

News

Slinfold Parish Council

Parish Council Meetings:

In line with government guidelines, all planned council meetings for the foreseeable future will be held virtually.

Monthly council meetings are still open to the public and the press (who have a right to attend) and are preceded by a session for public comments.

Meetings will take place using conferencing facilities and details of how the public (or press) may join in to have their say on matters on the agenda will be published on the agenda which will be on our website at www.slinfold-pc.gov.uk and in the noticeboard at the Bus Shelter.

Members of the public may contact the Clerk, preferably seven days in advance of the meeting should they wish to refer a matter of importance or concern to the Parish Council; the Clerk will make every effort to ensure that the Parish Council considers the same at the next available meeting.

Contact – Clerk, Mary Burroughs
01403-785864 (Mobile 07733-359479) email
clerk@slinfold-pc.gov.uk

Office Hours – The Clerk's normal working hours are Tuesday to Thursday 10am till 4pm. Meetings at the Cherry Tree office are suspended for the time being.

Contact – Chairman, Neil Beer
01403-241271 email n.beer@slinfold-pc.gov.uk



Contact Details

For further information visit the Parish Council website
www.slinfold-pc.gov.uk

Clerk and Financial Officer:
Mary Burroughs

Address: PO Box 315
Billingshurst, West Sussex RH14 9XX

Telephone: 01403 785864
Mobile: 07733 359479
Email: clerk@slinfold-pc.gov.uk

Environment Officers:

Tim Harrison and Jon Pilkington are out and about in the village on a regular basis. If you are concerned about a particular area that needs attention please email eo@slinfold-pc.gov.uk or call the Clerk on 01403 785864.

Chairman:
Dr Neil Beer 01403 241271
n.beer@slinfold-pc.gov.uk

District Councillors

Patricia Youtan
tricia.youtan@horsham.gov.uk

Stuart Ritchie
stuart.ritchie@horsham.gov.uk

County Councillor

Christian Mitchell
christian.mitchell@westsussex.gov.uk

Useful Numbers

Sussex Police: Call 101 or email
HorshamNPT@sussex.pnn.police.uk

Don't Tolerate it, Report it

Residents often contact the Clerk about problems around the village, which she duly forwards to the relevant authority. Please be aware that problems can also be reported directly to either Horsham District Council (for matters such as dog fouling, problems with the Acorn Plus scheme, fly tipping or fly posting, full litter or dog litter bins) or West Sussex County Council (for matters such as pot holes, dangerous footpaths, hedges encroaching on WSCC's Highways, blocked drains) etc. Their contact details are:

Horsham District Council: 01403 215100
or visit www.horsham.gov.uk

West Sussex County Council:
01243 777100
or visit www.westsussex.gov.uk

West Sussex County Council (Highways):
01243 642105
visit <http://love.westsussex.gov.uk>
or install the app from your App store.



Clerk's Corner

Ordinarily residents would have received, in July, the glossy summer edition of 'Parish Council News' but given the very strange times that we find ourselves in at present and the cautious approach we are all adhering to, a decision was taken not to publish and distribute the summer edition this time. Instead we would like to try to summarise what's been going on since the Winter (December) edition. So here goes: -



January 2020

- ⇒ The Parish Council continues to work with an independent drainage expert to understand the implications of the proposed surface water drainage plans to support the new development at the Welwyn site, Hayes Lane;
- ⇒ An Operation Watershed grant application for improvements to Hayes Lane drainage was progressed;
- ⇒ Slinfold Conservation Area – feedback was provided to Horsham District Council on their consultation document for the area;
- ⇒ Feedback was given on the Rudgwick Neighbourhood Plan.



Coronavirus lockdown - UK Government and Local Government Associations advised that councils should not to meet in person: -

March 2020

- ⇒ A virtual meeting process was implemented and the first virtual Parish Council meeting took place 26th March 2020;
- ⇒ A Covid 19 Emergency Plan agreed;
- ⇒ VE Day celebrations were cancelled (a Village Day will be held in 2021)

February 2020

- ⇒ A well-attended meeting took place at The Red Lyon to progress tree planting and the erection of bird boxes. Trees and boxes are now on order;



- ⇒ A grounds maintenance schedule for Parish Council land was approved;
- ⇒ A new noticeboard was ordered and will be sited opposite Spring Lane;
- ⇒ Glen Chipp HDC's CEO attended the council meeting and took questions from the public and Parish Council;
- ⇒ Neame Sutton presented the latest plans for Crosby Farm;
- ⇒ Draft plans for the Annual Meeting of the Parish were agreed;
- ⇒ The council was invited to the opening ceremony of the Missing Link at Christ's Hospital which was later postponed.



