

E-NEWS

No 79 June 2021



**MEET THE NEW MAYOR OF
PEACEHAVEN-
SEE PAGE 1**

Making Peacehaven a better place to live, work and visit



From The Mayor

Cllr Isobel Sharkey



It is a real pleasure and an honour for me to be able to write this, my first monthly message to residents.

I was elected at the annual council meeting on the 4th of May and within a few days was already carrying out my first duty – to lay a wreath to commemorate VE Day. Our local veterans, along with other older members of the community, are the focus of one of my chosen charities; Deans Senior Tea Club.

At the other end of our community, we have children of course and CATS Club is my second chosen Charity. They do a fantastic job of child care, both during the holidays when they run whole day play schemes, and during term-time when they run before and after school clubs for busy parents.

Thirdly, there is the Chichester Diocesan Family Support Network who support local families in need. They're currently working with some isolated families in a project based in the Peacehaven Community Garden.

I hope to be able to visit all of these groups very soon; keep an eye out in future e-news editions for updates.

As someone who is an artist, poet, and band member, I would like there to be a cultural theme to my year as mayor. Covid restrictions permitting, I hope to help organise some events in these areas, so again, look out for details.

On the 24th of June, I will be outside the cafe in the Big Park where I hope to meet some residents and talk about what you would like to see to make Peacehaven an even better place to live.

Meet The Mayor Event

Thursday 24th June

3.00pm-4pm

Outside the Gateway Café in the Big Park

Come along to this informal event to say hello & meet our new Mayor.





From the Town Clerk



From the desk of the Town Clerk.....

As we approach the 21st June, we are all wondering how much freedom we will really have after over a year of lockdowns and restrictions, and how long this freedom will last.

Council and Committee meetings will return to in-person events, to be held at Community House in the main hall. Ongoing Covid restrictions and safety measures will mean that the hall capacity will have to be restricted; please see the Council's web site and published agendas for more details.

The staff and Councillors are working hard to reopen our facilities as fast as we are allowed to do so, and I say a big THANK YOU! to all our hirers for their patience and understanding with this. It has not been an easy task to manage and deliver, but at all times we have had the safety of residents, staff and Councillors uppermost in our thinking.

The Council continues to engage with the developers and all other parties involved with the redevelopment of the Meridian Centre and its impact on Community House. It is in the nature of these things that there is a lot of business conducted in commercial confidence as negotiations progress. The Council is fully aware of its duty to seek the best outcomes for its residents and please be assured that any and all information will be made publicly available as soon as it can be.

You will occasionally see companies filming around the Town, particularly around the coastal area. This brings much needed income into the Town and allows the Council to do more for the community. Filming events are very carefully controlled and monitored. In particular any inconvenience to residents is minimised and fully assessed. Please let us know if you have any issues during these events.

One of the many legacies from the Covid situation is the increased closeness of community groups, residents and the Council. There is so much positivity about and, from the Council's point of view, we will be doing everything we can to develop this integration, and to provide support, facilities and events for the whole community.



FROM THE MP- LLOYD RUSSELL-MOYLE



This month I met the HavensHealth and the Clinical Commissioning Group for the area to discuss the ongoing problems at the doctor's surgery.

I have received a huge number of emails and letters about the state of the surgery, the access, phone lines and the care.

I have also attended the Patient Participation Group so that we can all start to work together to solve the problems at the surgery.

I raised the issues of phone lines, e-consult/NHS app, contradictory information on the website, numbers of staff including doctors and the support that the surgery is getting from development money for our area.

There is no one fix answer for the surgery which everyone recognises needed to do more to regain the trust of the local people.

But I thought I would take the opportunity to outline some of what was discussed.

PHONES

When the pandemic started the surgery relied on physical phone lines coming from the Peacehaven phone exchange.

