



### SCHEDULE OF FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

**Town Council (& Trusts):** Wednesday 14 December 2011, Wednesday 18 January 2012, Wednesday 15 February 2012 (meetings start at 7.30pm)

**Finance & Budget Oversight Committee:** Wednesday 25 January 2012 (meetings start at 7.30pm)

**Planning & Development Committee:** Tuesday 20 December 2011, Tuesday 10 January 2012, Tuesday 31 January 2012 (meetings start 7pm)

**Hailsham In Bloom Committee:** Monday 19 December 2011, Monday 30 January 2012 (meetings start 7.30pm)

[All meetings are held in the Fleur de Lys Meeting Room/Council Chamber and are open to the press and public, unless otherwise stated.]

**Councillor surgery dates:** Monday 19 December 2012, Monday 30 January 2012, Monday 27 January 2012.

## MESSAGE FROM YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM

With the Christmas season in full swing already, now is a good time to remind people of some simple tips to have a crime-free festive period:

- Make sure your house looks occupied by using time switches for lighting and closing the curtains
- Keep your home secure and store gifts out of sight until Christmas arrives
- Be a good neighbour and report anything suspicious
- Empty boxes left outside your home can advertise valuables inside, so be sure to break any boxes down and put into dustbins.

Would you like to know what we are doing over the Christmas period? You can find out by receiving regular updates via email. For further details send an email to [wealden@sussex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:wealden@sussex.pnn.police.uk) and we will add you to our community contacts. You can also follow us on twitter (Wealdenpol) or 'like us' on Facebook by searching for Sussex Police Wealden District.



**FINALLY, WE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO WISH ALL RESIDENTS A HAPPY AND CRIME-FREE HOLIDAY.**

### AUDIO NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION

Audio recordings of The Town Crier are available to blind and partially sighted subscribers who live in Hailsham. If you or someone you know would like to receive a recording of quarterly news items on a USB memory stick, please contact Wealden Talking News on 01435 862304 (answerphone).

### OUR RESPONSIBILITIES

Street Lighting, Public Open Spaces and Common Land, Recreation Grounds and Playing Fields, Allotments, Children's Play Areas, Cemeteries and Burial Records, Square Youth Café and Youth Advisory Services, Police Community Support Officers (two sponsored PCSOs).

For all enquiries relating to the above list of responsibilities, please contact Hailsham Town Council on (01323) 841702, where a member of staff will be happy to advise you.

### MEETING ROOM FOR HIRE



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## HAILSHAM IN BLOOM



working in partnership with the local community...



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# Hailsham Town Council THE TOWN CRIER



Issue 2 – December 2011

## CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM THE TOWN MAYOR

“As we approach Christmas 2011, it's hard to believe that the Mayoress and I are half way through our mayoral year already! Serving as Town Mayor is a great privilege and the Deputy Mayor Councillor Richard Grocock and I have been honoured to have met so many people in and around Hailsham who do such amazing things for residents.

I'd like to personally thank all the volunteers and charity workers we have met, as well as those we haven't, for the outstanding work they do in the local community, often without the recognition they deserve. I would also like to thank all those who have invited me to attend festive concerts, carol services, tree lighting ceremonies and other seasonal events in the run up to Christmas.

In closing, I wish to encourage people to remember

to care for each other during the festive period, in particular the elderly and infirm. Christmas is a time for families and friends to get together, but we should all remember those who cannot be with us and others who are less fortunate than ourselves.

On behalf of all the councillors and staff at the Town Council, the Mayoress Debbie and I wish Hailsham residents a very happy and peaceful Christmas and a prosperous New Year."

**Councillor Jeff Bentley-Astor**  
Town Mayor and Chairman, Hailsham Town Council



## DICKENSIAN YULETIDE MARKET




Hailsham Town Centre  
**Saturday 10th December 3PM-8PM**

A Dickensian-style 'Yuletide Market' organised by the Town Council and its project partners will take place in the High Street from 3pm on Saturday 10th December, bringing energy and a festive atmosphere to the town centre!

At the festive market there will be a number of stalls selling Christmas-gifts, decorations, cards and quality local and regional fine food, carol singing, bell ringing and children's entertainment, roasted chestnuts and a mouth-watering hog roast to tempt visitors. Santa will, once again, be setting up his Grotto in the High Street on the day for the children, courtesy of project partner Lark In The Park Charitable Trust.

Councillor Jo Bentley said, "Stalls will fill the atmospheric streets of Hailsham's historic heart on December 10 with the colours, sounds and smells of Christmas. At the Market, there's a good chance you'll find something special for the hard-to buy-for yet there will be plenty of street entertainment and a free Find-The-Reindeer competition for children."

