



NEW TOWN TEAM SET UP TO HELP REVITALISE HAILSHAM

Hailsham now has an official 'Town Team' in place to bring together local stakeholders and fulfil objectives laid out in the town's Business Development Plan.

People came together to discuss the launch of the 'Town Team' and reviewed the best ways to revitalise Hailsham town centre and surrounding urban environment at an official launch meeting held at the new Civic Community Centre on Friday [September 14].

Organised by Hailsham Town Council and its project partners, the attendees, who included Wealden MP Charles Hendry, local business associations, economic development managers and stakeholders discussed the main issues affecting the town.

A range of concerns were raised including business rates, road infrastructure within the town, town centre parking

and signage. Delegates were invited to put forward their views and prioritise areas to be developed into an action plan.



Councillor Nick Collinson, chairman of the Business Development Committee said, "The Hailsham 'Town Team' project aims to build on the enthusiasm generated by the Town Council's Business Development Committee and create a vibrant and viable town centre in Hailsham of which all can be proud."

"We will continue to listen to the views of stakeholders as we refine the development proposals and will keep

residents and the local business community informed as the plans move forward."

At the launch, a number of delegates expressed an interest in becoming a member of the 'Town Team' and future meetings are planned to take the initiative forward.

£50 Prize Draw Incentive For Residents!

You are being given the opportunity to have your say on the future of your town by the Town Council.

The survey, which can be completed via www.hailsham-tc.gov.uk/thewayforward.html, enables you to put forward your ideas on the Council's overall strategic policy document of key activity in terms of business development and the revitalisation of the town in the next few years.

For people without internet access, arrangements can be made to post out surveys by contacting Hailsham Town Council on 01323 841702. Anybody submitting a fully-completed survey form by Friday 26th October 2012 will be entered into a draw to win **£50**.

TWINNERS EMBARK ON ONE OF A KIND BIKE RIDE TO FRANCE

Intrepid members of the Hailsham & District Twinning Association embarked on their annual cycle ride from Dieppe to twin town Gournay-en-Bray in France.

Fifteen 'twinners' made the journey on their bikes through the undulating roads of northern France. Worries about the weather vanished as they all crossed the channel in bright sunshine, and were soon pedalling happily south to their first stop at Neufchatel-en-Bray. Once on the Avenue Verte, however, they cycled easily through the rolling countryside of the Paye-de-Bray and frequent stops in little village cafés and blissful catnaps on grassy banks summed up their relaxed adventure.

The cyclists were joined by town councillor Paul Holbrook whose comment on his return was "What a fantastic trip that was, with lovely scenery and friendly people! The Twinning Association is grateful for every bit of support given over the years by the town council, enabling Hailsham residents to experience a new culture and make new friends into the bargain. I look forward to doing it again next year!"

The Hailsham & District Twinning Association is currently seeking new members. For further details contact John Puttick (Membership Secretary) on 01323 441787, Pauline Townsend (Secretary) on 01323 846539 or visit hailshamgournay.org.



TOWN COUNCIL NOW ON FACEBOOK AND TWITTER

Hailsham Town Council has joined the social networking revolution in a bid to keep people up-to-date with news and boost its appeal with young people in the town.

Members agreed earlier this year to set up a Facebook account to promote its activities to residents, businesses, schools and community organisations quickly and easily, supplemented by a Twitter page open to members of the public to add content. The idea to set up social media accounts had been proposed by town councillors in their bid to communicate with the people of Hailsham and publicise the Council's news, events and services on a regular basis.

Councillor Dawn Ryan, joint oversight councillor for Communications at Hailsham Town Council said, "Increasingly more and more people are using the internet – in particular social media – to find out what is happening in their local community and to get involved.

"The Town Council still intends to produce its quarterly publication *The Town Crier*, and use the existing communications methods (websites, press releases, posters and advertising) to promote events and services. Nevertheless, it is envisaged that by developing a social media forum we can reach an even wider audience and successfully inform people about what the Town Council is up to, and give them the opportunity to have their say.

"At present, we seldom receive traditional communications from young people. As social media are regarded as a "simple and immediate" channel for them to make contact, they will now be able to engage more in local community dialogue."

You can keep up-to-date with the Council's activities at facebook.com (search for 'Hailsham Town Council') and by following us on Twitter (@hailshamtowncouncil).



