



PEDESTRIAN SAFETY IN VILLAGE CENTRE

The Parish Council is grateful for the co-operation it received from the Queen's Head and Sedlescombe Stores during the time it was considering whether a new pedestrian path behind the Queen's Head garden wall would help improve pedestrian safety. Following meetings on site, it seems that a new footway behind the wall would not increase the safety of pedestrians significantly and the idea has, therefore, been dropped for the time being. The main problem area appears to be caused by cars parking in front of the pub which forces pedestrians into the road. The Parish Council will, therefore, focus on this area and attempt to find some way of reducing the dangers for pedestrians.

SLOW DOWN!



This is the message that we want to put across to motorists driving through Sedlescombe and its surrounding lanes. The Parish Council has arranged the hire of a speed indicator device for a week this month and nearly thirty willing volunteers have undergone training so that they can stand beside the machine at various locations. Motorists driving within the speed limit will be rewarded with an electronic smiley face but with a sad face if they are driving too fast.

As local residents, we moan about others who drive at unreasonably high speeds but it has been found that the majority of people caught speeding through villages are local. So the message is to everyone – SLOW DOWN – and you will be an effective and free form of traffic calming, keeping the speedsters behind you. Don't forget how dangerous the country lanes are and respect those who want to walk or cycle instead of drive.

Road safety is such a hot potato that the Parish Council has decided to focus on it particularly between September and December. **A public meeting will be held in the Village Hall on Friday 27 October at 7.30pm. Make a note in your diary and come along with your views on what should be done in our Village.**

WELCOME TO NEW COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

The Parish Council is pleased to welcome the formation of the East View & Conqueror Community Association.

COULD YOU VOLUNTEER TO BE A SPECIAL CONSTABLE IN THE VILLAGE OF SEDLSCOMBE?

Special Constables are unpaid volunteers who receive training from their local police force to work with, and offer support to, regular police officers. Once trained, they have the same powers as a regular officer and wear a similar uniform. A commitment to at least 4 hours a week is required. If you would like further information, phone 01273 404155 and speak to the Sussex Police Recruitment Team.

BONFIRES

Every year, the Parish Council receives phone calls asking whether there are any byelaws allowing or prohibiting bonfires. The answer is that there are not but protection is afforded against repeated nuisance burning by The Environmental Protection Act 1990. Complaints may be made to the District Council (01424 787500) who will probably ask you to keep a diary of events to assist in the investigation. Nuisances need, however, never arise if due consideration is shown to our neighbours. For example:

- Do advise nearest neighbours before lighting a bonfire.
- Do burn material quickly in small quantities.
- Do choose your bonfire site carefully.
- Do not burn any oily rags, rubber or plastics.
- Do not light a bonfire when your neighbours having washing drying, or are out enjoying their gardens or have windows wide open.
- Do not light bonfires one hour before dusk, or leave them burning overnight.
- Do not burn damp grass clippings or "green" materials as this creates thick smoke.

Any dark smoke from a trade premises is an offence even if no-one is directly affected.

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

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PESTALOZZI INTERNATIONAL VILLAGE

In the next few years, Pestalozzi will celebrate fifty years in Sedlescombe and has, this month, launched an ambitious redevelopment plan which aims to improve the architectural quality of the Pestalozzi Village's environment and enhance its beautiful site and landscape. The Trust has published its vision for the future where they hope to establish a profile locally, regionally, nationally and internationally as an academic and education centre of excellence for environmental and international development issues.

The plan includes redevelopment of the old farm area with six large houses in big gardens.

The Trust is eager to keep local residents fully informed of the plans and to take on board any worries or concerns. If you would like to know more about the scheme, please come to the public meeting planned for Friday 24 November in the Village Hall starting at 7.30pm.

HEDGE CUTTING

Please take a look at any hedges and vegetation that are your responsibility and, if they are overhanging footways or roads, it would be helpful if you would arrange for them to be cut to avoid creating problems for pedestrians or drivers.

Thanks to Margaret Hudson for providing such super hanging baskets on the Green again.

BAN ON DRINKING IN PUBLIC PLACES

Several neighbouring districts have imposed a blanket ban on drinking in public places. However, in Rother, there is no such ban which means that the Police have no power to stop drinking by over-18s in places such as the children's playgrounds and the sportsfield. For a ban to be imposed by the District Council, evidence would need to be provided in support of a ban. If you encounter problems with drinking in public places in the Village, please contact the Rural Rother Police Inspector, Warren Franklin on 01323 414058 or Neighbourhood Policing Team Sergeant, Damen Funnell on 01323 414024, so that incidents can be logged and a picture built up.

SEDLESCOMBE LIFT SCHEME

Thanks to the public-spirited offer of several drivers living in the Village, the Parish Council has been able to set up a simple lift-giving scheme to help people get to medical appointments. A list of drivers can be seen on the noticeboard. The system is for you to ring anyone on the list when you need a lift to an appointment to make the arrangements. You will then have to make a payment of 40p/mile to the driver at the time of the lift. If the first driver is not available, please continue to phone other numbers on the list until you find someone who can take you. The Parish Council is planning to review the Scheme in November.

DONATION TOWARDS POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICER OVERTIME IN SEDLESCOMBE

The Parish Council has donated £500 into an "overtime pot" for Sedlescombe's PCSO so that, if necessary, he can do extra hours in the parish.

PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

The Parish Council's own website has recently been launched following closure of the old site earlier in the year. There is a slightly different address – www.sedlescombe.org.uk but still lots of useful information.

RIVERSIDE PLAYGROUND



We are very lucky as a Village to have been able to obtain a grant so that several new pieces of equipment could be installed. If you have children up to the age of 12, we hope that they are taking full advantage and enjoying themselves.

NEW VAN PERMIT SCHEME AT HOUSEHOLD WASTE RECYCLING SITES

As from 25 September, East Sussex County Council will be introducing a new Van Permit Scheme at household waste sites. Any residents, therefore, using a van or other commercial vehicle to take in their household waste to the sites will need to have a specially issued entry permit. Further information can be obtained on 01273 482310/482153 or at the website www.onyxsouthdowns.co.uk/hwrs. No trade waste will be allowed at any time.

YOUTH ISSUES

Any children or young people in your family who would like to draw attention to some item of concern in the Village are invited to attend the Open Forum at the start of the November Parish Council meeting. The date is Tuesday 14 November and the time is 7pm in Committee Room 2 of the Village Hall.

STOP PRESS. We are proud to announce that the Parish Council has been awarded second prize in a nationwide competition open to nearly 10,000 parish councils to find the Annual Report of the Year. The winning entry was from a large Town Council fifteen times larger than Sedlescombe.