



Lindfield Parish Council Newsletter

July 2011

Parish Office: 6 Denmans Lane, Lindfield, West Sussex, RH16 2LB
Telephone: 01444 484115 Fax: 01444 484918
Email: clerks@lindfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk
Web site: www.lindfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk

New Council members

We would like to take this opportunity to publish our thanks to five of our former Councillors (Margaret Nicolle, Michael Davies, Mike Leach, Roger Pickett and Steve Willcox, who did not stand for re-election this year) for the contributions they have all made to the work of this Council during their time in office. We wish them well for the future and with their other commitments. Margaret has served on the Parish Council since it was created in 1987 and she was either Chairman or Vice Chairman of Council for most of that time; she has been a very active Member particularly on the Planning and Traffic Committee and the Environment and Amenities Committee. Michael, Mike, Roger and Steve clocked up a total of 20 years between them and their work is also very much appreciated: Michael and Steve on the Finance and General Purposes Committee, Mike and Steve on the Planning and Traffic Committee and Roger and Mike on the Environment and Amenities Committee.

Eight people, for twelve places, stood for election in May and as the election was uncontested they were duly elected. The four remaining vacancies were advertised and at the Annual Meeting, on 17 May, the Parish Council co-opted four further Members to bring the Council up to full strength. We warmly welcome Michael Amor, Jane Chatfield, Lester Corp, Simon Hodgson and Ron Plass and look forward to working with them.

Will Blunden has been re-elected by the Council as Chairman and Val Upton is the new Vice-Chairman.

SPRING CLEAN

The annual Spring Clean on 9 April was very successful again this year. Around twenty public spirited people turned up for duty and the Parish Council would like to thank them all for giving up their Saturday morning labouring away litter picking the areas not regularly done, washing down street furniture and cutting back vegetation and the grass verges overgrowing the pavement at the top of the High Street.



Temporary Road Closure Hickmans Lane

In March, with somewhat short notice, it was announced that a section of Hickmans Lane at the junction with the High Street was to be closed for up to five weeks to allow work to be carried out on the property at the corner, which required access to the rear of the building. It immediately became apparent that this would severely affect the 30 bus service unless something could be done to redirect it temporarily. The road closure was outside the Parish Council's control and we were told by West Sussex County Council that, with the planning permission for the work being approved, the road closure would have to go ahead, so we concentrated on damage limitation. The Parish Council liaised closely with WSCC and Countryliner Managers to try to maintain the bus service in the centre of the village and after some trial runs, it was decided that the bus would be rerouted down Compton Road with a temporary stop outside the Parish Office. In the main this worked quite well, although there were a few problems during the course of that period of five weeks.

On behalf of passengers who use this bus service we are very grateful to the managers and drivers at Countryliner for their persistence in seeking a solution and keeping the service running; to residents of Compton Road for their patience and co-operation with parking and to WSCC officers and our County Councillor, Christine Field, for their support.

Members of Lindfield Parish Council:

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

Cllr. William Blunden
(Chairman)

Cllr. Valerie Upton
(Vice Chairman)

Cllr. Margaret Hersey

Cllr. Michael Amor

Cllr. Mike Allen

Cllr. Jane Chatfield

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, apply for bus passes and obtain 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:
Mr. Pieter Hemsley

Responsible Financial
Officer: Mrs. Sue Kolien

Dog Fouling

We are sorry to have to report that dog fouling is on the increase again. Although most local dog walkers are considerate of others by cleaning up after their dogs, there are unfortunately some who do not. The Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996 makes it an offence NOT to clean up after a dog fouls on a public highway, adjoining footway or verges and all footpaths or on land "designated" by Mid Sussex District Council. In Lindfield, the Common and Hickmans Lane Recreation Ground have been so designated. Mid Sussex District Council can issue offenders with Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN) of £75. The fine is reduced to £50 if payment is made within 10 working days. Failure to pay the FPN may result in prosecution with a maximum fine of £1000.

As well as the obvious unpleasantness of stepping on a smelly deposit, there is a serious consequence of dog fouling - toxocara canis, which is a roundworm found in dogs. The eggs can be present in dog mess and can easily be picked up especially by young children and infection can lead to permanent blindness. The eggs can remain active in the soil for many years, long after the dog mess has weathered away.

There have been reports of dog mess on the Common left by dogs whose owners have not been paying full attention. There is also evidence that some people take the trouble to bag up the deposit but do not dispose of the bag appropriately. We entreat all those in charge of dogs in public places to be vigilant and clean up immediately. If there is no convenient dog bin or it is full, take your dog's mess home for disposal.

**No
Fouling**

Dumping of cat litter

On a related matter, there have now been two occasions when several bags of used cat litter have been dumped in the Denmans Lane car park which have been driven over and split open, spreading the contents. If you should happen to witness a recurrence of this highly antisocial behaviour the Parish Council and Mid Sussex District Council would very much like to have the details, particularly the vehicle registration number.