## PUBLIC TOILET DESIGN COMPETITION

The Town Council has officially confirmed that responsibility for the management and operation of the public conveniences in the town centre will be transferred to the town council.

At a meeting of full Council held on Wednesday [16th November], town councillors approved the legal lease transfer agreement with Wealden District Council for the demolition, and complete rebuilding and refurbishment of the public toilets situated in Vicarage Field, which have been subject to deterioration in recent years.

Welcoming the decision to take over responsibility of the public conveniences as a "necessary enhancement to existing services", the town council is making initial preparations to launch a building design competition for a brand new public toilet building on the existing site in January 2012, which will be open to local builders, surveyors and architects. Details of the tendering

process will be made available to the public in the near future.

Councillor Bill Bentley said, "The Town Council is now in a position to improve the quality of service to users and the transfer of public conveniences to the town council fits with our asset management strategy, providing the opportunity for better local control on opening hours, repairs, cleaning regime and more."

"Good quality conveniences are important to local residents and visitors to the town alike, regardless of age and physical ability."

For further information and competition entry criteria, contact Mickey Cairn on (01323) 841702 or send an email to mickey.cairn@hailsham-tc.gov.uk.

## HAILSHAM IN BLOOM

The Town Council's Hailsham In Bloom Committee is already working on a number of interesting projects for the town's South & South East in Bloom competition entry next summer.

Projects include the creation of a community rose garden in Western Road to celebrate Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee in 2012, additional planting features for the recently launched Hailsham Heritage Trail, further improvements to the Dennis King Memorial Sensory Garden, mass spring bulb planting, various fundraising events and the

enhancement of town centre floral displays.

Councillor Richard Grocock, chairman of the Committee, said, "Hailsham In Bloom has resulted in residents, schools, businesses and voluntary organisations working together for the benefit of the community since its launch in 2007, and we will be aiming to increase community and volunteer involvement through specific working group projects or on an ad-hoc basis with some of our larger projects."



## ACTIVITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE A TOP PRIORITY

The Town Council's youth services continue to go from strength to strength, providing a range of opportunities and activities for young people in Hailsham between the ages of 11-18.

Young people in Hailsham have access to a wide range of outings and day trips, having taken part this year in a trip to Revolution Skate Park in Broadstairs, various PGL team-building activities, and a weekend trip in July to Hailsham's twin town in France, Gournay-en-Bray, for the annual St Clair Festival.



'Oversight Councillor' for youth projects, Councillor Dawn Ryan, said "A key developing strength of our youth service is the range of youth activities on offer for large numbers of young people, giving them the opportunity to show their talent and get involved in raising the positive profile of young people in the town. I know that those who attend organised outings enjoy them tremendously and the events themselves are keenly anticipated."

## Letters...

We welcome letters for publication on local issues affecting Hailsham. Please post your letter to Town Council Offices (Newsletter), Inglenook, Market Street, BN27 2AE or email it to terry.hall@hailsham-tc.gov.uk.

Please don't forget to include your title, initial, surname and address street name and be sure to mark your letter 'for publication'. Anonymous letters will not be published. The Editor reserves the right to shorten or edit letters in the interests of clarity, brevity and style, and to reject material that is not considered significant or of interest to the residents. A maximum length of 120 words is recommended.

*Having lived in Hailsham for over 20 years, I have seen good and bad. The Common Pond, parks and children's play areas are kept clean and tidy. Hailsham town centre is kept clean and the floral displays are well kept all year. However, all the small shops which Hailsham was known for have nearly all gone! All that's left is mostly food outlets, charity shops and betting shops. The new traffic system stops people from seeing the High Street which I feel has killed our town. Yours, hoping for change. A Honeyball.*

**HTC:** A number of new shops have opened in Hailsham in recent months, which demonstrates that the town is slowly becoming an attractive proposition once again. Whilst Hailsham High Street in particular remains a challenge, the Town Council is working with the Hailsham & District Chamber of Commerce and other partner organisations on ways we can improve town centre, attract new businesses and help boost trade in the foreseeable future.

*Throughout 2010 and the current year, a large number of people from the Hailsham In Bloom Committee and East Sussex Association of Blind and Partially Sighted People (ESAB) have worked very hard to complete the Dennis King Memorial Sensory Garden [off Gleneagles Drive and Dunbar Drive]. Sadly, vandals entered the garden in September causing considerable damage to one of the access gates, a number of interpretive signs and uprooted some bedding plants. We would like to ask these vandals what pleasure they gained from damaging a garden created for the enjoyment of disabled people in the community? J. Cook, Danum Close and L. Lovelady, Bakers Farm Park*

**HTC:** It is estimated that around £100 of damage to the garden was caused by vandals on the evening of Wednesday 7th September and the incident was reported to the police (crime serial n. 0971; 08.09.11), although those responsible for causing the damage have not yet been identified. The Town Council has recently undertaken repairs to the garden, including the installation of a new interior access gate and replacement signs.