With lockdown the phone exchange struggled to cope (we also have had similar problems at some of our schools with Telscombe school having to pay £10,000's to get upgraded lines). The surgery phonenumber became almost unmanageable at the time which they merged and this was a critical failure to plan.

As of now 30 lines are provided through a temporary digital phone service, at busy times this still means that people struggle to get through.

A tender for a new digital phone system has been put out and by July it is intended that this phone system with unlimited numbers of call waiting will be up and running.

This will also implement a system where you can ring, and leave your number waiting in the queue and it will then ring you back when it is your turn, meaning you don't have to wait on the phone.

This will make a huge difference because like me, many of you reported that being on hold was not the issue, but that not getting through at all was.

Piece Continues On The Next Page



APPOINTMENTS

There is some confusion about how to make appointment, online it says you can phone at any time, but most of us know that the 8am and 2pm slots is when you need to phone to get an appointment.

I have asked them to update their website and make it clear the following (which they have agreed).

- For on the day and urgent appointments they are released at 8am and 2pm every day, people who need on the day and urgent appointments should endeavour to phone at that time

- For non urgent and scheduled appointments you can ring at any time and its best to call not at the peak times. This means that if you are needing a call back in a few days, or a weeks time (which many people do) then call at the non urgent time.

The online booking had been switched off during the pandemic. They surgery thought that this was on national advice. I have sought clarity of this and can confirm that NHS England advised that this was possible but not required. I have asked them to update the website to say that the current e-consult and NHS app can not book appointments, they have agreed.

I will also write to the CCG and the Surgery further requesting them to urgently review the national guidelines which now suggest that online bookings should be turned back on and to do so immediately. The guidelines require the same or more appointment slots to be offered online and I will push to ensure that this happens.

STAFF

The surgery and CCG promised me at the end of last year that they would recruit 6 new GPs. So far 4 are with us and 2 in are due to start in August.

There is a larger issue in terms of capacity. Most new doctors are contract doctors (they work regularised shifts, and might also work at the hospital or other settings for some of the week), where as most older doctors are partnership model doctors (they have a slice of the doctors surgery business and will work often double shifts for no more money). This means that it often takes 2 new doctors to take over from a retiring older doctor. This is a national problem but the surgery has done well to recruit the 6 in its target. Five new receptionists have been appointed and within the last six months a new practice manager is now in post and she has extensive experience of managing larger practices in the past.

FUNDING

I pointed out that Lewes which has a smaller population than Peacehaven area has taken over 4 surgeries over the last few years but they have kept the buildings of all four and are treated as a single accounting unit for the Clinical Commissioning Group (meaning they can apply directly for money for resources). In Peacehaven we have also taken over 4 surgeries in last few years, have a larger and older population, but have not been able to keep the buildings and the CCG does not allow HavensHealth to operate on its own but puts in into the Newhaven system meaning we have to share resources with Newhaven. This arrangements is not good enough and the CCG should not have let this happen, however, the doctors felt that they have now managed to start getting the partnership working and don't need it changed again.

The CCG has not been clear on how the surgery can apply for Community Infrastructure Levy money, this is the money from developers to build the increased capacity that is needed if and when we get new houses. We have money in the pot for the area and we need to spend it.

I have agreed to work with the CCG and our district councillors to ensure that the money can be allocated to the HavensHealth to ensure that we get the health care that we deserve.

If you need help from my office you can always email on: lloyd@russell-moyle.co.uk



FROM PCSO- CHRIS MARCHANT



Coastal Towns, in particular Peacehaven and Saltdean are once again seeing an increase in Vehicle Crime. This includes thefts from Motor Vehicles, number plate thefts and vehicles being interfered with. This is taking place between 23:00hrs and 04:00hrs.

We do have additional patrols in place but would benefit from any images you may capture, should you have a Ring doorbell or similar.

Electric Scooters are becoming more and more popular, particularly with the warmer weather on the way. But where can you ride them?

