

News from

Slinfold Parish Council

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Welcome to the winter issue of Parish Council News for 2022. This newsletter is delivered to every household in the Parish (around 900) and aims to keep all residents in touch with matters that may be of interest, including Parish Council activity and forthcoming meetings. If you have something that you would like to see in the next edition, which will come out in the summer, please contact the Parish Clerk (contact details are on the back page).

PARISH INFO

If you are interested in knowing about news and activities around Slinfold Parish, you can find information in a number of different places:

- The Parish magazine – available to buy in the Shop and the Church, or available on subscription
- The Slinfold Facebook page
- The village noticeboards – on Hayes

Lane, Six Acres, The Street near Mike's Bikes, The Red Lyon, The Village Stores



- The phone box on Hayes Lane 'The Information Point'
- The online Village Diary (Google it) ...just to name a few.

Make sure you keep informed by visiting these information points!

TRAFFIC CALMING



By now, residents will hopefully be familiar with the proposed 20mph limit in the village centre and those concerned will

have responded to the West Sussex County Council (WSCC) consultation on the proposed buildouts in the village centre. The traffic calming included in the village's submission for Lyons Road has still not been agreed by WSCC but we are working to resolve that with our County Councillor and WSCC Highways.

Additionally the Parish Council is working with WSCC Highways on the available locations for two mobile Speed Indicator Devices.

Residents can report anti-social driving via the Operation Crackdown website <https://reports.operationcrackdown.org/asdprs/>
Councillor Chris Leyland

TREE CANOPY

As previously mentioned, we have received two trees from the District Council as part of the Queen's Canopy movement from the Jubilee celebrations.

Our trees will be planted on the green and on the KGV Playing field at the beginning of November. Please do give them a water when you see them!

Councillor Jane Slipper



SLINFOLD VILLAGE HALL UPDATE

The Village Hall is a volunteer-run independent Charity, originally set up in 1881, for the benefit of the residents of Slinfold. It is not part of the Parish Council or St Peter's Church, and receives no operational subsidy from them or any other body; its running costs are wholly covered by its rental income.

In common with everyone else, our costs are rising astronomically – next year our energy bill will be increasing by 150%, to be equivalent to over half of our rental income. So, in 2023, for the first time since 2015, we are going to have to increase our tariffs. However, it actually costs much the same to heat the hall up for three bookings in a day as it does for one, therefore the more use the hall gets, the cheaper it can be for each booking. So do please get in touch if you have an idea for a something that

you think might be of interest or benefit to Slinfold, and we can help you get it off the ground.



The Village Hall is at the heart of Slinfold, with thirteen or fourteen different public groups or activities each month, plus a number of private parties and events. Given the current cost-of-living crisis we are now giving thought to how we might we might further offer 'warm place activities' if needed during the winter months.

Finally, we will soon be making some improvements to the hall, replacing the twenty-year-old chairs and installing some ambient, and energy-efficient, lighting. We have obtained a grant to pay for some of the new chairs, but watch out for some fund-raising activities to help pay for the rest.

Neil Peachey
Chairman Trustees – Slinfold Village Hall (Charity Number 305256)
www.slinfoldvillagehall.co.uk



WELCOME TO THE NEW HEADTEACHER AT SLINFOLD C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL AND PRE-SCHOOL

"I would like to start by saying a huge thank you to the community for making me feel so welcome in Slinfold.

I have the privilege of leading the wonderful local school and have a fantastic team who are working tirelessly to improve the educational achievement of our children. Before joining Slinfold, I worked in special educational needs settings and two other primary schools in Horsham and Burgess Hill, spanning a 15-year period.

The family feel to the school and parish is something that I find inspiring and warming in a fast-paced and ever-changing world.

I look forward to supporting the community in its future endeavours."

With warm wishes,
Jain Campbell
Headteacher



WELCOME TO NEW RESIDENTS

Welcome to the residents who are moving into the newest Slinfold development, The Acres. We hope you are very happy in Slinfold Parish! And apologies for the misprints in the last publication – of course we meant to welcome residents of Welwyn Way, Fincham Mews and Springwood!

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



Thank you for your patience over the last few months. Since June, the Council has been supported by a locum Clerk for a few hours

per week. This has been sufficient to cover the 'official duties', but I am aware that some other matters may have been delayed, for which I offer my apologies. At the time of writing this, it is possible that we are close to appointing a new Clerk and an assistant Clerk. Once these two have settled in, I expect the Council should be able to move back towards 'normal service'.

