



LINDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER

March 2007

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS MARCH - JUNE 2007

Thursday, 15 March	Finance and General Purposes Committee	8.00 p.m.
Tuesday, 20 March	Planning and Traffic Committee (Full)	8.00 p.m.
Tuesday, 27 March	Full Council	7.30 p.m.
To be arranged	Environment and Amenities Committee	8.00 p.m.
Tuesday, 10 April	Planning and Traffic Committee (Plans only)	8.00 p.m.
[Tuesday, 17 April	Parish Meeting (Not a Council Meeting)	8.00 p.m.]
Tuesday, 1 May	Planning and Traffic Committee (Plans only)	8.00 p.m.
Tuesday, 8 May	Full Council Annual Meeting	7.30 p.m.
Tuesday, 15 May	Finance and General Purposes Committee	8.00 p.m.
Tuesday, 22 May	Planning and Traffic Committee (Full)	8.00 p.m.
Thursday, 7 June	Environment and Amenities Committee	8.00 p.m.
Tuesday, 12 June	Planning and Traffic Committee (Plans only)	8.00 p.m.

All meetings are held in King Edward Hall, unless shown otherwise. Please check the notice board 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 the end of each meeting for public questions/comments. 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.

LOCAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS - 3 MAY 2007

COULD YOU BE A PARISH COUNCILLOR?

Nomination papers have to be delivered to the Returning Officer at MSDC by noon on Wednesday 4 April

We are going to hold an informal event at the King Edward Hall on Tuesday 13 March at 8.00 p.m for those thinking about standing for election as Parish Councillors. SO . . . come along and find out how you can make a very positive contribution to your community and keep local democracy active and vibrant! You will not be expected to make a commitment at this stage.

PARISH MEETING - 17 APRIL 2007

It may not be clear to many people what a Parish Meeting actually is. It is NOT, it must be stressed, a meeting of the Parish Council! The Parish Meeting is a forum for local government electors of the Parish to discuss any public matter relating to the Parish. The Parish Meeting still takes place whether or not there is a Parish Council. Some points in brief:

- § A Parish Meeting must be held once a year between 1 March and 1 June
- § It must be summoned by the Chairman of the Parish Council (where one exists) and chaired by him/her (if present) or the Vice Chairman.
- § Only those registered to vote within the Parish have the right to speak and vote. Other people may attend as "members of the public".
- § Parish Councillors, other than the Chairman (or Vice Chairman if chairing the meeting), have the same rights as any other elector present, but they may be invited to contribute if they have specialist knowledge relevant to an item being discussed.
- § Resolutions of a Parish Meeting are not legally binding on the Parish Council, except in two specific cases regarding provision of allotments and trust instruments.
- § A poll (vote of the whole body of electors by ballot) may be claimed before the end of the meeting on any question discussed at it. Such a poll must be held provided that ten, or one-third of the electors present (whichever is less),

insist, or if the person presiding consents. The wording must be settled before the end of the meeting and the poll must be held in accordance with laid down procedure, through the District Council's returning officer.

The Lindfield (Urban) Parish Meeting is to be held on 17 April, at 8.00 p.m. at the King Edward Hall. The Agenda will be on the Parish Council notice board in Denmans Lane nearer the time. The Parish Council is going to provide some refreshments so that we can finish off with a social gathering!

VILLAGE SPRING CLEAN

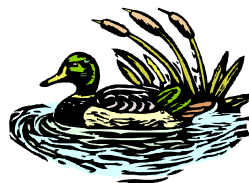
Will be held on a Saturday towards the end of April from 9.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. - date to be confirmed. This a chance to join our small band of stalwarts who turn out annually to spruce up the areas of the village that are not regularly maintained by the statutory authorities! In previous years volunteers have undertaken tasks such as litter clearance and washing down items of street furniture, wherever these activities can be undertaken safely. After your efforts you will be welcomed back at the King Edward Hall to enjoy the community spirit over a bowl of warming soup. There will be more information in the April edition of the Lindfield Times and enquiries can be made at the Parish Office.

PARKING ON VERGES

One of the attractive features of Lindfield is that many of its roads have grass verges, which are maintained by WSCC Highways. Unfortunately, a minority of people are increasingly parking on the verges and at this time of year this results in deep ruts which, apart from being unsightly, make it very difficult for the grass to be cut in the summer months. The Parish Council is, therefore, issuing a plea to all residents not to park on the verges. If you badly damage a verge, you may be asked to pay for the cost of re-instating it!

