



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 1pm to 4pm, Thursdays and Fridays 10am to 1pm – 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

Changes to the Concessionary Travelscheme

We have been advised by Mid Sussex District Council of a new arrangement with the Association of Train Operating Companies (ATOC) which means that the process of issuing annual Senior Railcards will change from 1st April 2014. From this date a unique promotional number will be provided instead of the familiar voucher, which will enable residents to renew their cards by telephone or online. Please note: the Parish Council will no longer be able to take your payment - this will have to be made direct to ATOC online or by telephone.

N.B. The information below was correct as far as we were aware at the time it was written but, as this is a new procedure, further changes are possible once it has been tried and tested.

ATOC are offering an increased level of discount which means that from 1st April 2014 until the next price increase, all Mid Sussex District Council residents will now only pay £24 – a saving of £6 on the full price of a rail card. A Senior Railcard gives you a 1/3 off most Standard and First Class off peak rail fares throughout Great Britain for a year.

New Applications for Annual Senior Railcards

(Eligibility – you must be aged 60 or over and be permanently resident in Mid Sussex)

- Visit the Parish Office (Clock Tower House, Lindfield Enterprise Park, Lewes Road), or Mid Sussex District Council's office (Oaklands, Oaklands Road Haywards Heath), with proof of age (passport or driving licence) and proof of residency (Council Tax or utility bill showing your name and current address, or driving licence). National Insurance numbers will no longer be required for railcards.

- Completion of application forms will no longer be required.
- You will be given a unique promotional number and the details for redeeming this number so that you can obtain your card.
- Then either go online to <http://www.senior-railcard.co.uk> or telephone 08448 714036 to complete the transaction. You will be asked for your unique promotional number.
- Payment by card direct to ATOC will be required over the phone or online.
- Your railcard will then be sent by post to your home address.

Renewal of Annual Senior Railcards - first year of the new scheme

- Visit or telephone the Parish Office or visit Mid Sussex District Council's office.
- You will be given a new unique promotional number
- Then either go online to <http://www.senior-railcard.co.uk> or telephone 08448 714036 to complete the transaction. You will be asked for your unique promotional number.
- Payment by card direct to ATOC will be required over the phone or online.
- Your railcard will then be sent by post to your home address.

Renewal of Annual Senior Railcards – subsequent years of the new scheme

If you have provided an email address, you will receive notification from ATOC reminding you that your rail card is due for renewal and providing the new unique promotional number to be used. So you will be able to complete the transaction by phone or online with no need to visit the Parish Office.

If you have not provided an email address, you will need to visit or phone the Parish Office or MSDC to obtain your new unique promotional number and then go online to <http://www.senior-railcard.co.uk> or telephone 08448 714036 as above.

Bus passes

(Eligibility: you must be permanently resident in West Sussex and the age qualification is on a sliding scale, tied to changes in the State Pension Age for women.)

A bus pass entitles you to free travel on local bus services in England between 9.30am and 11pm weekdays and any time at weekends and on Transport for London buses.

From 1st April 2013, West Sussex County Council became responsible for bus passes issued under the English National Concessionary Travel Scheme. Application forms for bus passes can be downloaded from <http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/buses> or paper copies can be obtained from the Parish Office. Send the completed form, together with a recent passport photograph and copies of your proof of age and residency to the address on the back of the form. Your pass will be posted to your home address. You will be contacted when the card is due for renewal in 5 years.

West Sussex Bus Pass Information Line: 0845 075 1018 (local rate)

New free Annual Senior Railcards

(Eligibility: as for bus passes, above)

If you do not wish to have the free bus pass, you can choose to have the senior railcard free of charge instead. Because this is tied to the bus pass scheme, applications are to be made on the same form as for the bus pass – see above.

Renewal of free Annual Senior Railcards

Telephone the West Sussex Bus Pass Information Line, or 0845 075 1018) to obtain a unique promotion code which will be sent to you in the post. Then either go to <http://www.senior-railcard.co.uk> and follow the procedure or contact the Railcard Help Desk on 08448 714036.