Well it's illegal to ride them on roads, pavements, parks, town centres and promenades. So really that just leaves private land, with the owner's permission.

The consequences of ignoring this advice could be a hefty fine, penalty points on your license, and scooter being seized etc.

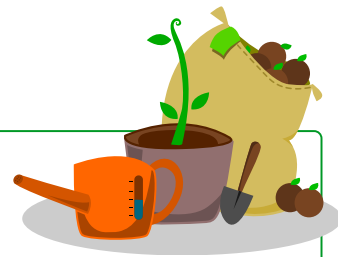
If you have no insurance, you cannot ride your scooter in a Public Place.

So anyone crossing the town on one of these does run the risk of being taken to task over it.

The scooter is deemed as a vehicle and would need the associated insurance, MOT, lights and that is not available for these.

Should you need any further information then please contact me at:
christopher.marchant@sussex.pnn.police.uk

GARDENING TIPS FOR JUNE



Now is the time to plant up hanging baskets and containers, but make sure the hanging baskets don't dry out, keep them moist but not too soggy, Royal Horticultural Society suggest that just a mugful of water per day can keep the baskets healthy.

If you are growing tomatoes don't forget to pinch out the sideshoots. Now is the time to plant out sweetcorn, dwarf beans, runner beans and courgettes. If we are still having cold winds don't forget to protect all young plants with fleece until they begin to grow. If your carrots, lettuce and beetroot seem to be overcrowded you can gently pull a few young plants. Don't forget you can eat these baby veg.

Try to keep on top of the weeds, especially the dandelions before they produce more seed.

You can also give the flowering plants along with fruiting ones, tomatoes, strawberries and hanging baskets a liquid fertiliser.

If you have a greenhouse don't forget to shade them to keep them cool.

Happy Gardening!



Piece from;
Alison Standing
Peacehaven Horticultural Society





MEET YOUR LOCAL WARD COUNCILLOR



West Ward- Independent Councillor

Cllr.GloriaHill@peacehaventowncouncil.gov.uk

I came to live in Peacehaven in 2009 with my husband Gordon.

I was always interested in local affairs and was on a Parish Council when I was living in Hertfordshire and the local Tenants association.

When I moved to Sussex I worked at Searchlight Workshops in Newhaven (sadly no longer there run by Fitzroy now) and at Mullions care home in the SCR (now The Maples). Retiring at 60 I decided I needed to do something to keep me out of mischief, so I joined The Tenants Association for Lewes, and was for a time the Chair until I moved to private housing and had to leave, which was a shame as I really enjoyed the work.

In 2018 I attended PTC meeting and that got me thinking about Council work. Much to my surprise I was elected and joined both PTC and Telscombe.

Sadly I had to leave TTC, due to Gordon's ill health. But have managed to stay here at PTC which is so very interesting.

A short break was needed when Gordon sadly died September 2020, he is so missed by friends and family. This year I was delighted to be elected as Deputy Mayor which was another surprise! I will do my very best to promote the town and PTC.

BUSINESS SURVEY



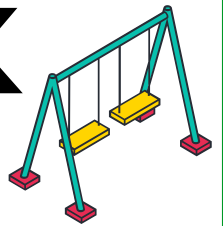
CALLING ALL BUSINESS OWNERS !

We'd be delighted if you could please spare 2 minutes to complete our survey, which aims to understand the current business landscape in the town, and how you could be better supported.

Please [click here](#) to complete the survey

www.peacehaventowncouncil.gov.uk

BIG PARK UPDATE



PLAY AREA HAS NEW LOOK !

Scheduled work has now been completed in the Big Park play area. Some of the sand has been replaced with a safer rubber mulch surfacing.



01273 585493



NHS DAY

Monday 5th July 2021- Programme



*Peacehaven Town Council will be supporting the National NHS Day on July 5th.
Please see below our programme of events which will be happening throughout the day.*

10.00am – The Mayor of Peacehaven, Cllr. Isobel Sharkey will raise the NHS Flag at the War Memorial to signal the official start to the day's celebrations, and will leave the flag flying for seven days.

