

Meetings

Parish Council Meetings are held on the fourth Monday of each month (apart from August and December) commencing at 7.15 pm in the Roger Montgomeri Room, The Woodlands Centre, Woodlands Avenue. All members of the public are welcome to attend these Meetings and time is set aside before each Council and Committee Meeting commences (7.00 pm), to give members of the public an opportunity to pose questions. A copy of the Agenda for each Meeting is displayed at the Public Library and on Notice Boards around the Village.

Council and Committee Meeting Dates March - May 2007

Mon 5 Mar	Planning	Thurs 3 May	COUNCIL ELECTIONS
Thurs 8 Mar	Leisure & Recreation	Mon 14 May	ANNUAL COUNCIL
Mon 26 Mar	Finance & General Purposes	Mon 14 May	Planning
Mon 26 Mar	COUNCIL	Mon 21 May	Finance & General Purposes
Mon 26 Mar	Planning	Mon 21 May	Planning
Thurs 12 Apr	ANNUAL ASSEMBLY		
Mon 16 Apr	Planning		
Mon 23 Apr	Finance & General Purposes		
Mon 23 Apr	COUNCIL		
Mon 23 Apr	Planning		



Blood Donor Sessions

Regular Donor Sessions are held at the Village Memorial Hall and posters are displayed on Notice Boards throughout the Village.

Please come along and support this worthwhile cause.

Parishioners' Awards

As in previous years, the Council is, once again, inviting all members of the community to submit nominations for the 2007 Parishioners' Awards.

Every year the Council makes two awards, one to an individual, and one to a local Group, Club or Organisation. The awards are made in recognition of outstanding Public Service to the community, and all parishioners and Parish based Groups, Clubs and Organisations are eligible to receive these awards. The successful recipients receive a cash prize, together with a Commemorative Scroll, Dish or Trophy.

The closing date for this year's nominations is 23 April. Details of the winners will be announced in June with the formal presentations taking place at a Reception on 16 September.

Your Councillors

Chairman	Cllr G M Tyler (East Ward) Seaward, The Close, Sea Avenue, Rustington BN16 2DW	Tel: 01903 856950
Vice-Chairman	Cllr M A Warrington (West Ward) 23 Tennyson Avenue, Rustington BN16 2PB	Tel: 01903 785436
East Ward		
Cllr J W Collins	85 Fircroft Crescent, Rustington BN16 3HT	Tel: 01903 771976
Cllr P A Harris	Mill House, Mill Lane, Rustington BN16 3EG	Tel: 01903 770330
Cllr R C Stewart	Canberra, 18 Botany Close, Rustington BN16 2BJ	Tel: 01903 771420
West Ward		
Cllr A K Akbar	78 Westlands, Rustington BN16 3NW	Tel: 01903 732929
Cllr Mrs C P Broomfield	15 Harsfold Road, Rustington BN16 2QE	Tel: 01903 786262
Cllr J E Ceiriog-Hughes	15 Manor Road, Rustington BN16 3QT	Tel: 01903 770464
Cllr T G Field	105 Worthing Road, Rustington BN16 3LX	Tel: 01903 774026
Cllr R S Grevett	"The Birches" 58 Woodlands Avenue, Rustington BN16 3EY	Tel: 01903 776780
Cllr A S D Lauretani	"The Gilly", 4 Barwick Close, Rustington BN16 3TT	Tel: 01903 771441
Cllr Mrs S Y Lines	Quince Cottage, 4 The Bramblings, Rustington BN16 2DA	Tel: 07917 724785
Cllr D F Murphy	2 Arun Close, Rustington BN16 3HD	Tel: 01903 787149
West Preston Ward		
Cllr D E Rogers	6 Preston Avenue, Rustington BN16 2DB	Tel: 01903 772691
Clerk of the Council		
Mrs Carole Ward	Council Offices, 34 Woodlands Avenue, Rustington BN16 3HB	Tel: 01903 786420

There are currently two vacancies in the East Ward

Annual 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 12 April commencing at 7.30 pm. Rowena Tyler, Community Leadership Support Officer, Action in Rural Sussex, has been invited to give a brief Presentation on the progress of the Community Action Plan, which will be followed by a "Question and Answer" Session.

Complimentary light refreshments will be available at the conclusion of the Meeting.

Rustington

Parish Council Newsletter

Chairman's Message

This Newsletter is the last one that sees me as Chairman of the Council. The three year period during which I have held this position seems to have passed in a "blink of an eye".

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Parish Team, and all of my fellow Councillors, both past and present, for all of their support during my term of office. This has seen some turbulent times, as well as some rewarding ones. But, on the whole for me, it has been an extremely rewarding experience, and one that I feel has made me a better Councillor. It is my hope to be able to continue to represent Rustington as a Parish Councillor for many years to come.

There have been many highlights for me during the past three years, including seeing your Parish Council achieve Quality Status. This was due, in the main, to our Clerk's diligence in preparing and presenting the Council's portfolio to the Accreditation Board. Becoming a Quality Council has seen the Council's reputation within the District, greatly enhanced. And, hand in hand with this has been the change in the overall ethos of the Council, which has most certainly become more progressive. I think that the results of this achievement are evident throughout the Village.

Another highlight was the Campaign mounted against the proposed siting of a Travellers' Transit Site, just beyond the north-west boundary of the Village, one which saw the entire community pull together to achieve the desired outcome.

The purchase of Church Farm Cottage to accommodate a Museum that will serve the community for many years to come, has also been a major highlight for me. Whilst progress on this project may seem to be slow, there is a great deal of work going on in the background, and the results of this will soon be apparent for all

to see. Also, I must not forget the establishment of the Village Information Centre in the Churchill Car Park, which celebrated its first birthday on 13 February.

There have been achievements galore, far too many to list, but once again, I would like to say a big thank you to everyone, especially **you**, the residents of Rustington, for giving the Council and myself your help and support. I leave office in May, knowing that whoever takes over inherits a really 'well-oiled' machine.

Long may Rustington go from strength to strength. See you at the Polling Stations in May!



Community Action Plan Process moves forward...

Since the Community Action Plan initiative was launched last November, members of the local community have been working hard gathering facts and information about the Village and its parishioners, with most interesting results. The topics covered fall broadly into the following categories:- Economy, Environment, Social & Community and Transport & Accessibility. A Focus Group has been set up to deal with each topic, and the Chairmen of each Group report back to the main Steering Group regularly.

The next stage is to ascertain what the people who live, work and use Rustington's facilities think about the Village and, for this to produce successful and realistic results, the Steering Group needs as many people as possible to take part.

There are lots of ways to get involved - anyone with a particular interest in one of the topics can join a Focus Group. If you don't have time to make a regular commitment, but you would like the chance to air your views, please make sure that you complete the questionnaires which will soon be available at various locations in Rustington, including the Village Information Centre and the Parish Council's Offices.

The Steering Group is keen to hear from individuals as well as Societies, Groups and Organisations. So, to register your interest, or to find out more, please contact the Village Information Centre on (01903) 788479.

This is your chance to have your say about Rustington, and to help to plan for the future, so please don't miss out!



34 Woodlands Avenue, Rustington, West Sussex BN16 3HB
Offices Open Monday-Friday 10.00 am to 12 noon, 2.30 pm to 4.30 pm
Telephone: 01903 786420 Fax: 01903 788736 Email: enquiry@rustingtonpc.org
Website: www.rustingtonpc.org



News from the Village Information Centre



The Village Information Centre in the Churchill Car Park celebrated its first birthday on 13 February. On the day, visitors were welcomed by the Centre's personnel, and invited to enjoy a cup of coffee and a piece of cake to commemorate the occasion.

The Co-ordinator and some of the volunteers involved in progressing the Community Action Plan for the Village, were on hand for most of the day providing parishioners with information in respect of the work currently being undertaken, and also trying to persuade more members of the local community to join in and assist with the process for this extremely important project.

During its first year, the Centre has proved to be a great success and is, most certainly, a valuable and extremely popular community facility. Those visiting are able to access a comprehensive variety of information ranging from free car parking discs and bus timetables, to the services of an Adviser from the Citizens' Advice Bureau* and, on a monthly basis, the local Police Community Support Officers**.

