

E-NEWS

No 41 April 2018



Healthy option

**It's all about living
well — Page 4**

Making Peacehaven a better place to live, work and visit



Everyone welcome at annual town meeting

By Claire Lacey,
Town Manager

The Local Government Act 1972 says every English parish must have an annual parish meeting, often called the town meeting. Elected councillors must assemble every year at this meeting to respond to the residents they represent. Peacehaven's meeting this year will be held in the Anzac Room at the Meridian Centre on Tuesday, April 17, at 6pm. A wide selection of the community groups and charities who add value to our community will be exhibiting. The town council is pleased to be able to partner with Lewes District Council to roll out the Neighbourhood First team, a welcome addition to services provided at town level to respond to environmental and community issues. The team will be giving a presentation on its work. Read more on Page 7.

I hope as many of you as possible will come to the town meeting, where the Mayor, Cllr Brian Gosling, will be introducing the Youth Mayor, Fatma Bacha.

Road repairs on the A259 have been delayed and are now expected to start in the summer.

The town council's annual report for 2017-18 will be available on our website soon and I do urge you to read about the successes we have had in the past 12 months.

The Neighbourhood Plan is reaching out to all residents this month in special presentations, to share visions and to enable residents to discuss their views for the town — how they would like it to look in 30 years. Dates for the consultation conversations are being advertised and I hope you will come and have your say. Read more on Page 3.

Lewes District Council's Planning Committee will meet again soon in Peacehaven to discuss further proposals to build homes at Lower Hoddern Farm. The town council will publish the date as soon as it is confirmed.

Many events are planned this coming year including markets, trade fairs, dinners, a murder mystery event and personal physical training.

To keep up to date, please check our website events page at www.peacehaventowncouncil.gov.uk/whats-on/



Peacehaven Summer Fair arrangements are well underway. Zero Degrees Skate Festival will again be supporting the event alongside a giant car boot sale at Centenary Park on Saturday, July 14, from 11am to 4pm. Organisations and groups who wish to book a stall at the event should register their interest with Matt Gunn by emailing him at apprentice@peacehaventowncouncil.gov.uk



HAVE YOUR SAY

First public presentations of the Neighbourhood Plan will be this month and they will be a chance for you to have a say in the future of Peacehaven, Telscombe Cliffs and East Saltdean.

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group is in the process of devising the plan. It is the towns' document that sets out planning policies for the area — policies to be used to decide applications to build homes.

The steering group said: "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.

"We want to reach as many residents as we can, to ask their opinions on planning matters. Residents want to know what is being built.

"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

A Neighbourhood Plan is a new way for people to influence the planning and development of the area in which they live and work. They can develop a shared vision for a village or town and choose where homes, shops, offices and other development should be built. They can influence how much housing should be built and of what type, and identify and protect important green spaces and other treasured assets.

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 towns to retain their independence and their identities."

Full details of the first public presentations are in the panel below.

Peacehaven & Telscombe Neighbourhood Plan

Come along to the following public presentations to let us hear your views. All welcome. Join us to imagine a better neighbourhood — help us to make it happen. Tea and cake will be served.



**Peacehaven,
Community House**

April 11 9am-3pm

April 12 5pm-8pm

April 13 9am-midday

April 14 All day

April 17 6pm-9pm

**Saltdean Lido,
Community Hall**

April 7 11am-3pm

April 8 11am-3pm

**Telscombe
Civic Centre**

April 16 1pm-3pm

April 17 2pm-4pm

April 18 6pm-9pm

April 23 9am-3pm



Chats make a difference

A small team of volunteers is being recruited to help the NHS Community Connect Programme in Peacehaven.

Almost four million older people say TV is their main form of company, and Community Chat Volunteers aim to provide an alternative.

Volunteers in the Havens area will be asked for a minimum commitment of one hour a week on a day of their choice, Monday to Friday, for six months to visit someone in their own home. Find out more from Kensa Cooper on 01273 402529 or email kensa.cooper@nhs.net

Poll winner

Lynda Duhigg (Conservative) won a by-election in the town council's West ward with 316 votes. Votes for other candidates were Vicky Phillips (Independent) 160; Matthew Milligan (Liberal Democrat) 117; Ian Buchanan (UKIP) 54; Roy Scott (Independent) 31.



Fit & healthy

The town council will be hosting a Healthy Living Day event in partnership with Sussex Community Development Association and East Sussex County Council.

The event will be in the Meridian Centre Mall on Friday, April 20, between 9am and 1pm.

The wide variety of different healthy-living themed stalls at the event will include personal trainers, yoga teachers and many other different charities and organisations, all promoting the importance of health.

If you are interested in promoting your business or organisation at the event, please email [Matt Gunn at apprentice@peacehaventowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:apprentice@peacehaventowncouncil.gov.uk) or call him on 01273 585493.