11.00am – Two minutes silence and playing of the last post and Reveille.

Although this is to be a day of celebration, it is important that the country stops for these two minutes to remember the men and women from the NHS, social care and other key services on the front line who lost their lives in the service of others. Our Mayor and Parish Minister will come together to lead our community in the two-minute silence.

Our bugler, Melita Brett will play the Last Post and Reveille.

We hope that our local schools will also take part and stop what they are doing at 11.00am and undertake the two-minute silence too, as their tribute to those who do so much for us all.

1.00pm – The Nation's Toast to the Heroes.

Throughout the Coronavirus Pandemic, one word has been used to sum up the nation's opinion of our NHS teams and all the frontline workers.... Heroes.

We will be asking our residents to pause at 1.00pm and raise a glass of refreshment of their choice to join in the Nation's Toast – *"To those who gave so much, 24 hours a day, seven days a week within the NHS, social care and on the front line, we thank and salute you"*.

We hope that PCS with their musical talents will join us in this special celebration and perform the official composition *'Hear the Call'*.

Also, at 1.00pm:

To coincide with the Nation's Toast, we would like to see our residents meet up with family friends & neighbours to organise a garden/house party.

4.00pm – Afternoon tea (it's what we do best)

It has been suggested that where possible our residents organise an Afternoon Tea, which is considered a quintessentially English custom, is surprisingly a relatively new tradition, introduced by the seventh Duchess of Bedford in 1840. The pause for tea became a fashionable social event in the 1840's when society ladies would change into long gowns, gloves and hats for afternoon tea, usually served in the drawing room between four & five o'clock.

What a great idea to dress up. Dust off those hats & gloves and join in with this afternoon of fun.

It would be lovely to see photos of your event, these can be sent to:
civicanmarketing@peacehaventowncouncil.gov.uk.

The Mayor will be visiting the Dean's Club and will be donning her pinny to serve cuppas to the members.

8.00pm – Clapping our HEROES and the ringing of church bells

Clapping in the street to show our support for those waging the battle against coronavirus was an amazing, spontaneous, and heartfelt reflection of the public's appreciation.

We would like our residents to do this again. Open your doors & windows, stand in your garden, or in the street and applaud the unstinting efforts of those people who are STILL saving lives and keeping essential services going.

To coincide with this, hopefully our church bells will sound.

Peacehaven Town Council have NHS button pins for sale in the Information Office at £1, all profits will be sent to the NHS, please show your support.



HOW TO FIND A RELIABLE BUILDER

citizens
advice

If you take advantage of the warmer weather to improve our homes here are some steps you should take when choosing a trader:

- Find a Trading Standards 'approved trader' - use the internet to search for a local trader or the Government's approved trader scheme TrustMark.
- Get references or recommendations - Ask the person for examples of work they've carried out. Avoid contractors who won't give references.
- Are they a current member of a trade body? - trade bodies have codes of practice and can help resolve problems. Ask who they're registered with and check their website.
- Only use certified traders for gas and electrics - Check the Gas Safe Register for a list of traders and use a registered electrician who can certify their own work. When you're having a kitchen fitted, check whether they will be doing the electrical or gas work themselves. If not, check whether that person is registered.
- A written quote - A quote is legally binding and the builder can't change it without good reason. Compare quotes from several contractors to check the cost.
- A written contract - covering everything you're paying for and agreed.
- Payments - pay in stages not upfront. Pay by card, this affords you protection if something goes wrong.
- Keep - receipts, contracts, and photos of any problems.

If you have a problem with a contractor, call the Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline 0808 223 1133.

