



SOMPTING SIGNPOST



The official news magazine from Sompting Parish Council

www.sompting.org.uk

Over 4000 copies delivered to homes and shops throughout Sompting (WINTER 2014)

**IN THIS ISSUE.....BUDGETS, AWARDS AFTERNOON, VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS
SOMPTING CHRISTMAS CAROLS ON THE REC., DIGITAL INCLUSION, A27 TRAFFIC
LOCAL FOOTPATHS, SOMPTING FESTIVAL & SOMPTING CALENDAR**

Budget and precept 2015/16

Sompting Parish Council has set its budget expenditure and its precept for 2015/16 and is pleased to announce that again since 2012, the Council will be maintaining its standard of services whilst keeping the precept **UNCHANGED**.



The main source of the Council's income is the precept. The precept reflects the net budget expenditure to be incurred by the Parish Council spread over the dwellings covered by its area. You will see this stated on your council tax demand from Adur District Council. When reading your Council Tax statement, please do not confuse the "Special Expenses" levy with the Parish Council's precept. "Special Expenses" is to cover work charged by the District Council, on top of their Council Tax levy. Other sources of income include bookings for the use of the Harriet Johnson Centre. The Council will continue to look for suitable grants to reduce the expenditure figure. Any additional costs due to inflation, unforeseen or positive opportunity expenditure will be met by drawing on its reserves.

The 2015/16 budget

Exp. Description	Budget	Income	Description
Establishment	38,310	11,565	Centre hire /acc. interest/other
Environment	10,700	7,150	slipped from 2014/15
Asset maintenance	9,460	645	from reserves
Grants	8,030		
Harriet Johnson Centre	13,490		
Events	12,270		
N Plan	5,300		
Sompting Signpost	4,500		
		82,700	the precept value
	102,060	102,060	

During the year, the Council is to continue with the Neighbourhood Plan production, an IT suite for residents to use sited within the Harriet Johnson Centre, adult exercise equipment in partnership with Adur District Council and an enhanced grant allocation.



THE ROUTE 7 SUNDAY SERVICE TO RETURN



The Council has been working with Compass Travel to enhance the bus service for Sompting, in particular North Sompting, since West Sussex County Council (WSCC) reduced the service provision by removing the bus grant. Compass Travel provided the previous service for Stagecoach and the good news is that Stagecoach have confirmed their agreement to starting the Sunday service on route 7 as proposed. Unfortunately, WSCC are now not prepared to support a short notice registration which means we will have to give the full 8 weeks' notice to start the service. Since January and February are not the best months to start a new service, it is proposed to start the service in the spring. Once the Notice is advertised and approved, the start date and timetable will be fully publicised by distributed leaflets, on the Route 7 and on the Council's web site.

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING.....



Since the last edition we have had a number of things taking place at the Centre.

AWARDS AFTERNOON – 26th OCTOBER – HARRIET JOHNSON CENTRE



The afternoon went very well and the two awards were handed out to the winners as follows:-



Sompting Best Gardens – the Fred Burns Bowl – went to 67 Rectory Farm Road, owned by Mr & Mrs Bigg

The runner up this year was 21 Roman Walk, owned by Mr & Mrs Sonessa



The Doug Sherriff Award Shield 'for someone who has given outstanding contribution to Sompting' went to Sarah Errat – Rose from Sompting Village Primary School, for organising the school parade at the start of Sompting Festival.

A 'Special Award' was given this year in memory of Alan Royston Neve 9/5/51 to 10/10/12 – 'Remembered for his love of Sompting'. Alan was paralysed from the neck down for 37 years, after a gymnastics accident at the age of 23. Always wanting to help others, he volunteered to edit the Community Alarm newsletter for Adur District Council which he did for 19 years on his computer. This newsletter was eight pages of text and pictures produced three or four times a year. This would have been a challenge for most of us, but with Alan's disability, it was made much harder. In the beginning he used a mouth stick to tap away on the keyboard and then as technology progressed, with a speech programme.



1st Aid Course

Eighteen people attended a basic 1st Aid Course at the Harriet Johnson Centre at the beginning of November. All those who attended now feel more able to cope with any situations where 1st Aid is needed.



Victorian Christmas at Harriet Johnson Centre (Presented by Lancing and Sompting Pastfinders, supported by Sompting Parish Council)

Some 60 people attended, (some dressed in costumes of the period) and travelled back to Victorian times courtesy of 'Timespan' to see how they celebrated Christmas. This was followed by a raffle and refreshments and harmony singing by Mike Fris tram and Shepherds Arise. For the last part the audience were invited to join in some traditional carols to get them in the Christmas mood!



COMMUNITY CAROLS ON THE RECREATION GROUND..... or not! WEDNESDAY 17th DECEMBER

(The event had to be held at the Harriet Johnson Centre due to the recent wet weather)

This expanding community event included children's rides, mulled wine, mince pies, live singing of Christmas carols assisted by Sompting Community Church...and as we were all very good, a special visit from Father Christmas himself, with a little something for the children.



AWARD FOR LONG SERVICE

Chair of the Council, Councillor Barry Mear has served on Sompting Parish Council for 25 years and has been Chair for almost 10 years. Before the Parish Council meeting in December he was presented with an award for his long service.

DIGITAL INCLUSION



The Parish Council is currently working with Adur District Council to provide a base at the Harriet Johnson Centre which will be open on Tuesdays and Fridays. Watch website for details of opening date and exact times.

SOMPTING NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

After a delay in producing the Sompting Neighbourhood Plan due to the Halewick Site proposed insertion, (see other article below), the Steering Group will be finalising the pre submission document in January 2015. This document states the land use policies of the Neighbourhood Plan and other related proposals for the parish area. When all that work has been done we, the local community, have six weeks to comment on the Draft Neighbourhood Plan.

WSSC UPDATE FOOTPATHS/A27



The West Sussex County Council has reviewed the service provided for dealing with public footpaths across the County. Through that review it has identified that due to a reduction in the level of defects the 9 month inspection cycle will now be set at every 15 months. With this change it is imperative that defects are identified by the user of the paths. The Parish Council is therefore encouraging users to notify us on the condition of the footpaths and we will pass the information over to the local Access Ranger. Please contact us either by email assistantclerk@sompting.org.uk or phone 01903 208824.



Many of our readers may know of the A27 Action campaign. The campaign's objective is to demonstrate to the Government the overwhelming economic, environmental and social case for improving the A27 across West Sussex. If you wish for further information about the campaign then please look at www.a27action.co.uk.

Transformation of the Halewick Lane site? – Not yet!....

Sompting Parish Council and the steering group for the Sompting Neighbourhood Plan have been working hard to include within the Plan the transformation of the redundant Halewick Lane site in North Sompting. The project identified exciting and ambitious proposals for an equestrian centre, educational facilities, small recreational unit workshops, tourist information and café. All these would have provided employment and an improvement in resident's well-being. This new area then would have formed a new "gateway" into the National Park. West Sussex County Council, the owners of the site, was involved and backed the project. The project was to be launched through a Community Right to build Order under the new Localism Act and to fund the initial work required for the Order, the Parish Council had received the approval for substantial grant funding. One of the criteria for the grant was that the project did not require an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).

As the site was within the National Park, that Authority considered the project required an EIA which has now prevented the Parish Council from proceeding with the project as the grant funding is not available.

Parish Cllr Mrs Wood, Chair of the steering group, says

"The project, which had the support from residents and West Sussex County Council, would have transformed this disused site which everyone agrees is an eyesore against the surrounding South Downs landscape. Residents had put up with this site for many years with no obvious movement to do anything to alter that situation. The Parish Council wanted to use this new Order to create a completely different environment and having the opportunity to benefit our residents. It is therefore with regret that due to the grant funding being withdrawn, the Parish Council has to abandon this great initiative. Hopefully, West Sussex County Council will take on the mantle and produce plans for the site which will benefit Sompting residents and be in-keeping with the site's surroundings. We await with interest"

D Porter, Clerk to Sompting Parish Council
Tel 07813484857 e mail clerk@sompting.org.uk



SOMPTING FESTIVAL
26TH 27TH 28TH JUNE 2015
IDEAS AND HELPERS WANTED!
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE INVOLVED PHONE
07813484857 OR 01903 208824



PUT THESE DATES IN YOUR DIARY NOW - keep an eye on the website for updates!!



HARRIET JOHNSON CENTRE

Available for
Children's Parties, Meetings, Wedding Receptions, Concerts, Groups
Competitive Rates

For further information phone 01903 208824 or
email harrietjohnsoncentre@sompting.org.uk
or see our website where you can download information and forms
www.sompting.org.uk



The Centre currently has several groups and activities during the day and evening for all ages, covering a variety of interests. More details of contacts can be found on the website or contact the Centre Manager.

Do you have a group that is looking for a venue – then why not try the Centre. See above for contact details.

Harriet Johnson Centre

Do you want to book a hall for a Children's Party – Wedding – Meeting?



Just contact the Harriet Johnson Centre and we will try and meet your requirements.

STAFF AT THE HARRIET JOHNSON CENTRE

CENTRE MANAGER - SIMONE WILLIAMS – 01903 208824 – harrietjohnsoncentre@sompting.org.uk (MON/WED/FRI 10am to 12 noon)

STAFF AT THE OLD SCHOOL HOUSE

DAVID PORTER PARISH CLERK – 07813484857
SUE TUBB ASSISTANT PARISH CLERK – 01903 208824

clerk@sompting.org.uk (TUE/WED 10am to 12 noon)
assistantclerk@sompting.org.uk (TUE/WED/THUR 10am to 12 noon)

USEFUL NUMBERS (all 01903 unless stated)

Harriet Johnson Centre – 208824
Doctors – Ball Tree Surgery - 752200
Dentist – Ball Tree - 754224
Chemist – Cokeham Pharmacy – 753454
Vets – Grove Lodge - 234866

Police – PCSO – 07775406784
Sompting Parish Council - 07813484857
Emergency Number 07580873500
Adur/Worthing Council 01273 263000
(Emergency number 07879412971)
West Sussex County Council 01243 777100

SOMPTING CALENDAR

The Council is wishing to produce a unique Sompting calendar for 2016. You are invited to take photographs throughout the year depicting scenes or events within Sompting to be judged for the calendar, one for each month.

The calendar will be available in December 2015, so if you have any recent photographs taken around Sompting please send them in

Photographs by email to assistantclerk@sompting.org.uk, or by post to Sompting Parish Council Harriet Johnson Centre, Loose Lane, Sompting or drop them in at the Centre.



DID YOU KNOW ? (ADDITIONAL PARISH COUNCIL TELEPHONE NUMBER)
To contact the Parish Council you can either phone 07813484857 or 01903 208824



Tail piece... Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible....