

BULLETIN



JANUARY 2007

www.sedlescombe.org.uk

ISSUE 27

FOCUS ON ROAD SAFETY

Twenty-three volunteers took part in a Speed Indicator Device (SID) Campaign in The Street at the end of September 2006. They found that a substantial number of motorists ignore the 30mph speed limit through the Village, even despite the SID being clearly visible. The highest recorded speed within the limit was 70mph! They also found that it was not unusual for people not to wear seatbelts or for them to use hand-held phones.

On 27 October, the Parish Council chaired a public meeting in the Hall, attended by 45 local residents, to focus on road safety in and around the Village. Comments were made by residents and questions answered by a panel of three experts – Colin Clarke, County Council Principal Engineer in Traffic and Safety, Graham Furness, County Council Network Manager for East Sussex Highways and Police Sgt Keith Ellis of Sussex Roads Policing.

The Parish Council reviewed the results of the campaign in November and decided to ask the County Council to 1) Review the 60mph speed limits on the B2244 southerly approach to the Village and in Chapel Hill; 2) To consider safety improvements at the B2244/Chapel Hill/ Pestalozzi driveway junction; 3) To install double white lines at top of Church Hill.

BUSES. The Parish Council has passed on local people's concerns about the reduction in buses to one every two hours during weekdays.

DROUGHT SITUATION

Southern Water has said it anticipates that five months of above-average rainfall is needed for water levels to return to normal.

PROPOSED DOG CONTROL ORDERS UNDER THE CLEAN NEIGHBOURHOODS AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 2005

Rother District Council has been consulting on its proposals for Dog Control Orders covering open public land, including public footpaths, throughout the District.. The Parish Council has generally welcomed the proposals to require dog owners to remove dog faeces and to keep their pets on leads. It is also proposed that dogs are excluded from certain open land and there will be special arrangements for beaches and seashores. Finally, no one person will be able to take any more than six dogs onto open land.

SEDLSCOMBE CAR LIFT SCHEME SUCCESS

The Scheme which was started in June of last year to help people get to medical appointments seems to be filling a gap. Those taking lifts are most grateful. This is a straightforward scheme, without a co-ordinator. Simply make a note of those offering lifts from the notice on the board on the wall of the Stores or pick up a letter from the Doctors' Surgery. Make a phone call when you know the time of your appointment to anyone listed and pay him or her 40p/mile at the time of the lift.

FOOTPATHS. There are two men in Sedlescombe who are not superstitious. They chose Friday 13 October to do some repairs to, you've guessed it, Footpath 13! Reg Glew and Ralph Dellow, members of the Sedlescombe Parish Council Footpaths Working Group, installed a new metal gate in place of a derelict stile where this path leaves the B2244, over the road from Sedlescombe Vineyard. They followed up with replacement or repair of several other stiles and various other work on our footpaths. If you would like to volunteer to help keep our footpaths in good order, please contact the Parish Council (01424 870508).

DAMAGE ON FOOTPATHS

It is with regret that the Parish Council has to report that very soon after stiles were replaced and repaired on the footpath from Compasses Lane, a local person sawed off part of a stile and made holes in fences in order that his dog could have easy access. Please note that this is illegal and no alterations of any kind should be made. Dogs, if well-controlled, can be taken onto public footpaths but the landowner does not have to make access easy for them.

SEE REQUESTS FOR YOUR HELP OVERLEAF

PRE-BUDGET SURVEY. Although only just over 10% of forms were completed, these have provided the Parish Council with some useful information. By far and away the majority of residents do not want the Parish Council Tax to be raised. A few subjects stood out as being of concern to residents which some people would be prepared to pay more for. Top of the tree for dissatisfaction was the Police Community Support Officer followed by dog fouling/dog bin emptying and litter collection. This is surprising because there are nearly 30 volunteers in the village picking up litter! At the other end of the satisfaction scale were the website and this quarterly bulletin which received almost unanimous approval.

SEDLESCOMBE PARISH COUNCILLORS

Valerie Wright (Chairman) 01424 870220

Anthony Rand (Vice Chairman) 01424 870722

Pat Martin 01424 870353

Bill Cameron 01424 870013

Mary Irwin 01424 870570

Nick Foord 01424 870385

Pauline Glew 01424 870258

Ralph Dellow 01424 870223

Jenny Mitchell 01424 870707

YOUTH PRIORITIES

There was an unusually large attendance at the Council Open Forum on 14 November. A group of teenagers came along with two adults from the Youth Development Service to present a list of their priorities for change in the Village. Among the things they would like to see were a Youth Club, a swing in the park, street lights, a graffiti wall, free use of the tennis courts, buses on Sundays to Hastings and Eastbourne, larger seats in the Kickabout Area and trampolines. The Parish Council has agreed to help where it can.

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

If you are affected by anti-social behaviour of any sort, you can make a report to Rother's Anti-Social Behaviour Officer on a special form. The Parish Council has copies as have the Neighbourhood Watch Group – Mr and Mrs Dellow on 870223.

RURAL ROTHER TRUST

The Parish Council has given a small grant this year to the Trust. The Trust provides assistance to those in need in the Rother rural area. Anyone who is in great need, ask them to apply to the Trust c/o the Town Hall, Bexhill TN39 3JX.

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS 3 May

Nominations by 4 April

Being a parish councillor is interesting voluntary work which helps you get involved with improving Village amenities. Full details available soon. See www.sedlescombe.org.uk under Parish Council/Standing for Election.

PARKING IS A PROBLEM FOR LOCAL BUSINESSES

Inconsiderate parking on both sides of the road outside the shop means that lorries and other vehicles are not able to turn out of Pumphouse Yard next door. Please try to walk to the shop or park in the car park. Parking in The Street and walking across The Green is an alternative.

HOME SECURITY ITEMS

The Parish Council has a small stock of home security items which are surplus to requirements. These are door viewers (£1.50), patio door locks (£7.80), snaplocks (£3.80), metlocks (£2) and transom locks (£2). Apply to the Council. Please remember if you would like the NHW to install security items free of charge, please contact 870223.

PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT

Almost daily, we are reminded of the problems of climate change and of the many challenges that we face to protect our environment. Sedlescombe Parish Council has recently undertaken a programme that raises the awareness of local people to what can be done in a small way to help.

Small Change. Over a period of 4 months, a total of 46 Sedlescombe households have met in small groups for sessions focusing on ways of making small changes to their environmental lifestyles.

Re-Think Rubbish Bus. The bus operated by East Sussex County Council visited Sedlescombe on 16 December. Manned by expert staff, its purpose is to encourage new ways of reducing waste going to landfill.

"Waste Not". Sedlescombe Parish Council is distributing, with this Bulletin, copies of a leaflet it has produced called "Waste Not". The focus is on reducing and re-using waste and recycling as a last resort. It is hoped that the leaflet will be kept and used for future reference.

PESTALOZZI

About 40 local people attended the public meeting on 24 November about the proposed redevelopment.

2007 ANNUAL REPORT AND DIRECTORY

The 2007 Annual Report and Directory will be in the same format as 2006 and is expected to be delivered to every home in the parish in time for the **ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PARISH MEETING ON TUESDAY 24 APRIL 2007 (Village Hall, 7.30pm)**.

All local organisations, societies and charities will be able to advertise free of charge. Businesses are asked to contribute at least £15 (including VAT) which will help pay for the printing of the booklet.

The final day for the copy for the booklet is Monday 29 January 2007. If you would like to be included in the Directory for the first time, please contact Pauline Raymond, 01424 870508 as soon as possible.

YOUR VILLAGE HALL NEEDS YOU!

The Management Committee urgently needs to find a Lettings Manager. The duties involve opening and closing the Hall before and after certain lettings, inspecting the Hall for damage and liaising with the Bookings Clerk. It may also be that the Lettings Manager could take responsibility for overseeing the maintenance requirements but this is not essential. A fee is payable for these services and the Committee is willing to negotiate the amount.

YOUR VILLAGE HALL ALSO NEEDS A BOOKINGS SECRETARY

This involves dealing with booking enquiries, arranging bookings and invoicing hirers. This is an essential function and the volunteer taking it on would become a trustee of the village hall and serve on its management committee.

Further information available from Pauline or Reg Glew on 870258.

NEW PAVILION. The Sports Association is building a new pavilion at the sportsfield and needs local donations towards this much-needed facility. Send cheques, made out to "Sedlescombe Sports Association Pavilion Fund", to the Treasurer at Sedlescombe Stores, The Green, Sedlescombe TN330QA