



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## **Hailsham Community Groups Invited to Next Forum**

3 December 2018

Are you a local community group or charity and wish to benefit from sharing experiences and ideas with other local groups?

The Hailsham Community Forum is always looking for community groups, associations and charities in the area to exchange ideas, learn from each other, network and collaborate.

They have speakers from voluntary services organisations, grants advisors and other charities. The group continues to build communication networks and create a louder voice with other voluntary and statutory groups.

The long-term benefits of joining the Forum could be cost savings through group negotiating power with printers, suppliers, donations and local businesses, sharing resources like gazebos and tables and more.

Several groups have already benefited from the forum by taking stalls at the Hailsham Street Market, collaborating to fundraise together and collectively promoting and raising awareness of their organisations.

The Forum meets monthly and is made up of around 30 community organisations including Hailsham Active, Hailsham Harriers, Computers For Charities, Hailsham Bonfire Society, Hailsham Lions, Hailsham Choral Society, the Now! Charity, Demelza Hospice Care For Children, Hailsham Allotment Society, Hailsham & District Flower Club, Healthy Walks Group and Hailsham Foodbank. They have recently introduced a regular newsletter and speakers.

"The Hailsham Community Forum has grown since its launch with new groups being represented every month," said Deputy Town Clerk and Business Enterprise Manager Mickey Caira.

"We are looking for additional members that can include local community groups, voluntary organisations, charities, parent/teacher groups and residents' associations among others, to share information on developments of interest including new funding opportunities, in addition to enabling partnership working with other organisations."

Forum organiser Jenny Seale said: "In December, we will be celebrating the work of the many volunteers within the clubs, societies, organisations and charities in the town that bring us such great events and activities throughout the year."

"Into next year, we are looking forward to welcoming short presentations by businesses and entertainers who have a little something different to offer at Hailsham events as well as useful speakers on grants, fundraising and recruiting and retaining volunteers."

**The next forum meeting will take place at 6.30pm on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December at the Hailsham Parish Church lounge.** 2019 meeting dates will be announced in the coming weeks.

If you are interested in attending, contact Hailsham Town Council on 01323 841702 or by email: [enquiries@hailsham-tc.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@hailsham-tc.gov.uk).

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