

Seaford Town Council Annual Report 2012/13



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MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR OF SEAFORD TOWN COUNCIL

Once again I am in awe of what our town achieves as a community and for its charity work which comes from all age groups as individuals or groups, societies and schools.

2012 was a very special year for the town and country firstly the Queens Diamond Jubilee. I had great pleasure in presenting Jubilee mugs to all the pupils in primary schools in our town. During the Jubilee weekend, the town had its own celebration at the Martello Fields starting with a parade from the Salts led by our own Town Crier, Mr Peter White. It was a privilege to welcome the Lord Lieutenant of East Sussex, Mr Peter Field to open the day's proceedings with me. The day ended with live music and a laser show – a fantastic day. Unfortunately the Olympic torch did not pass through our town but we certainly had a number of Olympic games makers.

I have attended many events during the past year from coffee mornings, opening fetes, art exhibitions to beating the retreat for the Gherkas and the enthronement for the new Bishop of Chichester.

For the second year Seaford Bonfire Society put on an amazing evening despite pouring rain, it didn't dampen the spirits of the people of Seaford who came out in their droves to support the event – thank you to Seaford Bonfire Society for giving our town this wonderful evening.

My chosen charities this year has been St James' Trust and the Seaford Downs Syndrome and Special Needs Support Group. Both do such important work for the people in our community.

Our Young Mayor, Amy Gough with the support of her parents and Deputy Young Mayor, Georgia Colyer organized a very successful "Young Mayor's Awards" evening. Once again this was an insight to the young people's work and achievements in the community. Amy in her role as Young Mayor has been an excellent Ambassador for the young people of our town, and it's been a pleasure working with her.

Once again, thanks must go to our Town Clerk, officers and staff for the guidance and support. Finally thanks to my consort Liz Holland for her continued support.

Councillor Linda Wallraven

Mayor of Seaford



MESSAGE FROM THE LEADER OF SEAFORD TOWN COUNCIL

We have witnessed a great year for our Country. Firstly, the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Our Town's celebrations were, I think, a fitting tribute, judging by the thousands of you who enjoyed our special day. Following the Jubilee we enjoyed the Olympics and Para Olympics where our magnificent athletes surpassed all our expectations with their performances. As a result of their successes I think they put the pride back into our country.

Town

We have now opened "The Base" in the Salts. It is being used on a regular basis by a number of young people for activities, including a number of local bands who find it an ideal venue for their rehearsals. My thanks go to Councillors Anthony White and Paul Heseltine for making this a success.

I am pleased to report that work on the new Golf Clubhouse at Seaford Head is due to be started very soon and I hope to report in next year's message on its completion. It has been a long and exhausting process but the end is in sight. We will have an asset of which our town can be rightly proud.

Partnership working

We are continuing to work with our partners at the District Council and others and we have been able to bring the lack of healthcare facilities to the fore. We will continue our campaign and a word of thanks must go to Councillor Sam Adeniji for his hard work in promoting this.

The Council will shortly be completing its visioning programme; this will direct the Council's plans for the future.

I would like to acknowledge the support I have received from my fellow councillors, the council staff and many others in moving our town forward and making it a better place for all of us to live in.

Councillor Ian White
Leader
Seaford Town Council



A B O U T U S

Councillors—*Seaford Town Council has twenty Councillors*

Name	Address	Responsibility
Cllr Sam Adeniji	1 Buckle Drive, Seaford, BN25 2QH	Chairman of Finance and General Purposes Committee
Cllr Bob Allen	7 Heathfield Road, Seaford, BN25 1AW	Leader of Minority Group & Vice Chairman of Planning and Highways Committee
Cllr Mark Brown	93 Princess Drive, Seaford, BN25 2QT	Deputy Leader of the Council & Vice Chairman of Finance and General Purposes
Cllr Barry Burfield	6 Went Hill Park, Seaford, BN25 4QD	
Cllr Adrian Campbell	64 Katherine Way, Seaford, BN25 2XF	
Cllr Sylvia Dunn	8 Whiteley Close, Seaford, BN25 4AQ	
Cllr Paul Franklin	45 Vale Road, Seaford, BN25 3EZ	
Cllr Stephen Gauntlett	17 Kedale Road, Seaford, BN25 2BX	
Cllr Terry Goodman	32 Richington Way, Seaford, BN25 3HU	Vice Chairman of Golf Committee
Cllr Barry Groves	72 Marine Drive, Seaford, BN25 2RU	
Cllr Ali Hayder	20a Sutton Park Road, Seaford, BN25 1QU	
Cllr Paul Heseltine	3 Buckle Drive, Seaford, BN25 2QH	
Cllr Alan Latham	25 Chyngton Way, Seaford, BN25 4JB	
Cllr Sarah McStravick	Jumble Cottage, Alfriston Road, BN25 3JN	Deputy Leader of Minority Group
Cllr Rita Scarfe	15 Chyngton Avenue, Seaford, BN25 3SL	
Cllr Ben Warren	Fieldings, Firle Road, Seaford, BN25 2JH	Chairman of Community Services Committee
Cllr Linda Wallraven	1 Eadric House, Bishopstone Village, BN25 2UE	Mayor and Chairman of Planning and Highways Committee
Cllr Anthony White	30 Maple Fields, Seaford, BN25 3ER	Deputy Mayor & Vice Chairman of Community Services Committee
Cllr Ian White	83 Hurdis Road, Seaford, BN25 2TH	Leader of the Council and Chairman of Golf Committee
Vacant position		

Staff—the Council employ staff in the following roles;

Name	Role
Mrs Sam Shippen FCIS, Fellow ILCM, CMC	Town Clerk
Mr Simon Cooper	Corporate Services Manager
Mr Ben King	Projects and Facilities Manager
Mrs Gemma Hamilton	Administration Assistant (Projects & Facilities)
Mrs Lucy Clark	Administration Assistant (Finance & Administration)
Vacant	Administration Assistant (Corporate)
Fraser Morley	Golf Professional
Mr Nick Stephens	Head Greenkeeper
Mr Simon Lambert	Assistant Head Greenkeeper
Mr Chris Walsh	Greenkeeper
Vacant	Apprentice Greenkeeper

I N T R O D U C T I O N

Welcome to the 2012/13 Annual Report, this is the full report of the Town Council.

A summary will be published in the next Town Council newsletter.

This report has been produced and made available prior to the Seaford Town Forum to be held on 30 April 2013 at 7pm at Seaford Baptist Church, Belgrave Road, Seaford. The Town Forum is a meeting of the electors of the Town of Seaford and provides an opportunity for residents to discuss the information provided and to question the Council on its activities during the year. Any resident of the town is welcome to attend this meeting.

Seaford Town Council serves the Town of Seaford with a population of around 24,000 residents and has been awarded the Quality Council Status for meeting a set of quality criteria.

We deliver many services in the town, such as the provision of some of the parks, playing fields and recreation areas including the Crouch Gardens, the Salts Recreation Ground, the Martello Fields and Tower, the Seaford Head Golf Course, Arts@theCrypt at 23 Church Street, the Seaford Head Nature Reserve and the allotments in Sutton Drove.

Our aim is to give residents information about the Town Council and the services which we deliver in the town, to outline how we are dealing with current challenges and highlight our plans to meet community needs and deliver quality services in the next year and beyond.

Seaford Town Council is one of around 9,500 Town and Parish Council's within England. Town and Parish Councils are the first tier of local government and work closely with the other tiers of local government to try and achieve the best for their local communities. During the year, we have worked closely with Lewes District Council and East Sussex County Council on a number of issues and a number of Town Councillors are also District Councillors. We run a comprehensive Councillor training programme in conjunction with the Sussex Association of Local Council's Executive Officer.

Elections to the Town Council are normally held every four years, the last in May 2011 and the next are due to be held in May 2015.

Agendas and minutes for all Town Council meetings are published on our website and are available for inspection at the Tourist Information Centre, 37 Church Street, or at Seaford Library. All meetings of the Town Council are open to members of the public and the Council welcome views and comments relevant to the Committee during the Public Participation section of the Committee meeting.



T H E S A L T S R E C R E A T I O N G R O U N D

There has been a great deal of progress made at the Salts with the installation of the new Outdoor Gym Area which is a valuable addition to the recreation ground. It was almost entirely managed by Seaford Youth Forum from conception, fundraising, project development and through to completion.

