

**THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WILL BE HELD AT
PEACEHAVEN TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES
COMMUNITY HOUSE, MERIDIAN CENTRE, PEACEHAVEN
ON TUESDAY 17TH APRIL 2018 AT 6PM
YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND**

Welcome delivered by the Town Mayor, Councillor Brian Gosling
Report of the Council presented to residents

Agenda Items

- To approve and Sign the Minutes of the meeting held on 9th May 2017
- A presentation by Lewes District Council Neighbourhood Plan First team
- Introduction of the Youth Mayor
- Mayors Appeal Update
- Residents Questions

SIGNED: CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL

Residents will be invited for drinks and light refreshments and an opportunity to meet with elected members after the meeting in the Foyer at Community House

Charities and Community Groups who have been supported by Peacehaven Council this year will be presenting their services and will be available for residents to meet during the evening

Questions from residents must be received in writing prior to midday on Friday 13th April 2018

Send to: The Town Manager, Council Offices, Community House, Meridian Centre, Greenwich Way, Peacehaven BN10 8BB, or by email to townmanager@peacehaventowncouncil.gov.uk

We will endeavour to answer all questions verbally at the meeting



Peacehaven Town Council

Annual Report 2017/18



Community House, Meridian Centre, Greenwich Way

Peacehaven, East Sussex, BN10 8BB

Tel: 01273 585493

Email: Info@peacehaventowncouncil.gov.uk

Website: www.peacehaventowncouncil.gov.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Peacehaven-Town-Council-236861203082964/

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ptcinformation>

Role of Council

Peacehaven Town Council represents its residents in a number of different ways

Councillors have been really active around the town this year, ensuring that residents are listened to, that action is taken to improve the facilities and to make sure people enjoy living and working in Peacehaven

Earlier this year Council reinstated periodic surgeries, with Chairs of Committees, the District Policing teams and the MP, meeting with residents to hear their concerns. Most of the comments were about the Meridian Centre and its surrounding area

Councillors have been appointed to serve on the following Associations :-

Age UK	Crime Stoppers
Peacehaven Telscombe Housing Association	House Project
Royal British Legion	Town Forum
Lewes Association of Local Councils	Friends of Downlands Court
Beekeeping Group	Citizens Advice Bureau
CTLA	The Big Park
Peacehaven Residents Association	Wave Leisure
Peacehaven and Telscombe Football Club	Mature Citizens Forum Peacehaven
Chamber of Commerce	Centenary Cycle Hub
Neighbourhood Plan	Business Planning

Maps of Peacehaven wards are available on the Peacehaven Town Council Website www.peacehaventowncouncil.gov.uk/ward-maps as are further details on your Councillors

Peacehaven Town Council produces a monthly e-news magazine. This is an effective way of keeping in touch with our community.

Details can be found on our website on how to subscribe and how to place an advertisement:
<http://www.peacehaventowncouncil.gov.uk/e-news-magazine/>



Councillors

Peacehaven Town Council has 17 Members covering East, North and West Wards. They represent in excess of 17,000 residents and will sit on Peacehaven Council until the next election in May 2019. The primary role of a Councillor is to represent the ward and the residents who live in it. Councillors have a central part to play in making decisions that impact on their ward and across the whole Council

Becoming a Councillor can be a rewarding form of public service that puts people in a position where they can make a difference to the quality of someone's life. However, being a Councillor is also a lot of hard work. Every day Councillors have to balance the needs and interests of their residents, voters, the Council and their personal lives

The Councillor's role takes in:

- ward representation
- decision making
- policy and strategy review and development
- overview and scrutiny
- regulatory duties
- community leadership and networking



North Ward:

Cllr. Brian Gosling
Cllr. Rachael Coles
Cllr. Ann Harrison
Cllr. Amber Robertson
Cllr. Andy Loraine
Cllr. Melvyn Simmons

East Ward:

Cllr. Jean Farmiloe
Cllr. Dave Neave
Cllr. Jackie Harrison-Hicks
Cllr. Andy Smith
Cllr. Ron Maskell
Cllr. Reg Farmiloe



West Ward:

Cllr. Robert Robertson
Cllr. Wayne Botting
Cllr. Daryll Brindley
Cllr. Job Harris
Cllr. Lynda Duhigg



The primary role of a Councilor is to represent the ward and the residents who live in it

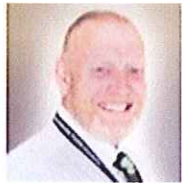
On March 8th, we welcomed a new Member to Peacehaven Council; they will be a valuable addition

Powers and Duties of Local Councils

Local Councils have a wide range of powers and duties. The following table sets out the main ones

