

Rustington

Parish Council Newsletter

Chairman's Message



As I finish my second term as Chairman, it is time to reflect on the last two years. In the first few months I had the privilege of attending events and functions organised by both the Council and surrounding Towns and Parishes but, unfortunately, my visits were cut short due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. However, this did not stop the local community from participating in many events to brighten up the days, such as decorating their homes to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of VE Day and showcasing their 'green fingers' achievements in the Annual Gardens Competition.

I feel honoured to live in such a wonderful community and will continue to do whatever I can to support the Village.

On 6 May 2021, Elections are scheduled for West Sussex County Council and the Police and Crime Commissioner for Sussex. I would like to take this opportunity to convey best wishes to all of the candidates.

Our sense of community is strong, and this has truly come to the fore over recent months, for which I thank everyone. And, to all of the fantastic people I have met in my two years as Chairman, my fellow Councillors and the staff at the Council, without whom the services and facilities provided by the Council would not be possible, thank you!

Councillor Jon Street

2021/2022 Parish Council Tax - Councillor Graham Tyler, Finance and General Purposes Committee Chairman

At the end of the past year, we look back on what has been an extremely challenging time for the Council's finances. However, in the true spirit of the Council, it has managed to operate effectively and efficiently, as always.

Whilst the majority of personnel members have worked remotely from home, telephone enquiries have continued to be dealt with as swiftly as possible.

The Council's Facebook Page and Website have also provided extremely comprehensive and up-to-date information regarding available and accessible support services and Agencies, plus contact details for local shops, restaurants and other businesses, providing delivery and takeaway services during the Lockdown periods.

I would like to thank the Council's personnel for working unceasingly throughout the Covid-19 crisis.

On a budget that was obviously in decline, with no rental or hiring income, the Council has managed to continue to provide, operate and maintain, the Public Toilets, Floral Displays, Bus and Beach Shelters, the War Memorial, The Woodlands Centre, Recreation Ground and Youth Centre, Samuel Wickens Centre, three Allotment Sites and the most impressive Christmas Lighting Scheme, to mention just a few. A rolling programme of refurbishment of public seats

throughout the Village took place during 2020, the War Memorial was refurbished and the safety surfacing in the Woodlands Recreation Ground Play Area was renewed. With effect from July, the No. 12 Bus Service continued to operate, courtesy of the four-way partnership.

The sale of the home of the old Museum, Church Farm Cottage, did finally reach completion in late February 2020. After settling all associated financial commitments and replenishing the Council's General Fund Balances, an approximate net profit of £244,000.00 was achieved, the majority of which has now had to be ringfenced for capital projects. Whilst none of this has yet been expended, the Council has an extensive Wish List of projects, which includes:

- Replacement Public Toilet Unit - Broadmark Lane
- Replacement Bus Shelter - Sea Lane
- Re-positioning and new surface for Bus Shelter - Station Road
- Refurbishment/upgrading both internally and externally - The Woodlands Centre
- Replacement of equipment - Play Area - Woodlands Recreation Ground
- Refurbishment of Basketball Court/Kickabout Area - Woodlands Recreation Ground

- Replacement Fencing - North Field and Car Park - Woodlands Recreation Ground

The Council will be giving detailed consideration to these projects over the next financial year.

Taking account of the unprecedented period for the Council's operation which, it is anticipated, will continue well into the next financial year, it has maintained all of the seamless services that it provides, albeit much more prudently. The up-shot is that the Council has decided the 2021/2022 Precept should remain the same for the current year, at £690,000.00. This actually represents a very small reduction on the Annual Parish Council charge for a Band 'D' property, which will be approximately £113.00.

In my opinion, the Council continues to be most pro-active, providing excellent value for money, whilst always being mindful of the financial constraints it faces and the burden its expenditure might place on Parishioners.

It just leaves for me to remind you that, members of the local community will have an opportunity, albeit on a virtual basis, to find out more about how the Council spent its Precept during the past year, and how it plans to spend it during the next financial year by 'attending' the Annual Assembly of the Parish Meeting, scheduled to be held on 15 April 2021.

Rustington Museum



On Monday 7 December, the latest temporary Exhibition was opened at Rustington Museum. Harry Clark cut the ribbon to officially open the Exhibition on his life. Harry has played an important part over the years in helping to promote and preserve the history of Rustington. The Exhibition includes memorabilia from his RAF days and his other hobbies. There is also a photography gallery, showcasing some of Harry's Collection and his own exemplary skills.

Even though the Museum is currently closed to the public, the Exhibition will hopefully soon be the first to feature online on the Museum's Website at www.rustingtonmuseum.org. The Exhibition will remain in place at the Museum until Summer 2021 by when it is hoped that many people will have had the opportunity to see it in person.

The Museum's Facebook - [@rustingtonmuseum](https://www.facebook.com/rustingtonmuseum) - features stories around objects from the Museum's Collection, from national events to the

people who have lived in the Village. There are also occasional puzzles, such as jigsaws and wordsearches to do, so keep looking out for them. It's a great way to contact the Museum with enquiries on subjects like images on postcards, the famous residents and other Museum enquiries. We are always keen to help researchers and school projects with information and images where we can.

The Museum has entered the world of Twitter with [@RustingtonMuse1](https://twitter.com/RustingtonMuse1). This is for short snippets of information and images of the Collection. It focuses on the birthdays and death dates of our famous residents like Sir Hubert Parry, national events and joining in with the Museum hashtags like #ObjectSwap and #CuratorBattle. It's a quick way of getting our name out there and creating links with other institutions.

Whilst all of this is happening, we are deep in research for the next Exhibition all about the shops in Rustington. The displays will be full of items from receipts and bags to images telling the story of how the shops have become what they are today. It will also look at what was there before and how the areas have changed. If you have any memories of the old shops in Rustington, or even objects, please contact the Museum on museum@rustingtonpc.org with your story. We look forward to seeing you all again when the Museum is open, but in the meantime come and see us virtually on the Website, Facebook and Twitter.

Claire Lucas - Museum Manager

Spectacular prizes won in Rustington Christmas Cracker Competition!

Christmas came early for some lucky Rustington shoppers after they were announced as the winners of a dazzling array of prizes in Rustington's Christmas Cracker Competition.

More than 1,000 people joined in the fun Competition in the weeks leading up to Christmas, using their loyalty cards to collect 5 stamps from 5 different shops, cafes and restaurants to enter. The Competition was free to enter and no minimum spend was required.

"We are thrilled with the huge response to this Competition," Sarah Wickens, Managing Director of Store Property Investments, said "We launched this to highlight the great range of local shops and services in the Village Centre and to give something back to the community to thank them for their support in shopping locally over the past year. All the shops have been so generous and have given some

wonderful gifts, and our prize winners were delighted!"

One happy Competition winner said, "Thank you for my prize. It would be great to see the Competition annually. I shopped in a couple of places I had never been in before to get a stamp on my card." Another remarked that the Competition "brought a bit of fun to the high street".

Prizes included the star prize of an incredible luxury jewellery hamper worth over £1,000.00 from L Guess Jewellers, plus a whole host of exciting gifts and vouchers from local shops and restaurants, as well as free parking in Rustington for a whole year! The full Christmas Cracker Competition prize list can be viewed at: www.shoprustington.com/news-events/christmas-cracker-competition-prize-list

Loo of the Year Awards

The Parish Council continues to win impressive Awards for its Public Toilets



The Parish Council is, once again, delighted to have won one Platinum and three Gold Loo of the Year Awards in the 2020 search to find the best 'away from home' toilets in the UK. The Rustington entries were in the Public Toilets (Non-Attended) Category.

Additional awards, this year, included the Market Sector Award (Car Parks) for the Churchill Car Park, a Premier League Local Authority Award (13th Position), and a Washroom Cleaner of the Year Award - An excellent achievement indeed for all involved.

The Loo of the Year Awards and associated Washroom/Toilet Cleaner of the Year Awards for cleaning staff have been identifying the best toilets/washrooms in Britain since 1987 and are recognised as standard setters for all those who provide 'away from home' facilities for staff, customers and visitors.

Every entry received an unannounced visit from a Loo of the Year Awards Inspector and was assessed against 101 judging criteria - including signage and décor, fixtures and fittings and overall standards of cleanliness and management. Every washroom receives a grading ranging from Bronze to Diamond and Gold, Platinum and Diamond winners are short listed for one or more of several National Awards covering England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and the Irish Republic.

Keep up to date with all things Rustington



@rustingtonpc

Another great way to share your views and keep in touch with the Parish Council

Rustington Youth Club

The Youth Club Team at Rustington Youth Centre wish everyone a happy new year and hope that you have all been able to keep safe.

We have been working on the streets each week with the aim to engage with young people and support the work of the Arun District Council's Anti-Social Behaviour Team.

Over the coming weeks we are going to explore offering a check-in service at the Youth Centre in place of the Youth Club whilst we try and limit risks of transmission. The purpose of these 'check-ins' will be to support young people by giving them a space to speak openly with workers about anything that may be happening for them, as well as being able to signpost them



to further support with resources to help them along the way, for example, emotional well-being support from our Youth Emotional Support colleagues at West Sussex County Council.

If you'd like to know any more about this offer, please contact:
Matt.Pollard@arunchurch.com

Emma Biffi

Youth Service Manager - Arun Youth Projects

Schools' Bulb Planting

Every year the Parish Council purchases a quantity of bulbs, as part of its continuing planting scheme, and last year was no exception, when all three Primary Schools in Rustington accepted the Council's offer of a quantity of bulbs to plant in the Schools' grounds.

It is hoped that photographs showing the results of the planting schemes will be able to be included in the next issue of the Newsletter.

Annual Assembly of the Parish Meeting

This is a Meeting of the Parish and is, therefore, open to all electors. It gives everyone an opportunity to discuss local matters, and 'meet' their Parish, District and County Councillors.

This year's Meeting is scheduled to be held on **Thursday 15 April commencing at 7.30 pm**. Due to the current Coronavirus (Covid-19) Pandemic, the Meeting will be held remotely (via Microsoft Teams) and a link enabling Parishioners to access the Meeting will appear on the Agenda, which will be available on the Council's Website in due course.

Village Gardens Competition

Now is the time to start thinking about this year's Gardens Competition which is divided into the following classes:

Class 1 - Window Boxes, Balconies and Patio Tubs etc. (Residential)*

Class 2 - Window Boxes, Balconies and Patio Tubs etc. (Commercial)*

Class 3 - Front Gardens of Any Size, including Paved Gardens with Patio Tubs (Residential)*

Class 4 - Front Gardens of Any Size (Commercial)*

Class 5 - Schools' Competition

Class 6 - Community Gardens

*Entries must be clearly visible from the Road

Parishioners and local businesses are encouraged to start thinking about their planting plans now so that they can nominate either themselves, their neighbours, or any members of the local Community for the Competition. Further details will appear in the next issue of this Newsletter.

Parishioners' Award

As in previous years, the Council is, once again, inviting all members of the community to submit nominations for the 2021 Parishioners' Awards.

Two awards can be made each year - one to an Individual and one to a Group/Organisation - in recognition of outstanding Public Service to the Community. All Rustington parishioners or parish-based organisations (including

voluntary groups and professionals) are eligible to receive these Awards.

Individuals, Groups and Organisations from outside of the Parish, who make an outstanding contribution for the benefit of the community of Rustington, may also be considered for these Awards.

These are 'once in a lifetime' Awards and will not be presented on more than one occasion to any Individuals, Groups, Clubs,

Organisations or Associations.

Nomination Forms can be downloaded from the Council's Website: www.rustingtonpc.org

Alternatively, to request a Nomination Form, please telephone the Council Offices on 786420 or email: enquiry@rustingtonpc.org

The **closing date for the receipt of nominations is Monday 26 April** and the winners will be announced in June.

Meetings

Parish Council Meetings are held on the fourth Monday of each month (apart from August and December) commencing at 7.00 pm.

Due to the continuing Coronavirus (Covid-19) Pandemic, all Meetings are still being held remotely (via Microsoft Teams) and are delivered within 'The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2020' that are currently enacted for Meetings on and up to 7 May 2021 and, it is anticipated, possibly beyond this date.

Members of the Public are invited to submit questions, for consideration at the Meetings, either in writing delivered to the Parish Council Offices, via email to: enquiry@rustingtonpc.org or by telephone: 786420. However, if preferred, they can attend the Meetings using the dedicated link which appears on every Agenda, a copy of which is displayed in advance on the Council's Website and on Noticeboards around the Village.

Council and Committee Meeting Dates

Mon 15 Mar	Planning
Mon 22 Mar	Finance & General Purposes
Mon 22 Mar	COUNCIL
Mon 12 Apr	Allotments
Mon 12 Apr	Planning
Thur 15 Apr	ANNUAL ASSEMBLY
Mon 26 Apr	Finance & General Purposes
Mon 26 Apr	COUNCIL
Mon 26 Apr	Planning
Mon 24 May	Finance & General Purposes
Mon 24 May	ANNUAL COUNCIL
Mon 24 May	Planning
Mon 7 Jun	Planning
Mon 7 Jun	Leisure & Amenities
Mon 28 Jun	Finance & General Purposes
Mon 28 Jun	COUNCIL
Mon 28 Jun	Planning



Your Parish Councillors

Chairman

J W A Street (West Ward)
Email: jonstreet@rustingtonpc.org

Vice-Chairman

Mrs A B Cooper (East Ward)
Email: alisoncooper@rustingtonpc.org

East Ward

Mrs K A Callaghan Email: kathcallaghan@rustingtonpc.org
 J E Ceiriog-Hughes Email: johnceiriog-hughes@rustingtonpc.org
 Ms M Revell Email: mariarevell@rustingtonpc.org
 G M Tyler Email: grahamtyler@rustingtonpc.org
 P D Warren Email: peterwarren@rustingtonpc.org

North Ward

M E Broomfield Email: michaelbroomfield@rustingtonpc.org
 M J Clayden Email: mikeclayden@rustingtonpc.org

West Ward

J F Bennett Email: jamiiebennett@rustingtonpc.org
 Mrs C P Broomfield Email: christinebroomfield@rustingtonpc.org
 A J Cooper Email: andycooper@rustingtonpc.org
 Mrs P A Gregory Email: paulinegregory@rustingtonpc.org
 R S Grevelt Email: bobgrevelt@rustingtonpc.org
 Mrs S A Partridge Email: peggypartridge@rustingtonpc.org

West Preston Ward

D E Rogers Email: donrogers@rustingtonpc.org

Clerk of the Council

Mrs Carole Ward Email: caroleward@rustingtonpc.org

Useful Contacts

Rustington Parish Council - Tel: 01903 786420 / 07752 493539
 Email: enquiry@rustingtonpc.org www.rustingtonpc.org
 Facebook: [rustingtonpc](https://www.facebook.com/rustingtonpc)

Samuel Wickens Centre - Tel: 01903 788479

Arun District Council - Tel: 01903 737500 www.arun.gov.uk

West Sussex County Council Tel: 01243 777100
www.westsussex.gov.uk

Community Hub - Tel: 033 022 27980
 COVID-19 support including financial hardship

Meals on Wheels - Tel: 01903 718893

AGE UK - Tel: 01903 731800

MIND Littlehampton Support Hub - Tel: 01903 721893

Sussex Mental Health Line 24/7 - Tel: 0800 0309 500

The Samaritans - Tel: 116 123

Littlehampton and District Foodbank - Tel: 07925 862289

Citizens Advice - Tel: 0808 2787 969

NHS 111 - Available 24/7 online: 111.NHS.UK

For links to the latest Government advice and local support visit
www.rustingtonpc.org