The Changing Rooms have received a much needed facelift with a few additional improvements now planned for 2014. The Base continued to grow in popularity and hosted a well-attended concert in September despite the weather. Targets are now being set for improvements to

the play area with project budgets that include this area, being approved by Community Services Committee in November.



T H E M A R T E L L O F I E L D S

Martello Fields was the location for the Queens Jubilee celebrations. Also Donkey Derby where Seahaven Lions continued their good work in providing a valuable community event to finish off the season. The Seaford Rotary Club held their car boot fairs at the fields

and plan to hold more in 2013 and work continues to accommodate new ideas and events for the fields. The Seaford Bonfire Society held one of the biggest events in Seaford in 2012 with thousands of residents enjoying the procession through

the town culminating in a spectacular firework display at the Martello Fields.



T H E C R O U C H G A R D E N S

Further projects have come to fruition in 2012/13, working with Seaford Town Football Club on the replacement and extension of their covered standing space in front of their pavilion. Also support for the Exchange Project to continue their valuable

work, with arrangements for a longer term agreement underway and assistance in the purchase of a new classroom building. The grounds are now starting to recover from the completion of the Mercread Centre with reinstatements of the temporary roadway and numerous footpath repairs, also

a new footpath entering into the play area; all improving the access within the grounds. Tree Planting projects were completed with some 30 trees being planted, working in partnership with Seaford Tree Wardens and Seaford Rotary Club.

S E A F R O N T

Further work was completed on the Seafront by Community Payback with the picnic area above Splash Point receiving some much needed care and attention. Significant restoration of a key parking area opposite Martello Tower was

completed making the area much more appealing and functional for local residents and visitors alike. The Kiosks continue to provide a valuable service with new decking at the Martello Kiosk and the return of the sandpit at Frankie's Beach Café. Discussions with Lewes District Council have

continued for the seafront bins improvement scheme, this will improve the efficiency of the waste collection service along the promenade and is hoped to be able to better cope with the seasonal increase in litter when the good weather arrives.

A R T S @ T H E C R Y P T

Arts@theCrypt continues to play a large part in the Seaford cultural community as well as with a wider audience. To help increase usage and accessibility to all, shared gallery Exhibitions have been introduced. Up until now The Arts@theCrypt has been largely only available for weekly hire; this restricts the gallery use to mainly art groups. By offering Shared Gallery use, it has opened up the gallery to individual artists

who do not have the money to hire Arts@theCrypt for a week, or have enough work to fill Arts@theCrypt or a full week spare to steward Arts@theCrypt. Each artist has their allotted space in Arts@theCrypt and stewards the exhibition for a total of one day each. Unlike in previous years the gallery has been largely unaffected by refurbishment works and maintenance. Some works have taken place to the undercroft

floor, this has taken place when the space has not been booked. Arts@theCrypt Management Committee held an evening for all artists involved with ArtWave this year. The idea behind this event is to increase Art@theCrypt's exposure to the wider area and promote further exhibition bookings.



S E A F O R D H E A D G O L F C O U R S E

Work will start on a new clubhouse at Seaford Head Golf Course in 2013, offering the town a new venue with sweeping views of the sea. Construction is expected to be complete by the start of 2014 season and will make the golf course, which already boasts stunning scenery, even more attractive to visitors. The Council approved the finance for Cheesmur Building Contractors to build the clubhouse on Tuesday

November 2012 at a Council meeting, after four years of planning and designing the facility. The new building will cost £1,717,438, which will be funded by a 25 year loan, an application for which has been given government approval. The Clubhouse will provide updated facilities for golfers, have a flexible space which can be used by the public and local organisations to hold a variety of events. The clubhouse will include a full catering kitchen

and bar with an outside balcony, where visitors will be able to take advantage of the panoramic views of Seaford Bay. The new building will also have a green roof to blend in with the downland.