Function	Powers & Duties	Statutory Provisions
Allotments	Duty to provide allotments. Power to improve and adapt land for allotments, and to let grazing rights	Small Holding & Allotments Act 1908, ss. 23, 26, and 42
Bus shelters	Power to provide and maintain shelters	Local Government (Miscellaneous Provision) Act 1953, s. 4
Clocks	Power to provide public clocks	Parish Councils Act 1957, s.2
Community centres	Power to provide and equip buildings for use of clubs having athletic, social or recreational objectives	Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 s.19
Conduct	Duty to promote and maintain high standards of conduct	Localism Act 2011, s.27
Crime Prevention	Duty on Parish Councils to consider crime reduction in every policy and action	s17 Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (as amended)
Dogs	Power to make a Dog Control Order. Power to take enforcement action against those who commit an offence against a Dog Control Order	Cleaner Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005
Entertainment and the arts	Provision of entertainment and support of the arts	Local Government Act 1972, s.145
General Power of Competence	Power to do anything that an individual may do (eligible Councils only)	Localism Act 2011, s.1
Land	Power to acquire by agreement, to appropriate, to dispose of. Power to accept gifts of land	Local Government Act 1972, ss.124, 126, 127 Local Government Act 1972, s.139
Litter	Provision of receptacles. Power to take enforcement action against those that litter	Litter Act 1983, ss.5,6 Cleaner Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005
Neighbourhood Planning	Power to create a Neighbourhood Plan and other development mechanisms	Localism Act, s.116
Open spaces	Power to acquire land and maintain	Public Health Act 1875, s.164 Open Spaces Act 1906, ss.9 and 10
Public buildings and village hall	Power to provide buildings for public meetings and assemblies	Local Government Act 1972, s.133
Public conveniences	Power to provide	Public Health Act 1936, s.87
Sustainable communities	Able to be represented on a panel of representatives to be consulted on proposals that would contribute to sustainable communities	Sustainable Communities Act 2007
War memorials	Power to maintain, repair, protect and alter war memorials	War Memorials (Local Authorities' Powers) Act 1923, s.1; as extended by Local Government Act 1948, s.133

Organisational Structure



Leisure & Amenities
Manager



Locum
Responsible
Finance Officer



Town Manager



Administration
Officer



Civic &
Marketing
Officer



Head
Groundsman /
Green Keeper



Responsible
Finance Officer



Senior
Caretaker



Information
Officer



Senior
Groundsman



Assistant
Groundsman



Caretaker



Business &
Admin
Apprentice



Assistant
Groundsman



Caretaker &
Maintenance



Caretaker

Peacehaven Town Council Officers are a really close knit team. We have worked hard this year to provide residents with support services and deliver additional information on previous years. We have redesigned the website and Enews publications to provide Openness and Transparency to all which we hope has been well received

We feel that our residents should be involved throughout the year, particularly in future town and business planning. Where legislation provides for the following information to be Transparent and Open, we have displayed this primarily on the Town Council new website –

www.peacehaventowncouncil.gov.uk

Budget, Precept, Expenditure exceeding £500, Credit/Debit Card Transactions, Procurement Information, Land, Assets, Grants, Organisational Chart, Any Trade Union Information, Constitution, Pay (overall salary budget), Fraud and Standards Board Reports and Outcomes

Should you require further information, please do come into the Information Office and ask, we are more than happy to help

East Sussex County Councillors



Councillor Andy Smith



Councillor Nigel Enever

Roads in Peacehaven have expected some improvement this year, with East Sussex Highways finally delivering much needed road improvements in the East of the town. Potholes have mainly been filled and roadworks are scheduled for full resurface over coming months. This is due to continual support from our Councillors who sit on the Strengthening Local Relationship (SLR) Committee, for which we are very grateful. It has taken some years now for the Highways Stewards to work positively with Peacehaven Council. They now conduct weekly site visits to review where works are required and it this has improved the timescales of works they schedule

Sustrans are delivering a behaviour change programme in Peacehaven, in partnership with East Sussex and Peacehaven Councils. Together they are in the process of delivering a new project this year in schools called Bike It. They wish to encourage more students, staff, parents and indeed residents to get on their bikes. Dr Bike season is starting up again in Peacehaven, with sponsorship and grant support from across the Havens. With fun days and giveaways, residents were provided with advice on cycle routes, maintenance and a number of group activities. It was a very successful year with numerous new members joining up from Peacehaven. The same itinerary will run in the Centenary Park for 2018



The busy half term weeks saw us deliver Bikeability cycle training. The Mayor and his consort had a great day with our Wheels for all Session at The Meridian Centre, promoting the service for people with differing abilities using adapted bikes. For more information on Inclusive cycling and bikeability, for children, adults, or for future bike maintenance sessions, please keep an eye on our What's On Guide

<http://www.peacehaventowncouncil.gov.uk/whats-on/> or check out the Sustrans website <http://www.sustrans.org.uk/>

Lewes District Council

Support from Councillors who have many roles has been invaluable to Peacehaven Town this year. Those who sit at the District Council fought hard to reinstate the housing advice clinic in Peacehaven as well as provide more social housing. With funds dwindling and services appearing to be cut across the Havens, it was important for the District Housing clinics to continue, for our residents to receive advice and help with both benefit and their housing applications, as well as providing new wheelie bins

Councillors representing residents in Peacehaven at Lewes –



Councillor Robbie
Robertson



Councillor Jackie
Harrison-Hicks



Councillor Andy
Loraine



Councillor Nigel
Enever



Councillor Elayne
Merry



Councillor Dave Neave



Lewes District Council

A room at Community House has been allocated to advice clinics, for residents to receive the best possible support from a variety of different information giving organisations. The drop in sessions are provided to guide and advise on matters of housing, benefits, health and wellbeing and also legal advice – all are of no cost to those who need it

Lewes District Council rolled out their Recycling programme this year with residents receiving their new Green Bins. The District Council gave over £18,000 in CIL money to the town, for improvements to amenities and leisure facilities. They worked with the Officers to investigate providing new Hubs and leisure groups for our residents both young and old

Policy and Finance

11 Councillors were appointed to serve on the Policy & Finance Committee

Cllr Rachael Coles, Cllr Jean Farmiloe, Cllr Reg Farmiloe, Cllr Brian Gosling, Cllr Lynda Hallett, Cllr Ann Harrison, Cllr Jackie Harrison Hicks, Cllr Andy Loraine (Chair), Cllr Dave Neave, Cllr Robert Robertson (Vice Chair), Cllr Melvyn Simmons