FROM THE MAYOR

I have had an amazing mayoral year, raising funds for my four selected charities — Sussex Pet Rescue, NSPCC (Angels Walk), Chestnut Tree House and the local branch of the Rotary Club. I will be giving each organisation a cheque at my civic reception later this month.

Throughout my term of office, my wife Sandra and I have visited many different groups and organisations and were invited to many tea parties by residents, all of

which we have enjoyed.

The Happy Quilters group has been making a marvellous quilt which depicts the suffragette movement. This year commemorates the 100th anniversary of some women in Britain being given the vote. The quilt will hang in the Copper Room at Community House.

It is important to continue to donate to the food bank and the Information Office is a collection point.

Sandra asked me what my

greatest achievement was during my term in office and without hesitation I said the abseil over Friars' Bay last September in aid of the NSPCC.

It has been a pleasure serving as Mayor and I will continue to serve in North ward as a councillor. We have appreciated your help throughout the year.

Brian Gosling
Mayor of Peacehaven



The public may attend any council or committee meeting. Each meeting is normally held at the Meridian Centre and starts at 7.30pm unless stated.

April

- 10 Planning and Highways
- 17 Annual town meeting (6pm)
- 24 Policy and Finance



Peacehaven's councillors on Lewes District Council:

North ward: Andy Loraine, 01273 580919, and Elayne Merry, 01273 580732.

East ward: Nigel Enever, 01273 580399, and Jackie Harrison-Hicks, 01273 589430.

West ward: Dave Neave, 01273 586381, and Robert Robertson, 01273 517069.

Peacehaven's councillor on East Sussex County Council: Nigel Enever, 01273 580399. For some North ward residents the county councillor is Andy Smith, 01273 584483.



Bingo will be at the Meridian Centre on Friday, April 13, at 7pm and Wednesday, April 18, at 2pm.



The town council's cinema will show Darkest Hour (PG) at the Meridian Centre on Wednesday, April 18, at 7.30pm. Oscar winner Gary Oldman shines as Churchill on the brink of war.



LEGAL EAGLE

with Lawson Lewis Blakers

If you suffer a relationship breakdown...

The ending of a relationship can be a traumatic time. It's important to give yourself time to gather your thoughts and emotions. It can be useful to take advice. We can assist with:

- How to help your children through the process.
- To consider whether short-term protection is necessary – e.g. to safeguard assets or your physical safety.
- Arrangements for children.
- Managing the financial consequences such as sharing assets, maximising income – e.g. welfare benefits, issues of maintenance, child support and the potential taxation consequences.
- How to approach issues to secure the best and most cost-effective outcome – mediation, negotiation or court application.
- A review of life planning – e.g. your will.

Jeremy Sogno, a member of the Law Society Advanced Family Law Panel, will be pleased to advise. Please telephone 01273 582680 or email sogno@lawsonlewisblakers.co.uk for a free half-hour appointment.



Good progress despite the grim weather

Churchill Retirement Living's 31-unit development being built on the site of the old police station on the South Coast Road is progressing as well as can be expected considering recent poor weather.

The company is working alongside the town council to ensure any disruption to residents and the nearby doctors' surgery is kept to a minimum and will continue to do so.

Alan Mills, Churchill's group construction training manager, said: "Over the coming months our build programme will become busier and during April the main brickwork should be completed and the roof trusses and coverings will be well underway.

"Externally, rendering and cladding will be starting and external services will be started. The external ground-floor windows and doors will be installed towards the end of the month."

The development should be completed August-September and the sales office is scheduled to open next month.

Churchill is employing traffic marshals to control deliveries in and out of the site to ensure safe access to the development.



Ground staff meet winter's challenge

This winter has been a challenge for the town council's ground staff. Excessive rain and snow since Christmas led to a few weekends of football being cancelled due to waterlogged and then frozen pitches, so the end of the season will be busy, said Head Groundsman Kevin Bray.

A new aerator has been used on the pitches when

conditions have allowed to try to help them drain more quickly and this will continue into the spring.

All the hedge-cutting and tree works scheduled for winter are almost complete.

The team has been busy attending courses, with Tom James passing his chainsaw courses, Andy Baines passing his spraying courses and Luca Fossella his horticulture NVQ level 2. All

these new skills have been put to good use already around the town.

Mr Bray said staff were continuing to empty bins and litter-pick the parks.

He said: "It is surprising the amount of litter and dog waste produced in the town and I ask residents to keep our parks tidy and use the bins provided so we can all enjoy litter and dog-mess-free parks."

Promenade maintenance

General maintenance work will be taking place on the Promenade during April and May with the contractors using Howard Peace Park for access and a welfare unit. Residents need not be concerned — this is a temporary measure, purely for the contractors to gain access. Posters will be circulated around the site nearer the time.

Connect with the professionals to talk about health priorities

Join in the Connecting 4 You Big Health and Care Conversation. Connecting 4 You is a partnership of health and social care organisations working together to help improve health and social care for the population of High Weald, Lewes and the Havens.

