

Seaford Town Council

NEWSLETTER JULY 2009

MAYOR'S LETTER



What a brilliant day for raising the Sussex Day flag, the weather could not have been kinder and the locals and visitors had a wonderful time celebrating Sussex Day.

Peter White, Cllr Willis, Heidi Watkins after raising the flag on Sussex Day, 14th June.



25th Anniversary twinning of Bonningstedt and Seaford, our overseas guests from Crivitz Wisconsin USA John and Candy Deschane.



Every year the Crouch Bowls Club invite the Town Council to have a friendly game, this was my team and of course we let the real bowlers win!!

I am extremely proud and very honoured to be serving as the eleventh Mayor of Seaford and I am very lucky to have met so many of our voluntary organisers and organisations since my term of office began, it never fails to amaze me how many wonderful hard working and inspirational people we have in this town and who are helping to make Seaford the wonderful place that it is.

It's fair to say that along with many other towns Seaford has seen a decline in trading and this has been a very sad time for us all especially as so many jobs were lost after the closure of Woolworths. Many of the staff were Seaford based and indeed had been part of the chain for many, many years. We have since lost a few more due to the uncertain climate, however as I attend my monthly meetings with the Chamber of Commerce I am pleased to say that most of our businesses, although they have seen a slight downturn in sales, are starting to thrive again which is good news for us all, we must continue to support our local businesses as they are a very important part of our town.



My aspirations for the town are to progress, not digress, make the changes to stay in the market and support and work with each other as a town should.

So, on to my Mayoral year which has been extremely busy from the start, I am supporting two charities this year, the Sea Cadets and the Seaford Lifeguards, two very special organisations who need a phenomenal amount of donations to keep afloat. Both these organisations have supported me thus far, attending fetes and events raising awareness about our beaches, health and safety and indeed promoting the great work and experiences that they can offer to young people. I have had

so much fun taking part in charitable events and it is nice to meet and chat with like minded people who are kind, caring and very thoughtful whose only goals in life are to make our world and other people's a better place to live. I am grateful for all the support that I have received so far and indeed felt very proud to organise Seaford's very first Armed Forces Day, this is a national event and it was very moving to have taken a salute alongside the Lord Lieutenant and the High Sheriff on the 27th June. The turnout of the troops and community to support this was better than anticipated and I met some remarkable veterans, this is a day that will remain with me for the rest of my life.

There have been and still are many events happening within the town so please do your best to support these whenever and whenever you can.

I look forward to my new year with enthusiasm and determination and I promise to work hard for the town and the people in it.

Regards

Councillor Tracy Willis



Armed Forces Day : Left — Getting ready to take the salute Cllr Willis, Lord Lieutenant Peter Field & High Sheriff, Bill Shelford Right — Sea Cadets march past.

SEAFORD TOWN COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2008/2009 – A SUMMARY OF HIGHLIGHTS

Council

Councillor Carolyn Lambert represented Seaford Town Council at over 125 events during her term as Mayor of Seaford, 15 of these being undertaken by the Deputy Mayor.

The setting up of a Seaford Young Mayor Project was approved and the first Seaford Young Mayor elected in January 2009.

Members agreed to the establishment of a Seaford Young Personality of the Year Award, the first award being made in Spring 2009.

Friends of Bönningstedt requested the Council consider taking over the running of the organisation from 2009. Council agreed to take the lead in twinning arrangements between Seaford and Bönningstedt for a trial period of one year.

Council considered the possible devolution of the Crypt Gallery and associated premises to Seaford Town Council and decided to take on both the Crypt and 23 Church Street following an appraisal of financial and other issues.

Community Services

It was resolved to negotiate with all parties involved with Seaford Head Nature Reserve to make necessary adjustments to the boundary of the Reserve in the event of coastal erosion making use of the cliff top footpath dangerous or impossible.

Following complaints from the public concerning winter closing of the Salts toilet, members resolved to request Lewes District Council to open these conveniences from 9.30am to 4.30pm from October to March.

Members resolved to recommend to the Finance & General Purposes Committee that a project manager be appointed to manage the proposal to provide a new clubhouse at Seaford Head Golf Course, appoint a professional to draft a feasibility study and for the provision of expenditure of up to £10,000 to implement this.

The Committee considered a request from Seaford Chamber of Commerce for the Town Council to pay £1,100 towards an engineering assessment for a reef based structure off a 400 metre stretch of beach opposite Salts Recreation Ground.

At a meeting with the Environment Agency they agreed that the beach had an amenity value and agreed to make the slope gentler and grade the shingle. They indicated that a reef could help prevent flooding at Bönningstedt Parade making it more viable to erect beach huts at that location.