Councillors influence and determine the development and review of the Council's policy and strategy. They can contribute to the policy process through

- role with the overview and scrutiny function
- involvement in advisory groups
- interaction with Executive members
- role as a representative on local community groups
- case work

Local authorities are not just service providers, they also act as regulators. This involves Councillors in quasi-judicial roles on special committees appointed directly by the council, such as policy and finance, planning and highways, or our leisure and amenities committees

To help them function effectively, Councils have clearly set out rules and procedures, which they adhere to. The Council's Constitution (Financial Regulations and Standing Orders) provides the framework within which the council conducts its business and makes decisions. Peacehaven has recently updated these, along with its Mayors Handbook and now the Consorts Regulation Handbook. They describe who is responsible for making decisions and how those decisions are taken

Policies



Financial Regulations - to be reviewed in May
Financial Orders - to be reviewed in May
Committee Terms Of Reference - to be reviewed in June
Code of Conduct - to be reviewed in May

www.peacehaventowncouncil.gov.uk/policies/

Agendas & Minutes

	Agenda	Minutes	Resolution
Full Council			
Council Meeting 16th October 2018	N/A	N/A	N/A
Council Meeting 26th July 2018	N/A	N/A	N/A
Council Meeting 22nd June 2018	N/A	N/A	N/A
Council Meeting 6th May 2018	N/A	N/A	N/A
Council Meeting 6th March 2018	N/A	N/A	N/A
Council Meeting 23rd January 2018	View	N/A	N/A
Council Meeting 14th October 2017	View	View	N/A
Extra Ordinary Council Meeting 28th August 2017	View	View	N/A
Council Meeting 19th July 2017	View	View	N/A
Annual Forum 28th June 2017	View	View	N/A
See more Full Council			

www.peacehaventowncouncil.gov.uk/council-meetings

In addition to this busy year, Council have set up new advisory boards for business planning and for heritage and tourism. We feel it is important for us to look at the future of the town as well as just what has already been achieved. Residents can access all reports through our website at

www.Peacehaventowncouncil.gov.uk/council-meeting/

The overview and scrutiny process has recently become more clearly defined and distinct and the role of Councillors now includes: providing a check on the monthly cashbooks and accounts, monitoring and reviewing policy formulation and implementation, policy development and quality review

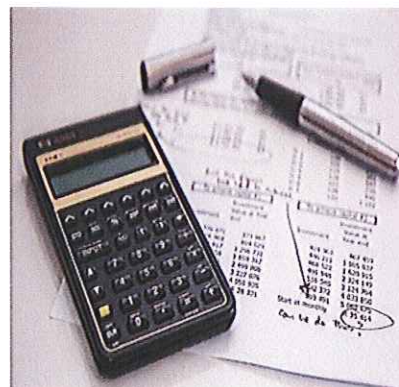
Audit/RFO

This year the Locum Responsible Finance Officer Louise Steele has provided detailed and extensive costings for the current and preceeding financial years. The Audit recommendation is that Councils have at least two internal audit visits per annum, with one visit in the autumn and one after the Council year end. The Autumn visit focused on governance and accountability function the conclusion of this review being a report providing Council with recommendations where applicable for the improvement of internal processes. There included assurance that the Councils systems are fit for purpose and the possibility of the systems being prone to error or misstatement were 'low'

The interim audit reviewed and commented on the following areas - Accounts Systems - Financial Regulations - Standing orders, together with declarations and acceptance of office - Risk assessments - Bank reconciliation - Income & Expenditure accounts - Actual versus budget reports - Signed minutes from full Council for the period April 2017 to date

Full Report available on request

Under the Local Government Act 1972, Section 151 with adherence to the Local Government Act 2003 Section 21(2) Peacehaven has recruited a new Responsible Finance Officer, Tony Lopes.



Tony has come from an education and commercial sector bringing a wealth of knowledge in It systems and expertise in training. From 6th march 2018, we are very happy to welcome him to the team



Tony Lopes

Planning and Highways

Eight Councillors were appointed to serve on the Planning & Highways Committee:- Cllr Daryl Brindley, Cllr Jean Farmiloe, Cllr Reg Farmiloe, Cllr Job Harris (Vice Chair), Cllr Ann Harrison, Cllr Jackie Harrison Hicks, Cllr Dave Neave and Cllr Melvyn Simmons (Chair)

Through their sheer determination, most of the street lights have been repaired in the town and a couple finally replaced. We have worked hard pursuing County Highways Stewards, to make sure that both the safety barrier and the road sign on Greenwich Way were also renewed, after a nasty road traffic incident brought them down. Kerb stones and inappropriate parking are and remain, a constant battle. Residents have right to complain about Vehicles parked on the grass verges. They have reason to report the state of our roads. While potholes have been repaired with temporary surfacing, most of the work is still scheduled and not considered a priority by highways, based on cost and durability



The original structure of Peacehaven roads were concrete slabs. Asphalt roads wear more than concrete roads, but many countries are replacing concrete roads with asphalt because it is cheaper, despite concrete roads having some major advantages. The slabs usually have a life span of 100 years and as such it would be preferable to retain as many of these as possible



Councillors and Officers conduct very successful meetings with the Highways Stewards and Officers at ESCC each month, to enable urgent works to be elevated and prioritised and recently we have been pleased to support significant infrastructure improvements to the A259, from Seaview Avenue through to Newhaven

