



# LINDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

## NEWSLETTER

April 2012

### PARISH COUNCIL'S 25th ANNIVERSARY

Lindfield Parish Council is 25 years old this month! The first meeting took place on 7 April 1987 in Lindfield Junior School. The first Members, some of whom sadly are no longer with us, were Major Jimmy Barnes (Chairman), Derek Church (Vice Chairman), Patricia Calderwood, Simon Carse, Alfred Gilliver, Beryl Hall, George Hart, Michael Hicks, Patricia Lawson, George Murrell, Margaret Nicolle and Alan Street. Items on the agendas of the first few meetings of the Parish Council included traffic in Lewes Road; car parking problem areas; toilets on the Common and the applications for development by Wates Ltd. of the land off Scamps Lane and Gravelye Lane and Lyoth Lane and Gravelye Lane. Does all this sound familiar??? The present Council would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have served on the Parish Council over the last 25 years for their contribution to this Village.

### VILLAGE SPRING CLEAN - SATURDAY 14 APRIL 2012

Why not come and join us for our annual Spring Clean around the Village in the morning of Saturday 14 April? The Parish Council has organised a Spring Clean every year since 1999, when it started as an initiative of the Tidy Britain Group and helpers find it to be a rewarding and worthwhile few hours. Volunteers meet in the King Edward Hall and are given tasks such as collecting litter from the areas in the village not covered by the normal street cleaning agencies. Street furniture, such as the posts around the Pond and the Common, always benefits from a wash down after the winter and cutting back vegetation in the footpaths is another job that can be tackled. The Spring Clean will take place between 9.30 a.m. and 1.00 p.m. and there will be a free ploughman's style lunch for all participants. Any children taking part must be supervised by parents or adult group leaders if they belong to youth organisations). Suggestions for areas in the village that might benefit from a little "TLC" are always appreciated, particularly if you could let us know in advance to help with the planning. If there is a task you particularly want to tackle please let us know beforehand and we'll save that job for you. Litter pickers and bags, buckets, detergent and cloths will be provided but you are asked to bring your own gloves - and wheelbarrows can be very useful for bringing back sacks full of litter.



### CROCUS DISPLAY



The crocus display in the High Street has been brilliant this year, after the replanting funded by the Parish Council. Thanks go to Haywards Heath Town Council's Groundsmen who are doing a great job tending these verges under contract to the Parish Council and who planted around two thousand new bulbs last autumn to enhance the display this spring.

Photo: Alan Gomme

## LINDFIELD PARISH MEETING – 17 APRIL 2012

The Parish Meeting (which, it must be stressed, is NOT a meeting of the Parish Council) is a forum for local government electors to discuss parish affairs and to pass resolutions on them, although such resolutions are not binding on the Parish Council. As this Parish has a Parish Council, it is the Council's Chairman who must convene and, if present, chair the meeting. This year's Parish Meeting will be held on Tuesday 17 April at 8.00 p.m. in the King Edward Hall. The Agenda will be on the Parish Council's notice board in Denmans Lane nearer the time, as well as on our website ([www.lindfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.lindfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk)).

### VILLAGE MAINTENANCE

The Parish Council's Environment and Amenities Committee has been making good use of its budget over the last year by smartening up the street furniture. Wrought iron litter bins have had a complete refurbish, the bus shelters and most of the seats have been repaired and painted and we have made a contribution to Mid Sussex District Council for replacement and painting of posts and rails around the Pond. At the time of writing, the finger post at the Sunte Avenue cross roads (pictured before restoration) is due to be renovated and we are delighted to have received approval of a grant for 50% of the cost from West Sussex County Council.

Photo: Alan Gomme



### LINDFIELD CIVIC SERVICE



The annual Civic Service will be held on Sunday 20 May at 11.15 a.m. at All Saints Church. All are welcome. Coffee and biscuits will be available in the Tiger lounge after the Service.

### HM THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS



Lindfield  
Jubilee  
Weekend  
2-3 June

Plans are well underway for the Lindfield Jubilee weekend. The Village Day Committee and the Jubilee Committee are working closely to create a weekend involving the entire Lindfield community to celebrate HM the Queen's 60 years reign. There will be something for everyone and it's not too late to get involved.

The festivities will start at lunch time on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> June and continue into the evening following on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> June with a further full day of events. This is only the second time in history a reigning British monarch has achieved a Diamond Jubilee. The committees would like to invite everyone to attend and make this a weekend to remember.

Lindfield has a proud history of celebrating significant land marks in HM the Queen's reign and everyone is working very hard to make this year as special as the previous celebrations.

Lindfield Parish Council is pleased to have started the ball rolling for this event and is proud to continue supporting the plans for the Jubilee weekend.

Please direct all correspondence to the committee through Ron Plass – 483319, [ron.plass@virgin.net](mailto:ron.plass@virgin.net).

