and trying to keep pace with 13 grandchildren aged between 18 and 30 years old from her 4 daughters.

Cllr. Glew continued with reports for the following organisations:

Red Barn Field Working Group: Cllr. Glew thanked Mrs. Elizabeth (Cole) Pitcher for the loan of her sheep twice a year who did a job of keeping the grass down on Red Barn Field.

Sedlescombe Lift Scheme: Cllr. Glew gave her thanks to the drivers on the Sedlescombe Lift Scheme. The scheme was very much needed and appreciated in Sedlescombe, without it a lot of people would have great difficulty in getting to the hospital.

Sedlescombe News: Cllr. Glew was one of the editors of the Sedlescombe News and was pleased to announce they had now joined the 21st century and had an email address sedlescombenews@outlook.com – which would be circulated around the village. They would still take messages in the black bag on a Wednesday up until 12pm. The Sedlescombe News was available electronically for £10 per year and Cllr. Glew was happy to take details after the meeting. The News came out on a Friday and was available to purchase from the Village Shop for 20p. Cllr. Glew thanked the shop for printing the leaflet free of charge.

Spring Fayre: Cllr. Glew reported that the annual event would once again be held on the Village Green on 12th May 2018. The Committee was struggling to find volunteers to help set-up from 9am and dismantle before 5pm. They would not be required to stay all day just at the beginning and end to sort out the stalls. They were also having problems with getting youngsters to do the Maypole this year and that was what the whole May Fayre was about the Maypole. Any parents here who had a young boy or girl who would be interested in doing the Maypole should see Cllr. Glew.

As per tradition Cllr. Glew as Vice-Chair thanked the Chairman for all that he had done during the year. Aside from all the time that he had spent on the NHP, he had done lots of other things as well as guiding and supporting all the Councillors.

Cllr. Vine-Hall spoke on the process of co-opting a Councillor to Parish Council when a vacancy arose. Parish Council aimed to find residents with a complimenting skill set, a good understanding of the Village and in a different geographic part of the village to the existing Councillors. Cllr. Vine-Hall hoped that the brief introduction from each Councillor was helpful in getting to know who the Members of the Parish Council were. Everyone was welcome to come to a Parish Council meeting – they were public meetings, held in Committee Room 2 of the Village Hall and were always advertised in advance.

Pestalozzi: Kinzang – a first year from Bhutan spoke on her experience of being selected to study in the UK for 2 years under a Pestalozzi scholarship. Kinzang had been at the Pestalozzi for 7 months and was lucky enough

to be shortlisted amongst the 22 top students of Bhutan. The selection process consisted of an interview + examinations and a very long stressful wait to see if you had been successful or not. Leaving Bhutan was very exciting for Kinzang but emotional for her family and friends she had left behind. The 14-hour flight to the UK was her first time on a plane. It had been an intriguing experience for Kinzang, which had made her grow as a person, taking responsibility for her decisions. She had learned to live in harmony with people from nine different countries with different perspectives of the world. Aside from studying there were plenty activities the students did such as Spanish classes, Guitar class, Baking, Football, Eco club and FFT to name just a few and this was what brought the students at Pestalozzi together and taught them the value of love and respect in life. Kinzang's aim was to be a surgeon. She was here today with her story but also to represent the hundreds of other Pestalozzi students and their stories. Kinzang informed the audience that regretfully she would be one of the last 16 students to come to the UK under a Pestalozzi scholarship. She had been fortunate that her dream and aspirations to bring about positive changes in the community had been fulfilled through the Pestalozzi scholarship, with the help of some of the sponsors and supporters here that evening. She thanked the whole of the staff at Pestalozzi for giving her a golden opportunity to fulfil her dreams. On behalf of Pestalozzi students, she extended love, respect and heart full gratitude to the whole of the Sedlescombe community for supporting Pestalozzi, for supporting dreams and ambitions and inspiring hundreds of students with diverse backgrounds to be an agent of change and create a difference in the world.

Cllr. Vine-Hall thanked Kinzang for her speech and advised that Sue Walton - Chief Executive of Pestalozzi was there that evening and available for anyone to speak to.

4. Report of Parish Council Chairman

Cllr. Vine-Hall reported:

Sedlescombe Neighbourhood Plan, which most importantly for the Parish Council this year and for the community had successfully gone through the referendum with a majority 'Yes' vote of 86% on a turnout of 46%. The 'Yes' vote was nearly exactly in line with all responses from the consultations which went on for some years and was the same percentage as the national average for referendums and neighbourhood plan referendums. The turnout however was some 40% above the national average and just under the sort of turnout for a District Council Election when they were not held at the same time as a general election. NHP referendums tended to have a slightly lower turnout as those residents who did not live in the core of the village, were less affected by the housing side and were a little less likely to turn-up to vote but the result was excellent. Cllr. Vine-Hall thanked everyone who turned-out to vote. The plan was excepted by Rother DC Cabinet on the 9th April, and it would then go to the Full Council for final ratification on 23rd April. At that point it became part of their local plan. The resulting effect was firstly Sedlescombe would have a much higher level of protection against speculative development than it would have had without a plan. Sedlescombe would receive a considerably higher portion of the Community Infrastructure Levy paid by house builders and developers, which was a guaranteed 25% as opposed to a non-guaranteed 15%. That would amount for Sedlescombe for the building of infrastructure over the next 10 years to about £250,000 and upward. Even more importantly Red Barn Field had been protected as a local green space for future generations. There was also the protection against further unwanted development on Street Farm, which would also be protected as a local green space for future generations. Cllr. Vine-Hall noted that the protection on both of those sites had not been in place the day before the referendum, making this a significant moment.

As Rother DC's 'Plan' in terms of delivering housing was currently lacking, this had meant that having a Neighbourhood Plan in place was even more important to protect the village against further speculative development such as Street Farm, which was so wrongly approved by Councillors at Rother DC. Cllr. Vine-Hall thanked the hundreds of residents who had been involved in so many ways with the NHP over the last 5 years. The continued engagement of residents over that time had made the plan happen - against quite a few obstacles that had been met along the way. Then finally to the excellent turnout on the referendum day. The introduction of the **General Data Protection Regulation** was a very important change in data protection law brought in on the 25th May 2018. All businesses and public authorities now had to gain new consent to

hold and use individual's personal data such as email addresses, phone numbers and postal addresses - information that Parish Council would normally hold to contact residents. The new regulations ensured that the personal data Parish Council held, could only be used specifically for the purpose it was captured. This meant going through all PC's files and destroying any stored information, update policies and regain residents consent to hold their information. To this end Parish Council needed to regain consent to hold resident's emails and other details to be able to keep everyone informed-on village matters, so to start that process a consent form had been sent to all Sedlescombe residents with the Annual Directory and there were also forms available on everyone's seat that evening. As an incentive, everyone who filled in a form would go into a prize draw for one of five £5 vouchers kindly donated by Blackbrooks.