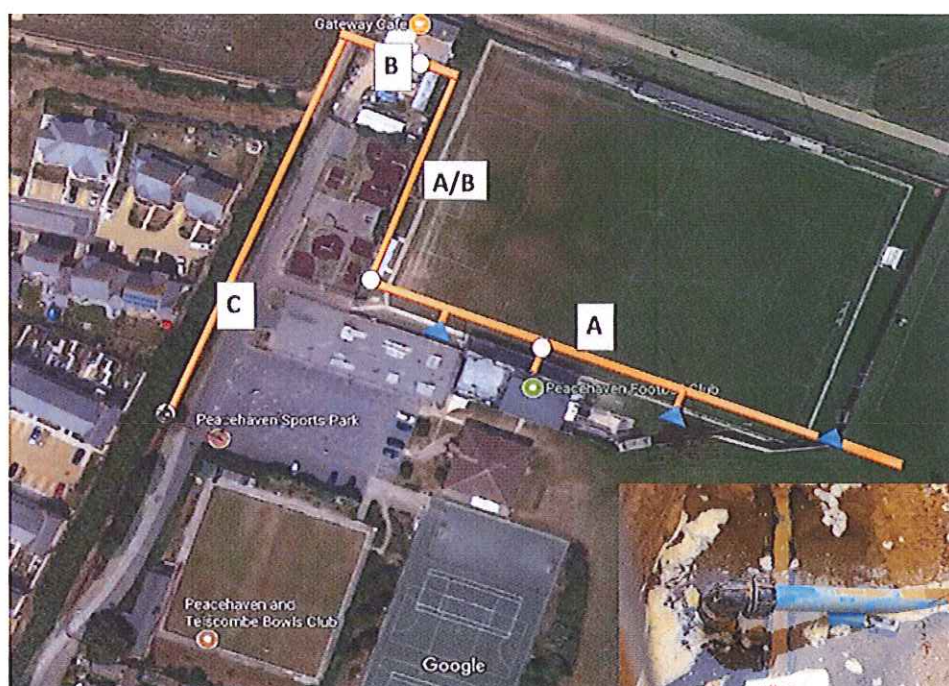
Councillors Dave Neave, Ann Harrison, Jackie Harrison-Hicks, District and County Councillor Nigel Enever and Peacehaven Officers, report to the SLR committee with the County Council Highways Stewards and Engineers. The meetings occur monthly with more emphasis being put on the quality of repairs, ensuring they last longer and need to be completed less frequently

Water Leak

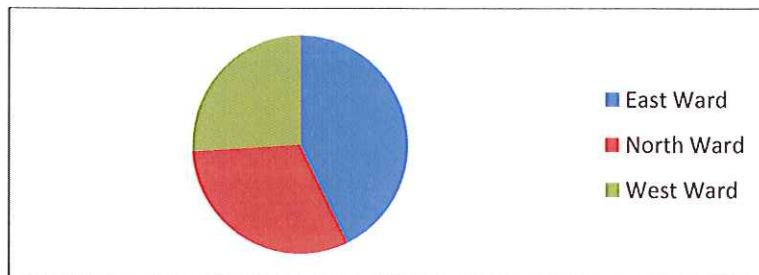
Council have had to make some difficult decisions this year when spending taxpayer's money. There has been an ongoing water leak at the Big Park in Piddinghoe Avenue, which has cost many tens of thousands of pounds to repair. Theories on how to repair the outflow ranged from putting dye into the water, to using water diviners – and yes we did try both



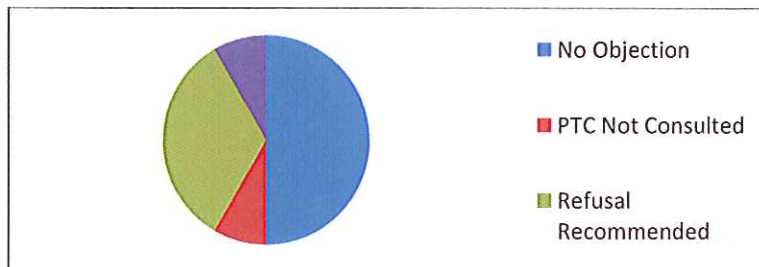
Eventually, when the leak had sprung from many different locations, it became apparent that the 80 year old pipes required more than patching and a huge programme of works began. The extent of this contract included almost a mile of 50mm pipe, approximately 1 metre below ground, circumventing the Bowling green and going directly underneath the Peacehaven and Telscombe Football Pitch. The extensive works were of huge cost, although we are now confident that the pipes will last (without flooding or becoming an unplanned fountain) for many years to come



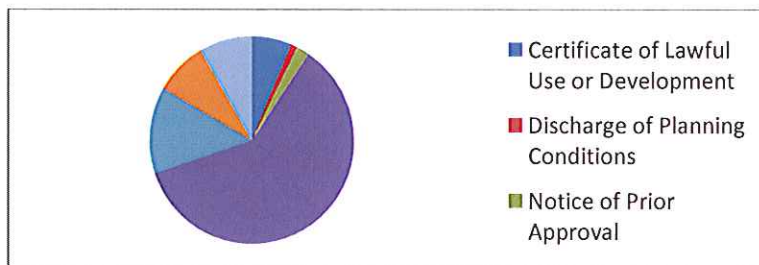
Planning Applications 2017-18



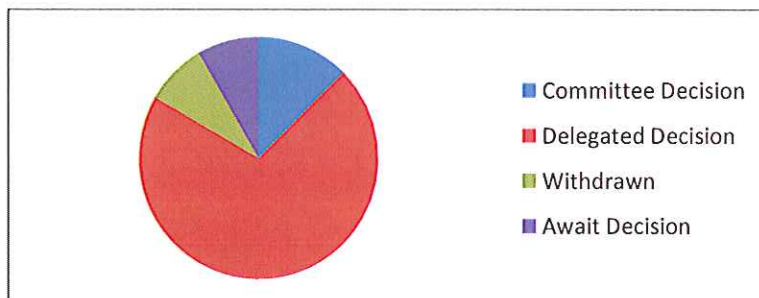
Planning & Highways Committee Recommendations