HAVE YOUR SAY ON ENERGY-SAVING STREET LIGHTING IN HAILSHAM

A public consultation will be underway soon for residents to comment on the future of street lighting in Hailsham.

In its commitment to meet national spending targets as well as to reduce its carbon usage, East Sussex County Council is making changes to its street lighting and will be seeking the views of residents for the new money-saving and carbon efficient street lighting system in the local area.

Proposed changes to the street lighting in Hailsham will involve installing equipment on the street lights along the main roads so that they are dimmed between midnight and 0600hrs, part-night lighting controls in all of the East Sussex County Council maintained lighting on residential roads, and providing a reduced number of street lights on some of the secondary/estate feeder roads.

The Town Council has agreed to convert some of its own street lighting in Hailsham to part-night operation when the scheme comes into fruition in the next few months, whereby the part-night lighting switches off between 0030hrs and 0530hrs.

Hailsham residents are invited to attend a consultation event being held on Friday 5th October at the Town Council Offices in Market Street from 9.30am to 12noon where residents will be able to view plans, discuss their concerns and leave comments. All comments together with other information we have about the area will be considered before any final decisions are made.

Chris Triandafyllou, joint oversight councillor for Roads, Footpaths and Public Rights of Way, states that there will be an obvious cost saving to the Town Council which will be of benefit to residents. He said, "The Town Council, like every local authority, has to make efficiency savings, and with energy bills rising and rising, the cost of providing energy for over 500 street lights in Hailsham through the night has reached a level where action needs to be taken.

"The scheme will not only result in a significant reduction in carbon emissions and energy consumption, but also save council tax payers money which can be spent on more useful facilities across the town.

"I urge members of the public to go along to the consultation event to see what the Town Council and East Sussex County Council are proposing to do to improve the street lights it maintains in the local area, what the project will involve and how it will be of benefit to residents."

People who are unable to attend the public consultation can find information about the scheme online at www.eastsussex.gov.uk. Information and comment forms will also be available at the Hailsham Town Council office in Market Street.

Appeal For Community Speed Watch Volunteers

Volunteers are needed to run a community speed watch programme to encourage motorists exceeding the speed limit in parts of Hailsham to slow down.

According to town councillor Nick Collinson, speeding in Hawkswood Road in particular has been considered by local residents as a serious community problem, with speeding checks often revealing that many drivers exceeding the speed limit are local to the surrounding area: "Speeding is one of the key factors that most affect the quality of life in the local community, and it's clear speeding traffic is becoming a problem again with some vehicles driving at well above the 30mph limit, especially in the early mornings and around school home time."

"There has generally been growing concern expressed at recent panel meetings regarding issues of road safety and anti-social

speeding in the area. This is why we thought it was a good idea to establish a community speed watch scheme for Hailsham."



Hailsham Town Council and Sussex Police are now looking for more volunteers for the scheme and help reduce speeding in your neighbourhood. Volunteers will be given access to the use of hand held speed recording equipment and health and safety issues and, once fully trained, will be able to conduct high visibility speed checks at the road side.

If you would like to take an active role in the Community Speed Watch scheme, please contact Councillor

Nick Collinson on 01323 846040 or

by email to nickcollinson@nickcollinson.co.uk.

Alternatively, please contact PCSO Faye Fletcher: faye.fletcher@sussex.pnn.police.uk.

Proposed New Speed Limit For Magham Down

The Town Council has confirmed its support for a scheme by East Sussex Highways to reduce the speed limit in Amberstone and Magham Down. The scheme will affect the stretch of the A271 covering the two areas and will involve reducing the speed limit to 40 miles per hour. The new speed limit is scheduled to come into operation early in the new year following further consultation and commissioning of resources.

HAILSHAM EXCELS IN SOUTH & SOUTH EAST IN BLOOM COMPETITION

Hailsham clinched a Silver Gilt award at the South & South East In Bloom Awards Ceremony held at Ferneham Hall in Fareham on Thursday 13th September.

In its fourth year of competing, the town was awarded a Silver Gilt certificate in the Large Town category in recognition of the efforts made by *Hailsham In Bloom* volunteers to complete a number of horticultural projects during the past twelve months.

Factors that particularly impressed the judges include the newly constructed Diamond Jubilee Rose Garden in Western Road, the *Hailsham In Bloom* plant nursery which was installed on the Orchard Park site off Grovelands Road earlier this year, the town centre floral displays and the high level of contribution from local businesses and younger members of the community during the last year.

Deputy Town Mayor and Chairman of the Town Council's *Hailsham In Bloom* Committee, Councillor Richard Grocock said, "Getting excellent results in our category is no mean feat and awards are not given lightly – this Silver-Gilt award is an outstanding achievement and is a real testament to how the *Hailsham In Bloom* Committee has worked with local residents, businesses and schools to make our town one we are justifiably proud of."

The *Hailsham In Bloom* Committee has a number of new and interesting projects outlined for the near future, details of which will be discussed at their next meeting to be held at the Town Council Offices (Market Street) on Wednesday 26th September, which members of the public are welcome to attend. For further information on the *Hailsham In Bloom* project, call 01323 841702 or log on to www.hailshaminbloom.org.



HAILSHAM MOVEMENT AND ACCESS STRATEGY

East Sussex County Council (ESCC) officers have been working with consultants to undertake a study to identify transport infrastructure necessary to support development in Hailsham and Hellingly.

The benefits of the transport improvements, including changes to junctions, improvements to the High Street and better signage, have now been assessed through the Hailsham transport model and preliminary designs have been completed for each scheme.

Hailsham Town Council has been involved throughout the process and has been able to give the local view on the needs of the area and what's likely to be needed in the future. Improvements to accessibility and traffic circulation in the town identified in the study include:

- A new roundabout at the A22/Hempstead Lane junction
- A consolidated 4-arm roundabout at South Road/Dipllocks Way/Ersham road
- Traffic lights at the junction of Western Road/South Road junction
- Strategic and local signing improvements
- Town centre pedestrian and public realm improvements
- Real Time bus information
- Improved pedestrian connectivity to and around the town centre and to other areas
- Pedestrian crossings and footway improvements – particularly close to schools and on main roads (A267/A271)
- Improved connections to and lighting on the Cuckoo Trail
- Cycle parking, particularly schools
- Improvements to A271 between Park Road and Hawkswood Drive



Councillor Chriss Triandafyllou, joint oversight councillor for Roads, Footpaths & Public Rights of Way said, "Environmental quality, pedestrian and cyclist safety, easy interchange between modes of transport and a high degree of connectivity are an essential ingredient of a progressive town, and this means that a wider raft of transport choices must be made available to affect a shift in travel patterns in the town over the short, medium and longer term. For example, we hope the proposed new junction/roundabout between Ersham Road and South Road will remove the worst traffic problems in the area, especially during peak times.

"The Town Council will continue to work with East Sussex County Council, Wealden District Council and other local authorities to identify the necessary transport infrastructure to support future growth and development in Hailsham."

Afternoons
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3.15-5pm
Yr. 7, 8, 9

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1 MARKET SQUARE HAILSHAM www.squareyouthcafe.com

Evenings
Mon-Fri
7.15-9.30pm
Yr. 8, 9

COUNCILLOR CONTACT DETAILS

SOUTH & WEST WARD

Jo BENTLEY (CON) – 01323 840386

Jeffrey BENTLEY-ASTOR (CON) – 01323 841332

Margaret BURT (CON) – 01323 840345

Nigel COLTMAN (CON) – 01323 841925

Bill CRITTENDEN (HI) – 01323 840021

Richard GROCOCK (CON) – 01323 842931

Geoffrey ROWE (HI) – 01323 841847

Mary ROWE (HI) – 01323 841847

Chriss TRIANDAFYLLOU (CON) – 01323 848814

CENTRAL & NORTH WARD

Bill BENTLEY (CON) – 01323 847685

Nicholas COLLINSON (CON) – 01323 846040

Jennifer COOK (CON) – 01323 844463

Paul HOLBROOK (LD) – 01323 841978

Barry MARLOWE (CON) – 01323 840660

Stephen MCAULIFFE (CON) – 01323 841702

Dawn RYAN (CON) – 01323 847804

EAST WARD

Stella HENSTOCK (CON) – 01323 842763

Michael RYAN (CON) – 07429 422470

Stuart TOWNER (CON) – 07908 251801

UPPER HORSEBRIDGE WARD

John BLAKE (LD) – 01323 846297

Charlotte COLLINSON (CON) – 01323 841702

Barbara HOLBROOK (LD) – 01323 841978

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

NEW STREET MARKET FOR HAILSHAM A POSSIBILITY

The Town Council is outlining plans to establish a regular town market in Vicarage Field as a key objective of its Business Plan.

