



Parish Office: Clock Tower House, Lindfield Enterprise Park, Lewes Road, Lindfield, RH16 2LH  
Telephone: 01444 484115 Email: clerks@lindfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk  
Web site: www.lindfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk

Lindfield Parish Council Office is open on Tuesdays 1.00pm to 4.00pm, Thursdays and Fridays 10.00am to 1.00pm – when members of the public are welcome to come along to look at planning applications for Lindfield, buy concessionary railcard vouchers, or simply seek advice on issues of concern. However, if you do need to speak with someone outside our normal opening hours, then please contact the Clerk who will be happy to make alternative arrangements with you.

Parish Clerk:  
Mrs. Christine Irwin

Deputy Parish Clerk:  
Iain McLean

Responsible Financial  
Officer: Mrs. Sue Kollen

## Neighbourhood Plan

It has been a very busy quarter for the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, ably supported by more than 30 volunteers from both our parishes in four Focus Groups. They have done an amazing amount of research and conducted a number of interviews with stakeholders from both within and outside our parishes. The research covers all manner of current and possible future issues relating to our communities and they have written superb reports documenting their work. You can find these, along with some extra research material that they have also gathered, as part of our evidence base on our website.

We held 'Pop in Sessions' on 20th May at Scaynes Hill & 23rd May at Lindfield, as part of our community involvement programme to highlight to our community some of the issues that the Focus Groups were researching. Both events were well attended and some interesting ideas proposed by some of our visitors, which the Focus Group members found most useful.

The Arts Festival and Village Day were also attended by our mini-stand within its own gazebo and this was staffed by members of the Steering Group & Focus Groups. Although the Saturday of the Arts Festival was cold and windy, Village Day as you will all know was much better with some summer sunshine. At both these events our conversations with interested visitors usually started on the topic of "Wates"; sometimes it was difficult to explain that what we are trying to do is to define how the current community wants the parishes to develop over the next 20 years.

The 'State of the Parishes' report that we commissioned from Action in Rural Sussex (AirS) was published during May and this contains statistical data relating to our parishes obtained from the 2001 and 2011 Census, other published statistics and the reports of our own Focus Groups on current and possible future local

issues. The report can be found on our website.

Following on from the publication of the State of the Parishes report, on the 29th May AirS hosted a "Planning Workshop" in the King Edward Hall for 24 stakeholders. The workshop task was to consider the various issues highlighted in that report and provide some feedback to the Steering Group and AirS on what policies they thought could be included in the draft Neighbourhood Plan.

Thank you very much to our residents who returned their Housing Needs Survey forms to AirS during May. Overall we had a 25% return rate which is excellent. The survey analysis and report has been published on our website and the results are very much in line with surveys done in other MSDC parishes recently. The results show that 60% are in favour of additional affordable housing to meet local need, and 41 new cases identified of local householders in need of such accommodation.

During the next couple of months AirS will, in consultation with members of the Steering Group, write a draft Neighbourhood Plan for our parishes. This draft will then be published to our community and your views sought on the policies it contains. This is an initial consultation exercise which will include similar public events, probably during September, very much like the 'Pop in Sessions' we held recently.

Overall we are on schedule to produce a Neighbourhood Plan that can proceed through its various legal stages as quickly as possible and hopefully be approved by a local referendum towards the end of 2014.

**Cllr Alan Gomme, Chair Lindfield's Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group**



## Planning & Traffic Committee

The last few months have been dominated by the application within the Rural Parish by Wates to build 230 new homes at the rear of the current Croudace development off Gravelly Lane. This Council supported our colleagues on the Rural Parish Council throughout the process of examining the application and jointly retained the services of Richard Walker, a planning consultant, to provide us with professional planning advice and to identify planning grounds on which to focus our response.

Based on that advice, both this Council and Lindfield Rural Council submitted letters of objection to Mid Sussex District Council, as did the Preservation Society and a great number of local residents.