Lewes District Council Decision

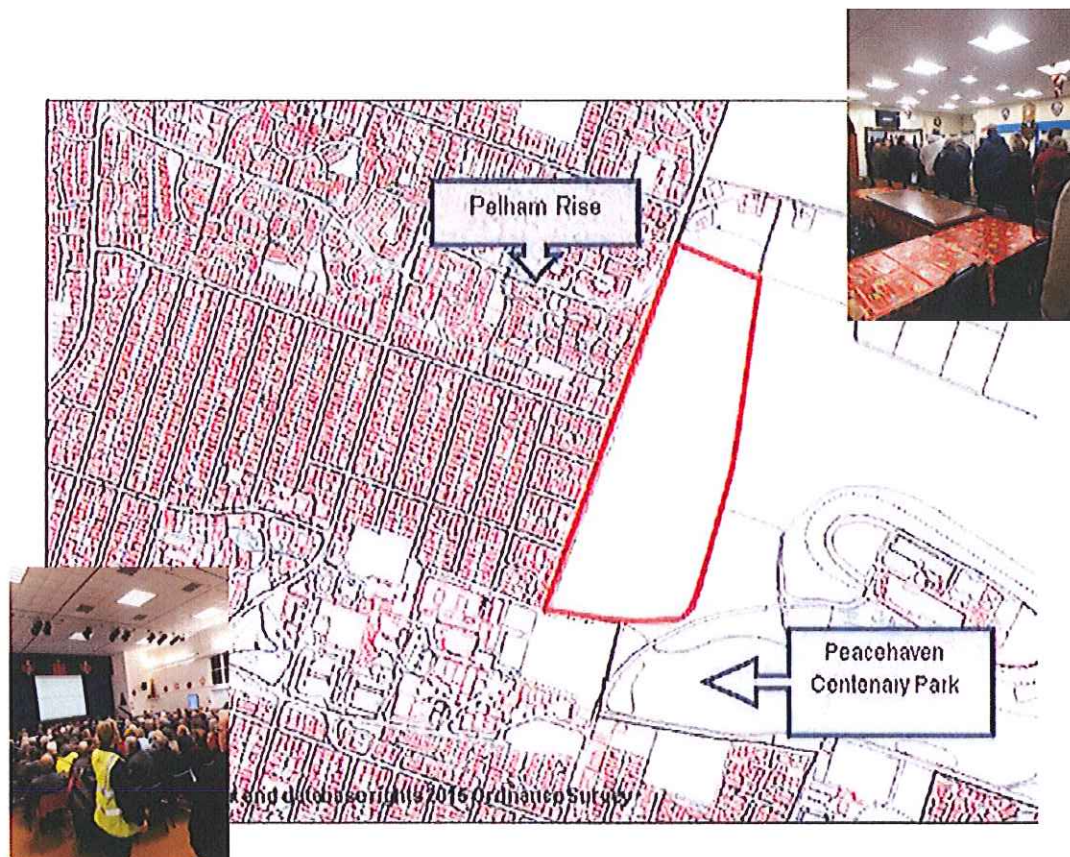


Lewes District Council Decision Level



Housing developments in Peacehaven this year have been many and varied. Our Planning Committee have represented residents by Recommending many applications, Opposing quite a few too. We trust supporting our residents to have their views heard across a wide variety of platforms

The application for the Lower Hoddern Farm development was always going to be difficult to fare. Most residents were in agreement that the land should be developed and most residents agreed that housing is necessary in the town. However the Core Strategy document made contingencies, which meant local infrastructure has to be improved, to enable the town to cope with such a large volume of new homes, We are working closing with the District and County councils to ensure satisfactory way forward



The Council held an Extra ordinary Meeting in April 2017 to hear residents views. It was very well attended and Councillors had the opportunity to inform and involve residents in a way which had not previously been considered. We hope residents felt supported and that Council represented you well. After Objecting on the grounds of Insufficient Infrastructure, the town worked with the District Planners to enable the decision making process to run seamlessly and transparently. The District Council took on board the concerns of Peacehaven residents and we are currently waiting for LDC to call the Case Conference, as well as working on infrastructure improvement with the county council

Community

Peacehaven is very fortunate to be able to work so closely with its local community groups and has charitable functions on every day of the year. The Council will continue to support this, but funding and physical input are separate. The Marketing team promote as many groups as possible, uploading their events onto the Diaries section of our new website. We have a new charities section on the Community pages, where residents can view which events are on in the town. They can access direct links to the charities websites via ours and seek organisations who offer advice and guidance when they need it