Redevelopment of Roselands. Roselands was an older people's home located on The Street and had been under redevelopment for around 18 – 24 months. The rebuilding of Roselands had now been completed and handed over to the Housing Association in March. There were 17 affordable new dwellings in this scheme, comprising of 10 x 1-bedroom affordable rented apartments - eligible for applicants aged 55 and above - charged at a rent of up to 80% of the market value or maximum housing allowance, whichever was the lower. 7 shared ownership homes - 5 x 2-bedroom and 2 x 3-bedroom homes, where the owner had an equity stake and the Housing Association had an equity stake. Any interested persons could pick up a brochure at the back of the Hall that evening. All enquiries needed to be made to Optivo - previously known as Amicus Horizon. The priority allocation of the Roseland homes would be offered in the first instance to those who had a local connection to Rother either by way of permanent employment, current residency or a family living in the District.

Cllr. Vine-Hall welcomed local resident and Sedlescombe Primary School pupil Charlotte – granddaughter of John and daughter of Sarah-Jane.

Charlotte began: 'Have you ever gone to a place and when you arrived it felt like home? In 1976 my grandparents took over the Queens Head and my mother who was then 7 years old started at the old Primary School. She loves Sedlescombe. At the age of 7 I also moved to Sedlescombe and just like my mother, I love it here and it's my home. I'd like to tell you a little about myself and my experience of living in the village. My name is Charlotte and I am at Sedlescombe Church of England Primary School and have lived in the village for over 3 years. When I first moved to the village to live with my grandfather, John Cook - you may know him - I was very shy and didn't know anyone. This soon changed. On my taster day at school I met the lovely lady Mrs. Ham, who was my new headteacher and luckily there were 2 other girls who were also joining year 3. All the people at the school were very nice and welcoming. It was a wonderful experience meeting all my new classmates and Maisy who is now my best friend, for the first time. Living in Sedlescombe is great. Everyone is so friendly and will often say 'Good Morning' or say 'Hello' to me on my way to school. I have the chance to do lots of things in Sedlescombe. I represented our school in the Choir and running. I have done a project about my grandfather's old house and participated in village events like the Fete. I was also very happy when I found out that me and some other classmates were on the PLT, which is like a school council with extra jobs to keep our school at the highest standard. I was pleased that other friends like Maisy were on the sports leadership team and that our school football team, who we all support has done so well. We have had a lot of rain recently, so it has been more difficult to explore our beautiful village and easier to stay at home. I came up with a project to get people out and about. All around Sedlescombe I have hidden painted rocks for people to find. If you find one you can take a photo and post it on our Facebook Page, called 'Sedlescombe Rocks'. After you've done that you hide the rock nearby for another person to find. This is just a little hunt for people to explore Sedlescombe looking for the rocks I've painted. I live in a beautiful place. There are many things to do and the people are friendly. I feel part of a lovely Community and just like my project ' Sedlescombe Rocks! Thank you for listening and I hope to see you exploring our village trying to find the colourful rocks'.

Cllr. Vine-Hall thanked everyone for coming along – to Sgt David Pye and PCSO Demi Georghiou.

PCSO Demi Georghiou thanked everyone for a very warm welcome. It had made him realise what a pleasure and privilege it had been to work in Sedlescombe. He reassured a gentleman in the audience that though he may not have seen him around he was there with his team and they do work in Sedlescombe – with some recent good results. And finally, ‘Charlotte, everyone will be seeing me around Sedlescombe because I'm going to be looking for those stones.’

Cllr. Vine-Hall thanked all those on the stage for answering questions. The District and County Councillors had things to take back with them and the Parish Council was very much focussed on all the traffic items, in pushing them forward, all helped by having the Neighbourhood Plan in place which will create funds. He gave an extra thank you for everyone coming that evening and to Carol who re-joined Parish Council last August after a short break.

Cllr. Vine-Hall thanked Charlotte and called upon Cllr. Chapman to draw the Volunteers Prize Draw for a dinner for two at the Queens Head.

5. Volunteer Prize Draw

Cllr. Chapman drew the winning ticket. He thanked all the ‘Volunteers’ for a very good job again this year and asked for anyone interested in ‘Volunteering’ to contact The Clerk

6. Electors Questions and Answers

With County Cllr Carl Maynard; District Cllr Tony Ganly and Parish Council Chair Cllr Jonathan Vine Hall

Cllr. Vine-Hall invited County Cllr. Carl Maynard, District Cllr. Tony Ganly, Sgt. Dave Pye and PCSO Demi Georghiou to the stage to take questions from the audience.

Cllr. Vine-Hall began with 2 questions received him from the audience.

Q: To Cllr. Ganly: A resident in Blacklands had a video of dustmen tipping the black boxes of glass in with the green bin waste in the back of the dustcart. Why were residents having to separate out their recycling, when the collectors were just remixing it back in? This had been happening for the last year.

A: Cllr. Ganly was aware that this had been happening for a long time and Rother DC Officers had been in constant discussions with Kier. The reason related to not having the right equipment, insufficient trucks with 2 compartments. When a truck broke down there was no replacement and it came down to a truck with one compartment where everything went into that compartment. Then the waste had to be separated, at Kiers cost. Rother DC had questioned Kier on the point of residents separating glass from plastic and paper if they were going to mix them all together but Kier insisted nevertheless that Residents were asked to continue separating everything. Cllr. Ganly continued that the current contract with Kier had been mutually agreed to be terminated on 30th June 2019. A new contract was currently being discussed and had been put out to tender. There were currently 4 or 5 bidders interested. The contract would take effect from 1st July 2019.

Q: To Cllr. Ganly: A resident from Gorselands had a query on Cllr. Ganly’s report in the 2018 Annual Report in relation to the waste management contract. It said, ‘the future collections service is likely to consist fully of fully co-mingled dry recycling service, with chargeable garden waste and residual waste, collected fortnightly’. They understood ‘chargeable garden waste’ but could not understand charging for ‘residual waste’ and felt that was a mistake and asked for clarification.

A: Cllr. Ganly advised that Rother DC will not be charging for residual waste. They could only charge for garden waste which was an optional service and that the statement was incorrect.

The resident asked that it was noted by the Assembly and that it be would be corrected in due course.

Q: To Cllr. Maynard: A resident had previously raised a question about the road surface in the village. The road surface on the hill up to Gorselands was very dangerous especially to cyclists. It needed resurfacing from top to bottom.