LINDFIELD POND

Although there is not any real need to feed the ducks and swans on the Pond, we know that many of you enjoy doing it. However, the Parish Council would ask that you limit the amount of bread that you throw in. Large loaves are being left and unfortunately this does encourage rats. If you wish to take children to feed the wildlife, why not visit Paul's Greengrocer and buy a small bag of food that is specifically for ducks and swans?



LINDFIELD CIVIC SERVICE Sunday 13 May at 11.15 am., at All Saints Church

We would like to welcome everyone associated with Lindfield to our annual Civic Service, which will be followed by refreshments in the Tiger.

TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF THE BURGESS HILL TIP

Although there has been some delay, we understand that the Household Waste Recycling site in Burgess Hill is still programmed to be operational for Easter, following extensive redevelopment. The Civic Amenity Freighter will be calling at the Tollgate car park through the year, but the dates (Sundays) have not yet been confirmed. Times of operation will be 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon and dates can be obtained from the Parish Office as soon as they are known.

NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING

We now have our new Community Support Officer - Stuart Clough. Stuart covers the rural areas of Mid Sussex and is quickly getting to know Lindfield and has established good contact with the Parish Office. PC Geoff Bennett, the Neighbourhood Specialist Constable for Haywards Heath (including Lindfield), holds a regular "surgery" in the Parish

Office. This is to enable residents to talk to him about any policing issues in Lindfield. If you cannot call into the office, but have a matter you wish to bring to his attention, then please leave a note in the Parish Council letter box.

PC Bennett's forthcoming visits will take place between the hours of 10.00 a.m. and 11.30 a.m. on: Thursday, 22 March, 26 April, 24 May, 28 June, 26 July

OTHER NEWS

- 7 April 2007 is the 20th anniversary of the first meeting of Lindfield Parish Council.
- Work is soon to commence on the upgrading of the children's playground on the Common. This is a joint venture with MSDC and we hope that it will provide a safe but stimulating place for children to play.
- Work on the Pond Wall has been completed, with the exception of the seating area at north end. This work was scheduled to start again early in the New Year but has been delayed as contractors cannot proceed until EDF have inspected the installation for the electricity supply to the pond pump, which had to be relocated. It is hoped that the work will resume in March.
- We would like to thank everyone who was involved in making Christmas Festival Night on 8 December such a great success. A DATE FOR THE DIARY - this year's Christmas Festival Night will be on THURSDAY 6 December. If you belong to a Village organisation or run a small business selling items that would be suitable for sale at this event, why not have a stall? Constructive suggestions of ways to make this a lively family event are also welcome.
- Now that tree pruning with extensive pollarding of lime trees has taken place in Compton Road and some pruning of those in the High Street, the future management of the trees will be the subject of ongoing discussions with WSCC and MSDC.
- Developers have been showing an active interest in the Newton Road site recently. At the time of going to press, we can only report that no planning application has yet been seen and the site has not at this time been approved for inclusion in the Local Development Plan.
- Denmans Lane toilets - pending the resolution of a couple of legal issues with the District Council over the transfer document, the Parish Council hopes to be able to start work on the total refurbishment of these toilets in the foreseeable future. They will be re-designed and re-configured internally and will provide a modern facility for the village.

HOW TO CONTACT THE PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council office at 6 Denmans Lane continues to be open 3 times a week – 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, obtain bus passes and railcard vouchers, purchase green sacks 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 by telephone on 01444 484115 or by fax on 01444 484918, who will be happy to make alternative arrangements with you. You can also contact us by Email clerks@lindfieldpc.fsnet.co.uk or visit our web site at www.lindfieldparishcouncil.org.uk.

THE MEMBERS OF LINDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Cllr. Margaret Nicolle (Chairman)
Cllr. Derrick Johnson (Vice Chairman)
Cllr. Mike Allen
Cllr. Jimmy Barnes
Cllr. Will Blunden
Cllr. Michael Davies

Cllr. Margaret Hersey
Cllr. Barry Phillpot
Cllr. Roger Pickett
Cllr. Christopher Snowling
Cllr. Alison Stevenson
Cllr. Valerie Upton

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.