



MEET YOUR NEW TOWN CLERK



The Town Mayor has welcomed the appointment of John Harrison as Clerk to Hailsham Town Council.

Mr Harrison, 41, has been appointed to succeed previous incumbent Mrs Liz Jones, who held the post for the past 11 years until her retirement last November.

Expressing delight at the new appointment, Councillor

Bentley-Astor said "We are pleased to welcome Mr Harrison to the team and the Council looks forward to working with him during this exciting period of change, development

and improvement in Hailsham."

Born in Buxton, Derbyshire and having lived in East Sussex for 15 years, Mr Harrison has occupied a variety of senior managerial positions at East Sussex County Council in, including various administrative roles and the coordination of services provided direct to the community.

Mr Harrison said, "I am honoured to have been selected for this role and am delighted that I have had so much support from council and fellow staff members so early into my role. I have entered my role at is an extremely exciting time for the town council, given the town revitalisation plans and various other interesting projects which the council has set out to achieve in the next four years to improve Hailsham as a place to live, work and visit."

TOWN REVITALISATION PLANS UNDER WAY!

Plans by the Town Council to revitalise the town of Hailsham have picked up pace since the establishment of its Business Development Committee earlier this year.

The Town Council is working on establishing a number of short and long-term schemes for the revitalisation of Hailsham. Under consideration are:

- The creation of parking controls within the town centre, introducing designated parking for disabled persons and loading/unloading bays, and the establishment of extended taxi rank locations
- The development of a pedestrian friendly environment including wider pavements, new lighting and restricted vehicle movements that maintain pedestrian priority
- The attraction of new business into the area by creating the right environmental conditions, thus creating future employment opportunities
- Working with agents, stakeholders and partners to develop an environmental plan for each of the seven industrial and business parks in Hailsham, and to consider what improvements need to be developed
- The re-establishment of Hailsham as a 'Medieval Market Town' with street markets and enhanced business opportunities
- To consider developing of a Roads and Transport Masterplan.

Councillor Tony Williams, chairman of the Business Development Committee said, "The Town Council is proud to be working devotedly to supporting economic development in Hailsham, increasing employment through the identification and assessment of ideas and ascertaining which schemes have the potential to deliver strong and successful town revitalisation whilst meeting the aspirations of the local community."

"The Town Council has made a fresh start in terms of driving the revitalisation of the town forward," added Councillor Williams. "While there is already significant interest in the town regeneration project from companies and leaseholders, I would like to encourage any other interested public bodies to contribute to potential revitalisation schemes."



IMPROVEMENTS TO HEALTH SERVICES IN HAILSHAM

From April 2013, the power to commission most NHS services will shift from PCTs to groups of doctors and clinicians.

Coastal Community Healthcare is the clinical commissioning group that will be responsible for Hailsham, Eastbourne and Seaford. They will take charge of commissioning the majority of your health services, from hospitals to community-based services.

Over the coming months local people will hear a lot more from Coastal Community Healthcare, as listening to and involving patients is one of their top priorities. They are also looking to build a close relationship with Hailsham Town Council; GPs from all the practices in the town are meeting with the councillors in the coming weeks.

Hailsham GP Dr Matt Jackson, Vice-Chair of Coastal Community Healthcare, said: "We are committed to working together with local people and all of the practices in Hailsham to improve services in the town. We've already introduced new dermatology and cardiology services but will be following this up with a strategy to make further improvements locally."

The NHS is facing some of the most significant challenges in its history and we know there are also specific local health needs to focus on. However, by working together with all the practices in Hailsham, local people and our partners such as the council, we are confident we can get the best out of the resources available and plan services to meet the needs of the growing population.

We know how important it is for local people to have consistent and sustainable health services in the town. We are already working hard to make sure that's what we deliver. We're really excited at the prospect of working with you to deliver the best possible healthcare for the people of Hailsham."

Town councillor Bill Bentley said, "We know that many Hailsham residents are concerned that local health provision needs to be improved and expanded. Some of these plans are already progressing but are not universally known to residents."

"Hailsham Town Council has started a dialogue with local GP health managers and NHS Sussex and we look forward to working with them as a local partnership that will inform future planning for an expanded range of Hailsham based health services. The Town Crier will include regular features about general health services available in Hailsham, plus we will tell you about plans for the future as they emerge."

"Good health and fitness is something we would all wish to enjoy but, should illness occur, we would like everyone to have access to the best local healthcare possible and we will all be working together towards that goal."

All local practices are setting up patient participation groups – contact your practice manager to find out more. Want to know more about the changes to the NHS? Visit www.sussex.nhs.uk



HAILSHAM BUSINESS ENTERPRISE MANAGER APPOINTED

Changes are afoot as the Town Council appoints a dedicated officer to work alongside councillors and focus on helping to transform the town over the course of the next four years.