April 2020

- ⇒ The annual accounts were presented to council and approved;
- ⇒ A coronavirus volunteer group was set up via HDC and leaflets offering support were distributed to all households in the parish;
- ⇒ The Annual Meeting of the Parish was cancelled;
- ⇒ The Operation Watershed grant was submitted to WSCC.

June 2020

- ⇒ The Parish Council's Emergency Contingency Plan was updated and our Winter Plan reviewed;
- ⇒ A Model Code of Conduct was reviewed by the new councillors and their feedback noted;
- ⇒ Councillor Nic Lewis stood down after a long and valued service to the community, thank you Nic;
- ⇒ Christmas celebrations discussed and plans progressed.

July and August 2020

- ⇒ Strong objections put forward to Horsham District Council regarding the application for a large scale care home development at Lyons Farm; this development does not feature in the Slinfold Neighbourhood Plan;
- ⇒ At the monthly PC Meeting on 30th July, a discussion took place on the Crosby Farm outline application. The site was allocated in the Slinfold Neighbourhood Plan. The council agreed to support the application for development but reserved the right to comment upon the detailed plans that follow;
- ⇒ After much liaison with WSCC Highways over the last 12 months, a traffic management system has been proposed by the Parish Council on behalf of the parish. Also, plans for improved village signage and gateways have been submitted;
- ⇒ Downs Link – submissions were made to our County Councillor regarding safety improvements to the Hayes Lane crossing; temporary signs are now in place.



May 2020

- ⇒ 3 new councillors were co-opted to the vacancies that arose following the May 2019 elections;
- ⇒ Chair and Vice Chair elected and a new committee structure agreed;
- ⇒ Annual Accounts – the Internal Audit has taken place and no matters of significant were raised. The accounts have been submitted to the external auditors for examination and are available on the Parish Council website for review;
- ⇒ Review and approval of council documents to include Terms of Reference for committees.

July and August 2020 cont'd

- ⇒ Liaison with HDC and Saxon Weald regarding the redevelopment of The Cobblers;
- ⇒ Reports to HDC regarding potential compliance issues at the Nowhurst Business Park development site;
- ⇒ Updates received by council on outstanding matters or potential projects:

So as you can see, the Parish Council has been working through the lockdown as well as we can, and we have continued to adapt our working methods as the situation has changed.

It has been a busy time and Councillors as well as Parish Council staff have continued to work during the lockdown period.

Mary Burroughs, Clerk to Slinfold Parish Council

August 2020

- A Man Shed
- A Skatepark
- Trees and Bird Boxes
- Allotments
- A new compliant council website
- Hayes Lane drainage
- Proposals for maintenance and new facilities at Cherry Tree
- A village/ Slinfold walkabout map



COUNCILLOR VACANCY

Following the resignation of Tony Hall, the Parish Council has one vacancy. If you love where you live and want to see the parish and its community continue to thrive please consider applying to become our new Parish Councillor. Contact the Clerk for more information.

Annual Accounts 2020-21

The Parish Council's annual accounts to 31 March 2020 have been submitted to Moore, the external auditors, and are available for review on our website www.slinfold-pc.gov.uk under "Accounts".



Overhanging Vegetation – Please take a quick look now

Now that the bird nesting season has come to an end, please spare a thought for the elderly, blind, wheelchair and pushchair users on footpaths and ensure that your hedgerow is regularly trimmed, so that they are not forced to walk into the road. Please also spare a thought for drivers whose vehicles are being scratched by overgrown hedgerow that encroaches upon the highway.

You run the risk of formal notice from the County Council if you fail to keep overhanging vegetation under control, and could even face legal action from an injured member of the public or by a driver whose vehicle has been damaged.



Slinfold Village Walk and Slinfold Map



With the signs in place around the village to clearly mark our much-loved walkabout; the Parish Council is now working with designers to produce a Village Map that can be made available through various outlets and displayed around the village, to promote our beautiful village, not only as a place for residents to enjoy, but for other to visit.

Please follow the Village Walk signs to explore a lovely circular walk around the village.

Forthcoming Meetings

Day	Date	Meeting	Starting at	Venue
Thursday	24 th Sept 2020	PARISH COUNCIL	7:30pm	Virtual meeting please refer to our website for details of how the public may join in
Thursday	29 th Oct 2020	PARISH COUNCIL	7:30pm	Virtual meeting please refer to our website for details of how the public may join in