Finance & General Purposes

Following scrutiny of the budgets of the Council's three standing Committees and evaluating its future commitments, this Committee was able to recommend to Council that its precept for 2009/2010 should be £335,913 so that the Council Tax charge at Band 'D' would become £34.04 for 2009/2010.

During the previous year 32 grants to outside voluntary bodies beneficial to the residents of Seaford were awarded totalling £4,220.

£10,821.23 interest had been received to end of March 2009 from investments on Treasury and overnight deposits of cleared balances for the financial year 2008/2009 against a revised budget of £11,000.

Planning & Highways

Following an application for demolition of existing buildings and erection of 9 x 2 bed and 5 x 3 bed houses at Fairfield, Albany and Fern-lea, Eastbourne Road, the Committee objected on several grounds. Further objections were raised to a re-submission of the application with the comment made that should the application be approved by Lewes District Council it should be inspected by the Police Safe & Secure Team.

Members supported an application from Seaford Town Football Club for the erection of a football stand following demolition of the existing one.

The Committee objected to an application to erect a three storey block of 9 x 2 bed flats and 4 x 3 bed maisonettes at Ellenbank/The Tempest in Cliff Road on seven counts. However this application was later approved by Lewes District Council.

Applications relating to land at 47 Surrey Road raised objections from the Committee, the first being a re-submission for the erection of 4 x 2 bed and 8 x 3 bed eco-homes, a further application for 7 x 3 bed eco-homes plus an application for the construction of a windmill.

Several objections were raised by the Committee to an application for the re-building of new shops and offices with 12 x 1 bed flats above following demolition of existing shops and offices at Dane Road adjacent to Seaford Station.

A net budget for Planning & Highways Committee was agreed at £11,417 for 2009/2010.

THE OLD BRICKFIELD

The Old Brickfield is situated at the western edge of Seaford between the railway embankment and Marine Parade on the seafront.

Visiting the site today, it is hard to imagine its industrial past, when clay for brick making would have been extracted from the site. It might even have supplied the bricks for Seaford's Martello Tower.

The Old Brickfield provides some interesting habitats, including a large long grass area, a small pocket of salt marsh and a vegetated shingle ridge. This provides a home for many different species of animal and insects as well as many different grasses and other plants. The Old Brickfield has been designated a Site of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCI) in recognition of its regional importance as a wildlife site.

In 2008 a new wetland area was created to help enhance the Old Brickfield's rich wildlife. This project was a partnership between Lewes District Council and the Friends of the Old Brickfield Group. It was funded by a grant from Awards for All Lottery fund. Near to this area a small drainage tunnel beneath the railway connects the Brickfield to a large pond to the north known locally as 'The Dip', which is thought to be a breeding pond for toads, newts and other wildlife.

The site is owned and managed by Lewes District Council, in partnership with the Friends of the Old Brickfield Group. Our aims are to maintain and enhance the habitats present on site, for the local community to use for quiet informal recreation. Footpaths are mown during the summer and the site is litter picked weekly.

If you would like to find out more, or get involved in looking after the site, The Friends of the Old Brickfield are always looking for new members. For further information please contact Lewes District Council's Community Ranger on 01273 484344 or by e-mail Thyone.Outram@lewes.gov.uk

SILVER ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

Over the weekend of 23/24 May 2009 the 25th anniversary of the twinning of Seaford with Bönningstedt in Pinneburg, Germany took place. From 1990 links and visits were also made with Crivitz, Bönningstedt's own twin in East Germany and eventually with their twin of Crivitz USA.

The weekend was organised by the Friends of Bönningstedt and visitors from Bönningstedt plus the two Crivitz towns arrived in Seaford on Friday 22 May and a welcome reception took place in the Council Chamber at the offices of Seaford Town Council that same evening.

Norman Baker MP spoke fluently in German at a celebratory dinner on the Saturday evening at Seaford Blatchington Golf Club which followed a sightseeing tour of London, including a flight on the London Eye.

On the Sunday guests enjoyed visits to Seaford Churches and also the Seaford Carnival. At a Seaford Silver Band concert in the evening held at the Downs Leisure Centre, a star turn was 'The Lighting Conductor', when Mayor of Seaford, Cllr Tracy Willis conducted the band in 'Sussex by the Sea'. See picture on the right.

