



# Winter 2020/21 Newsletter

HAYWARDS HEATH  
TOWN COUNCIL

TO SERVE THE PEOPLE WELL

## Mayor's Message



Welcome to our first Town Council Newsletter of 2020 - and what a year it's been so far...

Due to the Covid crisis we've been unable to publish over lockdown but behind the scenes we have been operating as close to the new normal as is possible. Over lockdown we launched our 'Leave No One Behind' campaign, ensuring that our more senior and vulnerable residents within the community were supported as they self-isolated. We also set up an

Emergency Food Hub which complements the fantastic work but also adds to the overall capacity of the Haywards Heath Food Bank. I would like to thank all those residents who have stepped up to volunteer their time over the past six months making deliveries of information leaflets, food parcels or prescription medicines and especially to the Haywards Heath Covid-19 Mutual Aid team who spearheaded the town's response with Council officers. As a community we're indebted to Amie Cherverst, Jo Lee, Redwan Chowdhury, Jo Roberts and Jo Dixon for coordinating the many hundreds of volunteers who worked tirelessly to ensure there were no gaps within the overall community response and to ensure the two thousand calls that came in were all dealt with appropriately.

As a result of this Covid strategy you may have read that we had a Royal visit to the Town and I was indeed very honoured to introduce HRH Princess Royal to ten volunteers from the HH Covid-19 Mutual Aid Group.

While no events have been able to take place, we have commemorated the 75th anniversary of VE Day with a wonderful virtual tribute as a Council, on our YouTube channel. I poignantly laid a wreath to mark Battle of Britain day with the Haywards Heath 172 RAF Squadron Air Cadets, I have delivered treat bags for afternoon tea to our Care Homes in Haywards Heath as part of Silver Sunday and more recently, I made a presentation to our retiring Vicar of St Wilfrid's Church, Rev'd Ray Smith. The Town Council has worked with Ray for the past 24 years delivering both Civic and Remembrance services and we pay tribute to him for the vital role he has played within our community during his time in Haywards Heath. Thank you on behalf of the Town.

As we move into winter and towards the Festive Season, I do hope our community is now better equipped for the next few months since lockdown in March. I've witnessed so many acts of kindness and generosity and I look forward to our community getting beyond the next few months and showing that Haywards Heath really is a remarkable and supportive place for everyone within our community.

Best Wishes and have a safe Christmas.

**Cllr Alastair McPherson**

*Haywards Heath Town Mayor*

## Royal visit to the Town Council to meet and thank Haywards Heath Covid-19 Respondees



The Mayor was honoured to meet HRH Princess Royal as she visited the Town Hall to learn about our response to the Covid-19 lockdown and to meet and thank some of the volunteers who have worked together with the Town Council from Haywards

Heath Covid-19 Mutual Aid. The Princess Royal was accompanied on this visit by Vice Lord-Lieutenant of West Sussex, Sir Richard Kleinwort and was keen to hear about the Mayor's 'Leave No One Behind' campaign and our plans going forward.

## STAY HOME AND PAY YOUR RESPECTS - REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY



An online service for Remembrance Sunday will replace our normal service at Muster Green.

Please note that due to Covid restrictions, there will be no official service and parade taking place on Sunday, 8th November 2020. Remembrance this year will be just as important and a small contingent of six people will lay wreaths on the Town's behalf including the Town Mayor, the Vice Lord-Lieutenant of West Sussex and representatives of the Royal British Legion, led by Reverend Charles Sargent. The service will be live streamed on Facebook and the video will then be placed on our website and YouTube channel. Personal tributes (those wishing to attend the War Memorial for a visit or to lay their own wreath or cross) can be made outside of the 10.50-11.30am time but please follow strict social distancing measures as our aim is to mark the day respectfully while keeping our community safe.



