

Rustington

Parish Council Newsletter

Chairman's Message



As we look back on 2018, Rustington is gearing up for another eventful year, starting with your chance to elect your representatives on both Rustington

Parish Council and the Arun District Council on 2 May 2019. We do have a few Parish Councillors who are not standing for re-election, and I urge anyone who is interested in joining the Council to get in touch with the Council Offices or, indeed, the Elections Office at the Arun District Council, to obtain the necessary nomination forms.

As I approach the end of my second year as Chairman of this amazing Council, I think back at all the great Events I have been invited to attend and the excellent work our community does to make Rustington the fantastic Village that it is today, and would like to thank everyone for all they do.

The next exciting Event is going to be the Rustington Street Fayre, organised by the Littlehampton District Lions Club, Rustington Chamber of Trade and Commerce and the Parish Council, working in partnership. This will be held on Saturday 8 June. There is a more detailed article later in this Newsletter, and further information will be issued over the next few months.

Councillor Jamie Bennett
Chairman

2019/2020 Parish Council Tax

Each year the Parish Council spends money on various local services and that money is part of the Council Tax you pay to the Arun District Council. The money raised is called the Precept. At this time of year, the Council has to consider the level of this Precept and it has decided that it must set its 2019/2020 Precept at £616,000 an estimated increase of 7.69% on 2018/2019.

This decision will result in an annual Parish Council charge on a Band 'D' property in Rustington being approximately £101.42, an increase of £7.14p on the previous year, equating to under 60p per week.

The Council very much regrets the need for this increase but, like everyone else, it is not immune to increasing financial pressures. However, parishioners should be assured that it will continue to strive to achieve ever improved efficiency and value for money in its operation, whilst doing its best to maintain the local services that are appreciated by residents and visitors alike.

These services include the maintenance and daily operation of The Woodlands Centre, the Woodlands Recreation Ground, the Rustington Youth Centre, the Woodland Park Sportsfield, over 150 Allotment Plots, Bus and Beach Shelters, Public Seats, the War Memorial, 4 Public Toilet Units, a School Crossing Patrol, some Street Lighting, the continued enhancement and maintenance of all floral and planted displays throughout the Village, the new and enhanced Christmas Lighting Scheme and Grants to local Organisations. The Council also funds, in partnership with the Rustington Chamber of Trade and Commerce and Store Property Investments Limited, the No. 12 Bus Service.

The Samuel Wickens Centre, which is managed by the Parish Council, at the rear of the Waitrose Supermarket, opened in May 2018. It is now home to the Village Information Centre, a hireable Community Hall and, by October 2019, the Museum will have moved from Church Farm Cottage

in The Street to the Centre. Unfortunately, Church Farm Cottage has yet to be sold, having been on the market for over a year, but the Council has recently entered into a joint estate agency agreement, and it is hoped that this will result in the sale of the property during the next financial year, if not before.

The Museum has now closed to allow time for the furniture, equipment and artefacts to be audited and packed up ready for the move to the Samuel Wickens Centre. As a result, it is anticipated that the running costs of the property will decrease over the next few months, which might result in the Council being able to reduce its 2020/2021 Precept accordingly.

The main reason for the increase in the 2019/2020 Precept is to ensure that the Council can repay the £100,000 donation made towards the setting up of the Museum at Church Farm Cottage by Store Property Investments Limited, that formed a part of the 10 Year Lease Conditions for the Samuel Wickens Centre, for which only a peppercorn rent is payable.

Taking account of all of this information, I still believe that your Parish Council continues to provide excellent value for money for its residents and, at the same time, works in close partnership with the local community to ensure that Rustington maintains its reputation as a most vibrant and pleasant place to live.

Residents have an opportunity to find out much more about how the Council has spent its share of the Council Tax during the past year, and how it plans to spend its Precept during the next financial year at the Annual Assembly of the Parish Meeting which will be held on Thursday 11 April 2019 in the Village Memorial Hall at the Woodlands Centre commencing at 7.30 pm.

Councillor Don Rogers
Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee

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 quantity of bulbs to plant in the Schools' grounds.

In November the Chairman, Councillor Jamie Bennett, joined pupils at all three Schools to assist with the Bulb Planting and was extremely impressed by the enthusiasm and commitment demonstrated by the pupils.

Undertaking the planting of the bulbs in the Schools' Gardens were:-

Georgian Gardens CPS
Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 Pupils with Miss A Bowers and Mr L Pettitt

Rustington CPS
One of the School's Gardening Groups

Summerlea CPS
Summerlea Eco Team



Summerlea CPS



Rustington CPS



Georgian Gardens CPS

Rustington-In-Bloom



Well, another year is over and the Village has looked spectacular, especially during the Festive Period with the lovely Christmas lights, and even through these dark days of Winter it is still very attractively planted.