*Could the long dead tree on the precinct in Vicarage Field be removed and replaced by say a Hawthorn?*

**HTC:** The Town Council is currently working with Hailsham & District Chamber of Commerce to alleviate this problem and hopefully we will have some good news for you in the near future.

## CHRISTMAS OPENING TIMES

The Town Council Offices at Inglenook, Market Street will close for the Christmas holidays on Friday 23rd December at 12 noon, and re-open at 9am on Tuesday 3rd January 2012.

The Town Council will operate its 24-hour emergency phone line for residents during the Christmas holidays, to report damage to or request an urgent repair for Town Council

maintained buildings and grounds only. The number to call is 07806 309497.

## NEW PASSENGER USER GROUP

Close on the heels of a Quality Bus Partnership being formed by Hailsham Town Council, a passenger user group has been set up, formed by local residents and bus users.



The Hailsham & District Passenger User Group (HADPUG) aims to increase the influence of bus users in the local area and consult the wider public on

such issues as frequency and reliability of bus services, bus shelters, timetables, digital information, ticketing and new bus routes.

Group coordinator Councillor Jenny Cook said, "The group's activities demonstrate the Town Council's passion to help make decisions affecting public transport users, with a focus on improving people's experience when using services. Members of the group will be able to help make a real difference to people's journeys in and around the town."

Why not join the passenger user group (free) by downloading a printable application form at [www.hailsham-tc.gov.uk/qbs.html](http://www.hailsham-tc.gov.uk/qbs.html) or telephone 01323 841702 to have a form posted to you.

Further background information can be found on the town council website.

Afternoons  
Mon, Wed, Fri  
3.15-5pm  
Yr. 7, 8, 9

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Produced by Chris Dowling Print & Design Ltd for and on behalf of Hailsham Town Council, Inglenook, Market Street, Hailsham, East Sussex, BN27 2AE. Tel: (01323) 841702 Fax (01323) 842978.



**THANK YOU AND WELL DONE!**

Hailsham Town Council would like to thank IN TOUCH INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICE for its continued support for older people and vulnerable adults in the local community.

In Touch provides advice on suitable daily living equipment to support people in need of care with mobility and bathing, and to safely manage daily tasks. The service's key aim is to help people to obtain the right support to enable them to remain independent in their homes and active in their community. At the heart of the service is a team of skilled and experienced Independent Living Service advisers who can connect people with the support they need.

"Having attended one of In Touch's open days earlier this year, I listened to a number of very interesting speakers who gave passionately about helping people, giving them advice and offering invaluable support. Immediately it occurred to me that as Hailsham Town Council should be giving the service our maximum support and encouragement, I am confident there will be a substantial number of Hailsham residents who will greatly benefit from this service and I very much hope readers will take full advantage of it. Thank you and well done to everyone involved at In Touch!"

CHRIS TOMMY WILLIAMS

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## COUNCILLOR CONTACT DETAILS

SOUTH & WEST WARD	CENTRAL & NORTH WARD	EAST WARD
Jo BENTLEY (CON) – 01323 840386	Bill BENTLEY (CON) – 01323 847685	Stella HENSTOCK (CON) – 01323 842763
Jeffrey BENTLEY-ASTOR (CON) – 01323 841332	Nicholas COLLINSON (CON) – 01323 846040	Michael RYAN (CON) – 07545 136168
Margaret BURT (CON) – 01323 840345	Jennifer COOK (CON) – 01323 844463	Stuart TOWNER (CON) – 07908 251801
Nigel COLTMAN (CON) – 01323 841925	Paul HOLBROOK (LD) – 01323 841978	
Bill CRITENDEN (HI) – 01323 840021	Barry MARLOWE (CON) – 01323 840660	
Richard GROCOCK (CON) – 01323 842931	Stephen MCAULIFFE (CON) – 01323 841702	<b>UPPER HORSEBRIDGE WARD</b>
Geoffrey ROWE (HI) – 01323 841847	Dawn RYAN (CON) – 01323 847804	John BLAKE (LD) – 01323 846297
Mary ROWE (HI) – 01323 841847		Charlotte COLLINSON (CON) – 01323 841702
Chriss TRIANDAFYLLOU (CON) – 01323 848814		Barbara HOLBROOK (LD) – 01323 841978
Anthony WILLIAMS (CON) – 01323 849652		Margaret SKINNER (CON) – 01323 841702

**Political Party Key:** CON: Conservative; HI: Hailsham Independents; LD: Liberal Democrat;  
\* Postal addresses of councillors are available at the Town Council Offices or via [www.hailsham-tc.gov.uk](http://www.hailsham-tc.gov.uk)