The main Wates application and two further applications concerning change of land use were considered by the District Planning Committee of Mid Sussex District Council on the 21st May and both parish Councils asked Richard Walker to speak on our behalf. Despite the planning objections, however, MSDC's Committee members from areas outside Lindfield, and despite the views of local members, voted by a majority to approve the principal application and one of the change of use applications to permit the development, subject to the usual agreement of conditions and section 106 infrastructure payments.

**Cllr Alan Gomme, Chair of Lindfield Parish Council's Planning & Traffic Committee**

## Parish Office

We have installed an extra computer in the reception area of the new Parish Office for members of the public to use to look up information on official websites such as WSCC, MSDC, bus companies etc. This could be particularly useful if you want to view plans on MSDC's website but don't have the technology at home, especially as it is a large screen.

## HIGHWAY CLUSTER AGREEMENT

We are delighted to report that, along with Lindfield Rural and Ardingly Parish Councils, we have formed a partnership with Haywards Heath Town Council which has entered into a Highways Cluster agreement with West Sussex County Council to undertake minor Highways works in the town and partner parishes.

The service will be delivered by a new Haywards Heath Town Community Interest Company (CIC), owned by the Town Council and funded by WSCC. The Parish Council partners are not liable for costs as a result of this agreement.

The works to be undertaken include: Weed spraying; temporary and permanent cold fill pot hole repairs; Highway sign cleaning; vegetation removal (road sight line, twitten and alleyway); gully inspection and clearance; graffiti removal; fly tipping removal; management of highway defects; flood warnings; damage to highways, street furniture and chevrons, loose slabs etc.

This arrangement will have certain advantages, including: being able to make good use of local knowledge; prompt response to problems and local needs; ability to return to persistent problems and better value for money by reducing unnecessary works, reducing wastage of materials and the duplication of works.

Problems can be reported to the Parish Office or direct to Haywards Heath Town Community Interest Company c/o the Town Hall, 40 Boltro Road, Haywards Heath, RH16 1BA tel: 01444 455694, email them at hhtowncic@gmail.com or alternatively go to the site: <http://love.westsussex.gov.uk/Help>

Members of Lindfield Parish Council:

They can all be contacted, in the first instance, via the Parish

Office, or by reference to the Lindfield Village Directory and Year Book, which contains details of individual contact numbers.

**Cllr. William Blunden (Chairman)**  
**Cllr. Valerie Upton (Vice Chairman)**

**Cllr. Mike Allen**

**Cllr. Michael Amor**

**Cllr. Jane Chatfield**

**Cllr. Alan Gomme**

**Cllr. Stephen Henton**

**Cllr. Margaret Hersey**

**Cllr. Simon Hodgson**

**Cllr. Roger Pickett**

**Cllr. Ron Plass**

**Cllr. Christopher Snowling**

## CONCESSIONARY TRAVEL SCHEME

We were recently notified that as from Sunday 19th May 2013, the price of an annual Senior Railcard at the Station increased to £30 (from £28). The price of a voucher under Mid Sussex District Council's Concessionary Travel Scheme increased on the same date to £25.50 (from £23.80). Vouchers, of course, continue to be available from the Parish Council offices. Just a reminder, though, that we cannot accept cards but cheques (made payable to Mid Sussex District Council) or cash are both fine. Also, it is a new requirement for the form that a national insurance number is provided. If you are a new applicant you will also need to bring valid proof of age and address.

Free Senior Railcards or Disabled Persons Railcards are available free, instead of the bus pass, but as from 1st April 2013 we can no longer deal with bus pass applications, lost bus passes or the free rail vouchers. We do have the forms in the Parish Council office or they can be downloaded or requested from West Sussex County Council's website ([www.westsussex.gov.uk](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk)). However, they now need to be sent directly to West Sussex Bus Pass, PO Box 212, Waterlooville, PO7 6ZN.

Bus passes are renewed automatically and free rail cards can be renewed simply by phoning the West Sussex Bus Pass Information Line: 0845 075 1018, which is also the number to ring with other queries regarding bus passes and the free rail cards.



## VILLAGE SPRING CLEAN

Many thanks to the thirty two people who turned out for our annual Spring Clean – probably a record number, certainly in recent years. It was great to have some new volunteers, including families. The Parish Council would like to thank you all for giving up your Saturday morning litter picking, cutting back overgrown vegetation and cleaning street furniture.

## LINDFIELD PARISH DIRECTORY AND YEAR BOOK

We have started preparing the 2014 edition of the Lindfield Parish Directory and Year Book for printing. These Directories, better known as the green Lindfield diary, are printed each year and distributed – free! – to every household in our Parish of Lindfield and part of Lindfield Rural Parish. The Directory's popularity stems in part from its being a mine of information about the many activities and groups in the Village. Moreover, given its wide distribution, it represents very good value to advertisers, particularly as it is in use all year round, not just read and thrown away as with many free directories that come through the door. This year we have had to change our printers, due to circumstances beyond our control, but we'll do our utmost to ensure a quality publication and we are pleased to announce that the advertising rates will not increase for the 2014 edition.

If you do not currently advertise in the Directory and wish to be included in the 2014 edition, please contact the Deputy Parish Clerk, Iain McLean, on 01444 484115 or by email to [clerks@lindfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerks@lindfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk). Similarly, if you run an activity which is not currently featured, please let us know as we often have room to include brief details about new organisations free of charge. For example nurseries, sports and church groups.

We would respectfully urge advertisers and organisations to return their copy as soon as possible, as delays at this stage may lead to late delivery of the finished product. We aim to receive the Directories in November for delivery before Christmas.

## POLICE SURGERIES

Our new Police Community Support Officer, Nicola Green, has informed us that Police Surgeries have been suspended pending a review of how the Neighbourhood Police Team will operate in the future. However she would encourage people to contact her with matters of concern on her mobile number - 07789 168791 - or by email ([Nicola.Green.01@sussex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Nicola.Green.01@sussex.pnn.police.uk)). However this is not monitored on her days off, so members of the public reporting a crime should contact 101 in a non emergency incident or 999 if appropriate. PCSO Green would also like to encourage people to join the Neighbourhood Police Panel and if anyone is interested they may contact her direct for details.

## VILLAGE DAY

The Parish Council would like to congratulate the Village Day Committee and all those who helped with the organisation of this year's event on 1st June. The Common was thronged with visitors to the hundred and fifty stalls, and local organisations have reported healthy profits to boost their funds. If you went back to the Common in the evening, you would not have known it had been Village Day, it had been so thoroughly tidied up. We were deeply saddened by the recent death of Brian Newcombe who was one of the founders of this tradition, following on from the success of the celebrations in honour of HM The Queen's Silver Jubilee, and remained at the centre of it all from then on. We are certain that Brian would have been proud of this year's Village Day - a most fitting tribute to his legacy.

## MOBILE CIVIC AMENITY COLLECTIONS

The refuse freighters will be in the Tollgate car park on Sunday 7th July 2013, between the hours of 10am and 12noon, for the collection of household and garden waste. Please note that due to current legislation they cannot accept items such as televisions, computer monitors and fluorescent tubes. These can still be taken to a civic amenity centre. Please do not leave rubbish in the absence of the refuse freighter.

## Parish Council meetings

### July - September 2013

Tuesday	2nd July	Planning and Traffic Committee (full)	8pm
Thursday	18th July	Finance and General Purposes Committee	8pm
Tuesday	23rd July	Planning and Traffic Committee (plans only)	8pm
Thursday	1st August	Environment and Amenities Committee	8pm
Tuesday	13th August	Planning and Traffic Committee (plans only)	8pm
Monday	2nd September	Planning and Traffic Committee (full)	8pm
Thursday	12th September	Full Council	7.30pm
Tuesday	24th September	Planning and Traffic Committee (plans only)	8pm
Thursday	26th September	Finance and General Purposes Committee	8pm

All meetings are held in the King Edward Hall, unless shown otherwise. Please check the noticeboard in Denmans Lane for any additional meetings that may be called. All meetings are open to the public and there is a period set aside at the beginning of each meeting for public questions/comments, except at "plans only" Planning and Traffic Committee meetings. At meetings of the Planning and Traffic Committee, up to two people for and two against each planning application are allowed to speak, for a maximum of two minutes each, at the invitation of the Chairman.