Leading on the Town Council's major town revitalisation project, Mickey Cairra has been appointed as Business Enterprise Manager to ensure that the Council maintains a clear focus to promote the Hailsham economically and socially and to ensure that the profile of Hailsham as a "town open for business" remains active.

Mr Cairra will continue his role as Deputy Town Clerk whilst carrying out these duties and will be working with local residents, businesses and partners to drive forward revitalisation plans, roll out a number of initiatives as determined by the Town Council and its partners, and make recommendations on areas of improvement

within the Hailsham area. Councillor Steve McAuliffe, oversight councillor for Town Centre and High Street Regeneration, commented:

"Hailsham is a town that is rapidly developing and this needs to be reflected in the way it is managed. Ensuring that we have a sustainable economic model and a desirable environment in which to live is of paramount importance."

"Hailsham has a wealth of positive attributes and we need to be on the front foot to ensure we develop them further and publicise what we have to offer. A dedicated officer allows us take the initiative when it comes to making the required changes and getting the message out to a wider audience."



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 CRITTENDEN (HI) – 01323 840021	Barry MARLOWE (CON) – 01323 840660	
Richard GROCOCK (CON) – 01323 842931	Stephen MCAULIFFE (CON) – 01323 841702	UPPER HORSEBRIDGE WARD
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

DIAMOND JUBILEE GARDEN

Work by the Town Council's Hailsham In Bloom Committee to build a brand new community rose garden to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 2012 is under way.

The proposal to build a public rose garden outside Hailsham Library in Western Road to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee came from the committee last year, which has led a small working party from within the town council and the local community to produce a final design of the garden and seek sponsorship for the project.

Some of the funding required for the purchase of roses, raised plant beds, paving and wooden benches has been obtained, although additional sponsorship is required from local businesses interested in supporting the project. The garden will be officially opened by the Lord Lieutenant of East Sussex, Mr Peter Field, at 10am on Saturday 2nd June.

Councillor Richard Grocock, Deputy Town Mayor and chairman of the Hailsham In Bloom Committee said, "I am delighted that work on the construction of the Diamond Jubilee Community Rose Garden is now under way and I am confident that it will be ready for the start of this summer, in time for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations in June. I'd also like to thank East Sussex County Council for allowing us to build the garden on their land and for helping us with various other aspects of the project."

If you would like to be involved in the Queen's Diamond Jubilee community garden project, contact Hailsham Town Council on 01323 841702 or visit the Hailsham In Bloom website at www.hailshaminbloom.org for further information.



STREET NAME HONOUR FOR GOURNAY-EN-BRAY

Hailsham and its twin town Gournay-en-Bray will strengthen their international friendship at a special street-naming ceremony in May.

The name Gournay Road will be unveiled on one of Hailsham's newest streets at 9.30am on Sunday 13th May, at an event which will be presided over by the Mayor of Hailsham, Councillor Jeff Bentley-Astor, and the Mayor of Gournay-en-Bray, Mr Jean-Lou Pain. The Town Crier Councillor Geoff Rowe will also be in attendance along with local residents, French visitors and a strong contingent from both twinning associations.

The idea to name a street in Hailsham after its twin town was put forward in 2010 by the town council's Twinning Anniversary Celebrations working group to recognise the already strong, 10-year relationship between the two communities. The Twinning Charter between the two towns was signed in Hailsham in October 2000 and

Gournay-en-Bray in February 2001, but officially renewed in October 2010 and February 2011 respectively. Whilst the populations of the towns differ considerably (Hailsham - 20,500; Gournay - 5,000), the facilities in both towns are very similar. A number of fundraising activities and cultural visits in both directions take place each year.

Town Mayor Councillor Jeff Bentley-Astor, who will unveil the commemorative plaque at the ceremony said, "On behalf of the Town Council and residents of Hailsham, I would like to say how proud we are to have Gournay-en-Bray as our twin town and look forward to developing the already well-established links and quality friendships we have in years to come. I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank the host families who once again have been most generous in opening their homes to our friends in France and Hailsham & District Twinning Association members for their work throughout the year."

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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.

www.hailsham-tc.gov.uk

MESSAGE FROM YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM

Local police officers have been working tirelessly over the last few months dealing with anti-social behaviour, crime and even environmental issues.

Wealden, with over 64,000 properties, is a generally low crime area. However, the main crimes that we are seeing more and more of are theft of metal and theft of property from sheds and garages. Metal theft can range from stealing a farmers gate to removing crash barriers from the side of the road or taking metal from a residential garden.

Over the coming weeks we are also visiting a lot of properties across the Wealden district, including Hailsham, offering crime prevention advice regarding residents' sheds and garages. We will be offering to security mark property with Sussex police branded security stickers.

If you would like to know more about what your local Neighbourhood Policing Team has been doing in Hailsham, you can register to receive email updates via district.wealden@sussex.pnn.police.uk

Don't forget, if you would like any crime prevention advice you can speak with your local officers by visiting the Sussex police website and putting your postcode into the search box.



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 road 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 residents. A maximum length of 80 words is recommended.

*I am a volunteer driver for Cuckmere Community Bus and on New Year's Day we operated service 50 through Hailsham to Eastbourne and Heathfield, as no other buses were serving the town on that day. CCB have received a number of favourable comments from passengers who used the service, including one from a lady who thought it remarkable that although we are volunteers, our organisation was still willing and able to offer a service through Hailsham on the 1st January. In view of this positive reaction to our efforts we hope to be able to repeat this service for Hailsham residents next year.
Mr R. Goldsmith, Mill Road*

HTC: It is fantastic to hear that Cuckmere Community Bus services ran well throughout the Christmas and New Year period. Additional transport links such as those provided by CCB are crucial for many people living in Hailsham and surrounding villages and, by making the best use of available resources, the Town Council is delighted to underwrite these essential services.

*I know many residents of Hailsham would like to see the small shops open again for business, especially clothing shops for ladies, men and children, as they were when I first came to live here in the 1950s, as well as a good old fashioned drapery and ironmonger's shop. There is nothing suitable here and we certainly don't want any more cafés, tattoo [parlours] and nail shops and definitely no more superstores. Hailsham has always been a thriving market town, so let it be so again and put pride back into our lovely town."
Mrs J.C. Short-Windsor, Ersham Park*

HTC: Firstly, a number of new shops have in fact opened in Hailsham in recent months, which demonstrates that the town is slowly becoming an attractive proposition once again. Through the recently established Business Development Committee, the town council will work to deliver and implement strategies for the benefit of Hailsham residents with a view to attracting new businesses in the town centre (including clothes shops) and helping to boost trade in the foreseeable future.

QUIZ NIGHT!

Saturday 24th March
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DOG WASTE CONTROL IN HAILSHAM

Members of the public are welcoming the ongoing success of Hailsham Town Council's dog waste bin maintenance services.

The Town Council currently maintains 32 dog waste bins in Hailsham, including those situated in play areas, parks and various public open spaces throughout the town. The emptying of dog waste bins is carried out by the Town Council twice a week all year round and during the year, reviews and enhancements to the service are discussed where possible.



Dog fouling is becoming a serious issue in many public places," said Councillor Paul Holbrook, oversight councillor for Environment. "Whilst the majority of dog owners behave responsibly and clean up after their dogs, a small minority still fail to clean up, contravening the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act and Clean Neighbourhoods & Environment Act in the process."

Town Clerk John Harrison said, "The Town Council prides itself in maintaining a clean and safe environment for residents and I would encourage all residents to do their part by continuing to help keep the town's open spaces and footpaths clean and free of dog waste.



Registrar of Births and Deaths

Available at the Town Council offices on Tuesday mornings by appointment only. To book call

01323 415051

To report a damaged, vandalised or overflowing dog waste bin, contact Hailsham Town Council on (01323) 841702 or send an email to enquiries@hailsham-tc.gov.uk. Reports of overflowing bins will be investigated and an extra empty will be arranged if necessary.

COUNCILLOR SURGERY FOR RESIDENTS

The Deputy Town Mayor will be holding the next surgery for local residents on Monday 26th March at the Town Council Offices, Inglebrook, Market Street.

Councillor Richard Grocock will be available to residents for consultation from 10am to 4pm on the day, and will be happy to speak to people about local issues of concern and answer questions about the work of the Town Council and the services it provides.

"The monthly councillor surgery sessions are designed to enable Hailsham residents to have the opportunity to engage in local issues that matter to them and voice their opinions," said Councillor Grocock. "My fellow councillors and I want to make ourselves as accessible as possible to local people, so hopefully this monthly surgery will prove popular with residents in the long term."

The councillor surgery is available to people on an appointment only basis once a month. Residents who wish to arrange an appointment should either write to the Town Council Offices advising the topic of concern, telephone 01323 841702 (during office hours), or email enquiries@hailsham-tc.gov.uk.

SCHEDULE OF FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Town Council (& Trusts): Wednesday 21 March 2012, Wednesday 18 April 2012, Wednesday 23 May 2012 – ANNUAL MEETING (meetings start at 7.30pm)

Finance & Budget Oversight Committee: Wednesday 30 May 2012 (meetings start at 7.30pm)

Planning & Development Committee: Tuesday 13 March 2012, Tuesday 3 April 2012, Tuesday 24 April 2012, Tuesday 15 May 2012 (meetings start 7pm)

Hailsham In Bloom Committee: Monday 26 March 2012, Monday 23 April 2012, Monday 28 May 2012 (meetings start 7.30pm)

Business Development: Thursday 8 March 2012, Thursday 12 April, Thursday 17 May (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 26 March 2012, Monday 30 April 2012, Monday 28 May 2012.
[10am-4pm; available on an appointment-only basis. To book an appointment call 841702, advising of the topic of concern.]

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

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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.



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