The regular market would include local producers and new start-ups providing greatly subsidised stalls selling local and regional produce to encourage the buying public, and could help encourage visitors to the area. It is one of a wide range of schemes proposed by the Town Council and its newly developed 'Town Team' designed to "breathe life into businesses in Hailsham and create a vibrant, diverse and independent local economy."

Oversight councillor for Town Centre & Markets, Jo Bentley, said: "Despite missing out on the second round of Portas Pilot cash last month, we remain determined to work with local businesses and partners to get the town market underway, bring stalls back into the town centre on a regular basis and revitalise the area."

Councillor Bentley added, "Hailsham has lots to offer with great shops, restaurants and cafés and a town market is a way of encouraging more residents to visit and spend in the town centre. We would also hope to encourage shopkeepers to come out and have a market stall as well if and when we are granted permission to go ahead."



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Wealden Citizens' Advice is recruiting volunteers to help run their service. They have Bureaux in Hailsham, Crowborough and Uckfield, and are staffed by 7 paid employees and 115 volunteers. They offer free independent, impartial and confidential information and advice to anyone that needs it by telephone or in person.

There are a variety of voluntary positions to apply for including Receptionist, Advisor, Administration Assistant, IT, Trustee and General Maintenance.

Last year, our volunteers gained £1,500,000 of additional income for our 5,306 clients, helping them with 17,000 issues.

Free training is provided for all roles. Training starts September/October 2012. Please telephone Helen or Chloe on 01825 762807 for further details or send an email to administrator@uckfieldcab.cabnet.org.uk.

OUTDOOR GYM OFFICIALLY OPENED BY YOUTH MAYOR

Getting fitter and healthier is now ever easier, with the opening of the town's first ever outdoor gym at Hailsham Recreation Ground in Western Road on Saturday 15th September.

The all-weather outdoor gym – which is free and available to use 24 hours a day – has been installed by the Town Council in an attempt to encourage even more people in Hailsham to take up exercise in the open air and improve their health.

The state-of-the-art equipment has been permanently installed and is suitable for anyone over 12 years and for all abilities. It includes an air skier, cross country skier, double rower, seated leg-press and a push-up station, modelled similar to a playground.

The proposal to build an outdoor gym came from Hailsham Youth Council last summer and was formally agreed by the Town Council in November. Since then, the Youth Council has organised a small working party to look at the design of the proposed facility, carry out a community survey on the benefits of installing an outdoor gym, and seek funding opportunities available.

£10,000 was awarded by the Awards For All scheme as a result of a bid put in by Hailsham Youth Council, and the

Town Council will maintain the outdoor gym as part of a wider package of improvements to recreational facilities throughout Hailsham in the near future.

Recently elected Hailsham Youth Mayor Chelsie McIntosh, who performed the official opening of the outdoor gym, said: "The new outdoor gym is an excellent addition to the recreational facilities available for the public to use in Hailsham. The Youth Council and the Town Council have worked with the local community and funding

providers for a long time to help get the facility up and running and, as the weather improves and the days get longer, now is the perfect opportunity to give it a try!"

Chelsie McIntosh added, "Not only is the outdoor gym a wonderful facility for people to use, but it could also help to improve relations and perceptions between younger and older people in the community, and encourage them to engage more frequently with one another in the process."



IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM WEALDEN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Wealden District Council has now moved back to its Vicarage Lane premises.

They have a new public entrance to the refurbished Vicarage Lane Offices next to the Freedom Leisure Centre. This is also the main entrance to the Civic Community Hall. Please use this entrance for all personal visits to Wealden District Council and the Civic Community Hall.

Wealden District Council's main contact number for general enquiries remains 01323 443322, but a wide range of services are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, online via their website: www.wealden.gov.uk

The Community Hall in Vicarage Lane has been refurbished as part of the improvements to create a Civic and Community Hall which will be available for public events from 24th September. You can book online now for future events – please visit the Wealden District Council website for more details.

The Vicarage Lane improvements have been delivered on time and on budget. The building incorporates a range of technologies – such as passive ventilation, solar panelling and air source heat pumps – to help reduce heating costs. Through its single site location, Wealden District Council will be able to make savings of more than £350,000 a year in running costs. Members of staff are helping by adopting new working practices to make the optimum use of office space.