After a year's break from the South and South East in Bloom Competition, Rustington-In-Bloom is again entering the Competition this year. We will be entering the Village Centre with the usual route from 'Abbotswood Corner' in Station Road, and finishing at The Lamb Public House via Ash Lane, Broadmark Lane and The Street.

At the Christmas Shopping Event in December, our Tombola and 100 Board raised £717. The Committee would like to thank all of the local community, businesses and visitors who attended and supported this event and made it such a success. The proceeds from this Event will be used towards this year's Campaign.

As usual, the Committee is holding some Fundraising Events, the first being a Coffee and Cake Sale, with Public Defibrillator Training sessions (10.00 am and 11.00 am), at the Samuel Wickens Centre on Saturday 16 March, from 10.00 am - 12.00 noon. There are several Defibrillators in the Village, so come and learn how to use them... they help save lives.

On Tuesday 9 April, there will be a 'Gardeners Question Time' with Michael Harwood from 7.00 pm to 9.30 pm in the John de Bohun Room at The Woodlands Centre. Tickets are £5 and will include a glass of wine and nibbles.

Steve Perry
Chairman - In-Bloom Committee

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.

Tree Wardens Wanted!



The Parish Council is seeking volunteers who would be interested in being appointed as Tree Wardens for the Parish of Rustington. Tree Wardens operate within the national network of locally-based volunteer tree enthusiasts and are co-ordinated by the Parish Council, working within the Tree Warden Scheme in West Sussex. No particular qualifications are required other than an interest in caring for the local environment coupled with the enthusiasm to learn more.

For further details, please contact the Parish Council's Offices.



Rustington-In-Bloom needs more volunteers to join their merry throng. No experience needed just a friendly 'can-do' attitude to help

raise funds to enhance our Village.

Are you available to help at various Events, bake cakes, serve teas, or perhaps you have skills to produce posters and newsletters or encourage more local people to join us? We especially need individuals who don't mind assisting the Committee at its fundraising Events. Call and leave us a message on 786420. We will be really pleased to welcome you.

Rustington Museum at the Samuel Wickens Centre



The story of Rustington Village is fascinating. Can you help us bring these stories to life?

Rustington Museum's new home in the specially created Exhibition Gallery at the Samuel Wickens Centre is planned to open in October 2019. Supported through the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), the Project will enable the Rustington Museum to retell the story of the history of the Village.

The Museum is currently closed as we need to pack up the objects we've had on display and transfer them to the new Gallery. At the new Museum we are busy choosing objects and writing text to retell the story of Rustington. We are working closely with Exhibition Designer,

David O'Connor, to make sure the display is fresh and engaging for our visitors.

The Project provides the opportunity to renew, redisplay and reimagine the story of Rustington focusing on stories of local people, highlighting key buildings and places in the Village. Our new displays will encourage opportunities for interaction and engagement by incorporating personal stories from local people, films showcasing local stories and low-tech inter-actives. Alongside the displays we will have a varied programme of community activities for everyone.

We need your help with this, and we are looking for volunteers to work alongside us at this exciting time.

You can help in a number of different ways:-

- Be an **Oral History Volunteer** - you will record interviews, write summaries, and select and edit audio
- Take part in the development of the exhibitions and resources as a **Research Volunteer**
- Interested in technology? We need people to become **Digital Volunteers** - assisting with the creation of an inter-active resource exploring the history of the streets of Rustington
- Do you have an interest in encouraging people to learn about Village life? Then you could be a **Learning Volunteer**, helping to deliver our community programme.

As a volunteer you will receive training, learn different skills, meet new people and be part of an exciting Project that will record and present the story of Rustington through new Exhibitions and interpretation for visitors.

We will also need volunteers to act as Stewards, help out with the care of the Collections and many other roles!

If you are interested in finding out more about volunteering opportunities at the Museum, please get in touch with our Museum Manager, Claire Lucas - clairelucas@rustingtonpc.org or telephone 788478.

Number 12 Bus Service

Once again, the Council would like to remind parishioners of the existence of the No. 12 Bus Service, which operates from Monday to Friday. The route serves Rustington Sainsbury's Superstore and Rustington Village Centre, the Manor Retail Park (Next, ALDI, Tapi Carpets and BMW) and Worthing Road, Rustington. It then continues to Littlehampton, serving the Swimming and Leisure Centre, Littlehampton Railway Station and the Tesco Superstore at Broadpiece, Littlehampton.