A: Cllr. Maynard: advised that potholes were a national problem due to a lack of investment in the nation’s road networking across 3 or 4 decades. Around 3 years ago ESCC undertook a review of their assets – being roads – across the county and what the cost would be to bring them up to scratch. In today’s money this came

just short of £400m. ESCC had however invested in 'unclassified' roads such as Cottage Lane between Westfield and Sedlescombe which had been completely resurfaced and also Parsonage Lane in Westfield. Every year County Council produced a programme of capital works across the county whereby those roads in poorer condition were properly prioritised. The extra investment in unclassified roads that was put in over a 2-year period 2 or 3 years ago had led to a better condition of those roads across the whole county. The biggest factor had been the 3 very wet winters resulting in a lot of potholes on many roads across the whole county and not just locally. Cllr. Maynard gave 2 assurances that ESCC monitored the repairs undertaken by their contractors and also the repairs carried out by the 'Utilities'. Historically the Utilities had a poor record of putting right the road surfaces after digging them up and people often complained when a newly resurfaced road was suddenly dug-up shortly afterwards by the Utilities. Sadly, this was out of the County Council's control as the Utilities would claim it was emergency work. A couple of years ago whilst Cllr. Maynard held the portfolio, ESCC had brought in Permit Scheme that the Utilities had to apply for to make sure there was a certain period of time in which the work was undertaken, and this had led to speedier road repairs. In terms of potholes, Cllr. Maynard encouraged residents to report these to the Highways Hub and gave his assurance also that it was now the Contractors responsibility to rectify their substandard repair at their cost. This was not a cost to the Council Tax Payer. Cllr. Maynard also received a lot of pothole complaints and generally following a site visit ESCC would discover it was only a temporary repair. He explained that during bad weather 90% of the repairs would be temporary as a permanent repair could not be undertaken when it was raining. Cllr. Maynard was happy to help with alerting the Highways Steward to a road that should go into the Capital Programme, but he could not give a guarantee that a particular road would go into the programme as it was dependent on prioritisation across the county and putting monies where they were best spent to give the Council Tax payers of East Sussex best value for money.

The resident responded that it was not necessarily the potholes, the whole road was peeling.

Cllr. Maynard advised that again this was a common problem across the County, but he would ask the Highways Steward to take a look and see if it could be put into the Capital Programme for next year.

Cllr. Vine-Hall commented that having driven down Brede Lane there were no potholes along that section of road, but the pothole repairs had made the road surface rough and now the surface had gone with many of the edges deteriorated. Around 40% of the population of Sedlescombe lived around Brede Lane and this road takes an enormous amount of traffic each day – which also included the Doctors Surgery, the Brickwall Hotel and Sedlescombe CEP School. Cllr. Vine-Hall asked if Cllr. Maynard could escalate this repair.

Cllr. Maynard advised that he could not, as it would be having to be considered in terms of prioritisation of the whole of East Sussex, but he would inform the contracted Highways Steward for the area of Sedlescombe and report back to the Parish Council the progress of the particular issue.

Q: To Cllr. Maynard: A further resident asked if the section of The Street between Eaton Walk and The Green could also be added as it was in a dreadful state on the left-hand side going down.

Cllr. Vine-Hall added that everyone accepts that there were priorities but would ask Cllr. Maynard as Sedlescombe's representative to take the issues to County Council and see what could be done about them. Firstly, the issue off Brede Lane, which took a large volume of traffic. The Street which had a significant increase in traffic volume due to diversions from the A21 which highlighted to motorists there was an alternative route along the B2244. The Community was seeing roads damaged but nothing happening to repair the roads in Sedlescombe – just on the outsides.

A: Cllr. Maynard responded that it was not the case but would inform the Highways Steward as to the roads that were a problem in Sedlescombe. The Highways Steward should already have informed or gone back to their superiors and thus onto the County Council to get these roads into the resurfacing / re-patching programme. It had to be put into context that this was a problem across the whole of East Sussex and they did not have £400m to invest in these roads.

Q: To Parish Council: A resident asked what plans the Parish Council had to deal with the volume and speed of traffic going through the Village? The illuminated / response signs were completely inadequate. The white lines had been worn away, the cats-eyes were non-existent. It just seemed to be getting worse day by day.

A: Cllr. Vine-Hall responded that this was a benefit of having the Neighbourhood Plan that more funds would now be available to address these problems with ESCC under their Community Match Funding scheme. Parish

Council was already looking into a new 'Radar Speed' sign which had the capability to accurately record the volume of traffic and its speed. This information could then be fed back to ESCC so that the Parish Council could work with them to devise a scheme to divert traffic away from Sedlescombe and also to slow it down before it got to the central village. The Speed Watch coordinated by Cllr. Waters had aided in a dramatic drop in the speed of traffic but not the volume. It is an absolute focus of the Parish Council – working together with ESCC to address the traffic issues. Volume was an issue for the north of the village, whereas speed was more of a problem in the south of the village. A requirement of the proposed development planned at the top of the village was to contribute to some traffic calming.

Q: To Cllr. Maynard: A resident from The Street spoke of the dangerous 'crater like pothole' in the road outside the Bridge Garage. The area along The Street was a nightmare for the volume of traffic partly due to the way people parked – on the pavement, close to the junction and very often not the residents living there – this obscured view and caused driving tension.

A: Cllr. Vine-Hall asked Cllr. Maynard if, as County Council's representative for Sedlescombe he could represent the village on these growing issues as ESCC always found a good reason for not addressing them. Cllr. Maynard responded that as the Local Member he would not promise residents what he could not deliver and there had to be a realism of both the capital and revenue funding of the County Council, which is why – when he held the portfolio – he introduced the Community Match Funding Scheme to enable residents and the Parish Council of Sedlescombe to put forward tangible projects which were not considered as priority to ESCC. To define projects that were not a priority to County Council – CC will only make changes to the physical nature of a road if there were accident records that were very bad i.e. serious injuries or deaths. That meant ESCC had to put priorities where they needed to happen. The Community Match Funding route starts with a local feasibility study, so the Community knows the likely cost of the scheme going forward to ESCC – engineering changes to a road were not cheap. Cllr. Maynard gave his assurance that he would always shout very loudly for the residents of Sedlescombe and would signpost them in the right way to deliver what they wanted delivered as a local community. He would not however, say that this 'can be done' due to the financial constraints that ESCC finds itself in.

Q: To Cllr. Vine-Hall: A resident from The Street added to the above question that whilst looking at the volume of traffic, there should be a particular focus on heavy lorries that were travelling through The Street at all hours of the day and night that must be contributing significantly to the damage of the road surface. The lorries were also 'shaking' the properties along The Street, potentially causing structural damage to older properties. Why do huge Spar lorries need to come through the village at 1am / 2am?

A: Cllr. Vine-Hall agreed with the comments and that Parish Council was going to focus on firstly moving the traffic elsewhere and then reducing the speed coming through the Village.

Q: To Cllr. Vine-Hall: A resident commented that reducing the speed from the north of the village was discussed at last year's meeting. As a member of the Congregation of St. Johns Church, every week there were near misses. Are we just waiting for something or somebody to be killed?

A: Cllr. Vine-Hall clarified the location – which was at the top of Church Hill – around the corner and down the hill. Cllr. Vine-Hall confirmed it was a point raised before and a reason that the Church wished to have off-road car parking. Everything Parish Council had done was towards achieving reduction of speed limits. Members of the audience commented that changing the speed limit should be easy and in terms of cost must just be a matter of replacing the round labels on the road from one end to the other.

Cllr. Vine-Hall advised that via enquiries made by Parish Council on reducing speed limits, Highways would only consider a speed limit change downwards of 5 miles an hour from the current average speed. This would be Parish Council's focus, as funds would now be available. The first step in the new year would be to talk to the Highways Authority on how to achieve these objectives – cutting through the previous bureaucracy – together with the help of the County Council Member.

Cllr. Maynard added that the bureaucracy was an historical National bureaucracy and to change a speed limit, it firstly had to be supported by the Police. Secondly it would have to be self-enforcing. Cllr. Maynard explained the complexities of trying to reduce speed limits – nature of the road, driver behaviour, need for engineering measures and other legal hoops. Guestling had recently engaged in lowering a speed limit on a stretch of road from 40mph to 30mph and the total cost would have been almost £30,000.

Cllr. Vine-Hall continued that if the Community wants to implement these measures, the Community had to agree to pay for it, which came back to the purpose of the Community Infrastructure Levy funding – making these schemes affordable.

A member of the audience queried why it was so difficult to lower the speed limit on local roads, but it had been achieved on the A21 – due to the amount of people killed near to the Royal Oak pub.

Cllr. Maynard re-iterated his previous comment that the matter for lowering speed limits is in terms of killed and seriously injured. *Following further comments from the audience that, the Police were asked last year and had confirmed that they would undertake speed checks in the village – as the Community Speed Watch is limited to 2 areas – this had never happened.* Cllr. Maynard continued that was a matter for the Police to address but he was not in disagreement about speeding in villages – which was a common theme at all local Parish Assembly's.

Cllr. Vine-Hall added that the Speed Radar Parish Council was currently looking at would do a speed check, volume check and it was reasonably mobile, so could be moved to different parts of the village. *A member of the public queried why the Police had said that the Speed Camera can only be used in 2 areas of the village.*

Cllr. Vine-Hall responded that Speed Watch can only operate in 30mph zones.

Sgt. Pye intervened to answer the question and explained that the Speed Check locations were assessed on Health and Safety grounds. Traffic management was one of the most dangerous tasks for Police. National statistics showed that most people were hurt through traffic incidents. The Police had a responsibility to those Volunteers who ran the Speed Watch's and due to the manner of driving it was very dangerous. It was all to do with line of site and making it as safe as possible.

Cllr. Vine-Hall asked if there was any flexibility as the Speed Watch sessions had shown a reduction in the speed of traffic through the village.

Sgt. Pye agreed that enforcement and Speed Watch were an effective tool but it also about the safety of the locations and for those people operating them.

Cllr. Vine-Hall clarified the 2 different aspects being referred to – Speed Check which was carried out in the village but a 'Survey' of the volume of traffic can be carried out anywhere.

Q: A resident referred to the extra premium paid by residents around 6 years ago for PCSO Demi Georghiou, but in the last 3 years a Police Office was never seen. This additional premium was paid to the Parish Council – Cllr. Vine-Hall corrected that this would be to the District Council and not Parish Council.

A: Sgt. Pye explained the changes in the way Police now delivered services. Funding cuts had seen a reduction in the number of PCSO's which resulted in PCSO's being withdrawn from their Communities. Sgt. Pye was heartened by the good response to PCSO Demi from people that evening, and he would take that away with him. The Police were looking to get back and improve their engagement with communities. PCSO's were now doing slightly different work – such as protecting vulnerable people from online fraud, telephone frauds, drugs etc. The PCSO's were still available and could be contacted via (the notorious) 101 or their dedicated website. There was an email subscription available for everyone to receive information about what was going on. The new system revolved around getting as much intelligence to the public as possible electronically as opposed to face to face. There had been many changes to the Council Tax to pay for Policing round and about the County. The challenges had now changed.

Q: A resident asked what was happening about the toilets in the Village and the vandalism etc.

A: Cllr. Vine-Hall responded that the matter was back with the District Council.

Cllr. Ganly advised that District Council was still consulting with the Parish Council. Cllr. Vine-Hall intervened that Parish Council had responded to the District Council and the matter was entirely in their hands. Parish Council was waiting for District Council's response. Cllr. Ganly agreed to take the matter back to the District Council Officers but asked that the matter on vandalism was reported through to the Parish Council. The resident advised the issues were late at night. He noted that early morning the toilets were frequently locked. Cllr. Vine-Hall asked if Cllr. Ganly would visit the toilets to investigate.

Q: Cllr. Vine-Hall had a question from a resident in East View Terrace for Cllr. Maynard regarding the overgrown brambles between Ivy Cottage and Gorselands along Brede Lane.

A: Cllr. Maynard responded that there are many occasions when people consider it was the responsibility of the County Council to cut overgrown hedges, but it was the responsibility of the landowner or householder.

Cllr. Vine-Hall asked for Cllr. Maynard to take a look at some point. Cllr. Maynard replied that for a specific issue he would happily take it back to County Council through the Clerk.

Q: A resident noted the Dog Poo bin had gone missing from the Car Park and asked if it was going to be replaced.

A: Cllr. Vine-Hall asked for Cllr. Ganly to investigate. Cllr. Chapman intervened as he had removed the bin for repair and it would be back shortly.

7. Prize draw for those in attendance

Cllr. Vine-Hall invited Charlotte to draw the Door Prize. No 633 was the winning ticket for a Dinner for 2 at the Brickwall Hotel

9. End of meeting

Cllr. Vine-Hall thanked the Brickwall Hotel, Blackbrooks and the Queens Head for their generous donation of prizes. Everyone was invited to stop for a drink and encouraged to complete the GDPR Consent Forms..

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 2019 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).



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Sedlescombe Parish Council is grateful to all of our fantastic volunteers.

It's once again been a busy and varied year attending to different jobs around the village, from rotten fence posts and trees, cutting hedges, repairs to the seats at the village pump, clearing the path from the Village Hall to the Church, replacing tubs on the village green, with flowers very kindly donated by Blackbrooks Garden Centre, plus other various jobs, this all helps to make the village a happy place for all to enjoy.

We are grateful to the group of volunteers who deliver this Annual Report and Directory, and Bulletins (three times a year) to every household in the Parish.

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.

Cllr Roy Chapman

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.



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Jonathan Vine-Hall - Chairman of the Parish Council

Contact: ☎: 07973 129505 Hurst House, Hurst Lane, Sedlescombe TN33 0PE



Jonathan joined the Parish Council in August 2010, has been its Chairman since May 2012. He 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.

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 0PP



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 0RR



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 0PB



Peter joined the Parish Council in 2012. He is a Member of the Finance Committee. 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.



David Caney - Councillor

Contact: ☎: 07831 663321 Summer Cottage The Street, Sedlescombe TN33 0QQ
David joined the Parish Council in September 2018. He has lived in Sedlescombe for 2 years. David served as a governor at Saleshurst Primary school. He is an active member of the Traffic Advisory Committee.



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.



Jackie Scarff - Parish Clerk / Financial Officer

Contact: ☎: 07531 065 469 The Red House, Lower ST Ninfield TN33 9ED.
Jackie joined as Parish Clerk/RFO to Sedlescombe PC in October 2018. She is currently employed by the Parish Council for 15 hours per week. Jackie lives in Ninfield with her husband and 3 children aged 18, 17 and 10.



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, 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.

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FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THREE YEARS 2017-18, DRAFT 2018-19 & BUDGET 2019-20

	All amounts are GBP	Final 2017-18	Draft 2018-19*	Budget 2019-20
I N C O M E	Precept on District Council	46,344	47,734	51,314
	Local Council Tax Support Grant	667	0	0
	Agency income from Authorities	222	0	0
	Interest and investment income	23	15	15
	Grant Income	3730	-344	0
	Sale of footpath leaflets / Parish maps	20	30	50
	Sale of advertising - Annual Directory	183	833	2000
	CIL	7320	4,380	0
	Other Income	13,450	148	0
	Total Income	72,598	52,803	53,379
E X P E N D I T U R E	Allowance	200	200	200
	Printing	793	1853	1000
	Audit	562	413	600
	Computer and Software	627	250	1000
	Website	228	1343	1,000
	Data Protection and DPO	35	54	50
	Election Expenses	0	0	3,000
	Hall Hire	150	222	300
	Insurances	1,036	1,074	1,073
	Legal Expenses	0	0	2,000
	Maintenance of Offices	100	302	504
	Miscellaneous	331	785	300
	Phone	80	62	250
	Stamps	46	153	250
	Stationery	182	172	500
	Subscriptions	627	638	700
	Training	223	120	1,000
	Travel	134		100
	Clerk Employment	16,607	13,266	16,200
	General Amenities	0	0	200
	Grants and Prizes	465	495	500
	Loans and Repayments	5,140	4643	4,643
	Grounds Maintenance	3,018	2209	3,000
	Dog Bins	351	363	360
	Traffic Calming	0	0	1000
	Neighbourhood Plan	7056	0	0
	Speed Watch	0	0	2,000
	Prof Playground Inspections	65	65	100
	Red Barn Field	395	347	1,000
	East View Kickabout Area	400	436	5000
	Village Green Assets	112	0	0
	Sportsfield Car Park	0	0	200
	Bus Shelter	10	0	1000
Brede Lane Car Park	57	27	300	
Riverside Playing Area	645	0	2,000	
Multi-Use Games Area	452	0	1,000	
Maintenance of Assets	0	4282	2,000	
	Total Expenditure	40,217	34.449	54,330

	All amounts are GBP	Final 2017-18	Draft 2018-19*
R	General Reserves	26,491	30,990
	Earmarked Reserves as follows.....		
E	Neighbourhood Plan	0	0
	Refurbishing Toilets	1,000	0
S	Traffic Calming	10,031	12,031
E	MUGA	6,000	7500
	Riverside Playing Field	9,200	10,700
R	Red Barn Field	1,000	2,000
V	Red Barn Field Grant Income	729	1309
	Maintenance of Assets	2,000	0
E	Repayment of PWLB Loan	193	0
	Anonymous Donation re: Street Farm	0	0
S	CIL	0	7,350
	Reserves Balances as at 31st March	56,644	87,880

*NB. These are Draft 2018-19 figures are to the end of Mar 2019 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, the cost of the elections as well as the village priorities the 2019/20 precept was increased by 7.5% to receive a total of £51,314

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



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 The history of the old Primary School

'THE TIMES OF OUR LIVES'
 Memories of local people

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

**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 voluntary, and they are always on the lookout for additional helpers. Please contact ✉: sedlescombenews@outlook.com

**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

**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.

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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 at the Doctors Surgery in Brede Lane. Those wanting lifts simply make a telephone call to anyone on the list and pay the driver.

If you would like to become a Lift Scheme driver Please contact Cllr Glew

☎: 01424 870258

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 870955 (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 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

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 at 7 Market Square, Battle offers Books, audio books and DVDs. Free computers with Internet access. Opening times 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' Tuesday 10.30am to 11am – Places are limited please book. Computer help from volunteers Wednesday 10.30am to 12 noon. Thursdays 12 noon to 2pm – **New!** Citizens Advice from 23 January 2019 – Wednesdays 10am to 12pm. Drop in sessions. NATWEST Community Banker Fridays 11am – 1pm

Contact: ☎: **0345 60 80 196**

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 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.

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**Lesley Ballard
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Registered member BACP
07599 413864**

www.milltherapycentre.co.uk

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: Lesley Etherton ☎: 07803 049554 ✉: lesleyetherton@outlook.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 ☎: 01424 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 75129

Sedlescombe Croquet Club

Where: Sedlescombe Sports Ground (Oaklands Park)

When: Spring Summer and Autumn

Contact: Pat Hobart ☎: 01424 870973

Jo Richter ☎: 01424 870877

Provides residents in the locality the opportunity to enjoy learning and developing croquet skills in a friendly outdoor environment. (Equipment available)

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 ☎: 01424 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

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

Lions Club – Battle and Villages

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

Contact: ☎: 0845 8335826. ✉: battlelionsclub@gmail.com

Lions Clubs are an international network of men and women who work together to answer the needs that challenge communities across 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 contact us to 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.

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 three 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

Sedlescombe Theatre Club

New members always welcome. For information please contact:

Shirley Davies ☎: 01424 870475 or Jenny Mainwood ☎: 01424 871445

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

Bea Morris

☎: 01424 777048

Vice Chair/Treasurer

Colin Boyd

☎: 01424 870076

Secretary

Chris Escott

☎: 07753 252449

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 ☎ 01424 870533.

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 & Westfield Patient Involvement Group

Our Patient Involvement Group, 'PIG' for short, has had a good year! The number of patient volunteers involved has grown and we continue help the Surgeries to get even better at looking after our communities. We provide a 'thoughtful' patient perspective to staff on service.

Feedback from our recent survey showed that a very high percentage of patients, are very pleased with the service but also raised a few issues which were quickly addressed. Many people also recognised that it is getting harder for the GPs and staff to sustain a quality service

in these difficult times. (The full results of the survey are on the PIG area of the Surgery website, where you can also find notes of meetings, our statement of purpose and our PIG leaflet).

<https://www.sedlescombeandwestfieldsurgeries.co.uk/pages/Patient-Involvement-Group---PIG>

Recent activities: During the last year we identified a number of areas for development and are now working to build more relationships within our community. We regularly meet together with Doctors and staff and are also well connected to all the other surgeries across our area.

The surgeries have recently begun to offer an even wider range of appointment times, including at weekends and later in the evening.

We have helped identify some issues with buildings and access, provided information about changes to Flu vaccinations, updated materials in waiting rooms and reviewed and updated information on display screens. We supported patients with the new electronic 'check in system' which nearly everyone is confident to use now, saving a lot of time for Reception staff who can spend more time with patients who need to talk.

We regularly look at changes that are being introduced in Health Services, nationally, regionally and locally, talk about how they may affect us and discuss how we can support the staff to implement and communicate these. We also meet with the area funding organisation (CCG), the hospital Trust (ESHT), Rother Voluntary Action, Locality Link Workers, Community Connectors and other professionals so we know what is going on.

New: Community Connectors are available for adults (16+), 2-3 hours a week at alternate Surgeries. They provide active support for people with anxiety, depression and low mood if they do not receive support elsewhere. They can also provide support on social and financial issues.

New: Health Education Events – Organised by the PIG in collaboration with all the other Patient Groups in our area. Please look out for further information locally.

Get involved - Feedback from you is encouraged - The more information we get from our fellow patients the more we can do. We have direct access to key Health organisations and can readily pass on questions or issues. (We do not deal with complaints, not that there are many, these go to the Practice Manager.)

We have two groups: one "**meeting group**", (every 6 weeks), now close to the maximum number of members, and a growing "**virtual group**" (unlimited members), where we keep in touch by email.

If you are interested in finding out more pick up a leaflet in the surgery or leave a message for the Surgery manager – Keith Newman, who will pass it on to us.

We look forward to hearing from you.

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 £40 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 ☎: 07788 544988

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.


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Inspiring young people to make a difference in the world

Pestalozzi is more than just a scholarship.

Our vision is to inspire young people to make a difference in the world.

Our mission is to produce globally conscious young leaders by supporting their further education in a multi-cultural, multi-faith environment.

Central to everything we do are our core values of Respect, Integrity, Diversity, Commitment and Fun.

In 2018 Pestalozzi's Board of Trustees took the difficult decision to sell the estate in order to ensure the continuation of the organisation's work with high achieving, low income young people. From September 2019 Pestalozzi will be sponsoring students who would not otherwise be able to complete their secondary education to undertake the International Baccalaureate Diploma with United World Colleges. We know our students will thrive in UWC's multi-cultural environment just as they have in the Village in Sedlescombe.

Pestalozzi is proud to have been an integral part of the community in Sedlescombe for more than 60 years. We are tremendously grateful for the help and support that the Parish Council and local residents have given the charity throughout that time and we hope that your generosity will continue as we take the next steps in the evolution of the Pestalozzi scholarship programme.

For more information about Pestalozzi and how you can get involved please visit www.pestalozzi.org.uk email:office@pestalozzi.org.uk or call 01424 870444



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

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.

Head Teacher – Mrs. Caroline Harvey



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 ☎: 01424 871455 or 07546509733 ✉: 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 2018/19

This summary sets out some of the key achievements of East Sussex County Council in 2018/19 (up to February 2019) under the four strategic priorities of the Council.

The Council Plan provides further detail of these priorities at:

<https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/yourcouncil/about/keydocuments/councilplan/>

The Council Plan for 2019/20 will be on our website from 1st April 2019.

Driving sustainable economic growth

Transport for the South East (TfSE), our partnership of the area's 16 transport authorities, launched its

Economic Connectivity Review (the first stage of developing the TfSE Transport Strategy) in May 2018. At this event, it was announced that TfSE would receive a £1million grant from the Department for Transport to assist with the development of the Strategy. TfSE is currently undertaking a period of engagement with stakeholders to gain views on its proposals to Government to secure statutory status and a formal consultation will be launched in May 2019.

Over 160 **carriageway asset improvement schemes** were delivered in the first three-quarters of 2018-19, with significant improvement works delivered for the A267 and the A22. A major project to reconstruct Heathfield High Street was completed ahead of schedule, with the scheme also seeing parts of the pavement resurfaced and new street lights installed. Work also began on the second and most significant phase of the **Eastbourne Town Centre Improvement Scheme**. Aimed at modernising the town centre, improving pedestrian conditions and attracting more visitors. It includes the installation of new bus lanes, bus shelters, a high-quality granite road surface and new paving, seating and landscaping.

Significant progress has been made in the implementation of the new Strategy for **Library and Information Services**, with a range of new library services introduced during the last 12 months. These include an enhanced, modern eLibrary with greater investment, a new children and young people's offer to support literacy and numeracy, increased outreach work in our most disadvantaged communities, and new Community Library Membership and Teachers Library Memberships. In addition Hastings Library reopened in March 2018, following a multi-million pound revamp. This included the installation of a new roof and lift, lighting and furniture. Crowborough Library was also refurbished with an expanded children's area, a newly created space for teens and young adults, new free access computer desks and new stock. Libraries at Ringmer and Langney opened as community libraries, with support from ESCC, after they were closed following the review of the county library services, prompted by the need to make budget savings.

Businesses in East Sussex have been supported to create over 150 jobs in the area during the first three quarters of the year through our **business support** programmes. In addition, Locate East Sussex has supported 30 businesses to move into, or relocate within the county. The South East Business Boost service, offering grants of between £1,000 and £10,000 to small and medium sized businesses and start-ups for capital projects awarded over £900,000 of grants in East Sussex. In addition, Trading Standards launched a Business Advice & Support Partnership (BAASP) to help businesses and other professionals receive high quality regulatory support and promote their comprehensive range of training workshops

including customer care, food allergens and selling on-line. To date, they have led 15 workshops, attracting 244 delegates.

ESCC was named as one of 20 **Careers Hubs** nationwide, with £200,000 external funding awarded. The East Sussex Careers Hub, which launched in November 2018, will link all secondary schools, special schools and colleges with employers, support organisations and higher and further education providers to improve the guidance and support offered to students. Projects which help young people make the right career choices will also be expanded, including the Industry Champions network (a network of more than 80 champions from local businesses), apprenticeship roadshows, Supported Internships and Apprenticeships for people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities and Open Doors, where businesses open their doors to allow students to visit and learn about the world of work. In November 2018, 44 businesses participated in Open Doors and received workplace visits from over 500 students.

81.5% of secondary **schools** are judged by Ofsted to be good or outstanding, 1.5 percentage points above the national average of 80% as at end May 2018. 92.9% of primary schools in East Sussex are judged to be good or outstanding against the national average of 89.9%. 100% of special schools are judged to be good or outstanding against the national average of 93.4%. Across East Sussex, results for GCSE English and Maths improved with 41.9% of pupils earning grade five – a strong pass or above, an increase from last year's figure of 38.4%.