You are invited to the first conversation event at the

Hillcrest Centre in Newhaven on Wednesday, April 18, from 10am to 1pm.

The event will give you a chance to meet health commissioners and clinical leaders to discuss priorities for health and care in the area.

Book through the link connecting4youbig.conversation.eventbrite.co.uk or call 01273 403582.



Tributes have been paid to former town councillor Helen Livings, who has died suddenly.

Mrs Livings was Mayor during 2009-10 and also a trustee of Community Transport for the Lewes Area, Kempton House Day Club and the INNA organisation.

The town council's Civic Officer said Mrs Livings had worked tremendously hard during her term of office and had supported all local organisations when possible. She had been caring and supportive and would be truly missed.

Lewes District Citizens Advice has opened a new office in Newhaven. The premises at 15-19 Chapel Street (opposite the leisure centre) have been extensively renovated thanks to Lewes District Council as part of its commitment to the regeneration of the town.

The new office will be open three days a week — Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday — for drop-ins and on other days by appointment.

A form-filling service will be available for clients needing help with PIP and ESA forms.

SOUND ADVICE

citizens advice

The specialist debt and benefit service which used to be operated from the Hub above Lidl has also moved so clients can have the full range of Citizens Advice help under one roof.

The opening of the office in Newhaven has meant changes to opening times across the district.

These are the new-drop-in opening hours:

Newhaven: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10am to 3.30pm.

Lewes: Monday, Tuesday and Friday from 9.30am to 3pm.

Seaford: Monday and Wednesday from 9.30am to 3pm.

You can telephone on 03444 111 444 Monday to Friday from 9.30am to 4pm.

Email: www.eastsussexcab.org.uk

Visit the website for more details on locations and outreach at www.lewesdistrictcab.org.uk



Councils join forces to develop their services

Lewes District and Eastbourne Borough councils have embarked on a significant change programme that brings the staff of the two councils together as a single workforce.

Technology solutions will be shared and changes will be made to ways of working to be more efficient and customer focused.

Management level has been streamlined and includes a shared corporate management team.

The new way of working aims to

- Protect services provided for residents and at the same time reduce costs for both councils to save £2.8 million a year.

- Create two stronger organisations which can operate more strategically within the region while still retaining the sovereignty of each council.

- Meet customers' expectations to

NEIGHBOURHOOD FIRST

receive high-quality, modern services focused on local needs, making best use of modern technology.

- Build resilience by combining skills and infrastructure across both councils.

There is now a joint website for the two councils – www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk

The website will enable the councils to provide a much wider range of services online so people can access them at a time to suit them, not just within traditional office hours.

Jointly operating services will have a new Customer First branding.

The successful Neighbourhood First team from Eastbourne will be extended

into the Lewes district to provide a flexible and responsive locality-based service to respond to environmental and community issues.

Alongside this the councils will also be extending their "report it" app to cover the Lewes district as well as Eastbourne, enabling residents to let them know there and then about fly-tips, graffiti and other environmental issues so they can be sorted quickly.

The new Homes First team will provide housing services to tenants in the Lewes district and the tenants of Eastbourne Homes Limited in Eastbourne.

Robert Cottrill, Chief Executive of Lewes and Eastbourne councils, said: "We believe these adjustments will enable us to continue to provide high-quality and improving public services to our residents."

FROM THE MP



I have been pushing for investment in and development of the Meridian Centre. I have had a phone meeting with the head of Co-operative Property Services and his staff team. They have agreed to engage with the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group to talk about longer-term plans for redevelopment. In the short term they will look at opening some empty shops for community, arts and charities at peppercorn rents. They have agreed in principle having a craft and farmers' market at the centre and have said they will look at bringing the shop refurbishment and re-branding forward.

They say the supermarket is making good money and they want to invest in it, as well as the centre and our town.

Get in touch with my office if there are other specific issues about the centre you want me to raise with the Co-op.

On April 27, my friend Carolyn Harris MP's Private Member's Bill will be debated and voted on for its Second Reading. Her bill is aimed at establishing a review of pension arrangements for women affected by changes to the state pension age and to set up a compensation scheme for these women. The week before, I will be hosting a public meeting on this issue in Peacehaven. There is a national campaign, set up by women affected by these changes, called WASPI (Women Against State Pension Inequality), and I am supporting the local WASPI group in Parliament and

will be voting for Carolyn Harris's Bill.

My public meeting is aimed at women born in the 1950s who are affected by the changes. I will be sending out letters with more information and requests to RSVP but if you believe you are one of the affected women and do not receive a letter, come to the meeting at the Meridian Centre on April 20 from 2pm to 3pm. I look forward to hearing from women locally who are affected and, if I get the chance to speak in the debate in Parliament, to share your stories.

Lloyd Russell-Moyle

MP for Brighton Kemptown
and Peacehaven



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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 Deborah Donovan at civicanmarketing@peacehaventowncouncil.gov.uk

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