Village Spring Clean – Saturday 26 April 2014

Why not come and join us for our annual Spring Clean around the Village in the morning of Saturday 26 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 9.30am and 1pm 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.

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

Parish Meeting – Thursday 10 April 2014

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 Thursday 10th April at 8pm 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).

Neighbourhood Plan Progress Report

At the time of writing this newsletter, representatives of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group were due to attend a Neighbourhood Plan workshop at Mid Sussex District Council on 11th March aimed at clarifying the Neighbourhood Plan process as it currently stands, following the withdrawal of the Mid Sussex District Plan, after its rejection by the Independent Examiner, and in the light of the rejection of the Slaugham Neighbourhood Plan and other Neighbourhood Plan issues elsewhere. The Steering Group will be considering how to proceed with the Lindfield and Lindfield Rural Neighbourhood Plan, taking into account the advice received.

Cllr Alan Gomme,
Chairman of Lindfield & Lindfield Rural Parishes
Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

Grass verges

The grass verges in the village have never looked as awful as they have in recent months. With the ground being so soft after all the rain, it has been even more affected than usual by vehicles being parked on the verges or when careless drivers have run over them. This has happened in a lot of roads and in some areas the verges look as though they have been ploughed up. Not a great deal can be done about unidentifiable passing vehicles leaving tyre tracks but we can all at least set a good example by taking care with our own parking, leaving space in narrow roads for others to pass and asking our visitors and traders not to park on the grass. If parking on the verge is unavoidable because of building work at your property, please ensure that your contractors make good any damage on completion.

West Sussex Mobile Library Service

West Sussex's mobile library service offers a library on your doorstep for those areas of the county without a local library.

We offer a wide range of adult books as well as a request service, so if we don't have the book you're looking for you can order it and collect it on your next visit. Both mobile vehicles also carry a range of children's stock.

The vehicle is fully accessible, and stocks large print and audiobooks for borrowers who require material in those formats.

Joining couldn't be easier - it takes five minutes and all we need to see is something with your name and address on it.

In Lindfield the mobile stops at the Common and Compton Road. To find out when the mobile library visits, check out our website at www.westsussex.gov.uk/libraries or give Horsham Library a ring on 01403 224 350. The dates are also on the Parish Council noticeboard in Denmans Lane.

We look forward to welcoming you on a West Sussex Mobile Library soon!

Proposed development at land north of Birchen Lane

Although the application for a housing development on land north of Birchen Lane has a Haywards Heath reference, the northern part of this site is within Lindfield Parish. The Parish Council's Planning and Traffic Committee agreed to defer consideration of the planning application in view of the fact that it was to be invalidated pending the outcome of further Ecology reports required because of the possible presence of Great Crested Newts on the site. The Parish Council will give this application full consideration when it is revalidated later in the year.

Mobile Civic Amenity Collections

The refuse freighters will be in the Tollgate car park on Sunday 18th May 2014 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.

Police Community Support Officer

PCSO Nicola Green can be contacted direct on her mobile number 07789 168791 or by email at 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.

Parish Council meetings

April – June 2014

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| Thursday | 3rd April | Environment and Amenities Committee | 8pm |
| Monday | 7th April | Planning and Traffic Committee (plans only) | 8pm |
| Thursday | 10th April | Parish Meeting (Not a Council meeting) | 8pm |
| Tuesday | 29th April | Planning and Traffic Committee (full) | 8pm |
| Thursday | 15th May | Annual Meeting of Council | 7.30pm |
| Tuesday | 20th May | Planning and Traffic Committee (plans only) | 8pm |
| Thursday | 22nd May | Finance and General Purposes Committee | 8pm |
| Thursday | 5th June | Environment and Amenities Committee | 8pm |
| Tuesday | 10th June | Planning and Traffic Committee (plans only) | 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.