Keeping vulnerable people safe

ESCC became one of the few local authorities to achieve the highest possible rating for its work with vulnerable families. Following an Ofsted inspection, ESCC **Children's Social Services** is now rated 'Outstanding'. Inspectors were particularly impressed with the 'connected practice' model which places emphasis on social workers creating enduring and trusting relationships with families and children. Members of ESCC demonstrated their commitment to protect residents by becoming SCAMBassadors for Friends Against Scams. In July 2018, Councillors took part in their first formal training finding out how scammers operate and what they can do to help stop residents from falling victim. The **East Sussex Against Scams** Partnership, run by the Safer East Sussex Team, helps to protect residents from scams by raising awareness through over 100 partner organisations, such as local businesses, charities, church groups, community enterprises and councils. Nearly 3,000 residents have participated in Friends Against Scams awareness sessions. Trading Standards have continued their fight against rogue trading in the county, providing support to the most vulnerable and pursuing those who target them. To date, the team have carried out 180 positive interventions to prevent fraud and other scams, and installed 27 call blocking devices to prevent telephone scams.

ESCC was awarded a silver award under the **Ministry of Defence Employer Recognition Support Scheme**, which honours employers that show a commitment to supporting current and former military personnel. Award judges were impressed with the support the Council gives to armed forces cadet volunteers, and to members of the Army Reserve – who receive 18 days paid leave every year to undergo military training.

Hastings Community Support Service, based in Bexhill, which helps people with learning disabilities live independent lives was rated 'Outstanding' – the highest possible grading in its report from the Care Quality Commission. The service provides specialist support to

adults in their own homes, including support with social activities, daily living skills and personal care.

ESCC again took part in the White Ribbon Campaign's 16 Days of Action to help eliminate **domestic violence** and abuse against women and girls. During the campaign, ESCC promoted a series of events designed to highlight support available to victim, as well as encouraging people to speak out against violence and abuse.

Helping people help themselves

The Duke and Duchess of Sussex visited the ESCC managed Joff Youth Centre in Peacehaven, where they met 50 young people gathered from youth groups around the county, including the elected Youth Cabinet. Their visit focused on the issue of **youth mental health** which has been a top priority of the Youth Cabinet this year. In November 2018 over 50 young people took part in our Annual Takeover Day to discuss mental health.

ESCC has worked with the 5 district and borough authorities to set up a new scheme which offers up to 100% **Council Tax discounts to Care Leavers** aged 18-24, using a single protocol and process. We are one of only nine shire counties in England to adopt such a scheme and one of only four to have a countywide scheme.

There have been further improvements against **Adult Social Care** key measures. Delayed Transfers of Care (delayed days) from hospital per 100,000 population (aged 18+) has improved from 12.7 in November 2017 to 10.3 in November 2018. The November 2017 figure had already reduced from 24.4 in April 2017. The proportion of older people (aged 65+) who are still at home 91 days after discharge from hospital into reablement or rehabilitation services for April to September 2018 is 92.7%, up from 91.7% over the same period in 2018.

The end of 2017-18 saw the end of the current five year cycle for NHS **Health Checks**. In this period, the Council achieved the highest proportion of people being offered and receiving their check in the South East.

ESCC has partnered with Crowdfunder UK to provide a new **Crowdfund East Sussex** online platform, training and support to groups and organisations across the county. Crowdfund East Sussex was launched by awarding £5,000 to five projects that will make a big difference to local communities - www.crowdfunder.co.uk/east-sussex

Making the best use of our resources

The Council's **budget** and Council Plan for 2019/20 were approved at the meeting of Full Council on the 5th February 2019. The budget includes spending of £375 million on services for East Sussex. It also includes savings of £5.1 million. The savings required in the budget were significantly less than first anticipated due to the success of sustained lobbying of central Government. As a result, additional one off funds were secured for social care and special educational needs and disability funding. East Sussex was also selected to be a business rate pilot during 2019-20 which will bring in £4.3m funding to the county area, including an estimated £1.6m for ESCC.

ESCC also published its '**Core Offer**' – a description of a basic but decent level of service which we believe is the very least residents should be able to expect, even with the intense financial pressures we face. As well as meeting our legal duties across all services delivered, the Core Offer includes measures to grow the economy of East Sussex and make sure we invest resources in some preventative and early intervention work where greater costs may otherwise build up. Views were sought on the Core Offer between November and

December 2018 and over 1200 responses to the questionnaire were received. Feedback from the questionnaire set out that most people – 78% considered that the Government should allocate more funds to meet the financial gap ESCC faces.

Through our capital programme we have delivered **improvements to schools buildings** and expansion of facilities across the county providing approximately 1,100 additional school places across primary, secondary and special educational needs provision.

Feb-2019 Contact: Alice Pippard:

✉: alice.pippard@eastsussex.gov.uk

☎: 01273 481816

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**The results of the S.T.A.G traffic survey have been analysed.
They tell us a story of the Good, the Bad and the Ugly...**

-  'The Good' - That's everyone who completed the survey:
- There were 264 responses, far more than expected and not just the 'usual suspects'.
 - Two groups provided by far the highest proportion of responses. Those who've lived here more than 20 years who remember the village as it was and more recent arrivals who have been here less than 5 years but would like the chance to enjoy the village as it used to be.
 - You provided very clear priorities and some great ideas. More about them at the Annual Assembly.
 - *Also good to see that more than 90% use the village shop every week. Nothing to do with traffic. Just a pat on the back for supporting a vital local asset.*
-  'The Bad' - Volume and speed of traffic:
- More than 90% are concerned about the volume of traffic through the village. The speed of traffic is of equal concern, but at least there are actions residents can take to address it.
-  'The Ugly' – Heavy goods vehicles (HGVs) and inconsiderate drivers:
- 93.5% say that HGV's are the greatest threat to the peace and serenity of the village.
 - Virtually everyone has witnessed inconsiderate drivers and many of you have said you are now prepared to act. Again, more on the Ugliers at the Annual Assembly.

With the knowledge gained from analysing the survey, we are developing a range of actions and initiatives aimed at resolving, or at least minimising, the impact of the traffic issues facing Sedlescombe which will be presented in detail at the Annual Assembly. Amongst the steps being considered are the following:

Action now

- Taking part in Speedwatch and reporting inconsiderate drivers will make a difference. A large number of residents have offered to do more.
- The most popular immediate action which we can all start today is to adopt a voluntary 20 mph speed limit throughout the village. A 'Go Slow in Sedlescombe' campaign will be formally launched at the Annual Assembly.
- We are working with existing organisations like Neighbourhood Watch on ways for traffic initiatives to work for our mutual benefit.

Action in the future

- Traffic-calming measures such as chicanes at the North and South entrances to the village, received widespread support, with more than two-thirds in favour.
- A general ban or re-routing of HGV's and commercial through-traffic also received almost universal support.

These and other issues raised in the survey will be covered more fully at a S.T.A.G presentation and discussion forum to be held at the Sedlescombe Annual Assembly in the Village Hall on 20 March 2019. To help the conversation flow, our friends at Sedlescombe Organic Vineyard have generously agreed to provide a free glass of wine to everyone attending.

We urge you to attend and look forward to seeing you there. Together we can help tackle traffic in Sedlescombe.

