



Council's 2017 Annual Report

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## Welcome to Seaford Town Council's Spring 2018 Newsletter

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## **Dates for your diary...**

## April

Sun 8 - Scouts Boot Fair (pg 5) Thurs 12 to Sun 22 - Funfair Sun 15 - Rotary Boot Fair (pg 5) Tues 17 - Mayor's Quiz (pg 10) Thurs 19 - North Ward By Election (pg 4)

## May

Tues 1 - Health Drop-in Event (pg 6) Sun 6 - Rotary Boot Fair (pg 5) Sun 13 - Scouts Boot Fair (pg 5) Fri 18 - French Market Tues 22 - Annual Town Forum Sat 26 - Waifs & Strays Family Fun Day (pg 6) (May cont'd) Mon 28 - The Shoal Event (pg 7) Thurs 31 to Sun 3 - Circus (pg 6)

### June

Sun 3 - Rotary Boot Fair (pg 5) Sun 3 - Beach Sculpture Competition (pg 6) Sun 10 - Mayor's Open Gardens (pg 6) Sun 10 - Scouts Boot Fair (pg 5) Sun 10 - Triple Challenge (pg 6) Sat 16 - Sussex Day Sun 24 - Motorfest (pg 6) Sat 30 - Veteran's & Armed Forces' Day (pg 6)

## **Bulletin Board**

### War Memorial Grade II Listed

Seaford Town Council was pleased to be informed that the

Seaford War Memorial, which is the focal point of town at least twice a year, was added to the List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest, now holding Grade II Listed status.

The memorial, which is situated at the junction of Sutton Park Road and Avondale Road, is a tall example of the First World War Memorial granite wheel-head cross and was raised at Seaford as a permanent testament to the sacrifice made by 104 members of the local community who lost their lives in the First World War. The inscriptions also include the names of seven men who died in service during the Second Boer War (1899-1902).



The memorial was unveiled on 3 August 1921 at its original location on Dane

Road. In 1952 it was moved about 500m to the north-east to its current location on Sutton Park Road, and the names of 88 service personnel and 20 civilians who had died in the Second World War were added. The then Chairman of the Seaford Urban District Council unveiled it on Sunday 2 November 1952.

2018 Grants Scheme

The Council's annual

Grants Scheme, giving local community groups and charities the opportunity to apply for a financial grant from the Council, opened on 3 April 2018. The closing date for applications is 18 May 2018.

All information and documents are available on the Council's website at www.seafordtowncouncil.gov.uk , here you will also find guidance on the scheme and the qualifying criteria.

In 2017 the Council was thrilled to be able to support the local community with grants totalling in excess of £22,000.

The 2018 grants will be determined by the Council's Finance & General Purposes Committee at its meeting on 14 June 2018.

## North Ward By Election 19 April 2018

Further to a former Councillor having to stand down from their voluntary role as Town Councillor, a

vacancy for a Councillor has arisen in the Seaford North Ward.

The by election for this is due to be held on Thursday 19 April - residents of Seaford North ward will have received details of this directly.

Lewes District Council are responsible for administering local elections, however the Statement of Nominated Persons and other key documents can be viewed on the Town Council's website.

Details of the successful new councillor will be announced in due course.

## Condolences

Seaford Town Council was very saddened to hear of the passing of former Town Councillor, David Schueler, in March.

Both David and his wife, Joyce Schueler, were part of the Town Council's first administration, in office from 1999 to 2003. David also served a year as Deputy Mayor of Seaford in 2002/2003.

The Town Council offered its deepest sympathies to David's family and on behalf of all present and past Town Councillors, members of staff and Seafordians, thanked former Councillor David Schueler for all he helped achieve for the town.

# **Bulletin Board**

## Town Council Commits to Achieving Plastic-free Town Status

At its meeting on 29 March, the Town Council formalised its support of a campaign for Seaford to achieve plastic-free town status.

Claire Sumners, Seaford's voluntary Community Lead from the environmental charity, Surfers Against Sewage (SAS), approached the Town Council seeking its support through its commitment to plastic-free alternatives and supporting plastic-free initiatives within the town.

There are five objectives set by SAS as part of the criteria for business and towns to meet to be awarded plastic -free status, with the ultimate aim of creating plastic-free coastlines. The Town Council will be looking at how it can support the aims of the campaign and meet these five criteria, whilst also encouraging both businesses and

individuals in the town to get on board with the initiative. The first step is the removal of the few single use plastics the Council currently uses, namely straws, cups, lids and takeaway boxes at The View; all of which can be (or have been in some cases) easily replaced with plastic-free alternatives.

