

SALEHURST & ROBERTSBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Volume 13

lssue 1

November 2019

Dates for your diary

Planning Committee Youth Centre	7 Nov
Parish Council Meeting Robertsbridge Hall	18 Nov
Christmas Trees Deadline for ordering Christmas trees to go up on houses in the main streets	18 Nov
Planning Committee Youth Centre	5 Dec
Christmas Capers 2019	6 Dec

Full Parish Council Meetings take place on the 3rd Monday of alternate months at the Village Hall. Planning Committee Meetings are held monthly, on the first Thursday, at the Youth Centre.

All meetings start at 7.30 pm and a period of up to 15 minutes is allowed at the start of the meeting for public comment or questions if required.

Agendas for meetings are posted on the parish notice boards and website at least 3 days before the meeting.

Planning applications can be viewed on Rother District Council web site, where comments on all applications can also be submitted.

A New Term Begins...

Congratulations to our new Parish Councillors who were elected in May. Our Parish Council is made up of nine councillors. Four Councillors were re-elected from the old Council and four new faces volunteered to become Councillors (see Page 2). This left us with one vacancy which we are pleased to report has been filled by Larraine Miles. Sadly two members have subsequently resigned for personal reasons so we are currently recruiting for their replacement (see below). We also had District Council elections in May. Sue Prochak was re-elected and we look forward to working with her once again.



to all those who volunteer to support the work of the Council and our active community. Without these volunteers our village would not be the vibrant and attractive place it is. In addition to our tree warden, speedwatch and footpath groups we

have all our newsletter deliverers, those who came along to the Annual Village Spring Clean, organisations such as The Football Club who painted the inside of the Recreation Ground Pavilion, Robertsbridge Beavers who held a litter pick evening, Don and Sheila Sherry who have looked after the garden at the front of old United Reformed Church for many years, and of course Helping Hands. If you have the time to help us in any way please do get in touch.

Could it be you?

Make a Difference - Contribute to Your Community

The Parish Council is looking for two new members. We need to choose two residents (age 18 or over) to join the team. No experience is needed, just an interest in the community, some time to spare and a willingness to get involved in local matters and decisions.

Interested? Contact the Parish Office for an application form, which must be returned by **Sunday 10th November.**

The current Councillors will consider the applications and make their choice at the next Council meeting on Monday 18th November (candidates should attend; those selected will immediately join the table to take an active part in the rest of the meeting).

INTRODUCING OUR COUNCILLORS...

Our Chairman and Vice Chairman...

Nick Brown (Chairman)

"I grew up in Wadhurst and lived near Ticehurst for fifteen years before moving to Robertsbridge in 2012. I have been living in the High Street for nearly six years and I believe that my location next to the One Stop means that nearly every Robertsbridge resident passes under my beady eye at one time or another! ... I spent the best part of twenty-five years working in various capacities in the world of investment banking as well as making a foray into the legal world as a trainee solicitor. I am currently Head of Investor Relations at Anexo plc, a publicly listed legal services and car hire group....I am a keen musician and sing both secular and sacred music with the Tongswood Chamber Choir on an (occasionally) professional basis. I can also be heard booming out in concert with the Bridge Men male voice choir. Many of my spare hours are spent walking round the village with my German Short Haired Pointer Mabel, who I like to think is considerably better known in the village than me, and deservedly so".





Sean O'Hara: (Vice Chairman)

"We moved to the village in 2009. My son and daughter both went to Salehurst Primary, School, my daughter now goes to Tonbridge Girls and my son to Tunbridge Wells Boys. I spent 32 years in government regulation including The Office of Fair Trading, Ofgas, Ofgem, Postcomm and Ofcom; currently I am working for British Gypsum Brightling Mine focusing on compliance. I enjoy camping, walking, (particularly if there is a pub or brewery at the end of the trail) and military history (particularly WW2 armoured vehicles/transport) ...I am the Chair of the Scout Group and Robertsbridge Wine Club and on the committee of the Social Club. I HATE litter! I'm a councillor because I want the village to be a great place to live for all of us."

...and photos of our other Councillors (Larraine in next newsletter)





Gillian Branford

Roger Palamarczuk



Gillian Smith



David Todd

A true community achievement!

Have you seen the new defibrillator in the village, installed by Peter our Village Steward, on a post on the left just above the railway crossing, before you get to Mill Rise?

A huge thank you to **Robertsbridge Jazz Club** for their generous donation which paid for the defib and to **Hurst Green Community First Responders** for donating the yellow box.



SALEHURST & ROBERTSBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL 2019/2020

CHAIRMAN – Nick Brown		Vice Chairman - Sean O'Hara			
Gillian Branford	Larraine Miles		Roger Palma	arczuk	Gillian Smith
Vacancy		Dav	vid Todd		Vacancy

COMMITTEES (DELEGATED POWERS):,

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Cemetery	The Chairman or Vice Chairman, Gillian Smith, Roger Palamarczuk		
Planning	Nick Brown, Sean O'Hara (Chairman), , Gillian Smith, 2 vacancies		

WORKING GROUPS: (NO DELEGATED POWERS)

Finance Working Group	RFO, Chairman, Sean O'Hara, David Todd	
Amenities Working Group	Roger Palamarczuk, David Todd	
General Purposes	Chairman, Vice Chairman, Gillian Branford, vacancy	
Summer Event Group	To be determined	
Car Park Working Group	Clerk, Chairman, Gillian Branford, David Todd, Non-council member: Rother District Cllr Sue Prochak	
Neighbourhood Plan Monitoring Group	Clerk, Gillian Branford, Sean O'Hara (Chairman), Roger Pala- marczuk Non-council members: Ruth Hardy; Xand Church; Tamara Strapp; Carolyn Cloutt	

LEAD COUNCILLORS:

Crime & Disorder	Roger Palamarczuk
Youth Matters	Vacancy

REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES:

Robertsbridge Arts Partnership	Gillian Branford
Robertsbridge Community Association	Gillian Smith
Robertsbridge Enterprise Group	David Todd
Rother Association of Local Councils	Clerk, Gillian Branford
Salehurst Charities	Clerk, Gillian Smith
Tree Wardens	Caroline Knight, Gillian Smith
East Sussex Association of Local Councils Ltd (ESALC)	Roger Palamarczuk, David Todd

SALEHURST & ROBERTSBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council:Karen Ripley (Mrs)Assistant Clerk:Gill Colquhoun (Mrs)

The Parish Office: Robertsbridge Youth Centre The Grove, George Hill Robertsbridge TN32 5AP Phone 01580 882066 Email: clerk@salehurst-pc.org.uk

Website: www.salehurst-pc.org.uk

Facebook: Find us at 'Salehurst & Robertsbridge Parish Council'

Please note we use our Facebook page alongside our website to communicate information (rather than answer questions).

The Parish Office is open to the public:Tuesday2pm to 4pmThursday2pm to 4pmand at other times by appointment.

Rother District Council www.rother.gov.uk

Parish Councillors

Tel :(all 01580)

Cllr Nick Brown (Chairman) 389159 chairman@salehurst-pc.org.uk Cllr Sean O'Hara (Vice Chairman) 881234 sean.ohara@salehurst-pc.org

Cllr Gillian Branford **Mobile** 07802 520599 gillian.branford@salehu rst-pc.org.uk

Cllr Larraine Miles **Mobile** 07946 537000 larraine.miles@salehurst-pc.org.uk

Cllr Roger Palamarczuk 880639 roger.palamarczuk@salehurst-pc.org.uk

Cllr Gillian Smith 880810 gillian.smith@salehurst-pc.org.uk

Cllr David Todd Mobile 07855 955636 david.todd@salehurst-pc.org.uk

East Sussex County Councillor

Cllr Angharad Davies 831969 cllr.angaharad.davies@eastsussex.gov.uk

Rother District Councillor

Cllr Susan Prochak 881309 cllr.susan.prochak@rother.gov.uk



We urgently need someone to lead on the Robertsbridge Summer Event next year (which could be linked to VE Day 75th Celebrations in May 2020). There is an enthusiastic group of helpers for such events. For more information please contact the Parish Office. We are very pleased to

report that David Todd, one of our new Councillors, will be taking the lead with Stephen Hardy in organising Christmas Capers this December. Contact Stephen on 01580 881309.

A message of thanks from Peter, our Village Steward...

"Dog fouling has improved!...still not as we would like but a lot better. The litter is particularly bad outside One Stop, and down by the Village Store, by the bridge in Station Road, but again it is improving".

Thanks everyone; please continue to help us, we don't want Peter to spend time unnecessarily litter picking when we have other more important jobs needing attention.

To report potholes/Highways Issues:

Responsibility of East Sussex Highways. Issues can be reported at https://www.eastsussexhighways.com/report-a-problem

If Highways emergency ring 0345 60 80 193

And last but not least...Housing Developments

Neighbourhood Plan: I'm sure everybody is aware of the progress at the old Countrycrafts site on George Hill. I wish I could report that things are moving quickly with the other sites in our Neighbourhood Plan but the feedback we have received indicates there is unlikely to be any real news until next year. I understand that there may be a temptation for some residents to welcome a lack of progress in the hope of minimising disruption to parish life. However, if it becomes apparent that the Neighbourhood Plan is going to fail to deliver on its objectives the likely outcome is that we will lose the protection provided by the Plan in terms of controlling location of development and having a strong influence on the style/quality of development. Less scrupulous developers will be able to take advantage of Government pressure on Local Authorities to approve plans to just build as many properties as possible.

<u>General development</u>: The Planning Committee has noticed a reduction in the number of applications over the last 12-18 months, probably due to the general political situation but we thoroughly scrutinise every application regardless of whether it relates to a whole building or just a conservatory or porch. Don't forget the Committee gets the opportunity to comment to Rother on all planning applications in the parish as well as general consultations etc. If you want us to take your views into account, please drop us a line or attend the relevant monthly meeting.

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