With effect from 15 April 2019, the timetable for the service will change, to ensure a split in timings between the No. 9 and No. 12 Services, as follows:-

Mondays - Fridays

Littlehampton Tesco	1010	1110	1210	1310	1410
Littlehampton Station	1013	1113	1213	1313	1413
Anchor Springs	1015	1115	1215	1315	1415
Fitzalan Road Library	1017	1117	1217	1317	1417
Littlehampton Swimming Centre	1020	1120	1220	1320	1420
Rustington The Street	1024	1124	1224	1324	1424
Rustington Sainsburys	1029	1129	1229	1329	1429
Rustington Sainsburys	1032	1132	1232	1332	1432
Manor Retail Park	1035	1135	1235	1335	1435
Worthing Road, Hollyhock Way	1039	1139	1239	1339	1439
Rustington The Street	1045	1145	1245	1345	1445
Littlehampton Swimming Centre	1049	1149	1249	1349	1449
Fitzalan Road Library	1052	1152	1252	1352	1452
Anchor Springs	1054	1154	1254	1354	1454
Littlehampton Station	1056	1156	1256	1356	1456
Littlehampton Tesco	1059	1159	1259	1359	1459

Parishioners' Awards

The Council is, once again, inviting all members of the community to submit nominations for the 2019 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 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.

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

Nomination Forms are available from the Council's Offices and the Samuel Wickens Centre. The **closing date for the receipt of nominations is Tuesday 23 April** and the winners will be announced in June.

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. It is held in the Village Memorial Hall, The Woodlands Centre, Woodlands Avenue.

This year's Meeting will be held on **Thursday 11 April** commencing at **7.30 pm** and complimentary light refreshments will be available at the conclusion of the Meeting.

Council and Committee Meeting Dates

Mon	11	Mar	Planning
Mon	25	Mar	Finance & General Purposes
Mon	25	Mar	COUNCIL
Mon	1	Apr	Planning
Mon	8	Apr	Allotments
Thur	11	Apr	ANNUAL ASSEMBLY
Mon	15	Apr	Planning
Mon	29	Apr	Finance & General Purposes
Mon	29	Apr	COUNCIL
Mon	29	Apr	Planning
Mon	13	May	Finance & General Purposes
Mon	13	May	ANNUAL COUNCIL
Mon	13	May	Planning
Thur	30	May	Leisure & Amenities
Mon	3	Jun	Planning
Mon	17	Jun	Planning
Mon	24	Jun	Finance & General Purposes
Mon	24	Jun	COUNCIL



Rustington Street Fayre



The 5th Annual Rustington Charity Street Fayre will take place on Saturday 8 June, with stalls along the whole length of Churchill Parade, from Woodlands Avenue through to Establo Lounge in Ash Lane.

The Event is being organised by The Littlehampton District LIONs Club, in conjunction with Rustington Parish Council and the Rustington Chamber of Trade and Commerce.

The Club will be organising some entertainment and would like to hear from anyone who would like a 'slot on our stage'. Entertainment for the younger ones will include a Children's Fun Fair and a Magician. Additionally, there will be an Arts & Crafts Event in the Rustington Methodist Church Hall, with a display of locally crafted goods for sale.

This Event is the ideal opportunity for local Charities and 'Not for Profit' Organisations and Groups to raise money for, or promote, their Group. So, if you would like to book a 'pitch' or require any other information please email rustingtonstreetfayre@gmail.com or telephone 918024.

Councillors' Surgeries

The Council holds its Quarterly Surgeries, to enable members of the local community to have the opportunity to meet with a Councillor to air their views in respect of the way in which the Parish is managed, maintained and enhanced, as well as any other issues of interest or concern.

The next two Surgeries will be held as follows:-
 Samuel Wickens Centre (Car Park rear of Waitrose) from 6.00 pm to 7.30 pm on **Tuesday 5 March** and at Rustington Library from 10.30 am to 12.30 pm on **Saturday 20 April**

Rustington Youth Club



The Youth Club is open 7.00 pm-9.00 pm every Thursday, including half-terms and summer holidays, for young people aged between 11-17 years to find help and advice, and a safe place to be alongside access to games consoles, pool/table tennis, a chill-out space, and arts/crafts. Each week there is a tuck shop and an ongoing programme including cooking, movie nights, inflatables, theme nights, and sports. The cost of entry is FREE for the first time, then 50p per session. You can also bring a friend to the Club that hasn't been before, and you will BOTH get in for FREE that week.

Each session is staffed by teams of experienced youth workers and volunteers who through the various activities, encourage young people to develop positive behaviours and life skills, raise self-confidence, remain in education and set goals and work hard to achieve them.

The Club is a partnership between Rustington Parish Council and Arun Youth Projects. The Youth Centre, where the Club takes place, is owned by the Parish Council and sited at the Woodlands Recreation Ground. Arun Youth Projects took over running youth activities in 2012 and has built a consistent relationship with many young people that have attended the Youth Club. They also plan and deliver programmes related to areas such as health, fitness, smoking, drugs, relationships and bullying.

More details on the Youth Club and Arun Youth Projects activities can be found on Facebook, Instagram: @arunyouthprojects, email: arunyouthprojects@arunchurch.com or from Arun Church on 782744.

Ben Young - Youth Worker