

Seaford Town Council

Council Tax Summary 2017/2018



Seaford Town Council

'WORKING TOGETHER FOR SEAFORD.'



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@seaford.town.council



www.seafordtowncouncil.gov.uk

INTRODUCTION

The Council Tax paid by all residents of Seaford is split between different authorities; the Town Council, Lewes District Council, East Sussex County Council, East Sussex Fire Service and the Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner.

Each of these local authorities is responsible for and provides vital services to Seaford and the other towns and parishes across the District and County. This publication will give you an insight in to the services provided by Seaford Town Council and finally, a summary of the 2017/2018 budget and precept level.

FACILITIES

Seaford has a Town Council to provide local services to the town and to also represent the town, its interests and needs.

Seaford Town Council owns and/or is responsible for many services and facilities across the town including the Seafront promenade and facilities, The Salts, The Crouch, many open spaces, South Hill Barn, Seaford Head Nature Reserve, Seaford Head Golf Course, public noticeboards, public seating, memorials, the seafront and concessions, beach huts, Seaford in Bloom, Christmas Lights and The View at Seaford Head. In addition, through valued partners, the Town Council delivers Seaford allotments, Seaford Museum, The Crypt art gallery, the Heritage Trail and Exercise Path, CCTV for the town and major events such as those detailed over the page.



Left to right, top; Peace Garden in Crouch Gardens, Blatchington Pond, Old Town Hall and South Street Toilets, Heritage Trail sign, Crouch Gardens play area, and Seaford Head Nature Reserve. Bottom; Seaford Head Golf Course, Seaford in Bloom scheme, public noticeboards, memorial seating at South Hill Barn, and Martello Tower.

EVENTS DURING 2017

The Town Council's Events team are focussing on increasing the number and quality of events on offer within the town over the coming year and always welcome feedback or suggestions from members of the public.

Some events are organised by the Council and others are organised by local groups or companies who hire the Council's land. Full details of events and guidance on hiring an open space are available on the Council's website at www.seafordtowncouncil.gov.uk

FOOTBALL FESTIVAL with Chelsea FC - Martello Fields, Tues 18th to Fri 24th April

WAIFS & STRAYS FAMILY FUN DAYS - Martello Fields, Sat 27th May & Sat 19th Aug

JAY MILLER'S CIRCUS - Martello Fields, Thurs 1st to Sun 4th June

RUDE MECHANICAL THEATRE COMPANY - Crouch Gardens, Tues 7th June

SUSSEX DAY - Martello Tower, Sun 18th June

SEAHAVEN VETERANS & ARMED FORCES DAY - Martello Fields, Sat 24th June

MOTORFEST - Martello Fields, Sun 25th June

DASH OF COLOUR - Seaford Promenade, Sun 2nd July

FOOD FESTIVAL - Martello Fields, Sat 22nd to Sun 30th July

RUGFEST - The Salts, July (date tbc)

OUTDOOR CINEMA - Martello Fields, Fri 25th to Sun 27th Aug

UK TRIATHLON - Martello Fields, Sat 2nd to Sun 3rd Sept

FUN FAIR - Martello Fields, Sat 23rd to Sun 24th Sept

SEAFORD BONFIRE NIGHT - Town Centre/Martello Fields, Sat 21st Oct

SEAFORD CHRISTMAS MAGIC - Town Centre, Sat 2nd Dec

BOOT FAIRS -

April	Sun 9 th Scouts	Aug	Sun 6 th Rotary
	Sun 16 th Rotary	Sept	Sun 10 th Scouts
May	Sun 7 th Scouts		Sun 17 th Rotary
	Sun 14 th Rotary	Oct	Sun 8 th Scouts
June	Sun 4 th Scouts		Sun 15 th Rotary
	Sun 11 th Rotary		
July	Sun 2 nd Scouts	All to be held on the	
	Sun 9 th Rotary	Martello Fields.	
	Sun 30 th Scouts		

*due to being printed in Spring 17 these are subject to change so please do check dates nearer the time on the Council's website.