S E A F O R D H E A D N A T U R E R E S E R V E

The Seaford Head Local Nature Reserve is in the Sussex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and is an SSSI (Site of Special Scientific Interest) which adds to its status beyond that of some other local reserves, hence Natural

England's involvement with the site. Because of its high geological, wildlife, historical and landscape value, it is also a Voluntary Marine Conservation Area. The Nature Reserve is included in the South Downs National Park boundary. The Nature Reserve produces a

filming income and recent programmes include ITV's murder mystery series, Poirot. A Ranger service will also start in April 2013 to manage Seaford Head Nature Reserve.



COMMUNITY GROUPS AND WORKS

Thousands of people enjoyed the Seaford Town Council Diamond Jubilee Celebrations at the Martello Fields, on Monday 4 June 2012. The afternoon's programme included arena displays from dance schools and physical activity displays. The morning had been started by a procession of community groups parading along the seafront, waving to the hundreds of spectators gathered along the route and accompanied by a flotilla of small sailing craft, moving alongside the procession in the sea. The Seaford Lifeguards, Seaford Brownies, Lions and

Lionesses, Air and Army Cadets, Musical Theatre, Bonfire Society, Seaford Twinning Association, Rotary Club and Dance Schools were just a few of those taking part in the parade, led by Mayor Linda Wallraven, Young Mayor Amy Gough and Town Crier, Peter White. Music was provided by local bands, choirs, theatres and orchestras. Community stalls offered visitors tea and cake and Rotary 'Tavern In The Tent'. In the evening there was a music concert with performances which was topped off by a laser show set to

music and the Seaford Bonfire Society lit the Jubilee Beacon. This was the biggest community event ever produced by Seaford Town Council.



Seaford Town Council has continued to support The Base at the Salts recreation ground and The Base has really engaged with the younger members of the community. There are several regular bands that hire the facilities for their rehearsals and this is increasing as more bands are approaching The Base for this purpose. Weather permitting there

will be more live performances from local bands in the school summer holidays. The Base has several youth groups who have expressed an interest in using The Base if it had toilet facilities, which is currently being investigated. The Base also has over 1160 friends on Facebook.



The First Freedom of the Town of Seaford took place at St Leonard's Church, Seaford on Sunday 30 September 2012 at the invitation of the Mayor of Seaford, Councillor Linda Wallraven. The Town Council wishes to recognise the efforts of members of the community who demonstrate outstanding commitment to the well-being of Seaford. The Council will do this, in special circumstances that meet the criteria of the Honorary Freedom of the Town policy, by awarding to an individual the title of Honorary Freeman (or Freewoman) of Seaford. This honour will be awarded only on rare and exceptional occasions. At any one time, a maximum of twelve persons, unless otherwise decided by the Council, may hold the title Honorary Freeman (or Freewoman) of Seaford. The

Award has been given to Laurie Holland and Don Mabey MBE. Laurie Holland has long standing history of service to the town of Seaford. Initially through his work in the Treasurer's Department culminating as Treasurer to Seaford Urban District Council and Assistant Treasurer to Lewes District Council before his retirement. He is President of both Seaford Lifeguards and Seaford Museum & Heritage Society. He has for many years undertaken key roles with Seaford Baptist Church, Sussex Table Tennis Association and is a keen member of Seaford Stamp Club amongst other things. Laurie is often described as "Mr Seaford". Don Mabey moved to Seaford in 1985 from Surrey, at 92 years old and he remains a keen fundraiser for RAFA Charities, having raised tens of thousands of

pounds over the years. He is the President of the Seahaven RAFA, a position he has held for many years, anyone with any association to military events will know Don. He is a founder member and Honorary President of the Royal Society of St George Seahaven Branch, another charitable organisation in which Don and others raise money to support local good causes. In his spare time Don still enjoys his golfing and is a regular player and President of Seaford Head Golf Club as well as maintaining his membership at a course in Surrey. After the service a short parade took place, which was then followed by a cream tea at Seaford Head School.



G R A N T S

Seaford Town Council give many grants and donations to local groups and charitable organisations during the year. Some of the grants are in the form of free or reduced rental use of Town Council facilities and assets. Other grants are in the form of monetary donations. All requests for grants are considered by the Finance and General Purposes Committee. Listed below are the organisations who have received financial assistance in 2012/13.

6th Seaford Scout Group	350.00	Seaford Football Club	82.00
7th Seaford Brownies	250.00	Seaford Hard of Hearing	50.00
9th Seaford Scout Group	350.00	Seaford Head Nature Reserve	60.00
ABC Fund	100.00	Seaford In Bloom	4,375.00
Bishopstone Parish Hall	100.00	Seaford Inner Light	100.00
CAB	5,137.00	Seaford Kurlers	50.00
Clinton Centre	200.00	Seaford Lifeguards	450.00
Cricket Club	97.00	Seaford Little Theatre	200.00
Crouch Bowling Club	100.00	Seahaven Lions	162.00
Cuckmere Community Bus	500.00	Seaford Live	500.00
Dial-a-Ride	4,320.00	Seaford Museum	100.00
ESSA County Forum Mtg	37.00	Seaford Music Society	50.00
Friends of Seaford Library	50.00	Seaford Rotary	533.00
Friends of the Crouch	155.00	Seaford Rugby Football Club	1,000.00
Health Stakeholders	72.00	Seaford Seniors Forum	352.00
Impact Seaford	7.00	Seaford Silver Band	400.00
LDC Blanket Testing	56.00	Seaford Striders	100.00
Martello Rotary	73.00	Seaford Stroke & Caring	100.00
National Coastwatch	300.00	Seaford Sustainability	6.00
Neighbourhood Panel	15.00	Seaford Twinning Association	154.00
Neighbourhood Watch	107.00	Seaford Youth Forum	2,000.00
SALC	45.00	Smarter Seaford	38.00
Seaford and Newlands Boxing	500.00	St James' Trust	250.00
Seaford Bonfire Society	296.00	Think School Travel	8.00
Seaford Community Partnership	1,043.00	Vitalise	100.00
Seaford Dog Rescue	66.00	Willett Charitable Trust	50.00
		Total	£25,596.00

FINANCE

The accounting statement from the 2011-12 Annual Return is shown below. The External Auditors Certificate was signed by Mazars LLP on 21 August 2012 .

Section 1 – Accounting statements for

SEAFORD Town Council

Readers should note that throughout this annual return references to a 'local council' or 'council' also relate to a parish meeting.

	Year ending		Notes and guidance		
	31 March 2011 £	31 March 2012 £			
1 Balances brought forward	270,797	309,087	Total balances and reserves at the beginning of the year as recorded in the financial records. Value must agree to Box 7 of previous year.		
2 (+) Annual precept	450,242	464,860	Total amount of precept received or receivable in the year.		
3 (+) Total other receipts	573,934	499,204	Total income or receipts as recorded in the cashbook less the precept received (line 2). Include any grants received here.		
4 (-) Staff costs	275,416	274,118	Total expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all employees. Include salaries and wages, PAYE and NI (employees and employers), pension contributions and employment expenses.		
5 (-) Loan interest/capital repayments	33,091	33,091	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on the council's borrowings (if any).		
6 (-) All other payments	677,379	635,725	Total expenditure or payments as recorded in the cashbook less staff costs (line 4) and loan interest/capital repayments (line 5).		
7 (=) Balances carried forward	309,087	330,217	Total balances and reserves at the end of the year. Must equal (1+2+3) – (4+5+6)		
8 Total cash and short term investments	431,742	584,394	The sum of all current and deposit bank accounts, cash holdings and short term investments held as at 31 March – to agree with bank reconciliation.		
9 Total fixed assets and long term assets	8,640,387	8,935,376	The recorded book value at 31 March of all fixed assets owned by the council and any other long term assets e.g. loans to third parties and any long term investments.		
10 Total borrowings	254,952	235,071	The outstanding capital balance as at 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PWLB).		
11 Trust funds (including charitable) disclosure note	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disclosure Note: The council acts as sole trustee for and is responsible for managing trust funds or assets. (Readers should note that the figures above do not include any trust transactions.)

I certify that for the year ended 31 March 2012 the accounting statements in this annual return present fairly the financial position of the council and its income and expenditure, or properly present receipts and payments, as the case may be.

Signed by Responsible Financial Officer



Date 23/06/2012

I confirm that these accounting statements were approved by the council on this date:

14/06/2012

and recorded as minute reference:

C 32-3

Signed by Chair of the meeting approving these accounting statements.



Date 28/06/2012