

RUSTINGTON PARISH MEETING

MINUTES: of the Annual Assembly of the Parish Meeting held on 13 April 2023

PRESENT: Rustington Parish Councillors Mrs A Cooper (In the Chair), Mrs C Broomfield, M Broomfield, M Clayden, A Cooper, Mrs P Gregory, R Grevett, Mrs S Partridge, Ms M Revell, D Rogers and G Tyler and Mrs C Ward, Ms R Costan and J Burch (Rustington Parish Council), District Councillor S Gunner, Ms V Allen, A Aylett and Mrs M Aylett, D Bishop (Littlehampton District Lions Club), S Blowen and R Gardner (Rustington Cricket Club), Ms S Bush, Ms R Carter and Mrs D Kearsey (Family Support Work), Ms K Cash, P Cavell (Rustington Residents Association), R Clarry, R Cullen, K Daly and Mrs J Onslow (Rustington Players), Ms J Drake, Mrs S Elnaugh, Mrs P Filler F Gale, C Gardiner, A Garrett and Mrs L Garrett, Ms L Garven, Ms A Longden and Ms J Parker-Smith (Blind Veterans UK), A Gregory, J Groves, Ms B Hampton, P Hetherington, Ms J Koszuta, S Marsden and Mrs S Marsden (Rustington Heritage Association), Ms M McMahan, Mrs R Maule, Ms S Moss, A Munday and Mrs A Munday, K Revell, Ms P Revell, Ms I Shales, A Stacey, Ms H Stockwell, Ms R Troughton, Mrs D Tyler, D Ward, Mrs J Ward, M Warrington, M Watts, N Woodfield and Mrs S Woodfield

APOLOGIES: Rustington Parish Councillors J Bennett, J Ceiriog-Hughes, J Street and P Warren, District Councillor T Chapman, Mrs S Holmes and Ms J Lindsay (Community First Responders), Ms M Smailes (Rustington Community Primary School & Summerlea Community Primary School), Reverend R Clarke (Rustington Methodist Church), Reverend N Loveless (St Peter & St Paul Parish Church), Mrs S Meekings (Summerlea Community Primary School), Inspector N Durkan, Inspector D Merrifield and Sergeant D Burt (Sussex Police)

Prior to the formal business, Ms Lesley Garven, Centre Manager and Ms Jo Parker-Smith, Community Engagement Lead, of Blind Veterans UK, addressed the Meeting and provided comprehensive background information on the Charity, its major refurbishment and reconstruction of the former Princess Marina House, out-buildings and grounds, together with its plans for the future and, in particular, its desire to integrate with the local community. During the Presentation the Meeting was advised that the opening of the new facility was currently planned for 17 August 2023, and that the building was going to be renamed Blind Veterans UK Rustington.

Ms Garven and Ms Parker-Smith then responded to a number of questions posed by those parishioners in attendance.

The Chairman then thanked Ms Garven and Ms Parker-Smith for their most interesting Presentation and for taking the time to attend the Meeting.

1. WELCOME BY THE CHAIRMAN

Prior to the commencement of the formal business of the Meeting, the Chairman welcomed all present to the Meeting and thanked them for taking the time to attend.

2. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Annual Assembly of the Parish Meeting held on 14 April 2022 were approved by the Meeting and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

3. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE RUSTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Cooper, reported on the activities of the Parish Council during the preceding year. A copy of this Report is attached and forms a part of these Minutes.

4. AUDITED STATEMENT OF THE PARISH COUNCIL'S ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The Meeting received the Audited Statement of the Parish Council's Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022.

The Clerk reported that the External Auditors, Moore East Midlands, had stated that the information contained in the Council's Annual Return was in accordance with proper practices and no matters had come to their attention to give cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements had not been met.

The Clerk said that these Accounts were available for inspection in the Council Offices.

5. FINANCES FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2023 AND 31 MARCH 2024

The Meeting received a Report from Councillor Tyler, Chairman of the Parish Council's Finance and General Purposes Committee, on the Council's finances for the years ending 31 March 2023 and 31 March 2024. A copy of this Report is attached and forms a part of these Minutes.

6. REPORT FROM SUSSEX POLICE AUTHORITY

The Chairman reported that apologies for absence had been received from Inspector Neil Durkan, Arun Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT). She said that Inspector Durkan was in the process of moving to a new position with Sussex Police in Horsham, and was being replaced by Inspector Damien Merrifield, who had also given apologies for the Meeting, as he had yet to officially take up his position with the Arun NPT.

She then advised the Meeting that Inspector Durkan had provided unceasing support, advice and guidance, to the Council, throughout his time with the Arun NPT and, in particular, when the Council's facilities had been both subject to, and at threat from, illegal traveller encampments during 2022.

She said that, on behalf of the Council and its Personnel, she would like to record thanks and appreciation to Inspector Durkan.

7. LOCAL SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES

The Chairman advised the Meeting that the Governing Bodies from each of the three Primary Schools in Rustington were invited to submit a written Report to the Council prior to the Meeting, to enable them to be distributed to everyone in attendance. Representatives from the Schools could then attend the Meeting, if they so wished, to respond to any questions that might be posed 'from the floor'.

She then confirmed that written Reports had been received from Miss Amie Bowers (Headteacher) and Mrs Gemma Elliott (Chair of Governors), Georgian Gardens Community Primary School, Ms Marie Smailes, Executive Headteacher, Rustington Community Primary School and Mrs Sue Meekings, Chair of Governors, Summerlea Community Primary School.

Formal Transcripts of all of the aforementioned Reports are attached and form a part of these Minutes.

8. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

(a) County Councillor Mrs Alison Cooper

Councillor Mrs Cooper advised the Meeting that she was the County Councillor responsible for the major part of Rustington, with Councillors Dr James Walsh and Roger Elkins covering small sections close to the Village boundaries with Littlehampton and East Preston.

Councillor Mrs Cooper then addressed the following concerns raised by individuals in attendance on County Council matters:-

- *Concerns regarding public safety due to inconsiderate driving of mobility scooters on the public highway*
- *Concern regarding overgrown vegetation on the public highway from private properties*
- *Concern regarding poor condition of pavements and kerbs, etc., on the public highway posing hazards for both abled and disabled pedestrians.*

(b) Arun District Councillor Shaun Gunner

Councillor Gunner, in his capacity as a District Councillor and the Leader of the Arun District Council, said that it had been a pleasure to represent Rustington as a District Council for the current term. He said that, in his opinion, Rustington was one of the most pro-active Parishes in the Arun District, and he thanked the Council for its unceasing commitment and hard work for the benefit of its community.

Councillor Gunner then addressed the following concerns raised by individuals in attendance on District Council matters:-

- *Concern regarding inadequate frequency of emptying of litter bins along the seafront at Rustington*
- *Concern regarding large pieces of groins from Clymping causing potential hazards along the immediate coastline - Reported to Foreshore Officer but no action taken to date.*

The Chairman conveyed her thanks and appreciation to Councillor Gunner for taking the time to attend the Meeting and for addressing the concerns raised by attendees.

9. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

- (a)** Continued absence of Noticeboards in the Village - (Jill Onslow, Rustington Players)
Two replacement Noticeboards on order, one for outside of The Woodlands Centre and one for the centre of the Village.

The Meeting concluded at 8.35 pm.

Chairman:

Date:

RUSTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PARISH MEETING - 13 APRIL 2023
REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL
COUNCILLOR MRS ALISON COOPER

Good Evening everyone and thank you for taking the time to attend this year's Annual Assembly of the Parish Meeting.

In May, I will have had the honour of completing my second two-year term as Chairman of the Parish Council. It has been most enjoyable, albeit challenging at times, but the role has been most fulfilling and I hope that I have served the Parishioners of Rustington well at all times.

To begin with, I would like to thank my Vice-Chairman, Councillor Graham Tyler, who has provided continuous support to me, and also all of the Members of the Council, who work extremely hard for the benefit of the Parishioners, attending many Meetings during the year and often having to make difficult decisions. I am most grateful to you all.

And secondly, to all members of the Council's personnel team, who work many hours, often beyond the call of duty to ensure that all of the Council's services are delivered professionally and most effectively, I would like to record my sincere appreciation. Their commitment is most certainly commendable. As you know Carole Ward, our Clerk, heads up the Team, along with the Deputy Clerk, Rosie Costan and Finance Manager, Caroline Harris. They are loyally supported by Elaine, Nicky and Jo, together with the three personnel members at the Samuel Wickens Centre, namely Emma, Jules and Linda. Jim (Burch), our Leisure and Amenities Officer, and Claire (Lucas), the Museum Manager. And, last but certainly not least, Bill, who is Caretaker for both the Youth Centre and the Samuel Wickens Centre. My thanks and appreciation go them all.

I would also like to thank all of the District Councillors who represent Rustington and, particularly, Councillors Shaun Gunner and Will Tilbrook, who have regularly provided Reports for the Full Council Meetings, updating the Council on all matters concerning our community. Appreciation also goes to our own dual-hatted District Councillors Jamie Bennett, Pauline Gregory and, although not elected to represent Rustington per se, Andy Cooper and Mike Clayden, for always making sure that the Council is kept comprehensively informed on all matters Rustington related.

New District Councillors will be elected on 4 May this year, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank those District Councillors representing Rustington who have decided not to stand for election again for this next term, namely Mike Clayden, Will Tilbrook and Terry Chapman.

As far as the Parish Council is concerned, notification was received on 5 April 2023 from the Returning Officer, namely Arun District Council, that 13 of the existing Members of this Council, plus two additional individuals, namely Ms Lesley Anne Lloyd and Mrs Valerie Allen, have all been elected to the Parish Council in an uncontested Election. I would like to congratulate everyone. There is now one vacancy in the West Preston Ward which will have to be filled in due course.

At this point, I would like to convey, on behalf of all Members of the Council and myself, personal thanks and appreciation for their hard work and commitment for the benefit of the

community of Rustington during their time as Councillors, to Mike Clayden and Jon Street. Thank you both, you will be greatly missed.

My thanks also go to my fellow West Sussex County Councillors, Roger Elkins and Dr James Walsh who, along with myself, represent areas of the Village.

I would also like to express my heartfelt appreciation to all of the Community Groups, Organisations, Clubs and Individuals, within the Village, who unceasingly provide services, activities and entertainment for all to enjoy.

And, now moving to the official business of the Meeting.

My aim is to provide brief insight into how the Council operates, by giving you an idea of the services and facilities it provides, and the Projects and Works that have been undertaken during the past twelve months and those that are planned for the coming year.

I will also provide you with a summary of the roles of the Council's Committees.

In 2022, the three Public Toilet Units in the Village again received excellent Awards in the Loo of the Year Competition, namely a Platinum Award for the Churchill Car Park Toilets and two Gold Awards for The Woodlands Centre and the Broadmark Lane Mobile Unit.

Biffa's Contract as the Council's Toilet Cleansing Contractor has recently been extended for a further three years, and all three Units are open 7 days per week, with longer opening hours from 1 May to 30 September. The former Public Toilet Unit in the Church Hall Car Park in The Street, will soon be home to a 'Changing Places' Toilet Unit, and will provide a 'state of the art' facility for the Village.

The Woodlands Centre/Recreation Ground Public Toilet Unit is also currently undergoing a major refurbishment.

The Christmas Lighting Scheme is currently being reviewed, and it is anticipated that a similar display of festive lights through the Centre of the Village will continue, together with the funding of the Number 12 Bus, which is due to be extended to include East Preston, courtesy of funding from East Preston Parish Council, with effect from 15 May.

June of last year, saw an extremely successful and enjoyable Programme of Events take place throughout the Village to celebrate the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee. To commemorate this momentous event in the Nation's history, the Millennium Clock in the Village was replaced with an impressive 'Rustington Green' Pillar Clock, and a new tree was planted in the brick planter in The Street, in front of the La Cucina Restaurant.

In May of this year, the Coronation of King Charles III will be celebrated, and the Council will be hosting a Musical Concert on the afternoon of Sunday 7 May, with the Littlehampton District Lions Club hosting a Coronation Quiz on Friday 5 May, both events will take place here in the Village Memorial Hall. It is understood that the shop canopies will, once again, be adorned with union jack flags. There will also be a small 'Coronation' Exhibition at the Museum.

In connection with the Museum, the Council was delighted that Accredited Status was again retained for a further five years in October.

The Council's Annual Civic Thanksgiving Service, Remembrance Sunday Parade, and the always popular, Community Carol Concert were all successfully held in September, November and December respectively, and were all very well attended. And, now, moving on to the Council's Committees...

Finance and General Purposes

I would like to thank Councillor Graham Tyler, for his most important role as Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee. Graham will be presenting his Report in respect of the Council's finances for the years ending 31 March 2022 and 31 March 2023, to you later.

My thanks also go to the Members of this vital Committee.

Leisure and Amenities

Thank you to Councillor Jamie Bennett who is coming to the end of his first year as Chairman of this very important Committee, which is responsible for the majority of services provided by the Council, including the Public Toilets, Public Seats, Noticeboards, Street Maps, Beach and Bus Shelters, some Street Lighting, Grass Cutting in the centre of the Village, the Planting, Design and Maintenance of the Floral/Planted Displays plus any other associated functions.

The Youth Centre and The Woodlands Centre are also managed by this Committee, as are the Woodlands Recreation Ground and Woodland Park Sportsfield. And, finally, the Committee is responsible for the Samuel Wickens Centre (incorporating the Community Hall, Museum and the Information Centre).

A very effective and hard-working Committee. Thanks must go to all of its Members, with such a wide range of areas of responsibility, they all have a most active and important role to play.

Planning

This Committee is consulted on all Applications within the Parish by both the Arun District Council, as the Local Planning Authority and, in certain cases, West Sussex County Council.

Much appreciation must go to Councillor Jamie Bennett, for his most professional and informative Chairing of the Planning Committee. The Committee is also ably supported by the previous Chairman of the Committee, Councillor Warren, who provides detailed descriptions and comprehensive observations for all Planning Applications on which the Committee is consulted, which is of great assistance to the Committee in its deliberations.

Thanks to Jamie, Peter and the Members of the Committee.

Allotments

I would like to thank Councillor Mrs Peggy Partridge, Chairman of the Allotments Committee, and the Committee Members, for continuing to oversee the management the three Allotment Sites in the Parish, to a very high standard.

Emergency Planning

Chaired by Councillor Ceiriog-Hughes, this Committee monitors the Council's Emergency Plan, and ensures that procedures are in place for the provision of The Woodlands Centre as a Rest Centre in the event of an emergency within the Parish.

Thank you, John, and your Committee.

The Council is also represented on a number of external Bodies, and continues to have Working Parties looking at ways of improving the way we work.

As I am now at the end of my Report, can I thank you once again for your attendance at this Meeting tonight.

RUSTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PARISH MEETING - 13 APRIL 2023
REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL
PURPOSES COMMITTEE - COUNCILLOR GRAHAM TYLER

Thank you, Chairman. Good Evening Everyone.

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report to you in respect of the Council's finances for the last financial year that ended on 31 March 2023 and for the current financial year ending 31 March 2024.

At this point, I would like to thank Caroline Harris, the Council's Finance Manager, and her assistant, Johanna Mason. Obviously, my thanks and appreciation also extends to all members of the Council's Personnel.

Moving on now. You will have all recently received your Council Tax Bills, and will know that the Parish Council has had to increase its 2023/2024 Precept. This has resulted in an annual Parish Council charge on a Band 'D' property in Rustington of £124.00, which represents an increase of just over £11.00 on the previous year, equating to under £1 per month.

The Council continues to be proud of its achievements and believes that it continues to offer its Parishioners excellent value for money with the wide range of services it provides, whilst always remaining mindful of the burden its expenditure might place on them.

In my Reports for the past two years, I have referred to the Council's Wish List of Projects, otherwise known as its 'Rolling Programme of Works and Possible Capital Projects'. I am pleased to be able to tell you that, with the exception of one or two major Projects, all of those listed have now been completed, including the installation of a comprehensive CCTV System covering The Woodlands Centre, Youth Centre and a major part of the Car Park; the replacement of the Millennium Clock, together with the major refurbishment of the Soldier, Horse and Cross Sculptures in the centre of the Village and the reconnection of utilities to facilitate a new changing room facility for the Rustington Otters Football Club at the Woodland Park Sportsfield, courtesy of a most generous donation by Store Property Investments Limited.

Other major expenditure items have been the purchase of a much-needed vehicle which, together with the previously purchased Trailer, is already proving to be an extremely supportive asset for many areas of the Council's Operation; a major refurbishment Project for the external Public Toilets serving the Woodlands Recreation Ground; the installation of enhanced security measures at both the Woodlands Recreation Ground and the Woodland Park Sportsfield, to further attempt to prevent any future illegal encampments at both locations, plus the refurbishment of the brick planters in the Village and the soon to be constructed replacement wooden planter at the eastern end of The Street.

The Council is still actively looking at the possibility of progressing a major overhaul of The Woodlands Centre, to ensure that it is 'fit for purpose' for the future. It is anticipated that proposals for the rear section of the Centre will be the subject of a Public Consultation, prior to any further advancement of the Project. Although the Council has somewhere in the region of £200,000.00+ of capital funding available from the proceeds of the sale of the old Museum at Church Farm Cottage, it will be necessary to secure additional funding, should the Project proceed.

Going forward financial provision in the sum of £50,000.00 has been made to match grant funding that has been achieved by the Arun District Council, on the Council's behalf, for a Changing Places Toilet Unit, which will be located in the former Public Toilet in The Street. This Project should be completed later in the year.

The Council has also been successful with its bid for Government funding (UK Shares Prosperity Fund) via the Arun District Council, towards the replacement of the Kickabout/Basketball Area and Outdoor Fitness Equipment on the Woodlands Recreation Ground. This Project is planned for the financial year 2024/2025.

I would like to thank all of my fellow Councillors for their continued efforts to achieve and maintain the objectives of the Council.

The Parish Council has, and will, always have the benefit to the local community at the forefront of its objectives, and if anyone would like to discuss any aspect of the Council's finances, please do not hesitate to either speak to me at the end of the Meeting or, if you prefer, contact Carole Ward, the Clerk of the Council, who will be happy to make an appointment for you to meet with me, or speak to me on the telephone.

And that concludes my Report.



Georgian Gardens CP School

Guildford Road
Rustington, West Sussex
BN16 3JJ

Telephone: 01903 771555 Fax: 01903 850746
Email: office@georgiangardens.w-sussex.sch.uk
Website: www.georgiangardens.w-sussex.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Miss A Bowers

Report for Rustington Parish Council 30.3.23

At the time of the last annual meeting we were awaiting our report from our Ofsted inspection. We are now delighted to be able to finally share with you that we were judged as Good in all areas.

"Pupils are very happy at school. They enjoy their lessons and feel that everyone is included and treated fairly. Pupils feel safe. They understand and follow the school rules of 'ready, respectful, safe'. They are confident that school staff would always listen to any worries they had and get them any help they needed". Ofsted March 2022

"Parents recognise the dedication of the headteacher, and the staff, to the welfare and education of every pupil. They feel that their children are known, nurtured, respected and valued". Ofsted March 2022



Pupils were grateful for the lovely books donated from Morrisons on World Book Day.

Since this time, we have continued to build upon the strengths that were highlighted in relation to pupil wellbeing. In particular, we have further established our work with Thrive, which supports pupils' emotional and social wellbeing. Alongside this we have also set up Family Thrive which enables our families to learn more about the Thrive approach.



Artsmark
Gold Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England



Music at the school is going from strength to strength, with over 110 pupils accessing music tuition each week. Our fully equipped music studio allows pupils to take part in a range of musical experiences, including playing, singing, producing new songs, mixing and stage lighting. The children have helped to identify new items that they would like for the studio and have worked tirelessly throughout the year to fundraise through their own performances and events. They have also supported other charities, such as Comic Relief, when they performed during pick up time at the school.



Pupils enjoying a music lesson in our well-equipped studio.

Seeing the children grow in their own confidence through music has led us to consider how we will further personalise the learning experience at Georgian Gardens. Our vision for the next stage of development is to become a STEAM School (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths). This year we have focused on the development of a new Design Technology curriculum which has enhanced childrens' skills and abilities in design and construction. Arts continue to be a strength of the school and it is lovely to see the childrens' work exhibited at Angmering train station.

Currently we are developing the central area of the school, which is known as our quad. We want to create an open space in which the children can play and develop their understanding of the world around them. One of the features of this will be a large sandpit which will incorporate pulleys, levers and other resources to inspire the children's thinking in engineering. We know this will appeal to all ages!

With over 100 children now in receipt of Free School Meals (Pupil Premium) we continue to look at ways in which we can support both them and all families at the school. We are very grateful to St. Peter and St.Pauls Church who run a regular food pantry at the school and have been able to support around 30 families a week over the winter. The school also regularly runs second hand uniform sales in order to both support our families and reduce waste.

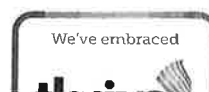
Looking forward, the school's finances are forecast to be very tight. Our children will need the support of the local community more than ever either via donations, volunteers or Governance roles. We currently have space on the Governing body and would be particularly interested to hear from anybody with a background in Finance or HR.

We are grateful to all those who have supported us during the past year and look forward to working with the local community in the year ahead.

Miss Amie Bowers (Headteacher) & Mrs Gemma Elliott (Chair of Governors)



Artsmark
Gold Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England



Rustington Community Primary School

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West Sussex

BN16 3PW

01903 785271

office@rustington.academy

schools
works

Academy Trust
Building children's
futures together



Head of School: Ms M Smailes PGCE, BA (Hons), MA (Ed)

Deputy Headteacher: Miss A Powell PGCE, BA (Hons)

Dear Rustington Parish Council,

I am writing to update you on the developments and focus areas at Rustington Community Primary this year.

Teaching and Learning

Coming out of a period of time of school closures we have spent this year with a focus on the quality of Teaching and Learning and the consistency in teaching across the classes. We devised a structure that we call 'teaching habits' which pulls together good practice; designed to maximise children's learning and their ability to remember knowledge and apply it in different contexts.

We are already seeing the impact of this with pupil voice being used as one measure of monitoring – always an accurate reflection on daily practice 😊

Parent Support

The 'cost of living crisis' has caused a significant burden to households on top of an increase in domestic violence and parenting difficulties.

In the Autumn term we were fortunate to be able to employ a member of staff who can dedicate her time to advising and supporting families. The following link provides resource links for all families in our community.

[Rustington Community Primary School - Community support](#)

We are currently working with the Littlehampton Food Bank who provide free bread for parents once a week and we have also opened a free 'coffee and chat' hut for parents every Tuesday.

Mental Health support for Parents, Staff and Children

Mental Health support has been increasing in schools over the last few years. All schools now have trained Mental Health First Aiders who can advise and signpost people who are struggling with their mental health.

At Rustington we have gone one stage further by working with a nationally recognised provider to gain an award in exemplary practice. This has recently resulted in us setting up a locality group to enable practice across the schools to be shared.

Community support for Summerlea Primary

At the end of the Autumn term Summerlea's headteacher left and as Headteacher of Rustington (2 minutes up the road) I offered to support the school while they appointed a new Headteacher.

We were able to use the capacity at Rustington with Anna Powell stepping up as Head of School. I then worked as Executive Headteacher across the schools.

This period is now coming to an end as I reduce my days with a view to their substantive head taking over full time from May half term; leading the school forward and becoming part of our local community.

Regards,

Ms Smailes

Executive Headteacher





WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

SUMMERLEA C.P. SCHOOL



WINDSOR DRIVE, RUSTINGTON
WEST SUSSEX, BN16 3SW

HEADTEACHER: MRS H MORRIS

TEL: (01903) 856783

FAX: (01903) 856784

EMAIL: office@summerleaschool.co.uk

'Growing thoughtful learners and independent thinkers'



May 2022 - April 2023

Dear Rustington Parish Council,

I am pleased to be able to send this report and have the opportunity to update you on the past year at Summerlea Community Primary School. It has been a time of many changes for Summerlea School and we are looking forward to a period of stability and exciting future going forward. During the Autumn Term we received the resignation of our Headteacher Mrs Helen Morris who had been at Summerlea for eight years. The governing body were fortunate to receive a good number of applicants for the post. We are delighted with our appointment Mr Joe Todd who will take over as Headteacher part time from April 17th and full time from June 5th.

Mrs Morris left at the end of the Autumn Term and we were fortunate to acquire the support of Ms Smailes from Rustington Primary School as Interim Executive Headteacher, which she will continue on a part time basis until Mr Todd takes over full time.

To continue the busy Autumn Term Summerlea School also received an Ofsted Inspection, Ms Smailes with the support of the senior leadership team has made a good start on addressing the areas requiring improvement.

Moving on to other events that have happened at Summerlea throughout the year:-

Summer Term 2022

Highlights of the Summer Term included the Year 6 production of the Lion King. Huge congratulations to all of the children for wowing the audience with their incredible performance. Every child shone in their own way and it was a privilege to watch them take to the stage with such confidence and professionalism.

Our Year 4 children went on a residential visit to Lodge Hill, Pulborough. The children were all absolutely amazing and had the time of their lives! They demonstrated our personal, learning and thinking skills in bucket loads and everyone was so impressed with their teamwork and resilience.

We held a jubilee garden party in recognition of Her Majesty The Queen becoming the first British Monarch to celebrate 70 years of service. It was one of the first whole school events since the pandemic and children and staff were treated to some incredible home made crowns, fabulous singing, dancing and musical performances. And the weather couldn't have been better!

We are delighted to announce that we have achieved the School Games GOLD Mark Award for the 2021/22 academic year. The School Games Mark is a Government-led award scheme launched in 2012, facilitated by the



Youth Sport Trust to reward and recognise school's engagement (provision and uptake) in the School Games against a national benchmark and to celebrate keeping young people active, and we are delighted to have been recognised for our success. We are extremely proud of our pupils for their dedication to all aspects of physical activity and school sport, including those young volunteers, leaders and officials who made our events possible.

Autumn Term 2022

We started the new academic year with Establishment Week when we had a whole school focus on setting clear and high expectations for the year ahead linked to our vision and values, our Key Three and our Personal, Learning and Thinking Skills. Staff have been enjoying supporting the children in learning the 'Summerlea Way' through a variety of exciting, practical and creative cross curricular games and activities linked to the key themes of communication, trust and problem solving, designed to promote and nurture positive relationships and a strong sense of community across the school.

We have been awarded The Primary Science Quality Mark (PSQM) Gilt award. PSQM is a one-year school improvement programme for primary science, which provides professional development for new and experienced subject leaders each year. PSQM enables confident, knowledgeable, reflective leadership which results in an improvement in the way in which science is planned and taught across the whole school. PSQM is led by the University of Hertfordshire in collaboration with the Primary Science Teaching Trust.

Summerlea children took part in Children in Need; the children looked brilliant in their non-uniform and spotty attire! We raised a brilliant £286.43 for this worthwhile cause.

Year 2 put on an excellent Christmas performance of 'Superstar' and EYFS a brilliant Nativity 'Bundle of Joy'. There was great speaking, dancing, singing and acting and it was wonderful to see the children taking to the stage with such enjoyment and confidence.

The Carols by Candlelight service was really well attended at the start of this week. Glee sang their hearts out and the narrators spoke with great confidence. It was also lovely to welcome back two ex-pupils who sang solos and blew us away! Having a live band was a truly memorable and magical experience for the adults and children alike. We raised £38.41 for Winston's Wish – a charity particularly close to our hearts at school and would like to thank you for your generous donations.

Summerlea children also took part in the Christmas jumper day and held a Christmas Cowbell Assembly.

Spring Term 2023

Year 6 Aspirations Week 2022 held a first for Summerlea - a careers fair! It was a real success and exposed our Yr 6 children to more possibilities and opportunities for future careers. We also invited our gold PLTs badge winners to attend. We are running our second fair in June this year and we are looking for representation from a wide range of job sectors. If you think you, or someone you know, could attend and support this event please contact Mrs Strong

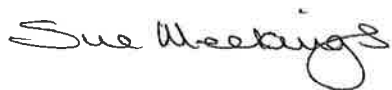
Something to Celebrate This week, Year Five have been continuing their English work based on Macbeth by William Shakespeare. They were very shocked to come into school on Tuesday morning and discover a murder scene! It was soon established that King Duncan had been murdered and the children quickly set to work investigating the scene and discussing who might have committed the crime!

Our website continues to be updated during the year to including a Twitter feed so that families, staff, governors, our community and visitors can follow all the latest news and events at our wonderful school.

As always, our school's newsletters are available on our website <http://www.summerlea.w-sussex.sch.uk> and you can now also follow us on Twitter @Summerleaharts.

The Parish Council's support and interest in the school is appreciated. Members of the council are always warmly welcome to visit us and see the school in action.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sue Meekings". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial 'S'.

Mrs Sue Meekings
Chair of Governors