

Icklesham Parish Council

Newsletter Winter 2024

For the residents of Icklesham, Rye Harbour, Winchelsea and Winchelsea Beach

WHAT IS HAPPENING

2024/25 Budget

The Parish Council approved the 2024/25 budget at the Full Council meeting held on 8th January. As usual, every effort was made to keep the precept to a minimum as we do each year to lessen the financial burden.

The precept has increased slightly by 3.4% which equates to an increase of 9p per week for an average band D property. The full budget breakdown is available on the IPC website.

Drop in Session – Pound Field, Rye Harbour

The Parish Council have budgeted a sum of money to install some new equipment on Pound Field at Rye Harbour. So we would like to hear from residents, especially our young residents as to what they would like to see installed there. A drop in session has been organised for Wednesday 7th February 5.00 pm to 6.30 pm at Rye Harbour Village Hall. Please do come along to give us your thoughts.

Rye Harbour Car Park

It was another busy year for the car park last year and the Parish Council received £14,346 in donations which is an increase from last year. We have also undertaken a lot of improvement works by resurfacing some areas, replacing height barrier and gates and had car parking spaces marked up to maximise and improve parking.



Toilets

Although the Parish Council have been in discussion for some time with Rother District Council regarding acquiring the toilets in Winchelsea Beach and Winchelsea it was agreed to officially start the process. This may take some time as this will be subject to satisfactory surveys and reports etc. so there is a lot of work to do

before the Parish Council are to become responsible as both buildings are currently in an awful state of disrepair.

Meanwhile we have redecorated the public toilets in Rye Harbour, the donation box is being utilised which defrays the cost, and they look so much nicer for our residents and visitors to use.

Parish Flooding Issues

The Parish Council held a public meeting with Southern Water in September and Southern Water informed the Council and residents that the majority of Southern Water sewer pipes have now been lined. Sadly, it appears that this has made very little difference as the issues have been just as serious this year as it has been in previous years. The Minutes of the public meeting are available on our website.

If residents do experience any issues, please continue to report these to Southern Water on their helpline 0330 303 0368 quoting reference number 4583202.

In addition to our continued efforts to find resolutions for residents in Winchelsea Beach, the recent rains saw leakages in Laurel Lane, Icklesham with one of our councillors reporting he was ankle deep in sewerage on his family property.

Representations were made to Southern Water who investigated and said that this was due to the pipes in that area being blocked by roots growing into the pipes. The latest update from Southern Water is that the root ingress has been cleared and the pipes have been sealed however the flooding is still occurring. This is because now there is free flow, the Water Treatment Works further down the line gets overloaded. IPC has asked for an indication as to whether there are plans for upgrade but we have not received a response.

Icklesham Pavilion

At the Full Council meeting on 13th November, the Parish Council approved and supported plans submitted by the Icklesham Trust Committee for improvement works on the pavilion at Icklesham Recreation Ground.

The Parish Council are the owners of the Recreation Ground however the pavilion is the property of the Trust Committee. The Parish Council feel that the Trust Committee are doing a fantastic job and the

Icklesham Parish Council

Newsletter Winter 2024

For the residents of Icklesham, Rye Harbour, Winchelsea and Winchelsea Beach

refurbishment works will prolong the life of the pavilion which is a great asset for the local community. For further information see Rother District Council's planning website.

Winchelsea Beach Bus Shelter

The Parish Council have been working on installing a new bus shelter in Winchelsea Beach for many years. Unfortunately, the project has been put on hold for various reasons such as Covid and also the new East Sussex Highways contractor handover. We now have a plan in place and have been successful in obtaining match funding from East Sussex Highways. We have also applied for a Community Grant from Rother District Council towards the cost of the project.

Speeding Traffic in the Parish

We continue to collect data from our Black Cat monitors and this is sent to Sussex Police and the Highways Authority. Sussex Police have said that there is sufficient evidence of regular breaches of the speed limits through Icklesham to warrant an enforcement campaign by the local police force and we are awaiting and chasing deployment. The data is also uploaded to our website and is available for anyone to view.

East Sussex Highways have also agreed to install school warning signs on Monks Walk in Winchelsea and we hope that this work will be completed before the end of the financial year. IPC have also requested that they consider a reduction of the speed limit to 20 mph along this stretch of road as we know many parents park here to drop their children off via the gate the Parish Council installed last year.

Adult Exercise Equipment



The Parish Council have installed two arm and pedal exercise bikes in Coronation Field Rye

Harbour, Harbour Field Winchelsea beach and Icklesham Recreation Ground. We are in the process of applying for the necessary consents for these to be installed in Jubilee Field in Winchelsea. We would like to thank Rother District Council who contributed towards the costs of the exercise bikes.

HAVE YOUR SAY

We strive to ensure that the views of the local community are heard by other authorities and organisations. Please contact us with any suggestions or concerns you may have to further improve the quality of life within the Parish as we strive to do what we can to help.

Icklesham Parish Council Meetings

Our meetings are held in each ward on a rotational basis. Notices of the meetings are posted on parish notice boards at least three clear days before the meeting giving details of the date, time and venue. These are also available on our website. The meetings start at 6.15 for planning or 7.15 pm for main meetings and we always allow time at the start of the meeting for local residents to come and speak about items on the meeting agenda.

Future Council meetings:

Monday 11th March – Planning 6.15 pm followed by Full Council meeting at Winchelsea Beach Community Hall.

Remember, you can contact the Clerk any time if there is something that you would like us to take forward or discuss.

Councillors

Contact details for our Councillors are available on our website. Our policy documents, Agenda, Minutes and other documentation can also be found there. www.ickleshampc.org

Clerk Contact:



07714169901



ickelshampc@hotmail.co.uk



PO Box 148, Winchelsea, TN31 9FP