Please see our website for more details on how to support our local charities

Charities, Organisations and links

<p>4th January 2018 The Mayors Community Award for Volunteering Community Volunteering award</p> <p>Read More</p>	<p>29th November 2017 Angels Walk Angels Walk is a local charity helping to support NSPCC</p> <p>Read More</p>	<p>27th November 2017 Butterfly Nursery Nursery for under 5s. Holiday and After-school care for 4-11s</p> <p>Read More</p>
<p>27th November 2017 Arts And Crafts Friendly social afternoon of Arts and</p>	<p>27th November 2017 The Deans Senior Tea Club Our aim is to combat loneliness in</p>	<p>27th November 2017 Peacehaven Task Force A group for Peacehaven residents &</p>

<http://www.peacehaventowncouncil.gov.uk/category/organisation/>

Neighbourhood Planning

Council is also supporting the Steering Group to devise the Peacehaven and Telscombe Neighbourhood Plan. In simple terms, this is the town's document that sets out **planning** policies for the **neighbourhood** area – **planning** policies are used to decide whether to approve **housing** applications. Ours is being written by the local community, the people who know and love the area, in line with local planning authority policy. Once approved our plan will have legal force, in setting out what development is required in our towns



Councillors have been appointed to serve on the Neighbourhood Planning Group are Cllr Ann Harrison and Cllr Dave Neave. This Group is chaired by Cathy Gallagher, Cllr Reg Farmiloe and Vivian Carrick



Conversations for the Neighbourhood Plan have been and will continue to be held over coming months with as many residents as we can reach, asking their opinion on planning matters. Feedback so far has been nothing short of positive. Residents want to know what is being built in their town. They want the plan to include creating local employment opportunities, bringing new retail outlets to the town, a selection of quality places to eat and buy food and they want opportunities for tourism. Residents appreciate Localism and want to give the towns the kind of future they see themselves enjoying

Residents have fed back to the Steering Group that they want to retain their amenities. They want to keep their parks looking beautiful, even in times of financial hardship and they want the two towns to retain their independence and their identities

What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

A Neighbourhood Plan is a new way for local people to influence the planning and development of the area in which they live and work

- Develop a shared vision for a village or town
- Choose where new homes, shops, offices and other development should be built
 - Influence how much housing should be built, and of what type
- Identify and protect important local green spaces or other treasured assets

Leisure and Amenities

Nine Councillors were appointed to serve on the Leisure & Amenities Committee:- Cllr Wayne Botting, Cllr Rachael Coles, Cllr Lynda Hallett, Cllr Job Harris, Cllr Jackie Harrison Hicks, Cllr Andy Loraine, Cllr Ron Maskell, Cllr Dave Neave, Cllr Robbie Robertson, Cllr Melvyn Simmons

The Committee manage and maintain a large area within the town, including land at the top of the cliff at the George V Memorial, parks such as The Dell, Epinay, Firle Road, Howard Peace Park, The Oval, and The Big Park. Most of these areas have received improvements this year



Improvements at The Dell were widely recognised by other Councils throughout the country. Peacehaven was really proud to be able to attend the National Association of Local Councils Awards, where we were presented with second place in the Outstanding Project of the year. Disabled children from far and wide come to use the swing, with beautiful views across the Channel, where on a clear day it is possible to see as far as France. The picnic area with wheelchair access has been well used, particularly when the British weather allows and the toadstools and storytelling chair are popular with residents both young and old. Witnessing a local 85 year old resident sitting in the Bronze Age replica seat, enjoying the view, was definitely a highlight this winter. We hope to be successful in attaining Local Government Grants this year to enable us to replace fencing and allow for disabled parking within the Dell



Council Officers received many queries this year about the Lamppost on Greenwich Way from interested residents, asking

"WHY IS IT PAINTED GOLD?"



The site marks the spot where the Meridian Line crosses through the town. It was painted to mark our centenary year and is quite solitary in its location. One of the local contractors EMCOR, who have completed various contracts for us this year, offered to paint it for residents to enjoy and to bring to everyone's attention the geographical anomaly that is The Meridian Line

A meridian is the half of an imaginary great circle on the Earth's surface, terminated by the North Pole and the South Pole, connecting points of equal longitude. Over many years scientists have pondered its significance and the simplest explanation is that it marks the point where East meets West and is the centre of our system of time zones

Healthy Peacehaven

The Doctors surgeries have been very supportive this year of town Council progress, providing advice and in some cases evidence of the volume of health issues we have in the town

Doctors at the Meridian Surgery were kind enough to conduct site visits, for Officers to see how they work and what their plans are for future growth. One of their main concerns at the time was that residents were parking inconsiderately outside the surgeries in Rowe Avenue and at Meridian Surgery even using the footpath as a cut through. The Leisure and Amenities Committee worked with the SLR Committee to install a flower planter which physically blocks the pathway, thus not allowing vehicular access. This is kindly maintained by Taskforce volunteers

The Rowe Avenue Surgery was blighted this year with parking and road traffic issues, with the new Churchill Development at the end of the road. East Sussex Highways and Lewes District Development Control have both input, as well as both Councillors and the Town Manager paying personal visits to the Site Manager there. We trust it has now been satisfactorily dealt with and that residents can safely visit their GP and healthcare appointments

The work with both surgeries continues and with grant applications currently being assessed, we hope to have some good news for residents on new projects to improve healthcare locally

The surgeries advised that more and more residents had multiple health conditions and requested that the Council support to provide walking and cycling groups – we followed their advice and as such the Peacehaven Plodders, the British Heart Foundation annual Cycle ride, The Promenade run and the new Cycle Hub were given more support

The Peacehaven Community Orchard is successfully growing its own produce now, with a Peacehaven Hybrid Apple tree – and many more for future generations to preserve

Residents attend the outside gym in Meridian Park, which has been vastly improved this year. They can gain access to training at the Wave Leisure Centre and they can get a healthcare plan personalised to their own abilities through the Personal training sessions, or through Various Health clubs held at Community House

Council also arranged for mobility and bikeability sessions as well as Dr. Bike to come to the Council offices. Please see our diary for details of the next advice clinics



Mayor

The Mayor's Charities for 2017-18 have raised many thousands of pounds for worthwhile causes - The Rotary Club, Chestnut Tree House, NSPCC – Angels Walk and Sussex Pet Rescue

The Mayor and his Consort Sandra have attended hundreds of events, promoting their work and put on shows and fund raising opportunities for the whole town to enjoy. One of their first engagements was to welcome the Chelsea pensioners to the bowls club and another to receive RNLI welly boot as it moved along the coast to raise funds

Council chose a Food and Drink theme for this year's summer event, to show off the variety of local produce and quality of crafts we have in the town. With over 4000 people attending on the day, we were privileged to be host to a large number of local charities, community groups and businesses



The quality of local produce, from the WI home baking stall, to the Brownies cupcakes and the locally fresh pressed apple cider, were all well received and everyone had a wonderful day in the sporadic sunshine. Various bars and tables laden with produce made huge profits

The Mayor proved his head for heights this year, along with the Mayor of Newhaven, the MP Lloyd Russell-Moyle and Peacehaven Town Manager, as they scaled down the clifftop at Friars Bay. Record times were achieved, along with personal goals of facing fears of heights. Next year Brian will be scaling down the walls of Arundel Castle, to continue with his fundraising endeavours



The Christmas Fair was heavily supported by Councillors, Officers and residents, with many getting into the spirit of the season. The Mayor and Sandra, organised a Christmas jumper coffee morning, Christmas Bingo and then a Disney dressing up theme for the Fair. Santa paid a visit to hundreds of children and the well behaved ones received exactly what they had asked for

Many residents donated funds to the Mayors chosen charities who have received thousands from his fundraising throughout the year. The Mayor extends his utmost thanks and is truly grateful, as are his charities

Community Space

Our Allotments are doing well with some of the best and worst weather Peacehaven has seen for some years. While other parts of Peacehaven flooded, the crops at Cornwall Avenue had a bumper year

The Horticultural Society received a small grant to help them build their new shed on Plot 4. Some plot holders requested licenses for beekeeping and the community gathered around to hear from the Brighton Beekeepers when they came to the Meridian Centre to see for themselves how to look after bees and how they benefit the environment



SCDA & the community orchard hold regular gardening meetings at the big park, tending the raised flower beds designed at height to allow wheelchair users and residents with limited mobility and planting trees in the orchard. We are very proud of the orchard, community garden and partnership with the task force throughout the town. Earlier this year the leisure and amenities committee supported setting up a charitable group for residents at Howard park and then at the oval. Our community Garden volunteers meet most weeks growing their own produce teaching the local scouts, brownies and school children from Peacehaven, about the environment we are so fortunate to live in. Picnics, barbeques and horticultural are their expert areas, as well as providing home grown recipes, although teamed up with keep Peacehaven tidy. They also work their way around the town collecting litter, monitoring health and safety issues and reporting in to the council on initiatives to support our whole town.



Police

Council have worked very hard in supporting the police to have their own office in the Community House and we provided them with a room, when their station was knocked down to make way for a new housing development. Their presence is valued and sharing intelligence is proving worthwhile for the community as a whole

Looking at the Meridian Centre site it was necessary to work with the MP, The Managing Agent and multiple partner organisations, to action required works. We were pleased to see the agents instruct a considerable amount of gardening work to be done, to cut back the trees and bushes in the car park so people feel safe getting to their cars. The security company was changed, which brought with it kick back from some of the youths in the town, although after some months we are now confident this has been addressed

Council Officers and police have been monitoring the newly installed CCTV, for evidence of off road bikes which were accessing the Big Park. New signage has been erected, informing the offenders that breaking the law, would bring consequences. Police have informed us that through Operation Crackdown, motoring offences can be reported. Multiple reports may mean the offender will have their vehicle taken away and crushed as well as prosecuted by the Council

Police still require residents to make those reports – <http://www.operationcrackdown.org/>



Plumpton College are now working with us on the supported internship programme, where young people with learning difficulties, have an opportunity to learn about grounds maintenance and horticulture. Our Apprenticeship scheme is running in its second year now, with our first young person achieving high grades in their qualification, for which we are all very proud

The Cats Club is up and running now at the Football Ground, which is beautifully designed to fit in their environment and provide excellent facilities for working parents

We have great plans for next year, including replacing the swings at Firle Road Play area. The new bins are now out in the parks and at most bus stops and the Paws on Watch scheme is up and running across the town, supported by crime reduction initiatives.