OLD BRICKFIELD

FREE FAMILY WILDLIFE FESTIVAL



FRIDAY 31 JULY 11AM-2PM

CELEBRATING THE LAUNCH OF A NEW WETLAND HABITAT CREATED ON THE OLD BRICKFIELD

Free community event featuring workshops for all the family, including:

- Brick making workshop*
- Bug hunting and Hi Tec Wild Trek mobile ecology lab*
- Treasure hunt*
- Historical photo exhibition*
- Bicycle smoothie maker*
- RSPB stand*

Old Brickfield, Marine Parade, Seaford (near to Buckle car park).

Contact Dan Ross on 01273 484408

email dan.ross@lewes.gov.uk for more details.










Seaford's 'Lightning Conductor!' Mayor Tracy Willis (2nd from left) at Seaford Silver Band Concert where she conducted "Sussex by the Sea". Also pic: left John Deschane, Village President of Crivitz USA ; Martina Kaddatz, vice Chair of Pinneburg County Council, Germany ; Ulli Güssman, Bürgermeister of Crivitz, Germany.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 15 August	South Coast Triathlon, Seaford Seafront
Sunday 16 August	South Coast Half Marathon, Seaford Seafront
Saturday 22 August	Mayor's Charity Sponsored Walk 11am Beachcomber to Sea Cadet HQ, Newhaven and back
Sunday 23 August	Mayor's Charity Bike Fest, 10am – 4pm Martello Fields, Seaford
Monday 31 August	Lions Donkey Derby & Classic Car Show at 1.15pm at Martello Fields
Thursday 3 September	Launch of Seaford Live
Thursday 10 September	Mayor's Charity Golf Day, Seaford Head Golf Course
11 – 13 September	Seaford Live
Saturday 19 September	Churches Together Family Craft Day 2-4pm Salts Recreation Ground
Sunday 4 October	Historic Walk in aid of Mayor's Charity
Saturday 28 November	Mayor's Ball, Seaford Constitutional Club
Friday 4 December	Seaford Christmas Late Night Shopping
Tuesday 15 December	Mayor's Carol Concert 8pm at St Leonard's Church

SEAFORD TOWN COUNCIL CONTACT DETAILS

<p><u>Central Ward</u></p> <p>Mrs P Bennett 15 Kingsway, Seaford, BN25 2NE</p> <p>Mr R Bennett 15 Kingsway, Seaford, BN25 2NE</p> <p>Mr P Bower 1 Homefield Close, Seaford, BN25 3DQ</p> <p>Mrs C Lambert (Mayor) 5 Chapel Close, Seaford, BN25 2JJ</p> <p><u>East Ward</u></p> <p>Mrs R Amery 28 Old Nursery Close, Alfriston Road, Seaford, BN25 3JZ</p> <p>Mr C Conil 30 Hazeldene, Sutton Avenue, Seaford, BN25 4NQ</p> <p>Mr M Cornforth 11 The Covers, Seaford, BN25 1DF</p> <p>Mr J Peterson 20 Vale Road, Seaford, BN25 3EY</p>	<p><u>North Ward</u></p> <p>Mr E Collict 7 Balmoral Close, Seaford, BN25 3DF</p> <p>Mrs R Collict 7 Balmoral Close, Seaford, BN25 3DF</p> <p>Mr J Freeman Windysheels, Links Road, Seaford, BN25 4HX</p> <p>Mrs T Willis 93 Lexden Drive, Seaford, BN25 3JF</p> <p><u>South Ward</u></p> <p>Mr B Allen 7 Heathfield Road, Seaford, BN25 1TH</p> <p>Mr R Brown 25 Cunningham Court, Ringmer Road, Seaford, BN25 1AW</p> <p>Mr R Sinclair 10 Connaught Road, Seaford, BN25 2PT</p> <p>Mr R Taylor 1 Elm Villas, Saxon Lane, Seaford, BN25 1QN</p>	<p><u>West Ward</u></p> <p>Mr B Groves 72 Marine Drive, Bishopstone, Seaford, BN25 2RU</p> <p>Mr L Holland 4 Beacon Close, Seaford, BN25 2JZ</p> <p>Ms L Wallraven 1 Eadric House, Bishopstone Village, Seaford, BN25 2UE</p> <p>Mr I White 83 Hurdis Road, Seaford, BN25 2TH</p> <p>Clerk to the Council : Mrs Sam Shippen</p> <p>Office opening hours :</p> <p>Monday – Friday 9.30 am – 4.30 pm</p> <p>Address : 37 Church Street Seaford East Sussex BN25 1HG</p> <p>E-mail : admin@seafordtowncouncil.gov.uk Tel : 01323 894870 Website : www.seafordtowncouncil.gov.uk</p>
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