STRATEGIC PLAN

In April 2016 the Town Council adopted its mission statement '*Working Together for our Town!*' and identified five key strategic objectives to give the Council and its Officers a clear, defined approach:

TO DEVELOP THE CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC WELL-BEING OF THE TOWN

TO IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT OF THE TOWN

TO IMPROVE AND MAINTAIN RECREATIONAL FACILITIES OF THE TOWN

TO HELP REPRESENT THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY

TO PRACTICE GOOD GOVERNANCE AND FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

Behind the main objectives are a more detailed breakdown of projects and tasks, as shown on the next page. Council Officers have been assigned responsibility for each individual task/project; which were subsequently prioritised and the progress regularly monitored.



Options at South Hill Barn
are being reviewed



A growing calendar of
events is underway for
2017




The first seating has
been installed as part
of the Martello Tower
Entertainments Area



The proposal for 40
additional
Beach Huts is being
drafted



The skate park is
next in line as part
of The Salts
development plan



The Seafront Development Plan is being drafted further to the
initial public consultation at the start of March 2017



Rebuild of Martello
toilets/kiosk...
watch this space!

TO DEVELOP CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC WELL-BEING OF THE TOWN

Construction of entertainments area at Martello Tower

Facilitate Seaford Christmas Magic & increase numbers

Facilitate two events at Martello Entertainments area

Facilitate 25 Events at Martello Fields

Facilitate two events at The Salts

Introduce Tourism Sign Scheme

Construct log cabins at SHGC*

Introduce 40 new Beach Huts to seafront*

Promote presence of TIC

Develop South Hill Barn *

Market 'Unique Seaford'

Manage number of concessions on seafront

Inc. Commercial area, Hotel & Holiday let areas within Neighbourhood Plan*

TO IMPROVE AND MAINTAIN RECREATIONAL FACILITIES OF THE TOWN

Regenerate Salts & Crouch in line with Development Plan *

Regenerate Martello Fields in line with Development Plan *

Complete playing pitch strategy for the Town *

TO HELP REPRESENT THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY

TO IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT OF THE TOWN

Improve open spaces in Seaford *

Improve the Seafront of Seaford *

Plant 100 trees in Seaford

Plant 1,000 whip trees in Seaford

Develop & adopt management plan for Seaford Head Nature Reserve

Manage Seaford Head Nature Reserve in line with Management Plan

TO PRACTICE GOOD GOVERNANCE AND FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

Generate golf course profit of £30,000

Generate capital income from surplus land sales*

Generate The View profit of £30,000 making savings/ increasing income

Achieve Local Council Award Scheme Gold Standard

Achieve satisfactory External Audit

Adopt a full suite of policies

Take appropriate action on Internal Audits (where required)

Represent planning applications in a timely manner

Support the development of a Neighbourhood Plan

Secure The Buckle Car Park as a car park in perpetuity

* subject to public consultation

WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO? As alluded to in this publication, the Town Council has a huge portfolio of assets around the town that it is responsible for. In addition to the day to day management and maintenance of these facilities and services, the Town Council is also striving to make improvements in and to the town, as highlighted in its Strategic Plan.

The Town Council requires funds to be able to maintain its facilities and services, and furthermore to improve what's on offer. These funds are achieved through a few different methods; income generation (such as from The View, Golf Course and memorial seating), grant funding, use of reserves, and finally Precept.

The Council's regular press releases and quarterly newsletters aim to update residents on the achievements of the Council and the progress of projects. Updates are also readily available on the Council's website and Facebook site.

WHO DECIDES HOW THE MONEY IS SPENT? The Town Council, as a corporate body, agrees an annual budget for the Council as a whole, which is broken down for each individual cost centre. Certain Council Officers are given delegated powers to spend within these budgets and in line with the Strategic Objectives as set by the Council (see previous page). Council Officers work hard to ensure that overheads and other administrative costs are kept to a minimum to ensure maximum funds can be dedicated to service delivery for the town.

