

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 – June 2008

Thur 6 Mar	Leisure & Recreation	Mon 12 May	Planning
Mon 10 Mar	Planning	Mon 19 May	Finance & General Purposes
Mon 17 Mar	Finance & General Purposes	Mon 19 May	ANNUAL COUNCIL
Mon 17 Mar	COUNCIL	Mon 19 May	Planning
Mon 17 Mar	Planning		
		Mon 2 Jun	Planning
Thur 3 Apr	ANNUAL ASSEMBLY	Thur 5 Jun	Lighting & Amenities
Mon 7 Apr	Planning	Mon 16 Jun	Planning
Mon 21 Apr	Planning	Mon 23 Jun	Finance & General Purposes
Mon 28 Apr	Finance & General Purposes	Mon 23 Jun	COUNCIL
Mon 28 Apr	COUNCIL	Mon 23 Jun	Planning
Mon 28 Apr	Planning		

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 3 April commencing at 7.30 pm. Carol Groves, Resource Manager and Denny Hayward, Service Manager of the Citizens' Advice Bureau, have been invited to give a brief Presentation on the work of the Bureau, which will be followed by a "Question and Answer" Session.

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

Blood Donor Sessions

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

Please come along and support this worthwhile cause.

Citizens' Advice Bureau

The Council provides a facility at the Village Information Centre for the Citizens' Advice Bureau to visit on a Tuesday morning. Appointments must be made in advance through the Littlehampton Citizens' Advice Bureau office (Tel: 01903 724010).

Your Councillors

Chairman	M A Warrington (West Ward) 23 Tennyson Avenue, Rustington BN16 2PB	Tel: 01903 785436	
Vice-Chairman	Mrs S Y Lines (East Ward) Quince Cottage, 4 The Bramblings, Rustington BN16 2DA	Tel: 07917 724785	
East Ward	J W Collins P A Harris S Perry R C Steward G M Tyler	85 Fircroft Crescent, Rustington BN16 3HT Mill House, 18 Mill Lane, Rustington BN16 3EG 7 Worthing Road, Rustington BN16 3JU Canberra, 18 Botany Close, Rustington BN16 2BJ Seaward, The Close, Sea Avenue, Rustington BN16 2DW	Tel: 01903 771976 Tel: 07747 775570 Tel: 07980 577881 Tel: 01903 771420 Tel: 01903 856950
North Ward	T G Field	105 Worthing Road, Rustington BN16 3LX Tel: 01903 770209	
West Ward	A K Akbar Mrs C P Broomfield J E Ceiriog-Hughes R S Grevett Mrs F E Harrison D F Murphy	78 Westlands, Rustington BN16 3NW 15 Harsfold Road, Rustington BN16 2QE 15 Manor Road, Rustington BN16 3QT Mill House, 3 Overstrand Avenue, Rustington BN16 2JS 5 Highfield Gardens, Rustington BN16 2PZ 2 Arun Close, Rustington BN16 3HD	Tel: 01903 732929 Tel: 01903 786262 Tel: 01903 770464 Tel: 01903 776780 Tel: 01903 776210 Tel: 01903 787149
West Preston Ward	D E Rogers	6 Preston Avenue, Rustington BN16 2DB Tel: 01903 772691	
Clerk of the Council	Mrs Carole Ward	34 Woodlands Avenue, Rustington BN16 3HB Tel: 01903 786420	

Village Information Centre

The Village Information Centre, located adjacent to the Public Toilets in the Churchill Car Park, is open Monday to Saturday from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm.

There is a wide range of information available for everyone. So, please feel free to pop in to the Centre where Angie, Emma and Jules will be happy to assist you in any way that they can.

Councillors' Surgeries

The Council is continuing to hold its Bi-monthly 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 Surgeries are held at the Village Information Centre in the Churchill Car Park from 10.30 am to 12.30 pm, and the last Surgery for the remainder of the current Council Term is:- **5 April**

Rustington Parish Council Newsletter

Chairman's Message



It hardly seems possible that it is almost a year since I assumed the role of Chairman of the Parish Council. How time flies when you are enjoying yourself - and it certainly has - and it continues to be, a most enjoyable time here in Rustington.

It never ceases to amaze me how many people join together and help to make so many things a success. As I write this Report, I think of the Clerk of the Council and all of her staff, who work so hard behind the scenes ensuring that everything operates like clockwork. I thank you all for your hard work. I also thank all of my fellow Councillors, who regularly attend so many Meetings, progressing so many good ideas and working with many individuals and groups in the Community on different projects.