SCHEDULE OF FORTHCOMING MEETINGS



TOWN COUNCIL (& TRUSTS): Wednesday 17 October 2012; Wednesday 14 November 2012
(meeting starts at 7.30pm)

FINANCE & BUDGET OVERSIGHT: Wednesday 24 October 2012; Wednesday 7 November 2012
(meeting starts at 7.30pm)

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT: Tuesday 9 October 2012; Tuesday 30 October 2012; Tuesday 20 November 2012 (meetings start at 7.00pm)

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT: Thursday 11 October 2012; Thursday 15 November 2012 (meetings start at 7.30pm)

STAFF ADMINISTRATION (PANEL): Monday 1 October 2012 (meetings start at 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 29 October 2012; Tuesday 26 November 2012;

[10am-4pm; available on an appointment-only basis. To book an appointment call 841702, advising of the topic of concern.]

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM YOUR NHS: SHOULD YOU HAVE A FLU JAB?

For most people, flu is unpleasant but not serious. However, some people are at greater risk of developing serious complications such as bronchitis and pneumonia. These conditions may require hospital treatment.

The flu vaccine is offered free to people who are at risk, to protect them from catching flu and developing serious complications. You should have the flu jab if you:

- Are 65 years old or over
- Are pregnant: it is recommended all pregnant women have the flu vaccine, whatever stage of pregnancy
- Have a serious medical condition such as a long term respiratory illness, kidney disease, diabetes, or a weakened immune system
- Are living in a long-stay residential care home or other long-stay care facility or
- Are the main carer for an elderly or disabled person whose welfare may be at risk if you fall ill.

"A flu jab can be a real life saver if you're in a high risk group," says Jenny Greenfield, lead nurse for the East Sussex flu vaccination programme. "The autumn is the best time to have the flu jab. If you think you should have it but haven't heard from your practice, contact the surgery or give me a ring on 07881 501126."

Further information about flu vaccination can be found at www.nsh.uk/flu-jab/.



MESSAGE FROM YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM

It has been an extremely busy time for Sussex Police recently, with the Olympics and Operation Otter which is the Liberal Democrat conference in Brighton. However, policing has continued locally with officers patrolling the town and listening to your concerns.

There has recently been an increase in a number of scams, either by computer or telephone. Consider the following tips if anyone calls you:

- Do not give any personal information (name, address, bank details, email or phone number) to organisations or people before verifying their credentials.
- Many frauds start with a phishing email. Remember that banks and financial institutions will not send you an email asking you to click on a link and confirm your bank details. Do not trust such emails, even if they look genuine. You can always call your bank using the phone number on a genuine piece of correspondence, website (typed directly into the address bar) or the phone book to check if you're not sure.
- Destroy and preferably shred receipts with your card details on and post with your name and address on. Identity fraudsters don't need much information in order to be able to clone your identity.
- Make sure your computer has up-to-date anti-virus software and a firewall installed. Ensure your browser is set to the highest level of security notification and monitoring to prevent malware issues and computer crimes.

If you would like to discuss a fraud that you believe you may have been a victim of, please call your local PCSO by dialling 101, who will be more than happy to speak further. Alternatively you can get a lot of support and advice by visiting actionfraud.org.uk.



TOWN COUNCIL SUPPORTS KNIFE AMNESTY IN HAILSHAM



A knife amnesty is underway in Hailsham with the aim to reduce the risk of weapons falling into the wrong hands.

Members of the local Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) will collect knives and other bladed instruments from people who want to hand them in.

The operation – known simply as “Knives Away” – will run from Monday 1st October for two weeks and will involve bins placed at the Town Council Offices in Market Street and the police station in George Street, where knives can be safely disposed of prior to an enforcement phase which runs from Monday 15th October for one week, to target those suspected of carrying.

Councillor Maggie Burt, joint oversight councillor for District, County & Emergency Services said knife crime is rare in Hailsham generally, but the amnesty has been designed to make the community safer and assist with public reassurance. She said: “It will give us the chance to remove knives and other bladed items from unlawful circulation and give members of the public the opportunity to hand them in and, if they wish, do so anonymously.”

“By housing an amnesty bin at the Town Council offices, we are working with Sussex Police to encourage young people in the town to hand their knives in, no questions asked. Not only is carrying a bladed weapon in a public place an offence but by choosing to do so they increase their likelihood of becoming a knife victim themselves.”

MEETING ROOM FOR HIRE

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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.

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).

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