Planning matters – which normally form a substantial part of the Council's business – have been much quieter than usual. The main reason for this is the requirement for developers to prove that their development will not lead to more water being extracted from local aquifers. This "water neutrality" requirement has been difficult to satisfy and, until it is, a planning application cannot go ahead. The Council does not know how this issue will be resolved.

Meanwhile, however, the Cobblers re-development got permission before the water neutrality requirement began, yet no work has been started there to date. We are concerned that maybe the expected smaller and affordable housing will not be built, disadvantaging potential tenants, some of whom were moved out on the promise of being able to come back to much improved accommodation. Despite asking more than once, we have received no indication from Saxon Weald as to when the re-building will start.

I am pleased to report however

that progress is being made on potential traffic management measures in the village; the WSCC consultation began recently. If these proposals are supported by residents, then we should see them implemented in the next financial year. See Councillor Leyland's report for more details.

There has also been progress on an option for improved broadband service. F&W Networks are looking for households to sign up if they are interested in taking high-speed fibre broadband. If there is enough interest then installation would be heavily subsidised by central Government. Again, more details are in another article in this publication.

I was pleased and honoured to be asked to help cut the ribbon at the official opening of the Slinfold Community Shed in Cherry Tree. This is a great facility which I'm sure will be well-used and well-appreciated by residents. Its future is in the safe hands of its active management committee.

Please do consider applying to become a Parish Councillor – it is very rewarding and not such a huge undertaking as you may think! The Council is sad that Councillor David Estyn-Jones recently stood down from the Council so there are now a couple of vacancies; we will be advertising for new Councillors, possibly before Christmas.

Speaking of which... the Council is working on plans for the festive season. You can certainly expect a Village tree and a visit from Santa Claus, as well as Christmas festivities for our older residents. Other plans are being hatched too; many details included in this publication and in noticeboards around the village.

Best wishes to all our residents for Christmas and the Winter season.

Dr Neil Beer
Chairman of Slinfold Parish Council



We are hoping to open up a 'Pop-up' 'Cosy Café' – an opportunity for Parishioners of all ages to take advantage of our lovely, cosy Village Hall, hot and cold drinks and company. The idea is to give everyone the chance to socialise in the warmth over the winter months, when staying outside is less attractive! Look out for the dates and times when the Café is established.

SPREADING FLOWERS AROUND THE VILLAGE

The Parish Council has joined forces with Slinfold Lyons WI and will be planting bulbs and seeds around the Parish. You may see them hoeing and ploughing from early November. Hopefully you will see the results of their efforts next spring!



The Council is very grateful to Mike Simpson, who has been working as our locum Clerk since July. Mike is the Clerk at Bury and Graffham Parish Councils and has been able to spare us only 6 hours a week. I know it has been a steep learning curve for him, getting to grips with our Parish and all the business of the Parish Council. Thank you, Mike, for stepping in to help.

CHRISTMAS EVENTS IN SLINFOLD

Slinfold Parish Council is delighted to offer a selection of Christmas events again this year, for all ages!

Starting with the Christmas tree-lighting ceremony on Friday 2nd December at 6:30pm – we will have the Slinfold Concert Band leading the carol singing, mulled wine and mince pies served by the Village Stores and, of course, Santa will pay a visit to see the children!

Shortly after, we have an event for the older members of the Parish: invitations have been sent out for a film show and afternoon tea – which will be lovely for all!

From 8th December, judging will start for this year's Christmas decoration competition: Tinsel Town, which celebrates all outside decorations in the village and will be judged in the daytime.

As usual, there are hampers



and other prizes for the winners so get decorating! Lastly, the Slinfold Christmas Trail will be popping up in time for the end of term on 16th December and will remain open until 24th December.

Make sure you download the participation sheet and hand it in to the shop to receive your reward!

Any questions, please contact j.slipper@slinfold-pc.gov.uk.

Entry forms for a Christmas treat are available from the Village Stores or to print from Facebook. Make sure you hand in your finished copy to receive your prize!



CHRISTMAS CARDS AND CUBS POSTBOX IN THE SHOP



Make sure you don't miss the Slinfold Christmas cards, which will be available to buy in the shop. Perfect for sending greetings to friends both local and distant! Also, you can post your local cards in the Cubs' Christmas postbox, which will be in the Village Stores from 3rd to 17th December, and hopefully all delivered on 18th December. Just pop in your cards and your donation!



HELP RAISE MONEY FOR THE SCOUTS



The Scouts are busy raising money for the new Scout Hut in a number of ways and you can help!

The current Scout Hall is available for hire – please send enquiries to gslslinfold@horshamscouts.com

Also the Indoor Market in the Village Hall is held every month in support of the Scout group – if anyone would like to help out with the refreshments and/or the Scout stall then it would be greatly appreciated!

PHONE BOX DONATIONS



A big 'thank you' to everyone who has used and left donations in the Slinfold Phone Boxes – we are delighted that they are so popular and useful! Please continue to enjoy these community assets!

VILLAGE CARPARK



Don't forget that the school carpark is a village carpark outside of school hours! There is lots of parking space and lighting, making it the perfect place to leave your car when visiting the village.



SUPERFAST BROADBAND

Fibre and Wireless Networks (F&W) are now working in the community with a view to gaining enough support, via the Governments voucher scheme, to start the rollout of Fibre within the parish. They were present at the Indoor Market on the 15th October, and the film night that same day, so hopefully many of you will now have had a chance to meet them and have your questions answered, either by F&W or the Internet Service Providers.

F&W will inevitably focus on areas where they find the most support so if you have connectivity issues, please do talk to them to see if what they can provide will help resolve your speed and connectivity issues. Their contact details are vouchers@fwnetworks.co.uk
Councillor Chris Leyland

HELP US KEEP THIS COMMUNITY ASSET RUNNING BY HIRING IT, AND MAYBE EVEN JOINING THE COMMITTEE!

SLINFOLD MINIBUS CLUB



Holds 16 passengers + driver

JOIN THE MINIBUS CLUB!

Need an affordable, self-drive option for transporting your friends / family / sports team / community group?
Use the Slinfold Minibus!

It's Easy :

- Contact the Minibus Club Committee
- Submit an application to join
- Pay a one-off joining fee (Hirer tariffs and fuel costs apply)
- Get familiarised with the minibus and you are on your way!

Insurance and breakdown cover included

CALL THE MINIBUS CLUB NOW! 07833 321809

SLINFOLD PARISH COUNCIL
ARE PLANNING



CORONATION DAY
CELEBRATIONS IN 2023

PLEASE CONTACT US IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP ORGANISE OR HAVE ANY IDEAS FOR THE CELEBRATIONS

NO DOGS ON THE FOOTBALL GROUND

Please ensure that no dogs run onto the Slinfold FC football ground and certainly that they do not 'pay a visit' on there. Not only is it antisocial, but since this football pitch is used for juniors, it is unsafe for there to be 'business' on the ground. Please only walk your dogs on and allow them to access the footpaths around the area, not any of the sports pitches.



UPDATE ON SLINFOLD YOUTH CLUB

We are delighted to be inviting Year 5 children and older to the weekly Youth Club – at the Village Hall 6:30-8pm on a Friday. We work with 4TheYouth in Horsham to provide a fun environment and evening for the kids. We are very lucky to have former members still helping – Mannie and Ryan – and a new Youth Leader this year, Luise. We always welcome volunteers to help out – let us know if you can support!



CHERRY TREE WORKING GROUP



Since we now have an established community up at Cherry Tree, the Parish Council have called together a new Working Group Committee, comprising of representatives from Slinfold Parish Council, Slinfold Tennis Club, Slinfold Football Club and The Community Shed, with the intention to continue to use this shared space to best effect. The Group will focus on working together to keep the area and its amenities available and in good order for the residents.

£

SMALL GRANTS

£

The Parish Council has a small fund for helping local groups and organisations. Details of our grants policy and an application form can be found on our website at www.slinfold-pc.gov.uk

LOCAL ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN

We have so many services in our Parish for our younger people. You should be able to find details in the Parish magazine or the Village Diary, found online, and here is a summary for you shown below. Can you believe we have this much in little Slinfold? We are so lucky! Enjoy checking all of these out!

BABY AND TODDLER GROUP
in the Village Hall on Monday mornings

MONTHLY FAMILY SERVICE
Sunday's Cool Messy Church Teaching and Sacraments

SLINFOLD C OF E SCHOOL AND PRESCHOOL AND EVENTS
organised by the 'Friends of' Association (FOSSA)

SLINFOLD SCOUT GROUP
Beavers
Cubs
Scouts

SLINFOLD TENNIS CLUB
Junior coaching on Wednesday evenings



SLINFOLD COMMUNITY SHED IS OPEN!

Slinfold Community Shed had its official Open Day on a sunny afternoon in the middle of September 2022. The event was very well supported.

Since then, we have welcomed new members and visitors and taken part in an array of crafting sessions; from making door curtains to keep out the winter chill, to planning bunting for a wedding next year and making bags for the village shop. Visitors have popped in for a hot drink and made themselves at home. Some have been bringing their own projects, suggestions or donations.

Therapists from The Brain Injury Trust at Kerwin Court have visited and are interested in forming an alliance with the Community Shed to aid rehabilitation for their residents. The first project is underway; making kits for woodwork that can be completed at Kerwin Court. Future projects have been discussed and hopefully will lead to an ongoing partnership.

A Slinfold resident has invited

members of the shed to learn about wood turning. Items created will be sold at the Slinfold Indoor Market and at the Community Shed.

We are delighted that the shed is already becoming known as a welcoming hub and developing into a new community.

Annual membership is £25 or £2 as a drop in visitor for anyone over 18. There is a soft craft area for handicrafts and hard craft area for woodwork etc.

If you have anything you would like to repair or upcycle, bring it along for some guidance and advice. Please follow us on Facebook or email us for further information at slinfoldcs@gmail.com. We are currently open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10am-12pm and 2-4pm, subject to availability of a Shed supervisor. We are situated at Cherry Tree, alongside the football and tennis clubs. Come and visit us soon.

Anne Allen



HELP PREPARE YOURSELF AND OTHERS FOR WINTER

Don't forget there are five salt/grit bins in the Parish: by the bus shelter, on the corner of Lowfield / Streetfield Road, at the entrance to Six Acres, outside the Village Hall and opposite the Chequers Inn in Rowhook. These are being topped up – if they require another refill then please alert the Parish Clerk.

The bins contain a mixture of salt and grit which is intended primarily for use on public footpaths. The mix is not intended for use on private areas of land. We would encourage residents to take a small bag or bucket of salt/grit and clear the area outside their properties when pavements are slippery with snow or ice.

The Parish Council is happy to hear from any vulnerable residents in the Parish who may need support during severe weather; if you or a neighbour would welcome a call during severe weather, just to check that all is well, then please provide details to the Parish Clerk.

Please note that our Environmental Officers, Tim and John, will be out clearing the main footpaths in the Parish – if you need immediate assistance then please do contact the Clerk who will try to help.



JUNIOR GOLF ACADEMY AT SLINFOLD GOLF CLUB
Junior coaching on Thursdays and Saturdays




SLINFOLD CRICKET CLUB
Friday night training for all ages (Summer months) and matches for older players



LOCAL YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUBS
Rudgwick Junior FC has many Slinfold players



PARISH COUNCIL EVENTS
such as Youth Club, held on Friday evenings in term time



OUR BEAUTIFUL COUNTRYSIDE
The Downs Link Bluebell Woods Play Areas in Six Acres and KGV Playing Field

YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

For further information visit the Parish Council website

www.slinfold-pc.gov.uk. Here you will also find agendas and minutes of previous Parish Council meetings, or view these documents at the notice board at the bus shelter in The Street or in the Village Shop.

Until a permanent Clerk is appointed, please continue to use the email address clerk@slinfold-pc.gov.uk and the phone number for our locum, Mike Simpson 07894 858048.

ENVIRONMENT OFFICERS:

Tim Harrison and John 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

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

PARISH COUNCILLORS

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Stuart Ritchie	stuart.ritchie@horsham.gov.uk

COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Christian Mitchell christian.mitchell@westsussex.gov.uk

DON'T TOLERATE IT, REPORT IT



Residents often contact the Clerk about problems around the village, which they duly forward 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 or footpaths, blocked drains) etc. The contact details are:

LOCAL AUTHORITY NUMBERS

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)
Call 01243 642105
or visit love.westsussex.gov.uk



ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

The Parish Council's annual accounts to 31 March 2022 have been signed off by Moore, the external auditor, and are available on our website www.slinfold-pc.gov.uk under "Accounts". The accounts detail all income and expenditure for the financial year.

BUDGET AND PRECEPT

The Council's budget for 2022-23 is £62,700. Like everyone, we have been dealing with rapidly increasing prices over the past few months.

The Parish Council will soon begin planning for the next financial year and we will need to work out how we can afford to continue Parish Council services while limiting any increase in the parish precept from your council tax.

Details of Parish Council spending and our recent external audit can be found at www.slinfold-pc.gov.uk

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Are you interested in becoming a Parish Councillor or would you simply like to learn more about what the Parish Council does? Please do come along to our monthly meetings to learn about your Parish Council – you will be very welcome. All meetings take place in the Upstairs Parish Room at the Village Hall.

Thursday 26 January 7.30pm

Thursday 23 February 7.30pm

Thursday 30 March 7.30pm

Thursday 27 April 7.30pm

Thursday 25 May 7.30pm

Thursday 29 June 7.30pm