Police surgeries

Our Police Community Support officer, Stuart Clough, continues to hold a surgery once a month in the Parish Office for residents to come along and raise any issues of concern. The next surgeries will be on Thursday 28 July, 10.00 - 11.00 am; Tuesday 23 August 1.00 – 2.30 p.m. and Tuesday 20 September 1.00 – 2.30 p.m.

Mobile Civic Amenity Collections

The refuse freighters will be in the Tollgate car park on Sundays 10 July and 11 September 2011, between the hours of 10.00 a.m. and 12.00 noon, 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.

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

**Cllr. Lester
Corp**

**Cllr. Christopher
Snowling**

**Cllr. Alan
Gomme**

**Cllr. Ron
Plass**

**Cllr. Stephen
Henton**

**Cllr. Simon
Hodgson**

LINDFIELD PARISH DIRECTORY AND YEAR BOOK 2012

Although we are only just officially in summertime, work has already begun on the Lindfield Parish Directory and Year Book 2012 Edition. These Directories, better known as the green Lindfield diary, are printed each year and distributed – free! – to every household (2600 homes) in Lindfield Urban, 100 to those in Haywards Heath bordering the village, and some 540 to the Lindfield Rural Parish.

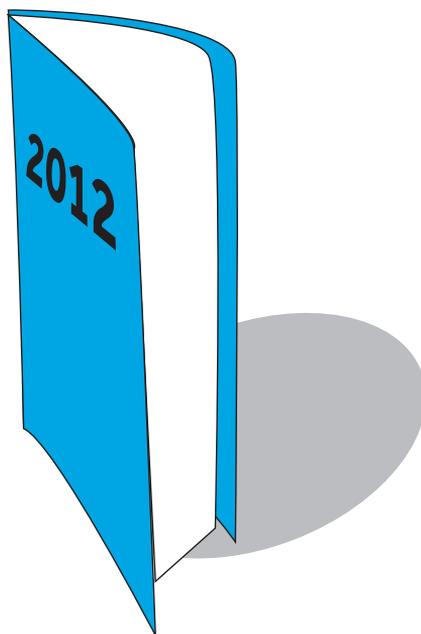
The Directory's popularity stems in part from its being a mine of information about the many activities and groups in the village. Moreover, given its wide distribution, it represents very good value to advertisers: here are the rates for 2012, which have remained unchanged for three years:

Full Page	(13.5 x 6 cm)	£145.00
Half Page		£80.00
Third of a Page		£60.00
Quarter Page		£50.00
Fifth of a Page		£45.00
Sixth of a Page		£40.00

For the first time in the 2011 edition, we included events within the diary pages, both regular and one-off, and we plan to continue this feature for 2012. This is an aide-memoire for residents that can really boost attendance at events, hence increase income and potentially reduce the need for you to advertise elsewhere.

If you do not currently advertise and wish to be included in the 2012 edition, please contact the Deputy Parish Clerk, Pieter Hemsley, on 01444 484115 or by email to clerks@lindfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk. We can accept new artwork in almost any form. 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.

Finally, letters have gone out to our regular contributors and advertisers and we urge you to return copy as soon as possible, please, as delays at this stage will inevitably lead to late delivery of the finished product. We hope to receive the Directories towards the end of November and, weather permitting, to deliver them before Christmas.



One man and his barrow

Our Village Orderly, Paul, is a familiar sight in the Village as he goes about his duties with his bright green barrow. Paul works for the Parish Council two mornings a week to top-up the street sweeping service provided by Mid Sussex District Council through their contractors, SERCO, along with some other jobs that help to make the village look tidier. It has to be stressed that he has not replaced the SERCO team, who still have a duty to empty litter bins and clean streets.

We are delighted with the difference Paul is making around the village in the two mornings he is here but he cannot do everything and there are also some limitations to what he is allowed to do as he is working for the Parish Council and not for a principal authority's contractor. If you feel dissatisfied please direct your comments to the Clerk at the Parish Office, not to Paul in person, so that we can make appropriate arrangements, whether with Paul or by referring them to Mid Sussex District Council.



Parish Council meetings

July to September 2011

Tuesday	5th July	Planning and Traffic Committee (plans only)	8.00 p.m.
Thursday	21st July	Finance and General Purposes Committee	8.00 p.m.
Tuesday	26th July	Planning and Traffic Committee (plans only)	8.00 p.m.
Thursday	4th August	Environment and Amenities Committee	8.00 p.m.
Tuesday	16th August	Planning and Traffic Committee (plans only)	8.00 p.m.
Thursday	25th August	Full Council	7.30 p.m.
Tuesday	6th September	Planning and Traffic Committee (full)	8.00 p.m.
Thursday	22nd September	Finance and General Purposes Committee	8.00 p.m.
Tuesday	27th September	Planning and Traffic Committee (plans only)	8.00 p.m.

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 and end 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.