Memorial / Military

Covenant

We were really pleased when members of the community clubbed together to paint the war memorial. Particular thanks goes to Mr John Carden and Mr Andy Picton for their hard work and enthusiasm and dedication

The Memorial wall this year had an addition of a new plaque to remember Private Daniel Prior of the 2nd Battalion Parachute regiment. Daniel was wounded by an improvised explosive device in Afganistan on 16th March. He died of his injuries on Friday March 18th 2011. On 30th October 2017 a marble plaque was added to the Memorial in his memory. His son Logan helped to unveil it in a ceremony and represent his father in the Remembrance Parade on Sunday 12th November. His family were very proud and we hope Logan will be able to join us each year to lay his fathers' wreath

The town is very proud of its history, designed as a peaceful space for veterans returning from war in 1917. Peacehaven Town was proud to be awarded the Military Covenant on 9th May 2017. This allows the town to recognise those who fought and some who died for our country. The Bronze status award is purely a starting point and the town is looking forward to raising a flag on Armed Forces Day June 30th, to ensure the respect and honour is shown to all forces both past and present. The Union Jack flags were replaced as the old ones were looking very shabby



The paving at Meridian Park which had been ripped up by vandals, was replaced by the District Council and the neighbourhood fitness enthusiasts are campaigning for more equipment to be installed at the Outside gym. This has been really well used this year and Councillors and Officers are really looking forward to attending the gym sessions with the fitness trainer who Council have instructed to help our residents keep fit this year



MARKETS

Many people enjoy going to the Community Café most days to meet with people and Councillors attend regularly, speaking with residents and taking their concerns to Council

The Community Café goes from strength to strength, providing good quality food, a comfortable place to sit and a relaxed environment for residents to meet friends old and new. Sid and Sheila Eastman of Sussex Pet Rescue, hold the record for most bacon sandwiches served, having worked so hard at the 2017 Christmas Fair as well as throughout the year



Markets historically run in the Main Hall at Community House, each Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. With footfall falling in the Meridian Shopping Centre, purse strings tightened and stall holders depleting, it has been difficult for some of the regulars to make ends meet. The Council has negotiated with the Managing Agents in the shopping centre, to run some more tailored events in the Mall. With the success of the Christmas Market, it has been requested by residents that other markets take place, to encourage more people to come in and support the local traders. The Events diary on our website shows full details of days which may spark some interest, including a Craft Fair, Antiques and Collectibles, a Careers Fair and seasonal events such as pumpkin carving for Halloween. We hope the indoor markets take off this year, for local people to support local charities, communities and traders – please support and use this link to find out what's on - www.peacehaventowncouncil.gov.uk/whats-on

The community groups have been working on plans to redesign the Foyer area at Community House, bringing it into 2018. The table cloths have been replaced and also some chairs, the walls and woodwork have been freshened up, as have the older room signage and you can now buy local produce such as eggs and honey from our very own 'reconditioned shabby chic' dresser. (Thank you Ian Kedge for donating it to us). All produce sold supports local crafts and trades people and profits the local environment

Residents groups this year have provided some wonderful functions, including the Teddy Bears Picnic at the Oval, barbeques, Keep fit walks, runs and rides. The Taskforce volunteers have cleared alley ways and planted flowers at Howard Park. The Clean Up Peacehaven Campaign began in March, which we hope will continue, giving residents pride in where they live, as well as a chance to get out and meet other local people more socially

The Council aims next year to bring in more awards and recognition to the town, to push forward in commercial ventures to bring in more revenue supporting a stable precept and to ensure the facilities you all pay towards, to be up kept to the best possible standards. We have a lot to be proud of in Peacehaven and 2018/19 will move towards improved amenities for all

Meridian Centre

Fire doors at the Council offices have been replaced and Officers proposed a new fire evacuation policy to keep our residents and staff safe. The Emergency Plan is traditionally run in partnership with District and County Councils, although on 6th September 2017, a suspected device was uncovered by builders on the South Coast Road and a local emergency was declared. The incident began around 3:30, when a device resembling an unexploded bomb was discovered under a building on the main through road to Brighton. The emergency services were drafted in by the MOD, to support local police. Traffic was stopped, diversions put in place and over 150 residents required to be evacuated from their homes

Police and Council Officers with the support of Brighton and Hove Buses, moved older and vulnerable residents into the safety zone consisting of the Wave Leisure Centre and Council Offices at Community House. The emergency services provided regular updates to Officers who opened the Council offices through the night, providing residents who were worried with advice and support of where to go and who to contact. By midnight the Council building was serving teas and coffees, donated by the Coop, working with the District Council Emergency Planning team to provide food and shelter and setting up beds for the night



Some residents were lucky enough to have overnight accommodation in the Council Chamber, some wrapped in duvets on the Meridian Shopping Centre benches and some, more so, in the ball pit at Wave Leisure. Duvets and pillows were sought from Asda in Brighton and the town experienced the best in sense of community spirit, which was apparent through the night. By 3am the next day, residents were sleeping although the Ministry of Defence and Bomb Disposal experts worked through the night, until finally at 7am, relief, the device appeared not to be explosive

Peacehaven Council are grateful for the involvement of Councillors and all local charities who came out in their droves to help that evening. When residents are forced from their homes and have to 'make do' it showed just what inner strength and compassion we all have. By 7am the Foyer Café was packed and in full flow, providing breakfast with a choice of porridge, cereals or full English. The community spirit was both vibrant and charming, a real Hub of enthusiasm. There were cheers of joy at 8am when our Deputy Mayor, Councillor Reg Farmiloe, announced the news that the Emergency was over. The device was actually an unused petrol tank, buried deep underground. The joy soon turned to groans when residents realised we were back to business as usual and the day subsequently became one to go into our history books. Residents have requested a 'reunion' event including a sleepover at the Council building for 2018. We are looking in to this, but memories of tea, cake and singing at 4am in our Café, will never have the same effect on anyone who was there that night



Rotary



SUSSEX PET RESCUE

CHARITABLE TRUST



"To My successor I wish them well. The memories I've had along the way and friends I've made, it is time to say thank you to all for supporting me & my charities & not forgetting my wife Sandra without whom I could not have done this."

From the 2017/2018 chair of P.T.C

Councillor Brian Gosling