HAYWARDS HEATH  
TOWN COUNCIL

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Email [town.clerk@haywardsheath.gov.uk](mailto:town.clerk@haywardsheath.gov.uk)

The Town Hall, 40 Boltro Rd, Haywards Heath,  
West Sussex, RH16 1BA  
Tel: 01444 455694

## Dame Vera Lynn Children's Charity benefits from Town Council funding

*Haywards Heath Town Council made a contribution to the wonderful Dame Vera Lynn Children's Charity to commemorate Dame Vera Lynn*

The Policy and Finance Committee agreed to award money to the charity to cover the cost of roll away floor matting and a professional deep clean throughout the charity's premises. This enabled them to safely reopen the charity for their staff and families following lockdown. We also awarded a sum of money to provide a session of Conductive Education to 6 children with cerebral palsy from Haywards Heath. This movement based educational approach helps the children develop physically, socially and emotionally and supports them in gaining more independence.

A spokesperson for the charity commented "we are really grateful to Haywards Heath Town Council. This support does make a difference to the charity."



## Grants available for Voluntary and Community groups



Haywards Heath Town Council is able to provide funding for groups that are making a positive difference in their community. 11 grants have been issued so far this year. We follow up to see how the funding has helped and have received some wonderful results. Here is one from the £250 grant awarded in June last year to the Haywards Heath Youth CIC for the purpose of a volunteer fair.

"The grant was spent on the administrative cost of preparing for the Volunteer Fair and on sessional youth staff at the event. The Fair was held on 11th July 2019 at the Albemarle Centre, and succeeded in its primary aim of bringing together representatives of local charities and community organisations with Year 10 students at Oathall Community College, in order to raise the students' awareness of their community, to encourage them to think about the benefits of volunteering and to show them a range of local volunteering opportunities.

87% of the students said the Fair had been helpful to them. Comments included "I learnt lots about the importance of supporting

the community" and "I am more aware of the range of volunteering opportunities in Haywards Heath". 50% said they would make further enquiries about volunteering.

The next deadline for a Town Council Grant is 15th December 2020. To apply for a grant please visit our website for information on who can and how to apply for grants or contact our Events and Community Officer Becky at 01444 455694 or by email to [rebecca.stevens@haywardsheath.gov.uk](mailto:rebecca.stevens@haywardsheath.gov.uk)

## Beautiful Muster Green wins 6th Consecutive GREEN FLAG Award!



Muster Green has once again been recognised by the Green Flag Award Scheme as one of the very best green spaces in the world. Our Town Mayor, Cllr Alastair McPherson, who is also Chairman of Haywards Heath IN BLOOM, comments:



"This is fantastic news for our Town and a huge credit to the Town Council's dedicated Grounds Staff who worked tirelessly and socially distanced throughout lockdown and beyond to keep Haywards Heath's green spaces looking immaculate, colourful and seasonal. As we more than ever recognise the importance and value of our green spaces, which many of us use for exercise, relaxation and tranquillity, I am delighted that this Green Flag Award confirms that Muster Green is a true beauty within our Town!"

## Appeal from your Mayor for Time4Children



Time4Children is a wonderful local charity that provides free emotional listening support for children who find it difficult to express their thoughts, feelings, worries, fears and anxieties. Because of Covid-19 all of my and the charity's fundraising events have had to be postponed at a time when this vital service for children is particularly important. This small charity relies solely on fundraising, grants and donations. If you are able to help in any way, please do contact the Charity on 01444 440547, visit their website at [www.time4children.org.uk](http://www.time4children.org.uk) or donate by visiting <https://localgiving.org/donation/time4children>.

**Cllr Alastair McPherson**  
Haywards Heath Town Mayor



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## UPDATE

The Town Hall is open for general enquiries and building hires, all following strict social guideline rules and individual, case by case assessments for room hires. We are working under strict Government guidelines to ensure the safety of the Town Hall for any visitors or hirers of our rooms.

Our staff are on hand for general enquiries, cemetery and allotment enquiries, help with grant applications, press and promotion opportunities for charities and causes, help with concessionary travel queries and street furniture maintenance. Our Grounds Team remain working hard on our grounds and green spaces to ensure the Town is beautiful, clean and immaculate for us all to enjoy.

We are also still working with Haywards Heath Covid-19 Mutual Aid to ensure we are here for any of our community who need help while this pandemic continues and still have the Haywards Heath Emergency Food Hub on standby should this be needed in the near future.

We care about our community and want to keep our Town safe, so we cannot emphasise how important it is that we follow Government guidelines.

## Environment Update



Haywards Heath Town Council continues to work towards making our community a cleaner and greener place for us all to live and work in. This year has been a challenging time for all in many ways, but we continue working hard through these challenging circumstances to ensure our Green Policy progresses.

Our website holds the Council's framework document and lists the priorities for the Town under our dedicated Environment page which can be located under the Town Council Policies Section.

Below is an update on some of the things that have been going on behind the scene, projects that are already in process and some practical changes that have been put in place.

### Carbon Offset

The Town Council has resolved to work with Carbon Footprint Ltd to firstly take the lead and become Carbon Neutral then roll out this initiative to groups, organisations and businesses in the Community. Please watch our news and wait for an update from the Town Council to see how YOU can measure your Carbon Footprint and work out how to balance this through actions from the company. This should also lead to tree planting schemes in the Town and other initiatives that will come forward as the partnership develops with the company.

### Business and School Environment Awards

Criteria has been produced with regards to Business and School Environment Awards. This is an exciting new project that will be launched in the near future. The aim is to help the community to work together and make some differences to our environment while also being recognised for all the efforts made.

### Solar Panels for the Town Hall

The Town Council is looking to purchase Solar Panels to place on the roof of Town Hall if a survey of the roof and sun light hours is suitable. These will provide us with a renewable energy source and reduce our electricity and maintenance costs.

### Keeping our Town looking its best

Planting regimes have been looked at and planned carefully to ensure our Town is looking the best it can be and providing nice places for people to enjoy with a year on year increase in drought resistant plants.

Ground staff have been equipped with air quality machines which they carry with them as they work around the Town to help us monitor pollution levels in Haywards Heath.

### Milk Bottle Tops for Charity Recycling

The Town Council accepts your milk bottle tops at the Town Hall for recycling and donates the proceeds to the Mayor's charity.

## Haywards Heath College

Last month witnessed the reopening of Haywards Heath College, providing a sixth form college for young people and adult learners in the heart of Mid Sussex. The college has already welcomed 300 students back to education at the beginning of September for their induction and took great steps to ensure all the safety and social distance measures were in place.

With the first students now settling into their new college, an exciting programme of 'covid-safe' enrichment activities will be starting after the October half-term. A wealth of opportunities will be available, including Academies in: sport, performing arts, visual arts and STEM. All this alongside their 'Aspire' programme giving all students access to guest speakers from a wide range of professions and areas of research, as well as preparing them for the most competitive universities.

Applications are now open for courses starting in 2021 and Haywards Heath College, which is part of the 'Outstanding' Chichester College Group, will be holding a series of virtual open events at the beginning of November. These will help students and parents get a feel for the college and the support it can offer, as well as find out about the courses. The college has a wide and diverse range of A-level and Applied subjects available for students (as well as Level 2 provision in 'Step Up').



## Winter Management Plan

The Town Council has finalised its Winter Management Plan for this coming Winter 2020/2021. The plan is a public document which is now available on our website (or as a hard copy on request from the Town Hall) along with the strategies of our principal authorities Mid Sussex District Council and West Sussex County Council and some top tips on how to respond to snow weather events.

The documentation on the website also includes the areas of response each authority is able to undertake and suggestions where residents may be able to help themselves and / or their neighbours.

**Haywards Heath Town Council** will endeavour to support residents of the town in the event of severe weather. This includes:

- **pre-emptive measures** in the existing provision of the 107 salt bins in the town (you can find the nearest one to you on our website)
- holding a **mass storage** of salt in addition to the bins

- the **clearance of some pavements and pathways**, which are required so residents can reach important services such as doctors' surgeries or to enable access to vulnerable people
- providing local business with a **small supply of salt** and the opportunity to borrow snow shovels
- providing information and updates during winter weather events.

Please remember to use salt sparingly as the Town only gets one full fill of all bins each year and then has to manage salt from its mass storage. Kindly remember if used properly a table spoon of salt should clear 1sq metre of ice/snow.

### Useful contacts

West Sussex County Council  
01243 777100 - [www.westsussex.gov.uk](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk)

West Sussex County Council Highways  
01243 642105

Mid Sussex District Council  
01444 458166 - [www.midsussex.gov.uk](http://www.midsussex.gov.uk)

## Your Town Councillors - how to get in touch

### Ashenground Ward

Cllr Richard Bates (LIB) : West Corner, Lowfield Rd, HH, RH16 4DW : Tel: 01444 452092

Cllr Stephanie Ingelsfield (LIB) : 41 Cedar Avenue, HH, RH16 4UQ : Tel: 07780 456316

Cllr Sujan Wickremaratchi (CON) : 14 Colwell Close, HH, RH16 4HF : Tel: 07968 179083

### Bentswood Ward

Cllr Clare Cheney (CON) : 26 Greenways, HH, RH16 2DT : Tel: 07582 304345

Cllr Rachel Cromie (CON) : 11 Quakers Lane, HH, RH16 3QD : Tel: 07948 279782

Cllr Jack Langley (GREEN) : c/o The Town Hall, 40 Boltro Rd, HH, RH16 1BA : Tel: 07401 838754

### Franklands Ward

Cllr Christopher Evans (CON) : c/o The Town Hall, 40 Boltro Rd, HH, RH16 1BA : Tel: 01444 455694

Cllr Howard Mundin (CON) : 34 Wellswood, Haywards Heath, RH16 4FQ Tel: 07802 603446

Cllr Mike Pulfer (CON) : 6 Burma Close, HH, RH16 3JE : Tel: 07734 407467

### Heath Ward

Cllr Sandy Ellis (CON) : 60a Queens Rd, HH, RH16 1EE : Tel: 07827 813366

Cllr Clive Laband (CON) : c/o The Town Hall, 40 Boltro Road, HH, RH16 1BA Tel: 07966 196302

Cllr Richard Nicholson (GREEN) : 24 Barnmead, HH, RH16 1UZ : Tel: 07971 051645

### Lucastes & Bolnore Ward

Cllr Chris Ash-Edwards (CON) : 45 Turners Mill Rd, HH, RH16 1NW : Tel: 01444 413902

Cllr Matt Jeffers (CON) : c/o The Town Hall, 40 Boltro Rd, HH, RH16 1BA : Tel: 01444 455694

Cllr James Knight (CON) : c/o The Town Hall, 40 Boltro Rd, HH, RH16 1BA : Tel: 07769 704063

Cllr Alastair McPherson (CON) : c/o The Town Hall, 40 Boltro Rd, HH, RH16 1BA : Tel: 07966 057664

Town Councillors can also be contacted by email: [firstname.lastname@haywardsheath.gov.uk](mailto:firstname.lastname@haywardsheath.gov.uk)

## Santa's Grotto at the Orchards

Saturdays in December,  
10.30am to 2:30pm



The Orchard Centre's Santa's Grotto will be returning in December with a Covid-19 safe risk assessment and additional staff to keep everyone safe. Please follow Government guidelines if you wish to bring your children to visit Santa this year.

A socially distanced photo with Santa is also available with a gift from the man himself at a cost of £2.50. All proceeds made will raise funds for the Alzheimer's Disease Society.



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