



Seaford Town Council

To the Members of the Full Council

A Meeting of the of the **Full Council** will be held at **37 Church Street, Seaford** on **Thursday 12th May 2016** immediately following the Annual Meeting, which you are summoned to attend.


James Corrigan
Town Clerk
4th May 2016

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence

To consider apologies for absence.

2. Disclosure of Interests

To deal with any disclosure by Members of any discloseable pecuniary interests and interests other than pecuniary interests, as defined under the Seaford Town Council Code of Conduct and the Localism Act 2011, in relation to matters on the agenda.

3. Public Participation

To deal with any questions, or brief representations, from members of the public in accordance with Standing Order 3 and Seaford Town Council Policy.

4. Minutes

To note the following minutes, approving or not approving recommendations as required:

4.1 Personnel – 31st March 2016 (page 2)

4.2 Planning & Highways – 21st April 2016 (pages 3 to 9)

4.3 Council – 28th April 2016 (pages 10 to 17)

5. Final Meeting Attendance Record 2015-2016

To note report 12/16 presenting the Final Meeting Attendance Record for the 2015/16 Municipal Year (pages 18 to 19).

6. Consultation on New Electoral Arrangements for East Sussex County Council

To consider report 13/16 providing details of the draft recommendations from the Local Government Boundary Commission (for England) regarding the Electoral Arrangements for East Sussex County Council that are currently under consultation (pages 20 to 32).

For further information about items appearing on this Agenda please contact:
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Circultion: All Councillors, Young Mayor, Deputy Young Mayor and Police Sergeant Mullins.



Seaford Town Council

MINUTES of a Meeting of the **Personnel Sub-Committee** held at the Council Chambers, 37 Church Street, Seaford on **Thursday 31st March 2016 at 6.00pm.**

Present:

Councillor S Adeniji (Chair), C Campbell (Vice-Chair), L Freeman, R Honeyman and A Latham.
James Corrigan, Town Clerk – Seaford Town Council

No members of the public were present.

PE07/03/16 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

PE08/03/16 Disclosure of Interests

No declarations were made of discloseable pecuniary interests or interests other than pecuniary interests as defined under the Seaford Town Council Code of Conduct and the Localism Act 2011, in relation to matters on the agenda.

PE09/03/16 Office Structure Amendment

The Committee discussed report 160/15.

It was **PROPOSED** to **AGREE** to change the existing post of Apprentice Administration Assistant to a part-time Administration Assistant for twenty two and a half hours per week.

A **RECORDED VOTE** was requested:

Councillor S Adeniji For

Councillor C Campbell Against

Councillor L Freeman For

Councillor R Honeyman Against

Councillor A Latham For

The motion was **CARRIED**; 3 for, 2 against.

The meeting closed at 6.28pm.

Councillor Sam Adeniji
Chairman



Seaford Town Council
Planning & Highways Committee

Minutes of the meeting of the **Planning & Highways Committee** held at the **Council Chambers, 37 Church Street, Seaford** on **Thursday 21st April 2016**.

Present:

Councillor L Wallraven (Chairman)
Councillor R Honeyman (Vice Chairman)
Councillors D Burchett, P Boorman, C Campbell, A Latham, A McLean and L Worcester.
Lucy Clark, Support Services Manager – Seaford Town Council
Elizabeth Harvey, Admin Assistant (Finance) – Seaford Town Council (minutes)
6 members of the public.

P112/4/16 Apologies for Absence and Declaration of Substitute Members

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D Argent, M Lambert and P Lower.
Councillor C Campbell substituted for Councillor D Argent.
Councillor P Boorman substituted for Councillor P Lower.

P113/4/16 Disclosure of Interests

Under the Seaford Town Council Code of Conduct and the Localism Act 2011, Councillors D Burchett, C Campbell, L Wallraven and L Worcester declared a pecuniary interest in application LW/16/0124 due to be members of the Conservative party.

P114/4/16 Public Participation

There was no public participation.

P115/4/16 Planning Applications

Planning Applications week ending 1st April 2016

Seaford
LW/15/0731

26 Blatchington Hill

Listed Building Consent Application - Replacement of metal casement top floor windows with slim-light wooden casement windows for Ms M Perkins

It was **RESOLVED** to make **NO OBJECTION**.

Seaford
LW/16/0119

120 Princess Drive

Planning Application - Two storey side/rear extension for Mr D Mayers

It was **RESOLVED** to make **NO OBJECTION**.

Seaford
LW/16/0158

58 High Street

Planning Application - Installation of rear dormer and two Conservation-style Velux windows at the front for Ms E Ryan.

It was **RESOLVED** to make **NO OBJECTION**.

Seaford
LW/16/0163

Cresta Crouch Lane

Planning Application - Erection of 2 x two bedroom detached bungalows and 2 x two bedroom semi-detached chalet bungalows (in place of previous application ref: LW/15/0870) for Si Homes

Tony Delaney

Advised that original application was withdrawn and advised he has various objections. The Design Access Statement brings up Lewes District Council policy RES15, which relates to planning boundaries and the conversion of dwellings to provide separate units of accommodation. The six dwellings in total on this site will increase density of the land use and leave very little open space. These properties will have a larger footprint and impact on the environment, as these properties will have a larger roof surface from which rain fall will run off and go down the drains and Steyne Road. Steyne Road has already had recent flooding and no improvements have been made to the ground or the local pumping station, therefore we have an increased problem of drainage. In Crouch Lane/Steyne Road the drain is getting clogged up by soil from the Cresta Site due to current digging. This has been reported to East Sussex County Council, who has advised they have a two yearly programme of clearing out the drains. Part of the problem is there is a dip in Crouch Lane and water collects. There has been no significant change on the eastern boundary of the site, by 67A Steyne Road, the new elevations of the building is looking straight down on us and the bungalows are all being set forward and the roof heights have been reduced only partially, however, the overlooking issue still occurs. No traffic issues has been looked at or speeding issues in Steyne Road or Crouch Lane. There is no pavement in Crouch Lane on the eastern side and the increased traffic movement will increase the hazards to pedestrians.

Susan Smith

Highlighted the similarities in the applications from the previous to the new applications. On this application the roof heights are only just slightly lower than the previous application and only called chalet bungalows due to having the bathrooms being down stairs. The roof ridge line of this bungalows are in line with the bungalows in the next planning application LW/16/0164 for the same site and all are 1 metre higher than the roof ridge of 67A Steyne Road and neighbouring properties. The house design has changed but the foot print remains the same. Looking previously on this committee's minutes from December 2015, it looks like the only reason an objection was made was for an archaeological report to be done. There has been no evidence of a survey carried out by Natural England or other wildlife organisations to assess or monitor badger activity. Diggers on the site have already moved soil from west to east on the site to create a high plato, so the build of the chalet bungalows will be very overbearing. It is overdevelopment, out of character, over shadowing, and loss of privacy to neighbouring properties, no support to land or piling measures to stop landslides. Advised that the applicants statements about the development are not true and do not benefit the local residents of Seaford.

Rod Smith

Highlighted comments Lewes District Council made regarding the last application made for this site. That the development would bring more density to the site and would adversely affect the appearance and character of the area and how it relates to the ST3 local plan. Quoted Lewes District Council condition number 5 on the previous application, which gives guidance to parking conditions and the properties not being occupied until the

planning authority has given approval, given reasons for this due to highways safety of pedestrians. It is hard to believe and understand why the applications have been split as one would cover the whole site. Application LW/16/0163 should have the number of bungalows cut to two semi de-attached, that parking should be incorporated in the site that enhances the landscape and drainage, that a provision for a footpath is made along the Crouch Lane perimeter. That the application LW/16/0163, LW/16/0164 and LW/16/0124 be considered together on the appearance it has to the town.

Cllr Sam Adeniji

I am speaking for the residents of South Ward for Seaford. Can we realistically have four dwellings in the replacement of one on this site and have front and back gardens and a parking space. It is overcrowding. If we look at the previous applications, it was rejected for overlooking on number 67A Steyne Road, Seaford. Please object to this application on the following grounds; overdevelopment, overlooking, unreasonable density and quoted Lewes District Council ST3 condition stating that the development should respect the overall scale and height, density and layout of the site.

It was **RESOLVED** to **OBJECT** on grounds of overdevelopment; overshadowing and loss of privacy; over bearing and needs to be excavated 1 metre down due to height issues; out of keeping with street scene; unreasonable density; the boundary line between applications LW/16/0163 and LW/16/0164 being too close.

The Planning Committee queries whether a full archaeological assessment has been carried out and would like clarification of this.

Seaford
LW/16/0164

Cresta Crouch Lane

Planning Application - Demolition of existing bungalow Cresta and replacement with 2 x two-bedroom detached bungalows (in place of outline approval ref: LW/03/0929) for Si Homes

Tony Delany

Repeating what has been stated before, density of the land, height of the roof line, overlooking of properties on the south side of Steyne Road and how the bungalow has been pushed further to the front of the site. Parking issues and how the steps are going to focus the run off of rainfall in Steyne Road and drains will be clogged. Along with traffic issues and speeding cars.

Rod Smith

I have the same objections as to the last application and I am objecting on it being overbearing to 67A Steyne Road and overbearing to the neighbourhood and designed to confuse. Lack of clarity of the design for the steep slope on the eastern boundary and the party wall. The unexplained absence of 67A sun lounge from the plans, cited in the original plans to carry out, rights of light report, which has not be followed up upon. We would ask for the application to cut the number of bungalow homes to two semi-detached bungalows, to contain the parking in the site and enhance the landscape and drainage and insist that the developer meet his obligations under the party wall act and

rights of light notifications. Recommend that the applications LW/16/0163, LW/16/0164 and LW/16/0124 be considered together on the appearance it has to the town. If there was a footpath on application LW/16/0163 along to the Conservative Club, then it would be desirable for it to be extended along the length of the Conservative Club development.

Susan Smith

There are two detached bungalows for this application and the high pitched deep and appal roofs are higher than 1 meter than 67A Steyne Road and adjoining properties. It would be overlooking if later on roof dormers were added. It is still overbearing and overshadowing to 67A Steyne Road. The most eastern end of the building comes out further than 67A at the front and back and the steep slope of sandy soil goes beyond the 1921 retaining wall, by about a meter and half. Where the land has had the diggers in that will be the highest point of where the two bungalows will be and that will be to overbearing, they have not measured correctly. The picture provided gives you an idea of the site and we are awaiting a BRE report to assess the impact the 67A in the way of a computer module. The right of light report has not been done and it is best practise to get it down at the time. The building units have just been moved around on the plan, nothing has fundamental changed. The impact is still the same and we urge you to reject the application.

Cllr S Adeniji

I am speaking for the residents of the South Ward for Seaford. We are not against development on this site, what we are against is the overdevelopment of this site. The development is overbearing, overlooking, not in keeping with the area, unreasonable density. If any members are thinking of approving this application than please insist on ST3 for pedestrian safety due to the lack of pavement by the property.

It was **RESOLVED** to **OBJECT** on grounds of overdevelopment; overshadowing and loss of privacy; over bearing and needs to be excavated 1 metre down due to height issues; out of keeping with street scene; unreasonable density; increased highway issues; the boundary line between applications LW/16/0163 and LW/16/0164 being too close.

The Planning Committee queries whether a full archaeological assessment was carried out and would like clarification of this.

The Planning Committee would also like to express their concerns that the notices for these applications were not prominently displayed and could appear misleading to the public who may think this is one application.

Seaford
LW/16/0170

19 Fairways Road
Planning Application - Demolition of existing front porch and erection of replacement porch for Mr G Ferdinand

It was **RESOLVED** to make **NO OBJECTION**.

Planning Applications week ending 8th April 2016

Seaford
LW/16/0111

32 Hawth Crescent
Planning Application - Erection of rear extension, front porch and roof conversion with rear dormer for Mr T O'Donnell

Seaford
LW/16/0124

It was **RESOLVED** to make **NO OBJECTION**.

Seaford Constitutional Club Crouch Lane
Planning Application - Alterations and extension to the Seaford Constitutional Club to provide new club facilities, 8x2 bed flats, 3x1 bed flats & 8x3 bedroom houses together with new carpark layout and landscaping for Seaford and District Constitutional Club

Councillors D Burchett, C Campbell, L Wallraven and L Worcester left the room.

Councillor R Honeyman continued to chair the meeting.

Rod Smith

We welcome the development of the Conservative Club, however, two things the noise pollution and prevailed to look at footpath along the boundary that would be most grateful.

Susan Smith

Minor planning amendments to the application will mean more noise pollution and nuisance. All elements to the social club is planned for the ground floor and two double large patio doors are shown to be leading to a garden area. This new purposed layout is designed to open up the function room onto the large terrace and garden area by lay of the patio doors. This will be whenever the occasion, opportunity or weather is suitable. It is the intention of the Conservative Club to increase its membership and hire out it's facilities on a commercial basis, meaning increased numbers and events resulting in increased levels of noise, especially in warm weather. The immediate neighbours will be affected by the arrival of licensed premises in this outdoor space and we ask for evidence that the Conservative Club has asked for approval for the changes to the building and the change of use to their outdoor land as an amenity to a licence premise. We ask for evidence with this conversion, conditions are attached for aquatics assessments, specialist sound installation for all elements and fabric of the building including windows and access doors. Will air conditioning units be installed for example, think of the tenants residing above and with extended opening hours until late. We ask the committee to impose conditions and seek changes to stop detrimental effect to the local community.

Tony Delaney

We occasionally hear noise from the Conservative Club, but not often now and I am objecting on the grounds of land use and overdevelopment due to the huge number of dwellings put on this site. Plus the eighteen parking spaces for the residents and only 10 parking spaces for the Conservative Club. On the website where this application is, the applicant explains about securing and keeping the viability of the Conservative Club open into the future, meaning more noise pollution and I can't imagine living that close to that amount of noise.

Cllrs Adeniji

I am speaking for the residents of the South Ward for Seaford. What should be taken into account is the community impact of this development. There are residences being proposed and there will only be 10 parking spaces for the Conservative Club and this application breaches ST3 and ST4 of the Lewes District Council's Local plan. It produces noise pollution to the area and if going to approve then it shouldn't breach the licensing conditions which they currently have in place and request a Section 106 agreement be asked for the extending of the pavement for pedestrians safety.

We are having double glazed windows and previously only single

Mrs G Hide

glazed and we are only having one patio door, we are not having two and that door will be closed when entertainment is on. We are not increasing the size of the garden, they are creating a pathway to get around the building as the entrance is in a different place to the members. Conservative club currently use the garden now in the summer and there will be no more noise than is current. We are doing sound proofing for the properties above and we are considering the neighbours now and what has been said.

It was **RESOLVED** to make **OBJECTION** on the grounds of overdevelopment of 8 dwellings to the front. Highway parking issues, not enough parking spaces. However, the committee favours the design on the actual Seaford and District Constitutional club.

Councillors D Burchett, C Campbell, L Wallraven and L Worcester re-entered the room.

Seaford
LW/16/0132

9 Kammond Avenue
Planning Application - Single storey rear extension, extension of loft space and conversion of garage for Ms C Ryland

It was **RESOLVED** to make **NO OBJECTION**.

Seaford
LW/16/0184

2 Mark Close
Planning Application - Erection of an attached double garage for Mr J Mockler

It was **RESOLVED** to make **NO OBJECTION**.

Seaford
LW/16/0193

6 Guardswell Place
Planning Application - Proposed front dormer for Ms G Barker

It was **RESOLVED** to make **NO OBJECTION**.

Seaford
LW/16/0198

9 Mill Drive
Planning Application - Demolition of existing 2 storey extension and erection of a new 2 storey extension for Mr R Sinclair

It was **RESOLVED** to make **NO OBJECTION**.

Tree Works Applications

Seaford
TW/16/0024/TPO

1 Willow Drive
T1 x Holm Oak T8 of the order – fell
T2 x Holm Oak T7 of the order – reduce by approx. 1m.

It was **RESOLVED** to make **NO OBJECTION**.

P116/4/16 Road Closure Request – Street Party, Queen's 90th Birthday

Members considered report 93/15

It was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the report and make **NO COMMENT**.

P117/4/16 Update Report

The Committee considered report 166/15 and **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** its contents.
The meeting closed at 8.26pm.

Councillor L Wallraven
Chairman

DRAFT



Seaford Town Council

MINUTES of a Meeting of the Full Council held at the Council Chambers, 37 Church Street, Seaford on Thursday 28th April 2016 at 7.00pm.

Present:

Councillor D Argent (Mayor) and Councillor R Hayder (Deputy Mayor).
Councillors S Adeniji, P Boorman, M Brown, D Burchett, B Burfield, C Campbell, L Freeman, O Honeyman, R Honeyman, A Latham, P Lower, A McLean, I Murray, L Wallraven and L Worcester.

James Corrigan, Town Clerk – Seaford Town Council

Georgia Raeburn, PA to the Town Clerk – Seaford Town Council (minutes)

Inspector Robert Lovell – Sussex Police

14 members of the public.

C100/04/16 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors R Chambers, M Lambert and D Silvey-Adam.

C101/04/16 Disclosure of Interests

Councillor L Wallraven declared a pecuniary interest in item 18 on the agenda under the Seaford Town Council Code of Conduct and Localism Act 2011, due to being a resident of a property in discussion.

C102/04/16 Public Participation

Anthony White Questioned what was being done by the Police with monitoring the Salts Recreation Ground, in particular the Café area, as this is something he has raised with the local Police for a period of time now.

Questioned what impact the draft plans by East Sussex County Council to outsource the management of the Seven Sisters Country Park would have on the Seaford Head Local Nature Reserve.

Asked when an announcement would be made on a completion date for the works on the play area at The Salts.

Town Clerk

Confirmed that the ESCC plans to outsource the Seven Sisters Country Park will not include any of the Town Council owned land on the Nature Reserve. The Clerk is not aware of the specific ESCC land the plans cover or the third party that it is proposed to outsource management to as the announcement of the draft plans had only been received that day.

Confirmed that Officers are visiting The Salts play area daily and that the contractors are also carrying out some work outside of the original contract, such as the safety surfacing on one of the mounds to make this more user-friendly and sustainable. The contractors still have not been fully paid and Council officers continue to pursue them for a completion date.

Police
Inspector
Lovell

Stated that he would speak with Mr White after the meeting to get more details regarding any issues at The Salts and speak also with the local Police Sergeant to better understand the situation.

*Eric
Woodward*

Requested that all Councillors declare which way they will be voting in the EU Referendum.

Sylvia Dunn

Wished to thank Councillors O Honeyman and Adeniji for their work with the Flood Action Group and its Flood Fair event on 23rd April, Ben King for his support and those other councillors that attended on the day.

Questioned whether there was a time limit on the recovery period for an overpayment of salary as per agenda item 6, 1.3.

Asked whether solar panels for The View had been in the original design and if so why the Council now had to bear the cost.

Asked for an update with Seaford in Bloom; whether there had been a response from East Sussex County Council and whether a new group was to be set up.

Expressed concerns that the public do not get to see the Police report. Asked whether there was any truth behind rumours regarding Newhaven and Seaford Police stations shutting. If so, asked how a 15 minute response time would be met if officers have to travel from Lewes.

Town Clerk

Confirmed that solar panels were included in the original design of The View but integrated solar panels that would just be used for hot water. The option being looked in to was retrospective solar panels that would be used for electricity but due to having to be weighted, these are not a viable option on The View's grass roof. It may be a possibility to look at solar panels on the roof of a new shed when purchased for the Greenkeeper's yard.

Confirmed that the time frame to recover a civil debt is six years. While this recovery is not considered a priority task, it will be commenced in due course.

Confirmed that there have been no discussions with Police regarding the closure of the Police station at Seaford. Seaford Town Council does have a lease for a part of the building, which would stay in force.

Police
Inspector
Lovell

Stated that there are no plans to close Newhaven or Seaford Police stations. Newhaven town has recently seen the opening of the new multi-force premises, with the Police, Lewes District Council and Fire Service occupying it together.

Confirmed that Seaford station has not had Response Officers for three years now; Response Officers are now based out of Lewes.

Confirmed that the 15 minute response target is currently met 80% of the time and that there are no plans afoot to close either Police station.

Christine Brett

Expressed that she was pleased to see the meeting attendance figures published and hopes that these will be published online.

In the spirit of transparency and improved communication, questioned whether councillors would consider doing a short statement each following their first year in office, how they have helped residents, events they have attended etc as a follow up to the Councillor profiles published after the elections.

Expressed her like of the seating outside the library and her support of a sculpture trail around the town, something grants can be sought for.

- Vanessa Lawrence* Stated that the new hours for the Seaford Tourist Information Centre on the report at item 11 are not correct and questioned whether in light of these reduced hours, residents are now paying more for less service.
- Town Clerk Advised that the question regarding the Tourist Information Centre would need to be raised with Lewes District Council.
- Sally Staples* Introduced herself to the meeting as the East Sussex County Council officer for the library seating project and that she would be happy to answer any questions on item 15 of the agenda.
- Roger Foxwell* Provided the Town Clerk with supplier's details for the previously mentioned request to have British butter at The View.
- Questioned why the new trees on Sutton Avenue have been planted so close to the pavement and the quality of the staking.*
- Expressed his concern that the Council does not have enough information to make a decision on leasing the Nature Reserve to Sussex Wildlife Trust on a long term arrangement. Asked who has submitted proposals for South Hill Barn and what the associated costs are given that there are no utilities on site.*
- Town Clerk Confirmed that he would pass the butter supplier details on to the Restaurant & Bar Manager at The View.
- Explained that the newly planted trees are part of a project by the volunteer Tree Wardens but that he would pass on the comments to the wardens.
- Confirmed that the report was seeking indication from councillors if they are willing to look at entering a lease with Sussex Wildlife Trust, not making an agreement. The next step would then be to come back with a more detailed proposal and lease agreement.
- Confirmed that South Hill Barn is not part of the above proposed lease as it is not on the Nature Reserve. Explained that there is a water supply at the Barn but no electricity, however there are alternative methods such as a generator, wind or solar that can be looked in to.

C103/04/16 Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** to **ADOPT** the following minutes and **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the recommendations therein:

- C103.1** Council – 28th January 2016
- C103.2** Planning & Highways – 4th February 2016
- C103.3** Community Services – 11th February 2016
- C103.4** Planning & Highways – 25th February 2016
- C103.5** Finance & General Purposes – 3rd March 2016
- C103.6** Planning & Highways – 10th March 2016
- C103.7** Golf – 15th March 2016
- C103.8** Planning & Highways – 24th March 2016
- C103.9** Planning & Highways – 7th April 2016
- C103.10** Community Services – 14th April 2016

C104/04/16 Police Report

Members **NOTED** the written report provided by Police Sergeant Mullins.

Police Inspector Lovell was in attendance to give members a verbal update on the planned changes to local policing in line with the five year Local Policing Programme aiming by 2020 for Sussex Police to have made the necessary savings (around £35m) and efficiency cuts whilst maintaining the delivery of services.

The Programme covers response policing, neighbourhood policing, investigations, linking with criminal justice and custodial functions.

Inspector Lovell explained the first stage to be implemented from the Programme; the changes to neighbourhood policing that take effect from 4th July 2016. The role of PCSO has been revised since first being introduced in 2002 and upskilled, making PCSOs better equipped for crime and problem solving.

PCSOs will be working as Prevention Teams rather than named individuals. In the Lewes District there will be three teams of four PCSO's. Based from Lewes the teams will be deployed flexibly as required. One benefit of the team based approach is that it is not just one or two PCSOs with specific local knowledge but whole teams.

Across Sussex the current number of PCSOs is 259 which needs to be reduced to 200 under the Programme; in Lewes District this is just a reduction of one PCSO. Current PCSOs are able to apply for the upskilled PCSO roles and it is also open for external applicants.

Inspector Lovell was able to confirm that there will be no reduction in the number of Response Officers.

Inspector Lovell took questions from the meeting and public, he was able to confirm;

- that there will remain a presence in Seaford police station, just not permanently (as is currently the case);
- that the savings and cuts do stretch to across the whole Force including the Lewes District Commander merging responsibility to include Wealden and Eastbourne, and certain back office functions merging with Surrey;
- recruitment has been opened for 100 new Police recruits in Sussex;
- that Police response times can and will be given if requested;
- that whilst Lewes, Wealden and Eastbourne policing is merging, the Community Safety Partnership's Joint Action Groups will remain separate to enable them to focus on local issues.

Members thanked Inspector Lovell for attending and providing the meeting with an update.

(Police Inspector Lovell left the meeting)

*(Members **AGREED** to bring forward item 15 of the agenda)*

C105/04/16 Seaford Library – Public Seating

The Council considered report 177/15 and **RESOLVED** to **ACCEPT** transfer of ownership and future maintenance responsibility for the new public seat/art project 'Transparent Seaford' outside Seaford Library to Seaford Town Council, after a 12 month maintenance period during which it will remain as East Sussex County Council property.

C106/04/16 Mayor's Report & Engagements

The Council considered report 176/15 and **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** its contents.

C107/04/16 Clerk's Report

The Council considered report 161/15 and the verbal updates the Clerk provided. These included a meeting with the new Chief Executive of Lewes District Council to be held soon where the Clerk hopes among other things to discuss the 2015 election costs, a Council Tax leaflet and the request from the Town Council for the District to devolve the management responsibilities of Street Trading in the town.

The Clerk also updated members on income generation by Officers, the Neighbourhood Plan, Hurdis House and interest from private investors in the Salts Café.

C107.1 It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** the contents of the Clerk's report and **AGREE** to the priorities therein, with the addition of the Clerk reporting back to Council on the General Power of Competence; how this is achieved and the benefit this would have on the Council if achieved.

C107.2 It was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** voluntary donations to the Mayor's Charities being sought in exchange for the Town Clerk signing resident's pension forms.

C108/04/16 District & County Council Update

Councillor Carolyn Lambert (East Sussex County Council)

Provided the meeting with an update on the roles of those in the East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service, the draft proposal for changes to the boundaries within East Sussex (effecting County Council boundaries, not District or Town boundaries) and the parking review consultation that has been extended for those residents of Brooklyn Road, Chichester Road and Claremont Road due to the impact of the development works on Claremont Road.

Councillor Linda Wallraven (Lewes District Council)

Confirmed that the District Council have instructed contractors to clear the rubbish on the A26.

Councillor Olivia Honeyman (Lewes District Council)

Informed the meeting that District Councillors receive a weekly publication called 'Members First' giving updates on the District Council.

Extended her thanks to all of those involved in the Flood Action Group, many of whom are volunteers.

Councillor Sam Adeniji (Lewes District Council)

Confirmed that the male toilets are now open on Place Lane further to the refurbishment.

Informed the meeting that Veolia are having an open day on 13th May 2016 between 10am and 2pm to raise awareness of where recycled food goes and the process undertaken.

Encouraged members to look at the details of the Lewes District Business Awards at www.lewesdistrictbusinessawards.co.uk to recognise the achievements of local businesses.

Town Clerk

Informed the meeting that Lewes District Council have informed the Council that it has secured a grant to investigate the provision of business incubator units within Seaford on disused land at the industrial estate, or somewhere else if this is not suitable; a similar scheme to that introduced in Newhaven.

C109/04/16 Amendment to Meeting Dates

The Council considered report 169/15 and **RESOLVED** to **DELEGATE** authority to the Town Clerk to arrange an alternate date for the next Council meeting in order to meet the requirement for the Annual Return to be approved, on the understanding that this may also involve changing other meeting dates to accommodate this.

C110/04/16 Interim Meeting Attendance Record

The Council considered report 170/15 and **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** the contents of the report and Interim Attendance Record.

Councillor Richard Honeyman asked that the final attendance record include his attendance as a substitute at the Community Services meeting on 11th February 2016.

C111/04/16 New Opening Hours; 37 Church Street

The Council considered report 162/15 and **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** changing the opening hours of Seaford Town Council to 9.30am to 5pm Monday to Thursday and 9.30am to 4.30pm Friday with effect from 1st May 2016.

C112/04/16 Adoption of Time Off In Lieu Policy

The Council considered report 174/15 and **RESOLVED** to **ADOPT** the revised draft Time Off In Lieu Policy with a review date of April 2019.

C113/04/16 Sussex Wildlife Trust Proposal to Lease Seaford Head Nature Reserve for 25 years

The Council considered report 171/15 and discussed the implications in detail, including the length of lease, other alternatives available and financial implications.

It was **PROPOSED** that the Town Clerk negotiate with Sussex Wildlife Trust to draft Heads of Terms on the basis of a ten year lease and bring this back to Council to consider.

A RECORDED VOTE was requested:

Councillor S Adeniji	Against
Councillor D Argent	Against
Councillor P Boorman	Against
Councillor M Brown	For
Councillor D Burchett	For
Councillor B Burfield	Against
Councillor C Campbell	Abstained
Councillor L Freeman	For
Councillor R Hayder	Against
Councillor O Honeyman	Against
Councillor R Honeyman	Against
Councillor A Latham	For
Councillor P Lower	Against
Councillor A Mclean	Against
Councillor I Murray	Against
Councillor L Wallraven	For
Councillor L Worcester	Against

The **MOTION** was **NOT CARRIED**.

It was **PROPOSED** to take the **RECOMMENDATION** as per the report, to agree in principle to entering in to a 25 year lease for Seaford Head Nature Reserve with Sussex Wildlife Trust, with the condition that the final proposals are first approved by a future Council meeting.

A **RECORDED VOTE** was requested:

Councillor S Adeniji	For
Councillor D Argent	For
Councillor P Boorman	For
Councillor M Brown	Against
Councillor D Burchett	Against
Councillor B Burfield	Against
Councillor C Campbell	Against
Councillor L Freeman	Against
Councillor R Hayder	For
Councillor O Honeyman	For
Councillor R Honeyman	Against
Councillor A Latham	Against
Councillor P Lower	For
Councillor A Mclean	For
Councillor I Murray	For
Councillor L Wallraven	Against
Councillor L Worcester	For

The **MOTION** was **CARRIED**.

C114/04/16 Newhaven Port & Properties Authority Transfer of Land

The Council considered report 175/15 and **RESOLVED** to **ACCEPT** the offer from Newhaven Port & Properties Authority to transfer a portion of land to the Town Council free of charge and to **INSTRUCT** the Town Clerk to process this land transfer.

C115/04/16 Adoption of Mission Statement and Strategic Objectives

The Council considered report 180/15.

C116.1 It was **RESOLVED** to **ADOPT** the Mission Statement "Working together for Seaford" and the five strategic objectives, namely;

1. To develop the cultural and economic well-being of the Town
2. To improve the environment of the Town
3. To improve and maintain the recreational facilities of the Town
4. To help represent the needs of the community
5. To practice good governance and fiscal responsibility

C116.2 It was **RESOLVED** to **ADOPT** the Strategic Plan with the following two amendments;

1. Both the Golf Course and The View will have a target to generate a profit of £30k (agenda page 68);
2. Along with the introduction of the new Brown Sign scheme the redundant and excess signs will also be removed (agenda page 66).

C116/04/16 Flood Defence Working Group Update

The Council considered report 178/15 and the recommendations therein.

C117.1 It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** the contents of the update report.

C117.2 It was **RESOLVED** to **EXTEND** the Council's gratitude to Ian Hodgson, Emergency Planning Officer, for his tireless support with the groups work so far.

(Councillor L Wallraven exited the meeting having declared a pecuniary interest in the following agenda item.)

C117/04/16 Bishopstone United Charities

The Council considered report 179/15 and verbal update provided by the Town Clerk.

It was **PROPOSED** to take the **RECOMMENDATION** as per the report , to agree to Officers approaching Bishopstone United Charities with the offer to take over the Administration of the Charity initially at a charge of £35 per hour on condition that the charity moves towards a new constitution and undertakes a full due diligence review as outlined in the report. This will include surveyor report on properties, financial review and financial plan for the future.

A **RECORDED VOTE** was requested;

Councillor S Adeniji	Abstained
Councillor D Argent	Against
Councillor P Boorman	For
Councillor M Brown	Against
Councillor D Burchett	Abstained
Councillor B Burfield	Against
Councillor C Campbell	For
Councillor L Freeman	Abstained
Councillor R Hayder	Against
Councillor O Honeyman	Abstained
Councillor R Honeyman	For
Councillor A Latham	Against
Councillor P Lower	For
Councillor A Mclean	For
Councillor I Murray	Abstained
Councillor L Worcester	For

The **MOTION** was **CARRIED**.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm.

Councillor Dave Argent
Mayor of Seaford



Seaford Town Council

Report 12/16

Agenda Item No: 5
Committee: Council
Date: 12th May 2016
Title: Final Meeting Attendance Record 2015-2016
By: James Corrigan, Town Clerk
Purpose of Report: To present the final Meeting Attendance Record for the 2015-2016 Municipal Year.

Recommendations

You are recommended:

- 1. To note the final Meeting Attendance Record for the 2015-2016 Municipal Year.**
-

1. Information

- 1.1** The Council was presented with an Interim Meeting Attendance Record at its meeting in April 2016.
- 1.2** Attached at Appendix A is the updated record for the entire 2015-2016 Municipal Year; members will notice that the average attendance rate has remained at 86%.
- 1.3** This record will be published on the Council's website and a similar record maintained for the 2016-2017 Municipal Year.

2. Financial Appraisal

There are no financial implications as a result of this report.

3. Contact Officer

The Contact Officer for this report is James Corrigan, Town Clerk.

Town Clerk

Final Attendance Record Municipal Year 2015 - 2016

	ADENIJI, Sam	ARGENTI, Dave	BOORMAN, Phil	BROWN, Mark	BURCHETT, David	BURFIELD, Barry	CAMPBELL, Carol	CHAMBERS, Rob	FREEMAN, Lindsay	HAYDER, Rahanna	HONEYMAN, Olivia	HONEYMAN, Richard	LAMBERT, Marion	LATHAM, Alan	LOWER, Penny	MCLEAN, Mac	MURRAY, Isabelle	SILVEY-ADAM, Debbie	WALLRAVEN, Linda	WORCESTER, Les	Average Meeting Attendance	Individual Committee Attendance
Full Council																						
13-May-15	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	93%	
25-Jun-15	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	93%	
19-Aug-15	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	85%	
24-Sep-15	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	85%	
29-Oct-15	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	95%	
17-Dec-15	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	95%	
28-Jan-16	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	90%	
28-Apr-16	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	85%	
% of mtgs	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	67%	100%	75%	100%	100%	100%	100%	75%	83%	75%	75%	100%	50%	100%	100%	90%	
Community Services																						
11-Jun-15		0	1				1	0	1	1	1					0	1	0			50%	
17-Sep-15		1	1				1	1	1	1	1					1	1	0		1	100%	
26-Nov-15		1	1				1	0	1	1	1					1	1	0			80%	
11-Feb-16		1	0				1	1	1	1	1				1	0	0	0			80%	
14-Apr-16		1	1				1	0	1	1	1				1	0	0	0		1	90%	
% of mtgs		80%	75%				100%	40%	100%	100%	100%				60%	50%	0%				80%	
Finance & General Purposes																						
02-Jul-15		0	1	1					1	1	1				1					1	89%	
15-Oct-15		0	0	1		1			1	1	0				1					1	67%	
17-Dec-15		1	0	1		0			0	1	1				1					1	67%	
03-Mar-16		1	1	1		1			1	1	1				1					1	100%	
% of mtgs		50%	50%	100%		75%			75%	100%	100%				100%					100%	81%	
Golf																						
02-Jun-15		1		1			1	1	1		1			1		1	1			1	100%	
01-Sep-15		1		1			1	1	1		1			1		1	0			1	90%	
08-Sep-15		1		1			0	0	1		1			0		0	0			1	50%	
15-Mar-16		1		1			1	1	1		1			1		0	0			1	80%	
% of mtgs		100%		100%			75%	75%	100%		100%			67%		50%				100%	80%	
Planning & Highways																						
28-May-15		1			1						1	1		1	1				1	1	100%	
18-Jun-15		1									1	1		1	1				1	1	100%	
09-Jul-15		1									1	1		1	0				1	1	89%	
30-Jul-15		1									1	1		1	1				1	0	89%	
20-Aug-15		1									1	1		1	0	0			1	1	78%	
10-Sep-15		1									1	0		1	1	1			0	1	78%	
01-Oct-15		1									1	0		1	1	1			1	1	89%	
22-Oct-15		1									1	0		1	0	1			1	1	78%	
12-Nov-15		1									1	1		1	1	1			1	1	100%	
03-Dec-15		1			0						1	1		0	1	0			1	1	67%	
21-Dec-15		1									1	1		1	1	1			1	1	100%	
14-Jan-16		1									1	1		1	1	0			1	1	89%	
04-Feb-16		1					1				1	1		1	1	0			1	0	89%	
25-Feb-16		1									1	1		0	1	1			1	1	89%	
10-Mar-16		0					1				1	1		1	0	0			1	1	89%	
24-Mar-16		1									1	1		1	1	1			1	1	100%	
07-Apr-16		1									1	0		1	1	0			1	1	78%	
21-Apr-16		0	1				1				1	0		1	0	1			1	1	89%	
% of mtgs		89%			94%						100%	72%		88%	78%	61%			94%	88%	88%	
Total STC Meeting Attendance:																						
86%																						
No. of Committees*	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	2	3	2	4		
Overall Attendance**	88%	90%	86%	100%	96%	70%	112%	65%	106%	94%	100%	107%	73%	84%	83%	63%	80%	29%	96%	100%		
	ADENIJI, Sam	ARGENTI, Dave	BOORMAN, Phil	BROWN, Mark	BURCHETT, David	BURFIELD, Barry	CAMPBELL, Carol	CHAMBERS, Rob	FREEMAN, Lindsay	HAYDER, Rahanna	HONEYMAN, Olivia	HONEYMAN, Richard	LAMBERT, Marion	LATHAM, Alan	LOWER, Penny	MCLEAN, Mac	MURRAY, Isabelle	SILVEY-ADAM, Debbie	WALLRAVEN, Linda	WORCESTER, Les		

Key:
 1 On Committee
 1 Attended meeting
 0 Did not attend meeting
 / Not yet a Councillor
 / Not on Committee
 1 Attended as a Substitute

* Includes Full Council
 ** Includes meetings attended as a Substitute



Seaford Town Council

Report 13/16

Agenda Item No:	6
Committee:	Council
Date:	12 th May 2016
Title:	Consultation on New Electoral Arrangements for East Sussex County Council
By:	James Corrigan, Town Clerk
Purpose of Report:	To provide details of the draft recommendations from The Local Government Boundary Commission (for England) regarding the Electoral Arrangements for East Sussex County Council that are currently under consultation.

Recommendations

You are recommended:

1. To consider whether the Council wishes to make comment on the draft recommendations.

1. Information

- 1.1 The Local Government Boundary Commission (for England) (LGBC) has released its draft recommendations regarding both District and County Electoral Arrangements; both of which are now open for consultation.
- 1.2 The methodology the LGBC has to follow is detailed in Appendix D.
- 1.3 There are no changes proposed for the arrangements for Lewes District, there are however changes proposed regarding the electoral arrangements for East Sussex County Council which impact on part of Seaford, as explained further below. None of the changes will impact on the boundary of Seaford Town Council itself.
- 1.4 The LGBC are proposing to amend the electoral boundaries affecting Seaford and Bishopstone. Currently Seaford and Bishopstone form three separate wards for county council electoral arrangements, as per Appendix A; Seaford Sutton, Seaford Blatchington and Ouse Valley East (which incorporates all of the Town Council's 'West Ward').
- 1.5 The proposed changes are included at Appendix B; members will note that while remaining as three wards, the boundaries are significantly changed. Focussing on Seaford, the green area indicates 'Seaford South', the purple area 'Seaford North' and the yellow 'Newhaven and Bishopstone'.

- 1.6 Attached at Appendix C is a table showing details of the proposed new CED 'County Electoral Division' boundaries, including the projected electorate in each ward by 2021 and the variance from the target of 8,651 electors in each ward.
- 1.7 As set out in Appendix C, wards have been split to ensure CED's on the coast are appropriately sized. Mathematically this will address achieving similarly sized wards across Seaford and Newhaven. However, members may wish to consider the impact these proposed changes, in particular with the new 'Newhaven and Bishopstone' ward, will have on the representation residents in this area are able to receive from their elected County Councillor.
- 1.8 Members may also wish to make comment on the names of the two proposed wards entirely within Seaford. Being called North and South will cause confusion as the Town Wards have these names but someone in for example East ward for Town Council will be in North Ward for the County Council. Coastal Seaford and Inland Seaford may be more appropriate.
- 1.9 The Newhaven & Bishopstone ward would be losing around 1,600 electors to the new 'Seaford South' ward and would be gaining around 1,400 electors from the 'Newhaven Valley Ward'. Proportionately with the new proposals, the Newhaven & Bishopstone ward would only have 13.57% representation from within the Seaford town parish boundary; the previous Ouse Valley East ward had 38.18% from within the Seaford town parish boundary.

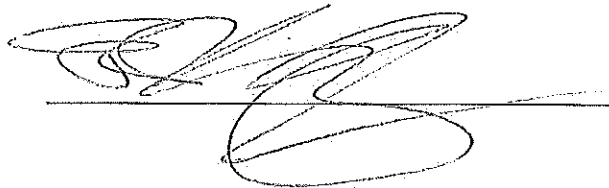
2. Financial Appraisal

There are no financial implications as a result of this report.

3. Contact Officer

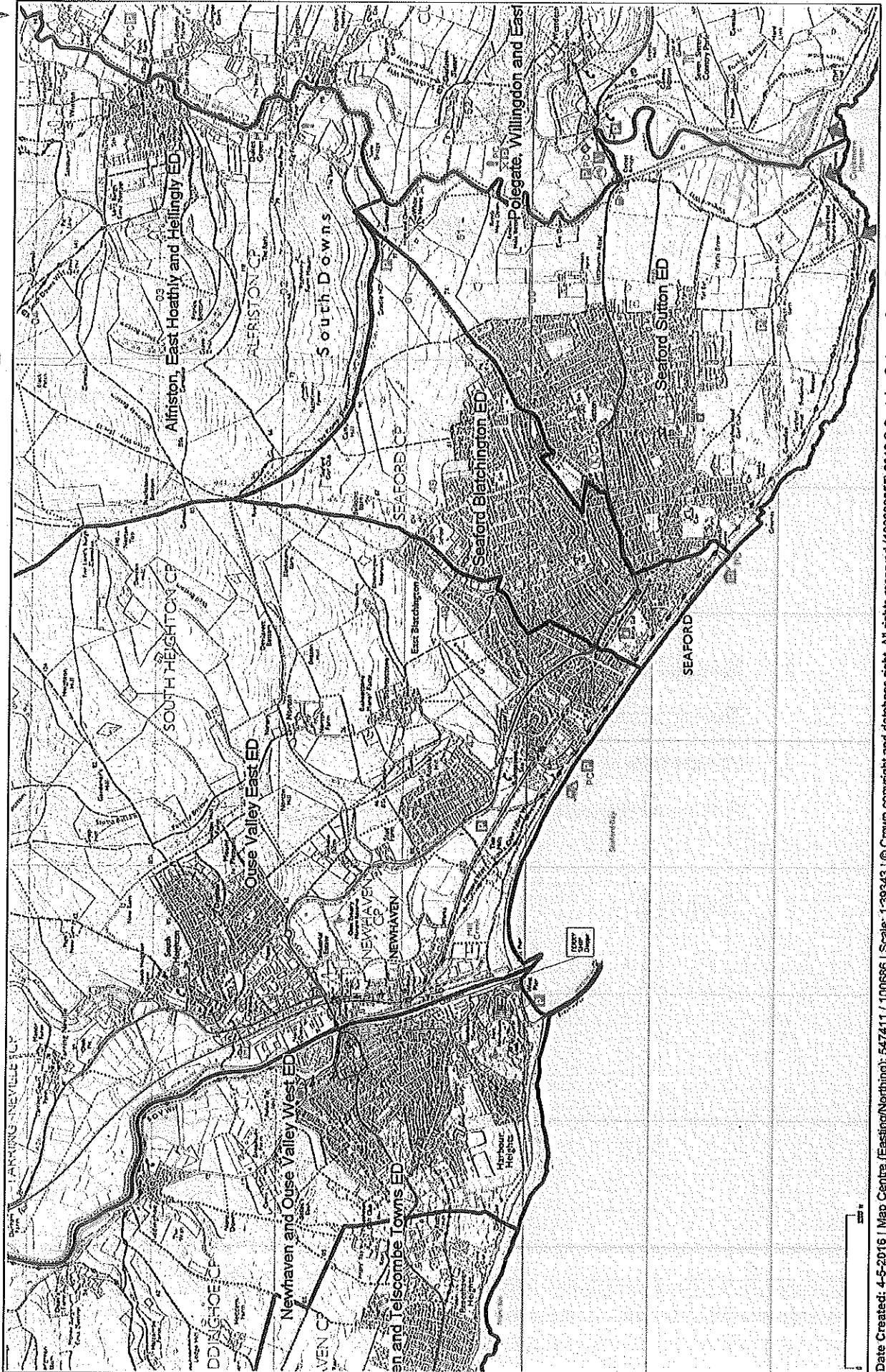
The Contact Officer for this report is James Corrigan, Town Clerk.

Town Clerk



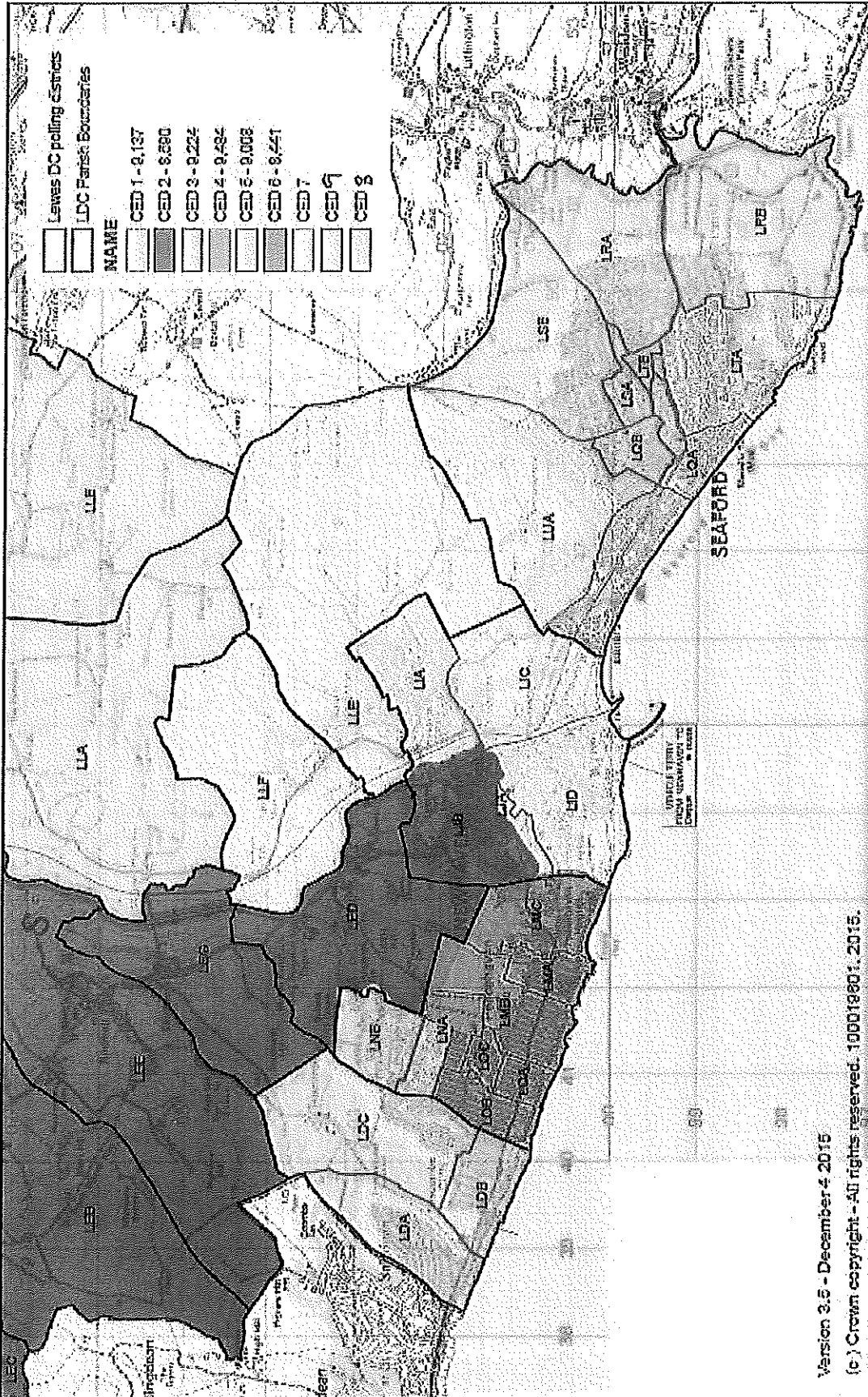
Parish Online CURRENT COUNTY COUNCIL BOUNDARIES :

Seaford Town Council



Date Created: 4-5-2016 | Map Centre (Easting/Northing): 547411 / 100686 | Scale: 1:39343 | © Crown copyright and database right. All rights reserved (100036055) 2016 © Contains Ordnance Survey Data : Crown copyright and database right 2016

Lewes DC – Proposed CEDs: Seaford and Newhaven



LEWES

Significant attempts were made to identify a logical pattern of CEDs that aligns with the ward boundary pattern proposed by Lewes District Council. However, it has proved impossible to achieve 100% coterminosity with wards whilst maintaining appropriately sized CEDs and community links.

The proposed grouping of CEDs is based on a combination of proposed district ward boundaries albeit with some split wards necessary to ensure CEDs are appropriately sized (on the coast), parish boundaries (in the rural areas) and Lewes town as a single community as far as practicable. The ward splits in the Seaford and Newhaven area are reflected in the 'close up' map below.

The pattern reflected in the following table and maps achieves an electorally balanced set of divisions. The whole district map is on page 14 with a more detailed map for Seaford and Newhaven on page 15.

CED	CED name (indicative)	Building blocks	Electorate 2021	Variance from target 8,651	Notes
CED1	Chailey	Chailey Parish	2,755		
		Wivelsfield Parish	2,037		
		Newick Parish	2,142		
		East Chiltington Parish	392		
		St John (without) Parish	59		
		Barcombe Parish	1,235		
		Hamsey Parish	518		
		CED1 Total	9,137	5.6%	
CED2	Ouse Valley West and Downs	Ditchling Parish	1,913		
		Westmeston Parish	261		
		Plumpton Parish	1,422		
		Street Parish	157		
		Falmer Parish	154		
		Iford Parish	172		
		Kingston Parish	776		
		Piddinghoe Parish	224		
		Rodmell Parish	371		

Appendix C

CED	CED name (indicative)	Building blocks	Electorate 2021	Variance from target 8,651	Notes
		St Ann (without) Parish	83		
		Southease Parish	42		
		Current Newhaven Valley polling districts LJB / LJA	3,015		
		CED2 total	8,590	-0.7%	
CED3	Ringer and Lewes Bridge	Beddingham Parish	203		
		Firle Parish	270		
		Glynde Parish	192		
		Lewes Bridge proposed new ward	3,939		
		Ringmer Parish	3,970		
		Part of Lewes Castle proposed new ward	650		
		CED3 total	9,224	6.6%	
CED4	Lewes	Lewes Priory proposed new ward	6,090		
		Part of Lewes Castle proposed new ward	3,394		Lewes Castle 4,044 less 650
		CED4 total	9,484	9.6%	
CED5	Telscombe	East Saltdean & Telscombe Cliffs proposed new ward	5,840		
		Peacehaven North proposed Ward part	3,168		
		CED5 total	9,008	4.1%	
CED6	Peacehaven	Peacehaven East proposed ward	4,126		
		Peacehaven West proposed ward	3,760		
		Peacehaven North Ward part	555		
		CED6 total	8,441	-2.4%	
CED7	Newhaven and Bishopstone	Newhaven Denton and Meeching proposed new ward	5,695		
		Newhaven Valley Ward (part)	1,410		

CED	CED name (indicative)	Building blocks	Electorate 2021	Variance from target 8,651	Notes
		South Heighton Parish	834		
		Tarring Neville Parish	18		
		Seaford West proposed new ward (part)	1,249		
		CED7 total	9,206	6.4%	
CED8	Seaford North	Seaford East proposed new ward	4,019		
		Seaford North proposed new ward	4,150		
		Seaford West proposed new ward (part)	1,200		
		CED8 total	9,369	8.3%	
CED9	Seaford South	Seaford Central proposed new ward	4,075		
		Seaford South proposed new ward	3,735		
		Seaford West proposed new wards (part)	1,654		
		CED9 total	9,464	9.4%	
	No. of county councillors	TOTAL ELECTORS (LEWES)	81,924		
	9	Average electorate per County councillor	9,103	5.2%	

Summary

Who we are

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) is an independent body set up by Parliament. We are not part of government or any political party. We are accountable to Parliament through a committee of MPs chaired by the Speaker of the House of Commons.

Our main role is to carry out electoral reviews of local authorities throughout England.

Electoral review

An electoral review examines and proposes new electoral arrangements for a local authority. A local authority's electoral arrangements decide:

- How many councillors are needed
- How many wards or electoral divisions should there be, where are their boundaries and what should they be called
- How many councillors should represent each ward or division

Why East Sussex?

We are conducting an electoral review of East Sussex County Council as the Council currently has high levels of electoral inequality where some councillors represent many more or many fewer voters than others. This means that the value of each vote in county council elections varies depending on where you live in East Sussex. Overall, 34% of divisions currently have a variance of more than 10% from the average for the county. Chailey division currently has 21% more electors than the average for East Sussex.

Our proposals for East Sussex

East Sussex County Council currently has 49 councillors. Based on the evidence we received during previous phases of the review, we consider that a slight increase in council size by one to 50 members will ensure the Council can discharge its roles and responsibilities effectively.

Electoral arrangements

Our draft recommendations propose that East Sussex County Council's 50 councillors should represent 50 single-member divisions across the county. One of our proposed divisions would have an electoral variance of greater than 10% from the average for East Sussex by 2021.

You have until 16 June 2016 to have your say on the recommendations. See page 28 for how to have your say.

1 Introduction

1 This electoral review is being conducted following our decision to review East Sussex County Council's ('the Council') electoral arrangements to ensure that the number of voters represented by each councillor is approximately the same across the county.

What is an electoral review?

2 Our three main considerations in conducting an electoral review are set out in legislation¹ and are to:

- Improve electoral equality by equalising the number of electors each councillor represents
- Reflect community identity
- Provide for effective and convenient local government

3 Our task is to strike the best balance between them when making our recommendations. Our powers, as well as the guidance we have provided for electoral reviews and further information on the review process, can be found on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk

Consultation

4 We wrote to the Council inviting the submission of proposals on council size. We then held a period of consultation on division patterns for the county. The submissions received during consultation have informed our draft recommendations.

This review is being conducted as follows:

Stage starts	Description
8 September 2015	Council size decision
22 September 2015	Invitation to submit proposals for division arrangements to LGBCE
1 December 2015	LGBCE's analysis and formulation of draft recommendations
15 March 2016	Publication of draft recommendations and consultation
17 June 2016	Analysis of submissions received and formulation of final recommendations
20 September 2016	Publication of final recommendations

How will the recommendations affect you?

5 The recommendations will determine how many councillors will serve on the Council. They will also decide which division you vote in, which other communities are in that division and, in some instances, which parish council wards you vote in. Your division name may also change, as may the names of parish or town council

¹ Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

wards in the area. The names or boundaries of parishes will not change as a result of our recommendations.

What is the Local Government Boundary Commission for England?

6 The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is an independent body set up by Parliament under the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

Members of the Commission are:

Professor Colin Mellors (Chair)
Alison Lowton
Peter Maddison QPM
Sir Tony Redmond
Professor Paul Wiles CB

Chief Executive: Jolyon Jackson CBE

2 Analysis and draft recommendations

7 Legislation² states that our recommendations are not intended to be based solely on the existing number of electors³ in an area, but also on estimated changes in the number and distribution of electors likely to take place over a five-year period from the date of our final recommendations. We must also try to recommend strong, clearly identifiable boundaries for the divisions we put forward at the end of the review.

8 In reality, the achievement of absolute electoral fairness is unlikely to be attainable and there must be a degree of flexibility. However, our approach is to keep variances in the number of electors each councillor represents to a minimum.

9 In seeking to achieve electoral fairness, we work out the average number of electors per councillor by dividing the electorate by the number of councillors as shown on the table below.

	2015	2021
Electorate of East Sussex	397,253	431,902
Number of councillors	50	50
Average number of electors per councillor	7,945	8,638

10 Under our draft recommendations, one of our proposed divisions will have an electoral variance of greater than 10% from the average for the county by 2021. The outlier, Newhaven & Bishopstone, will have 13% more electors than the county average by 2021. We are satisfied that we have achieved good levels of electoral fairness for East Sussex.

11 Additionally, in circumstances where we propose to divide a parish between district wards or county divisions, we are required to divide it into parish wards so that each parish ward is wholly contained within a single district ward or county division. We cannot make amendments to the external boundaries of parishes as part of an electoral review.

12 These recommendations cannot affect the external boundaries of East Sussex County Council or result in changes to postcodes. They do not take into account parliamentary constituency boundaries. There is no evidence that the recommendations will have an adverse effect on local taxes, house prices, or car and house insurance premiums and we are not, therefore, able to take into account any representations which are based on these issues.

Submissions received

13 See Appendix B for details of submissions received. All submissions may be inspected at our offices and can also be viewed on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk

² Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

³ Electors refers to the number of people registered to vote, not the whole adult population.

Electorate figures

14 As prescribed in the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009, the Council submitted electorate forecasts for 2021, a period five years on from the scheduled publication of our draft recommendations in 2016. These forecasts were broken down to polling district levels and projected an increase in the electorate of approximately 8.7% to 2021. The growth will largely be driven by developments in Wealden and Lewes.

15 Having considered the information provided by the Council, we are satisfied that the projected figures are the best available at the present time and these figures form the basis of our draft recommendations.

Council size

16 Prior to consultation, East Sussex Council submitted a proposal to us to retain the existing council size of 49 members. The proposal also noted that, if necessary to address electoral inequalities, the Council would support an increase in size to 50. As part of our preliminary investigations we carried out an allocation exercise to determine how many county councillors should represent each borough or district. We concluded that a council size of 50 provided for the best allocation.

17 We received no submissions concerning council size in response to our consultation on division patterns. We have therefore based our draft recommendations on a council size of 50, allocated across the districts and boroughs in East Sussex. In brackets, we have also listed the percentage of district and borough wards that are wholly contained within our proposed divisions. We refer to this as coterminosity:

- Eastbourne Borough – nine councillors (100%)
- Hastings Borough – eight councillors (100%)
- Lewes District – nine councillors (71%)
- Rother District – nine councillors (62%)
- Wealden District – 15 councillors (100%)

Division patterns

18 During consultation on division patterns, we received 27 submissions, including one county-wide proposal, from the County Council. The remainder of the submissions provided localised comments for division arrangements in particular areas of the county.

19 The county-wide scheme provided a pattern of all single-member divisions for the county. Having carefully considered the proposals received, we were of the view that the proposed patterns of divisions largely resulted in good levels of electoral equality in most areas of the county and generally used clearly identifiable boundaries. However, there are areas in which we have recommended changes to provide for clearer boundaries.

20 Our draft recommendations are for 50 single-member divisions. We consider that our draft recommendations will provide for good electoral equality while reflecting

community identities and interests where we have received such evidence during consultation.

21 A summary of our proposed electoral arrangements is set out in Table A1 (on pages 30–34) and on the large map accompanying this report.

22 We welcome all comments on these draft recommendations. We also welcome comments on the division names we have proposed as part of the draft recommendations.

Draft recommendations

23 The tables on pages 7–19 detail our draft recommendations for each area of East Sussex. They detail how the proposed division arrangements reflect the three statutory⁴ criteria of:

- Equality of representation
- Reflecting community interests and identities
- Providing for convenient and effective local government

⁴ Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.