The recently revised opening hours are:
10.00 am - 4.00 pm Monday to Friday
10.00 am - 1.00 pm Saturdays.

* The Littlehampton Citizens' Advice Bureau operates an outreach facility at the Information Centre on Tuesday mornings. Appointments must be made in advance by calling (01903) 724010

**The Police Community Support Officers hold a "Drop-In" Surgery once a month on a Saturday morning from 11.00 am to 1.00 pm. The dates for the next two Surgeries are 24 March and 5 May.

Rustington-In-Bloom

The In-Bloom Committee has been working really hard to ensure that Rustington takes part in South and South East in Bloom this year and, at the time of going to press, everyone involved is optimistic that the Village will, indeed, be entering the Competition.

The judges' comments from the 2005 Competition, when the Village received not only a Silver Award, but the Overall Category Winner's Award as well, have been analysed with a fine toothcomb! Whilst the judging route has yet to be produced, it is anticipated that it will be similar to the 2005 route, to ensure that as much of the Village as possible can be viewed on the day.

Several fund-raising events are planned including a Plant Sale on Saturday 26 May in the Methodist Church Gardens, a Table Top Sale at The Woodlands Centre on Saturday 14 April and a Grand Tombola Stall at the Rustington Carnival at the Woodlands Recreation Ground on Saturday 23 June.

The Primary Schools' Design-A-Flower Bed Competition is underway, with the closing date set at 31 March. The winning design will represent the basis of the third flower bed to be constructed on the Southern Water Pumping Station land in Broadmark Lane.



Other proposed projects include the re-landscaping of a major section of the permanent planting in Ash Lane.

All judging for the Competition will take place between 2 and 13 July.

Spring Bulb Planting

Every year the Parish Council purchases a quantity of Spring bulbs, as part of its continuing planting scheme at various locations, and this year is no exception. Daffodils and crocuses will again blossom throughout the Village.

Towards the end of 2006, all three Primary Schools in Rustington each received a quantity of bulbs from the Council to plant in their grounds. Focus DIY also donated a large quantity of bulbs, which were divided between the Parish Council, the three Schools, and other Groups and Organisations.

If you have any suggestions for locations within the Village, which would benefit from being planted with Spring bulbs, please contact the Village Information Centre or the Council Offices, and arrangements will be made to include them in the next phase of this scheme.

Rustington Museum at Church Farm Cottage



Unfortunately, little progress has been made since the last Report in the November Newsletter. However, the estimated costs of the entire Project have now been received from the Quantity Surveyors and the external Funding Consultant is busily preparing bids for submission to a number of funding sources. At the present time, the total cost looks to be in the region of £400,000, which includes the complete transformation of the Cottage to not only accommodate the Museum, but to bring it back to its former glory; together with the construction and fitting out of both the proposed café building and craft workshop in the garden at the rear of the Cottage.

Whilst everyone involved remains optimistic that the Project will go ahead, it now seems doubtful that Heritage Lottery funding will be forthcoming, as it would seem that the 2012 Olympics are to receive priority during the next few years.

An Open Day has now been arranged for Saturday 31 March (Flyer enclosed), when parishioners and visitors to the Village will be invited to visit the Cottage, have a look at the approved plans, and find out all about the Project, including how it is to be funded and how the Parish Council and the Heritage Association envisage the Museum's future as a major community facility.



What's On...

Rustington Festival 2007

Littlehampton Lions' plans for this year's Rustington Festival are progressing well. The event will run from 16 - 30 June with Carnival Day on Saturday 23 June.

Invitations to take part in the Procession have already been sent out to many Clubs and Organisations. The Lions are confident that the Arundel Scouts Band, TS Implacable and the Worthing Samba Band will be participating, together with Pom-Pom Troupes from Littlehampton and Bognor.

The theme this year will be Mardi Gras. So why not build a float or form a walking unit and enter all three local Carnivals i.e. Rustington, East Preston and Littlehampton.