Andy Waters (Chair, S.T.A.G)

S.T.A.G Members

Jenny Baker - Danny Blay - Bob Boyce - Graham Brister- John Brownsdon – David Caney
(Sedlescombe Parish Council)

Lindsay Fraser, note taker *(Sedlescombe Parish Council)* - Pauline Glew *(Sedlescombe Parish Council, Vice Chair)*

Paul Hackeson -Jackie Huntley - Jonathan Vine-Hall *(Sedlescombe Parish Council, Chair)*
Andy Waters, (STAG, Chair), *(Sedlescombe Parish Council)*



Annual Parish Assembly 2019**Council Budget News**

1. From 2019/20 Rother District Council will not receive a revenue support grant from the government and will be reliant solely on income from business rates, council tax, charges for services and income generation. We've recently been informed the government accepted the East Sussex Business Rate Pool to pilot 75% rates retention in 2019/20. We do not know the financial impact yet. The advantage will be RDC could keep more of any growth in business rates (currently we get 50%). However, the Government's fair funding review and business rates reset in 2020 may divert funding and growth in business rate income from district councils to meet pressures in other areas.
2. More detailed information on the Council's finances can be read in our draft 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>.

Neighbourhood Plans

3. The Localism Act (2011) introduced several new rights and powers to allow local communities to shape new development, including the provision to prepare a 'Neighbourhood Plan' for their area.
4. Like Local Plans, Neighbourhood Plans are statutory plans and once adopted, will form part of the statutory Development Plan used for determining planning applications within the respective designated Neighbourhood Areas. So far in Rother, there are two adopted Neighbourhood Plans (Salehurst & Robertsbridge and Sedlescombe), with a further 9 in preparation.

Joint Waste & Recycling Contract

5. A new waste contractor (Biffa) has been procured in partnership with Hastings Borough Council and Wealden District Council. The new contract will start from late June 2019 and include alternate weekly collections of co-mingled dry waste and residual waste, and a fortnightly chargeable garden waste collection service.

Housing

6. In response to concerns about the cost of housing, lack of affordable housing, and increases in homelessness and rough sleeping we undertook a scrutiny review to understand the issues and develop recommendations regarding how we might tackle these issues. We consulted on these recommendations during the latter part of last year and have since developed a Housing, Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Strategy which is currently being considered by Council for adoption from 2019/20.

Response to Anti-Social Behaviour

7. Last year we reported that in response to residents' concerns we had created a new part-time role of a community warden to work with the police to enforce low level anti-social behaviour. From March 2019 the Council will be employing two Community Wardens to take on this role and they can be contacted at pollution@rother.gov.uk.

Civil Parking Enforcement

8. During 2018 we undertook a scrutiny review on the implications of moving to civil parking enforcement throughout Rother. The County Council have recently completed a consultation exercise and we are awaiting their final proposals.

Supporting Community Projects and Events

9. Last summer we awarded a total of £66,601 in community grants to support 12 separate projects or events. These included:

- Improvements to Battle's football pitch and the addition of a covered shelter at their recreation ground
- Development of a community garden at Burghwood House, Etchingham
- Playground equipment in Northiam
- A lifeboat launch vehicle in Pett
- A community space project in Sidley
- Outdoor cricket nets and children's play facilities in Westfield
- Equipment for the angling club, a grant towards the cost of the Remembrance Day parade (to celebrate 100th anniversary of WW1), and a grant towards the cost of a children's music festival in Bexhill

A further £72,561 in grant applications is up for consideration during February 2019.

Communications

Over 16,400 residents receive a My Alerts email. This has reduced from over 29,000 at this time last year. Subscribers have been removed that have not interacted with My Alerts in the last 2 years, or where emails no longer exist. Additionally, subscribers have been asked to confirm their subscription. This work has been completed to ensure we comply with the requirements of the new general data protection regulations (GDPR). We continue to promote My Alerts to all residents and anticipate that numbers receiving the monthly email will increase in the future after this initial dip after taking account of GDPR

Councillor Tony Ganly

The Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner is Katy Bourne, who was re-elected on 5 May 2016.



Katy's role is to hold the Chief Constable of Sussex Police to account for the performance of the police force, effectively making the police answerable to the communities they serve.

PSCOs work closely with officers and local communities across Sussex to gather intelligence which bolsters investigations and offer a welcome deterrent presence in our towns and villages. They are trained to tackle a magnitude of issues and address the public's concerns head on. They very much take a proactive part in keeping our communities safe and we have already seen anti-social behaviour being successfully tackled in certain areas as a result

The Commissioner has identified the following four policing and crime objectives:

- Strengthen local policing
- Work with local communities and partners to keep Sussex safe
- Protect our vulnerable and help victims cope and recover from crime and abuse
- Improve access to justice for victims and witnesses

The full Plan can be viewed at <https://www.sussex-pcc.gov.uk/media/3215/spcc-crime-plan-2018-2.pdf>

If you require a printed version, please contact the Office of the Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner by telephone to: 01273 481561 or by email to: pcc@sussex-pcc.gov.uk

Riverside Playground

One of our priorities this year is to consult with the village on refurbishing the Riverside Playground. Our working group have researched a number of designs and costings for the project. We are also investigating grants which would provide match funding. Our aim is to be able to share the designs with the village through various consultation groups including a presentation at the Annual Assembly. If you would like to get involved please email the Clerk.



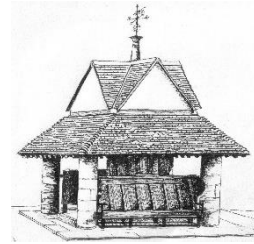
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DISCLAIMER:

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.

N Sedlescombe News



JANUARY 2019

20p



The Sedlescombe News is a weekly four-page newsheet informing you of everything going on in the village during the coming week.

It is available in the village shop every Friday morning for 20p. Alternatively, you can register with sedlescombenews@outlook.com to receive your newsletter by email for an annual subscription of £10. Sedlescombe News is not published during the last two weeks of December.

The newsletter is produced by a team of volunteers. There are currently three members of the editorial team who each take it in turns to produce one weekly issue. There is always room for more volunteers on the editorial team.

To contribute news, either write it out and hand it in to the shop before midday on Wednesdays, or email it to sedlescombenews@outlook.com

Avoiding Frailty in Older Age

Dr Elena Mucci – ‘The Common Sense Adviser’

Award Winning Consultant – Conquest & Spire Hospitals

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Wed 17th April - Doors open 6:00pm - Presentation 6:30pm - 8:00pm

Come and Find Out More!

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‘Do You Need All Those Medicines?’

Free entry. Refreshments available.

This event is presented by Hastings & Rother Patient Participation Groups
Sponsored by Hastings & Rother Voluntary Action Groups, Spire Hospital, CCG.

Sedlescombe Spring Fayre 2019



**The Spring Fayre Committee would like to invite
you to the Spring Fayre
Saturday 18th May 2019
on the village green and in the gardens of the
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**Reg & Pauline Glew, Kane & Jackie Saull-Hunt, Trevor
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Sedlescombe Parish Council acknowledges with thanks the contributions made by local businesses towards the printing of this booklet.