Highlights of the twelve months so far have been:-

Museum Project - Many of you will have noticed the changing face of the Cottage with its newly thatched roof. At a recent Site Meeting, we were advised that the contractors were on schedule to finish the Cottage by May. Phases Two and Three have yet to be commenced, and various funding arrangements have still to be confirmed.

Britain in Bloom - Following last year's successes in the South and South East in Bloom Competition, the Village is also participating in the Britain in Bloom Competition this year. Many new enhancements to the Village floral displays will take place over the next few weeks and months, and I am assured these will be 'mind blowing!' I would ask all members of the community, wherever possible, to do their "bit" to make the Village look even better - Even if this only means putting your litter, including cigarette butts, in the litter bins. Every little helps!

Community Action Plan Project - This is progressing well and the official Public Launch took place on 16 February at The Woodlands Centre.

70th Anniversary of the Village Memorial Hall - A Commemorative Event is to be held in the Hall on 12 October, when invited guests will be able to reminisce events of the past 70 years in connection with the Hall. Arrangements for this event are progressing well.

And finally!! Some more good news - At a Committee Meeting of the Primary Care Trust that I attended on the 31 January, a recommendation was passed for a new Community Hospital to be built in Littlehampton on the site of the old Hospital. This is excellent news and will most certainly benefit all of the local community. This proves 'people power' does work sometimes!! The future of Zachary Merton Hospital is still undecided but will appear on a Trust Committee agenda shortly.

Once again thanks to all of you who continue to help and support the local community in ensuring that Rustington is such a great place in which to live.

Rustington Museum at Church Farm Cottage

The renovation works at the Cottage are progressing well, with the thatching of the roof and the installation of the leaded glass in the window frames almost complete.



The Rustington Heritage Association is busily preparing for the Museum's relocation to the Cottage, and plans are progressing for purpose made display units to be installed as soon as the renovation works are finished.

The Council's application for the SITA Environmental Trust's Challenge Fund Grant was, unfortunately, unsuccessful. So, a decision will now need to be made as to how the second and third phase, namely the construction of a Craft Workshop and Café, can be achieved.

The Raise the Roof Scheme continues to be supported with some £5,500 being donated to date. So, if you haven't already contributed and would like to do so, please contact the Parish Council's Offices or the Village Information Centre.

Parish News....

Rustington Festival

The Rustington Festival will run from 7 to 15 June - slightly earlier this year due to booking difficulties. The Littlehampton and District Lions Club are once again organising the Festival. Carnival Day will be Saturday 7 June, with the usual procession through the Village, followed by the Grand Fete on the Woodlands Recreation Ground.

The main attraction, namely The Solent Eagles Junior Motor Cycle Display Team is already booked. Even though they are only 6 to 16 years old, they produce some very exciting and daring displays which will excite the children and enthral the adults. The Silk Road Belly Dancers will lead the procession with their exotic dancing. Also included will be The Arundel and Littlehampton Scout Band, TS Implacable NTC Band, local pom-pom troupes and various floats, not forgetting last year's fantastic Littlehampton Community School Steel Band with their own very special sound.

On Sunday 8 June, a special evening Songs of Praise Service will be held at St Peter & St Paul's Parish Church. During the day the Rustington Short Mat Bowls Club's Annual Tournament will be held in the Village Memorial Hall, followed by the Rustington District Twinning



Association Quiz Night. Many other Groups and Organisations will also be holding events during the week and these will be publicised later.

The Rustington Princesses will, of course, take part in the procession and any young ladies in Year 6 at one of the three Primary Schools and who live in Rustington, are eligible to enter.

Sunday 15 June will be the final day of the Festival Week and, for the first time, there will be a genuine French Market in the service road between Barclays Bank and Johnson's Dry Cleaners. There will be two rows of market stalls and a great atmosphere. It is hoped that the Market will be the first of many, and we are indebted to the Rustington Chamber of Trade and Commerce for their co-operation.

For further information please contact:

Carnival Procession - Austen Beard
Tel: (01903) 782366
Fete Stalls - Don Rogers
Tel: (01903) 772691
Programme Advertising - Robin May
Tel: (01243) 584517

Community Action Plan

The Community Action Plan Group welcomed parishioners to the Public Launch of the Plan at The Woodlands Centre on Saturday 16 February. Parish Council Chairman, Mike Warrington, welcomed everyone and thanked all of the volunteers, who had worked so hard to produce the Action Plan document.