The Grand Fete will be held on the North Field at the Woodlands Recreation Ground and will include many local organisations running stalls to raise money for their own causes. There will also be a small Fun Fair, the Lions' Refreshments Marquee and an Ice Cream Van to ensure that everyone's needs are catered for on the day.

The arena events will include Marching Bands and Pom-Pom Troupe Displays, together with a fun Dog Show and The Sussex Army Cadet Kit Kar Display Teams.

This year's main beneficiary group will be HOMElink, the Littlehampton based charity raising money to help house homeless people.

A FREE full colour Programme detailing all of the events will be produced and distributed throughout the Village. If you would like to publicise an event being held in Rustington during the Festival fortnight, advertise in the programme, or require further information please contact Austen Beard on (01903) 782366 or Don Rogers on (01903) 772691.

Annual Sussex Day

The Council recently decided to recognise 16 June as the Annual Sussex Day and will be flying the County Flag (Martlet) in the Village.

Last year, the West Sussex County Council, Worthing Borough Council, Arun District Council and many Towns and Villages across Sussex marked the first ever Sussex Day by raising the Union Flag at various locations.

For further information in this regard, please contact the Council Offices.

Rustington Youth Centre

Are you aged between 12 and 17 and complain that there's nothing to do and nowhere to go - not any more! Rustington Youth Centre is a friendly place where young people can socialise and meet friends. It is situated adjacent to The Woodlands Centre on the Recreation Ground opposite the Basketball Court/Kickabout Area.

Parents and young people are invited to a free "Open Evening" at the Centre on Monday 5 March from 7.00 pm to 9.00 pm, when they can meet the Youth Workers and see what's on offer!

For only £1 young people benefit from pool, table tennis, craft, PlayStation, Internet computers, Sky TV and a tuck shop. Trained Youth Workers from the West Sussex Youth Service operate the Senior Youth Club two nights per week.

Opportunities are available for young people to access the Outset Volunteering Programme, Youth Forum and Youth Cabinet groups. Additionally, organised trips are arranged to places such as Laser Quest and Ice Skating at the Guildford Spectrum Centre.

We have funding for a Summer Programme packed full of fun activities that will be available at a reduced cost to young people who register with the Centre now.

The Youth Centre is open five evenings per week as follows:-

Monday	7.00 pm - 9.00 pm	Senior Youth Club - Years 8 & 9
Tuesday	5.30 pm - 7.30 pm	Youth Club for Young People with Learning Difficulties
Wednesday	7.00 pm - 9.00 pm	Amateur Wrestling Club - Under 12s
Thursday	7.00 pm - 9.00 pm	Senior Youth Club - Years 10 to Age 17
Friday	5.15 pm - 7.15 pm	Under 8s Club
	7.15 pm - 9.15 pm	Under 13s Club

For more information regarding the Senior Clubs, please contact Cherry Harris on (01903) 772689.

If you would like more information in respect of facilities available for hire, or any of the Clubs using the Centre, please contact the Council Offices.

Rustington and District Twinning Association

This year, the Association is celebrating the fifth anniversary of the establishment of a twinning link with the community of Künzell in Germany. The first of two Charters was signed in Rustington in November 2002, with the second Charter signed in Künzell four months later.

The two communities take it in turn to send visiting groups, and 2007 will see a group of members travelling to Künzell. The Association is pleased to announce that this group will be one of the largest so far, a mark of the interest in celebrating the fifth anniversary with our friends in Germany.



The community of Rustington is also twinned with Los Altos in California. This was set up by the Parish Council in 2000 and was the first of the two twinings. It has been a quiet year for this twinning, with contacts restricted to individual members of the Association.

The Association always welcomes new members and anyone interested in obtaining further information should contact Julie Armstrong, the Association's Membership Secretary, on (01903) 787097.

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 (Residential)*
- Class 4 - Front Gardens of Any Size (Commercial)*
- Class 5 - Schools
- Class 6 - Community Gardens

*Entries must be clearly visible from the road

Parishioners and local businesses are encouraged to nominate either themselves, their neighbours, or any members of the local community for the Competition.

A nomination form will be included with the Annual Newsletter which will be distributed in May, or you can contact the Council Offices for further details.