THE SUSSEX TRUG

Sussex trug is a wooden basket. It is made from a handle and rim of coppiced sweet chestnut which is hand-cleft then shaved using a drawknife. The body of the trug is made of five or seven thin boards of white willow, also hand-shaved with a drawknife. They may have originated in Sussex because of the abundance of chestnut coppice and willows found on the marshes. Nails or pins used are usually copper, to avoid rust.

Shapes and sizes became standardised, the most well-known shape being the "common or garden" trug ranging in volume from one pint to a bushel. However, there is a diverse range of traditional trugs from garden and oval trugs to the more specialised "large log" and "walking stick" trug.

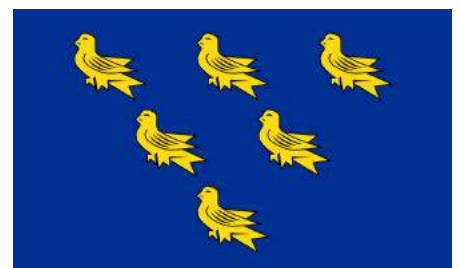


SUSSEX DAY

Sussex Day is the county day for the historic county of Sussex in Southern England and is celebrated on 16th June each year to celebrate the rich heritage and culture of Sussex.

The event takes place on St Richard's Day, the feast day of St Richard of Chichester, Sussex's patron saint. The date marks the anniversary of the translation of St Richard's body from its original burial place in the nave of Chichester Cathedral to an elaborate shrine at the cathedral on 16 June 1276.

The flag of Sussex consists of 6 heraldic swallows, on a blue background its design is based on the heraldic shield of Sussex.





PEACEHAVEN AND TELSCOMBE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REPORT PUBLISHED

A Strategic Environmental Assessment prepared by consultants AECOM for the Peacehaven and Telscombe Neighbourhood Plan into the environmental impact of future housing development has been published by the Peacehaven and Telscombe Neighbourhood Plan (NDP) steering group covering air quality, biodiversity, climate change and transportation.



Housing

The report will help guide the NDP when allocating sites including the 253 additional homes required in the area by national Government by 2030 (not including the 450 Chalkers Rise homes). Approximately 60 homes have been identified as built and at least 100 will be developed at the Meridian Site.

It is important that development is sustainable as it will increase transport, heating, food consumption and production which produce greenhouse gases causing air pollution and impact nature and biodiversity.

Air quality

The report found that air quality in the plan area is currently within Government targets and the NDP already contains measures to protect it.

Climate change

Climate change has the potential to increase the occurrence of extreme weather and the report highlighted issues such as flood risks and carbon dioxide emissions created through road transport. A further report based on the sites identified for development has been commissioned by the NDP to help protect Peacehaven and Telscombe from climate change effects.

Conservation areas

There are several Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) in the area including the cliffs, the seabed (Marine Conservation Zone) and Castle Hill SAC (to the north west) and Lewes Downs SAC (to the north) which are part of the UNESCO Designated Biosphere.

The report identified increasing pressures on habitats and species from future development and recommends the NDP includes these risks at an early stage of future planning.

Transport

The report found that car or van were the most common form of travel to work for residents (40.1%), higher than averages for Lewes District (37.6%) and England (37.0%) and that the recovery from COVID-19 could affect these patterns.

Future developments will need to show that they promote sustainable transport use and reduce the need to travel by improving access on foot, by cycling or by public transport.

In Lewes District the use of walking, cycling and public transport is being promoted with the new network of high-quality walking and cycle routes. In Peacehaven and Telscombe, routes across Telscombe Tye, the back streets and Centenary Park have been identified to allow residents to move around without accessing the congested A259.

Conclusion

The report will be used by the NDP to make decisions on any future developments and has been sent to Natural and Historic England, the Environment Agency and the South Downs National Park Authority and is available on the [NDP website here](#).



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Peacehaven Town Council



@PeacehavenTown

If you are involved with a community group or organisation and would like to be featured in the next edition, send your stories and pictures to marketingassistant@peacehaventowncouncil.gov.uk

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