Rowena Tyler, appointed by the Parish Council to co-ordinate the Community Action Plan process, explained how the Group had been formed and the work that had been involved. She stressed that the Plan was a result of factual data being collected, together with consultation with the wider community of Rustington, and the results were available in document form for all to see. The background statistical data would be available at the Library, the Village Information Centre and the Parish Council's Offices. This included the analysis of the questionnaire, circulated to all households in 2007.



Austen Beard, representing the Community Action Plan Group, explained the steps that had been taken to get to this point, and outlined some of the actions to be implemented. The next stage would be to form a Community Partnership with a Constitution and elected Officers. Those present were then invited to stay for coffee and to talk informally to the volunteers who had displays of the work that had been carried out to date.

The Group always welcomes new volunteers. So, if anyone has a particular interest in any part of the Community Action Plan, or wants to help generally, please contact the Council's Offices in the first instance.

Parishioners' Awards

The Council is again inviting nominations for the 2008 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.

The closing date for the receipt of nominations is 28 April and detailed nominations should be forwarded to the Council's Offices.

What's on...

Rustington Youth Centre

There is currently a vacancy on the Management Committee of the Youth Centre and a new member is being sought from the local community.

If you are interested in helping to develop and manage the Youth Centre, and would like to become involved on a voluntary basis, please apply in writing, with details of your personal history and any other relevant information to:- **The Secretary, Rustington Youth Centre Management Committee, 34 Woodlands Avenue, Rustington BN16 3HB**

The Youth Centre is open as follows:-

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

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's Offices.

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' Competition
 - Class 6 - Community Garden
- (*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.

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

Rustington in Bloom

The In-Bloom Campaign is really "stepping-up a gear" this year, with preparations progressing for the Village's entry in both the Britain in Bloom and the South and South East in Bloom Competitions.

Confirmed projects this year include a major permanent landscaping project in Ash Lane to replace the majority of the overgrown and diseased shrubs and trees. The clearance works have been undertaken by members of the Youth Offending Team and The Oak Community Project, which has obviously reduced costs significantly. The Oak Community Project will also be assisting Ferring Nurseries with the new planting in this area, and the Committee is extremely grateful for all of this help.

The roundabout in Mill Lane will also soon be benefiting from some floral enhancement, which will most certainly improve the aesthetic appearance when entering the Village at this point.

The Britain in Bloom judges will be carrying out unannounced judging across the Country from 12 April to 4 May. So, please be vigilant and play your part in ensuring the success for the Village, not just in the South of England, but across the entire Country.



Once again several fund-raising events are planned, including:-

Friday 18 April - A "Catwalk Connections" Fashion Show at The Woodlands Centre (Tickets can be purchased from the Council's Offices - £5.00 to include a glass of wine and nibbles!!)

Saturday 24 May - Plant Stall in the Methodist Church Gardens

Saturday 7 June - Grand Tombola Stall at the Rustington Carnival, Woodlands Recreation Ground

Please come along if you are able to and support this most important and worthwhile community campaign.

Village Memorial Hall 70th Anniversary - 12 October 2008

The Parish Council intends to mark this occasion with a special event on Sunday 12 October, to which local parishioners who have a special memory or experience involving the Village Hall will be invited. So, if you met your partner at the Saturday night dances that used to be a regular feature at the Hall, we would like to hear from you.

The Hall was also the Headquarters of the local Home Guard during the Second World War and the Parish Council is particularly interested in hearing from anyone who was involved during those critical years, or their relatives.

Many different Groups and Organisations have used the Village Hall during the 70 years since it was opened and, again, the Parish Council is anxious to hear from local people who have been involved, particularly in the early days.



If you are interested in attending the event on 12 October and "Have a Tale to Tell", please contact the Clerk of the Council at the Council's Offices.

Police 'Drop-In' Surgeries

The Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) will be holding their next Surgery at Sainsburys (Rustington Retail Park) on Saturday 22 March from 3.30 pm to 4.30 pm.

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 with miniature daffodils blossoming throughout the Village in the Spring.

Towards the end of 2007, all three primary Schools in Rustington each received a quantity of bulbs from the Council to plant in their grounds.

If you have any suggestions for locations within the Village, which would benefit from being planted with spring bulbs, please let a member of personnel at the Village Information Centre or the Council's



Offices know, and arrangements will be made to include it in the next phase of this scheme.