For further information on the plastic-free initiative, contact Community Lead Claire Sumners via her Facebook page @ZeroWasteMaman or visit SAS's website at www.sas.org.uk

Seaford Beach Cleans As part of her continued work with SAS and supported by the Town Council, Claire also organises regular beach cleans on Seaford beach, which she encourages everyone to come along and get involved with.





Gloves, bags (not plastic) and litter pickers are provided. Children are welcome as long as supervised by an adult. The rubbish collected is sorted by Claire, weighed and then recycled or reused.

Details of the next beach clean date are always published on the Zero Waste Maman Facebook page.

## **Boot Fairs 2018**

All to be held on Sundays in the Martello Fields, Seaford.

April	8 <sup>th</sup>	Sc	15 <sup>th</sup>	Ro	May	6 <sup>th</sup>	Ro	13 <sup>th</sup>	ı Sc
June	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Ro	10 <sup>th</sup>	Sc	July	1 <sup>st</sup>	Ro	8 <sup>th</sup>	Sc
August	5 <sup>th</sup>	Ro	12 <sup>th</sup>	Sc	September	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Ro	9 <sup>th</sup>	Sc
October	7 <sup>th</sup>	Ro	14 <sup>th</sup>	Sc	Ro - Seaford Rotary Club, 9am - 1pm Sc - Seahaven Scouts, 8.30am - 1pm				



# **Upcoming Events**

Further details on upcoming events will be available on the Council's website and Facebook page nearer to the event date—be sure to check in for further details.



## Oh I do like to be beside the seaside...

Since the adoption of the Seafront Development Plan the Town Council has been working on the improvements to be brought to and integrated with one of the pride's of Seaford, it's three mile sweeping beachfront.

### **Bönningstedt Beach Huts**

Installation of the first twenty beach huts as part of the Plan was phased from July to September 2017. The huts have been well-received as an exciting yet in keeping addition to the western half of Seaford seafront, bringing life back to this promenade.

At a later date the huts will be joined by a concession unit, toilet facilities, a decorative gabion defence wall and a further twenty beach huts.



The current huts are being sold with local Estate Agency, Premier Lets & Sales, and as the weather begins to improve and the sunny summer evenings at the seaside near, are drumming up further interest.

Further details on the huts can be found on the Council's website or by contacting the Council's Projects team on 01323 895 046.

### **Seafront Concessions**

The Town Council was thrilled to be able to grant concession licences to two local traders to operate on the seafront in addition to the fantastic concessions already on the prom; La Creperie, offering a range of authentic freshly made crepes, and The Salty Seahorse, serving irresistible local fish & chips with a twist.

La Creperie mobile unit is located on Seaford's promenade opposite Dane Road from March through to October this year. The shop in Blatchington Road will also continue to open for its current hours.

The Salty Seahorse is run from a quirky vintage race horse trailer by Tony and Bonny Hillman and is sited on Seaford promenade close to the junction with Edinburgh Road.

Seafront Signage The Town Council is currently working in partnership with other stakeholders to review the signage on the seafront and Seaford Head cliffs; aiming to streamline the signage on display and making sure users of the beach and visitors to Seaford Head have easy access to clear information as they arrive.

**The Shoal** All three phases of the Shoal community bench were quickly snapped up, being adorned with messages of celebration, memory and love. There are a few fish remaining; be sure to get in



quick. There will be an official opening for the finished Shoal on Bank Holiday Monday 28 May with stalls, live music and entertainment for the whole family - keep an eye on the Council's website or Facebook page for further details!



"The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group has received over 200 comments, largely favourable, on the Draft Plan and Sustainability Appraisal. We appreciate the time and effort of all those who attended our consultation meetings as well as those completing questionnaires.

Some technical issues have emerged regarding the Sustainability Appraisal/ Strategic Environmental Assessment and, as a result, Specialist Consultancy support has been sought.

The role of the Steering Group has now changed as we prepare for the next stage of developing the Plan (which will be seeking the agreement of the Town Council to the Plan being sent to Lewes District Council for a further Public Consultation before going to a professional Planning Inspector for scrutiny). The Town Council agreed at its meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> March that the Steering Group should be restructured by replacing the present format (of local volunteers with Councillor representation) with a Steering Group comprised of three Councillors and one local volunteer continuing as Chairman. Other former members of the Steering Group will be consulted informally, as required, for advice on areas they have been particularly involved with.

It is not yet possible to set a date for the next Steering Group meeting as this is dependent on the nature and timing of advice from Consultants. When the date is known it will be published on our website along with an agenda."

#### Seaford Town Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

#### **Motorhomes on Seafront**



Seaford Town Council currently receives as many complaints regarding motorhomes parking and staying overnight on the seafront, in particular at Cliff Gardens, as any other matter.

The Council is working with East Sussex County Council (local highways Authority) to review the Traffic Regulation Order for the seafront and for this to include restrictions on motorhomes being parked overnight, including Cliff Gardens. It is hoped this will be in place by late Summer 2018; it will be subject to public consultation before being agreed.

The current position statement can be found on the Council's website: www.seafordtowncouncil.gov.uk/ Visiting.aspx

#### **Talland Parade, Seaford**



The scaffolding and works at Talland Parade in Seaford town centre have been an ongoing saga for Lewes District Council, as the local Planning and Building Control Authority.

New owners took responsibility for the building and works in late-2017 and were given a set period to commence works or the District Council would begin the legal process to service a notice for the removal of the scaffolding. This notice was served on 19 March 2018 and unless an appeal is made, the owners have until 20 May 2018 to remove the scaffolding

Comments, concerns or complaints regarding the works or scaffolding should be directed to Lewes District Council's Planning Enforcement team on 01273 085 446.

#### Fisher's Wharf, Newhaven



The planning application for the construction/use of an aggregate processing plant, aggregate bagging plant, concrete batching plant and associated buildings at Newhaven Port (eastern side of the river mouth) has sparked a lot amount of interest due to the significant impact this development would have.

The application is being considered by East Sussex County Council's Planning Committee; the meeting date is yet to be announced. Full details of the application can be viewed online at: https://apps.eastsussex.gov.uk/ environment/planning/applications/ register/Detail.aspx? typ=dmw\_planning&appno=LW%2f799% 2fCM(EIA) &results=JnBsYWNIbmFtZT1OZXdoYXZlbi UyY05ld2hhdmVu

# 2018-19 Council Tax

In January 2018 Seaford Town Council met to discuss, among many things, its financial budget for the 2018/19 Financial Year, which runs 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019.

The Town Council has always been, and continues to be, pleased to be able to keep its element of Council Tax at the lowest in the District and East Sussex compared to all other Town Councils. Somewhat in contrast, the Town Council has been highlighted for its exciting and unique aspirations within its Strategic Plan, including the improvements to come as part of the Seafront Development Plan. The Town Council dedicates itself to ensuring it can deliver as much as possible for Seaford whilst achieving the best value for money for the taxpayer.

For the 2018/19 Financial Year, the Town Council has increased its Council Tax level by 5.99%, which for a Band D property is £4.13 per year.

With this additional 8 pence per week (for the average Band D property) the Town Council will be able to continue to work towards and deliver the aims within its Strategic Plan. At present, the Town Council is working on aspects of The Salts Development Plan (the tennis courts, skate park, a multi-use games area, the café and more), the Seafront Development Plan (the Martello kiosk and toilet facility, Bönningstedt beach huts, a kiosk and toilet facility at Bönningstedt, sand pits for children, free-to-use telescopes and more), the much-loved community bench The Shoal, the development of the restaurant, bar and function venue The View, the facilities on offer at Seaford Head Golf Course and the delivery of the ever-popular events within the town such as Seaford Christmas Magic and Armed Forces & Veteran's Day.

The Town Council also works with many partners to deliver and manage certain services and sites in the town, such as; Seaford Head Nature Reserve with the Sussex Wildlife Trust, the Martello Tower with Seaford Museum & Heritage Society, the Crypt Gallery with the Arts@theCrypt Committee, CCTV in the town with Sussex Police, Seaford Head Swimming Pool with Wave Leisure and many more that are a daily part of residents and visitors lives.

In addition to the income/tourism generating activities, the Town Council also continues to help represent the needs of the community and local democracy, for example with the proposed planning developments at the

former Newlands School site and the Newhaven Harbour Development, the ongoing issues surrounding the works at Talland Parade and the boundary changes to the local parliamentary constituencies.

The full budget for the 2018/19 Financial Year is available to view on the Council's website. The Town Council published an information leaflet (pictured right), being included with all Council Tax correspondence, to raise awareness of its activities and its aspirations for the coming year. This leaflet is also available to view online on the Council's website.

It should be noted that the Council Tax statements that were issued in spring stated that the Town Council's element of Council Tax is 6%; the figure payable is however based on 5.99%, this is a printing requirement that rounds the figure up on the printed statement.



## Civic

## **Mayor of Seaford**



In a recent report, the Mayor of Seaford, Councillor Linda Wallraven said:

'How quickly my Mayoral Year is passing by, I have been to some memorable events and it's the young people who achieve so much. Recently I attended 'The Young Musician Awards' and 'The Young Writers Awards' both organised by The Rotary Club, the ability was outstanding.

I unveiled a Blue Plaque at Seaford Railway Station in recognition of the West Indian Regiment which was formed in 1915 here in Seaford (*pictured below*). A number of young men died here with influenza and are buried amongst the Commonwealth War Graves at Seaford Cemetery. We welcome people with links to W.I. from London every year for a Service of Remembrance at The Cemetery together with the Canadians and Irish.

On a lighter note I was invited to The Book Show at The Crypt Gallery and was asked to come as a book character, so I went as a pirate as I had all the gear. It was a very good event for young children and the

organisers are hoping to repeat the event next year. (*Pictured above with consort, Liz Holland*)

I've attended School Assemblies to promote the election of the new Deputy Young Mayor with Thomas Exley, our Young Mayor, who did a good presentation. I joined Tom on his last fundraising coach trip to Hampton Court and what a fabulous day we all had.

Saturday 21st April at 2pm I have organised a guided tour of St. Andrew's Church and Churchyard followed by Cream Tea in Bishopstone Parish Hall. St. Andrew's Church is one of the oldest churches in the county dating back to Saxon times. *(details to the right)*'





## Civic

## Young Mayor of Seaford

Thomas Exley, Young Mayor, has been hard at work fundraising to

install a wheelchair accessible swing at The Salts, succeeding in raising a whopping £6k!

Fundraising has included various coach trips arranged by Thomas, which have been hugely popular (*Thomas pictured right on one coach trip to Hampton Court Palace*), other groups and organisations holding events and fundraisers with Thomas and very generous donations from local residents and supports of the cause. Thomas hopes that the swing will be installed in the very near future. A massive congratulations to Thomas and everyone who has supported him along the way - this is an incredible achievement!



Thomas has remained busy with civic engagements, including the Blue Plaque unveiling at Seaford Station, a Year 6 prose & poetry competition and Seaford Community Church's pizza and games night, which raised a further £200 for the swing campaign. Thomas has also been busy assisting with the elections for the next Deputy Young Mayor, to serve under his current Deputy and the next Young Mayor of Seaford, Dominic Avey.

More details on Thomas' year as Young Mayor will be included in the Council's Annual Report to be published in May.

# **Personnel Updates**

There have been a few personnel changes since the update in the previous edition of the newsletter.

The Council wished Emily Piper the best of luck as she began her maternity leave in April, with her new (and third!) bundle of joy soon due. Sharan Brydon will be covering the role of Projects & Facilities Supervisor in Emily's absence and Sue Treadwell has transferred to the team to carry out the Projects & Facilities Coordinator role. Gemma Saunderson-Barker has since joined the Council to cover the role of Administration Assistant/Mayor's Secretary over the coming year; Gemma has a wealth of high level administration experience and has very much hit the ground running.

The Council was also pleased to welcome Bob Offen on board as its new Inspector from 9<sup>th</sup> April. Having worked for BT for over four decades in a variety of roles, Bob's health & safety knowledge and experience is second to none - we are sure he will be a fantastic asset to the Council team. Many of you may see him out and about around Council owned sites (come rain or shine!).

The Council has recently increased the hours of work for Geoff Johnson (Planning Officer) from 4 hours a week to 6 hours, allowing Geoff more time to dedicate to the more complex and strategic planning functions of the Council. Georgia Raeburn (Executive Support Officer) has increased to full time hours, providing a much needed additional 10 hours support for the Council.

The full staff structure and job descriptions for each role can be found on the Council's website.

## Fly-tipping? Littering? Graffiti?

Lewes District Council

Lewes District Council and Eastbourne Borough Council were pleased to announce the launch of Neighbourhood First; a team of advisors who work with communities to improve their neighbourhood.

They act as the link between the council and the community and work alongside a range of volunteers, groups and other council staff to maintain the quality of the environment.

The Neighbourhood Advisors can help and assist you to try and resolve a range of issues, such as:

- Dog fouling
- Fly-tipping
- Littering and street cleaning
- Abandoned vehicles
- \* Fallen trees

Advisors are available to speak with residents and attend community, town and parish council meetings to find out what matters most to local communities.

They carry out a range of inspections on the streets and open spaces to make sure the environment is well maintained.

Find our more about the work of Neighbourhood First at www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/Neighbourhood-First



Open from 7.00am every day for breakfast, lunch and evening meals Come and enjoy a meal or a drink and take in the spectacular views from the patio and balcony 2 function rooms suitable for all your celebrations Free parking and Wi-Fi Find out more at www.the-view.co.uk Seaford Head Golf Course, Southdown Road, Seaford. 01323 890139

# REPORT IT

Report It is the quickest way to report environmental problems to the council. Download the app for Android from the Play Store or for iPhone from the App Store. To find out more visit lewes-eastbourne/Report-It