WHO HAS CONTROL OVER THE FINANCES? There are rigid internal control procedures and guidelines for all financial aspects of the Town Council, that all Council staff are fully trained on. An Internal Auditor is appointed to conduct regular reviews to ensure that the Council is operating within legal requirements and acting effectively, this includes all financial and accounting roles and responsibilities. In addition to this, the Council's Finance & General Purposes Committee review all income and expenditure for the Council; information which is all available in the public domain.

The Council operates at all times with the understanding that it is dealing with public money and therefore must act responsibly and with the interests of the town and its residents and visitors at all times.

THE KEY FOCUS IS SERVICE DELIVERY; ENSURING THAT THE COUNCIL EXISTS FOR THE BETTERMENT OF THE TOWN!

COUNCIL TAX SUMMARY 2017/18

On 26th January 2017, Seaford Town Council adopted its budget for the 2017/18 Financial Year. In doing so, the Council also agreed to its Precept level.

Precept is the Town Council's share of the Council Tax collected by the local billing authority, Lewes District Council. By issuing a 'precept' this ensures the Town Council is able to meet its spending requirements.

The full Budget for the 2017/18 Financial Year is available to view or download from the Council's website.

2017 / 2018 COUNCIL TAX IN FIGURES

Budgeted Expenditure	- Budgeted Income	- Use of Reserves	- LDC Grant	= Precept
(£1,668,925)	(£1,109,091)	(-£120,000)	(£25,368)	(£654,466)
Precept	/ Tax Base	= Council Tax Element		
(£654,466)	(9,484 properties)	(£69.01)		

The **Council Tax Element (£69.01)** is the figure per Band D property within Seaford. Each household's Council Tax bill will identify which Band the property is.

This is the equivalent of a **5.5% increase** on the Town Council's element of Council Tax for the 2017/18 Financial Year; **an additional £3.60 per year** (again, per Band D property).

In 2016/17 Seaford's Precept level (£65.41) remained **considerably lower** than neighbouring towns, with Lewes at £141.70, Newhaven £122.55, Telscombe Cliffs £89.75 and Peacehaven £86.64.

This increase in Precept, of just 7 pence per week per household, will enable the Town Council to continue to work towards and deliver the projects as per its Strategic Plan, bringing a wealth of benefits for the town.

In the near future residents will see the outcome of this work with the rebuild of the Martello Toilets/kiosk with a brand new facility; the unveiling of the Martello Entertainments area; South Hill Barn being rejuvenated and used as a facility; and the beginning of the implementation of the Seafront Development Plan, whilst continuing work in line the Salts Development Plan.

SEAFORD'S PANORAMIC RESTAURANT VENUE

CALL 01323 890 139 OR VISIT WWW.THE-VIEW.CO.UK

the View

Café, Bar & Lounge by the Sea



SEAFORD HEAD

Breakfasts, lunches, bar, sun terrace, meeting room, function & event venue,
weddings, jazz nights, comedy nights - all on offer at The View!

Opening times: Sunday to Friday, 7am to 5pm, Saturday 7am to 7pm



SEAFORD HEAD GOLF COURSE

Membership Prices 2017/18

7 day

Adult - £750

Intermediate 2 (30-39) - £500

Intermediate 1 (22-29) - £356

Youth (18-21) - £203

Junior (12-17) - £69

Junior 11 & under - free*

5 day

Adult - £585

Over 60's - £520

* t&c's apply

18 hole downland/links course

State of the art clubhouse

Largest drop from tee to pin in the South

Golf buggies available

Open 364 days per year (weather dependent)

Adult & Junior lessons with PGA coaches

Practice area

Golf simulator

Well stocked Pro Shop

Modern changing rooms & showers

Call 01323 890 139

Or visit www.seafordheadgolfcourse.co.uk