## MID SUSSEX TIMES VILLAGE NEWS COLUMN

It was very sad to hear about the recent death of Margaret Richardson who served our Village as the Lindfield correspondent at the Mid Sussex Times for many years. She will be greatly missed.

The “Middy” needs a Lindfield Correspondent to take Margaret’s place and it helps our Village organisations enormously to have a local point of contact for getting items published in the Village News column. If you are interested in filling this vacancy please contact John Hammond at the Mid Sussex Times Office for further information – telephone 01444 452201 or email [middy.news@sussexnewspapers.co.uk](mailto:middy.news@sussexnewspapers.co.uk) and mark your message for the attention of John Hammond.

## PARKING ISSUES IN BACKWOODS LANE

We would like to appeal to people who park vehicles in Backwoods Lane, particularly those attending sporting events on the Common and parents of children at Lindfield Primary School. Backwoods Lane is the route for the 30 bus and it has been brought to the Parish Council’s attention that parking has been causing problems and even total traffic jams when the bus simply could not get through. Please bear in mind not only the inconvenience but the fact that if the road is blocked it could delay the emergency services with potentially fatal consequences. Inconsiderate parking can be reported on [www.operationcrackdown.org](http://www.operationcrackdown.org)

## WINTER MANAGEMENT

The Parish Council’s new snow clearing equipment had its maiden outing in February when a small group of three Councillors and a volunteer cleared the snow from the High Street. More could have been achieved with more people to help so we are looking for willing and able volunteers to sign up for duty. Training is required before the equipment can be used so we hope to put together a team of people who can be trained before the threat of winter weather becomes imminent again.

We have had a number of enquiries about providing salt bins – the Council’s policy is to focus on the High Street and the main pedestrian routes into the Village centre and we have identified a number of other locations for the supply of salt in “Hippo” bags from West Sussex County Council. We felt let down by WSCC last winter as these bags were not delivered when snow was forecast in February, but we have made our disappointment clear to those concerned and hope for better support in future years. Residents of roads maintained by WSCC Highways who are prepared to club together to pay for a bin should contact the Parish Office: WSCC are normally prepared to fill bins that have the Parish Council’s approval, but any new bin would need to be cleared with them first because it might be necessary to obtain a licence from WSCC.



Photo : Andrew Forsythe

## BUDGET AND PRECEPT

The Parish Council has reduced the budget for the 2012/13 financial year and consequently has agreed a precept of £152,000 which is £6,000 lower than 2011/12. The precept, which is paid to us by Mid Sussex District Council, is the Parish Council’s main source of income. It is a very small percentage of the overall Council Tax which ratepayers pay to MSDC each year.

## 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. Forthcoming surgeries will be advertised on the Parish Council noticeboard.

## MOBILE CIVIC AMENITY COLLECTIONS

The refuse freighters will be in the Tollgate car park on **Sundays 13 May and 8 July 2012**, 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.

## PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS APRIL TO JUNE 2012

Tuesday	10 April	Planning and Traffic Committee (plans only)	8.00 p.m.
Thursday	12 April	Environment and Amenities Committee	8.00 p.m.
Tuesday	17 April	Parish Meeting	8.00 p.m.
Tuesday	01 May	Planning and Traffic Committee (full)	8.00 p.m.
Thursday	10 May	Annual Meeting of Council	7.30 p.m.
Thursday	17 May	Finance and General Purposes Committee	8.00 p.m.
Tuesday	22 May	Planning and Traffic Committee (plans only)	8.00 p.m.
Thursday	07 June	Environment and Amenities Committee	8.00 p.m.
Thursday	14 June	Planning and Traffic Committee (plans only)	8.00 p.m.
Thursday	21 June	Full Council	7.30 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.

## MEMBERS OF LINDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Cllr. William Blunden (Chairman)	Cllr. Alan Gomme
Cllr. Valerie Upton (Vice Chairman)	Cllr. Stephen Henton
Cllr. Mike Allen	Cllr. Margaret Hersey
Cllr. Michael Amor	Cllr. Simon Hodgson
Cllr. Jane Chatfield	Cllr. Ron Plass
	Cllr. Christopher Snowling

Members can all be contacted, in the first instance, via the Parish Office, or by reference to page 12 of the Lindfield Village Directory and Year Book, which contains Councillors' addresses and phone numbers.

Parish Clerk: Mrs. Christine Irwin  
Deputy Parish Clerk: Mr. Pieter Hemsley  
Responsible Financial Officer: Mrs. Sue Kolien

## PARISH OFFICE

Lindfield Parish Council Office is open on **Tuesdays 1.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m., Thursdays and Fridays 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.** – 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 Office: 6 Denmans Lane, Lindfield, West Sussex, RH16 2LB  
Telephone: 01444 484115  
Email: [clerks@lindfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerks@lindfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk)  
Web site: [www.lindfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.lindfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk).