



MAY 2024 NEWSLETTER

. The month of May brings flocks of pretty new lambs, two Bank Holidays, Jack of the Green celebrations and hopefully better weather

New Parish Councillors

We welcome our new councillors who are joining us. They are:

Stephen Baker who lives in Coastguards Lane and runs the Coastguards Cafe. It is good to have another councillor from the 'top' end of Fairlight.

David Shortman has rejoined the Council. His skills and experience will be welcomed.

Lyn Cooke has re-joined the Council after resigning than standing again for election.

What is the Parish Council

Fairlight Parish Council consists of nine councillors and the Proper Officer/RFO. The Councillors are elected every four years. Any vacancies that occur in between these elections are filled either by a by-election if 10 electors request it, or by co-option (see co-option policy). Councillors have many reasons for choosing to stand for election/co-option but the one common theme is that they wish to give something back to the community in which they reside or work and try to discern what the majority of residents would wish them to do.

Councillors are all elected independently and come to Parish Council meetings having prepared themselves by reading the agenda and any reports and are ready to listen to discussion before deciding which way to vote on any issue. They vote independently.

The Chair of the Parish Council has no powers over the decisions of other councillors, except to give a casting vote in the event of a tied vote by Councillors. The Chair main role is to ensure that the meeting is conducted according to Standing Orders. The Chairman and Vice Chairman are each elected every year by the other Councillors.

The Proper Officer is responsible for ensuring that the Council act at all times legally and responsibly and they are also responsible for giving Councillors advice about what they may or may not do. The Proper Officer is also the Council's Responsible Financial Officer.

Fairlight Parish Council tries to communicate openly with the residents of Fairlight and be as accessible as possible. To this end we publish this monthly newsletter which is available in paper form, on noticeboards, on our website, and on the FRA email scheme. Councillors are available to discuss matters with anyone on a Monday at the Village Hall between 10 am and 4pm, before and after any Parish Council meetings, or at other times we can meet with residents by arrangement. We receive requests from residents by email and these are either answered by email or with a face-to-face meeting.

Councillors do not and will not communicate with the residents via social media and will not take note of or take action on any comments which are posted generally on social media rather than being addressed to the Proper Officer or Councillors in an appropriate manner.

D DAY 80 – 6th June 2024

Arrangements are well under way for the commemorations of this important day in our recent history both locally and nationally.

The local branch of the Royal British Legion will be raising a commemorative flag on the tower of St Andrews church in the morning.

There will be a lunch in the Village Hall following the national theme of fish and chips. This will be arranged in collaboration with the FRA. It will be a ticketed event to allow for planning, but will be free although donations will be welcomed. More information to follow. If you would like a ticket these will be available from DISH on Mondays from 10am to 4pm.

To end the day's celebrations, we will be lighting the beacon at the top of Battery Hill in the evening as part of the national beacon lighting.

Wood Field Playground

Due to the continued very wet weather the new play equipment which has been ordered, will not be able to be installed until Wood Field has dried out enough for the contractors to be able to get their lorries to the edge of the play area. We do apologise for this delay as we know a lot of local children and grandchildren are particularly missing the slide. We will get it completed as soon as possible.

CCTV

Work is continuing to try and get the power reinstated to the CCTV cameras. We have now enlisted the help of Rother District Council, ESCC and our County Councillor in this. We are doing all we can to ensure that this is up and running as quickly as possible.

Thank you

Issy Horsley - Chair of Fairlight Parish Council

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