

TELSCOMBE TOWN CRIER NEWSLETTER



News & information from Telscombe Town Council

Issue 96 – Jan 2026

Christmas at the Civic Centre

Our last bingo session of the year is always a bumper one, with extra games as well as a raffle, which raised just over £550 for the Mayor's charity fund. Many thanks to our regular attendee, Barbara, who entertained us with a Christmas song.



On Christmas Day, councillors were pleased to welcome locals to our annual Christmas Coffee Morning. Bacon and sausage sandwiches were

served, as well as mince pies and chocolates. Any surplus food was passed on to Peacehaven Community Supermarket. Many thanks to Kevin, our caretaker, who volunteered to open and close the building and was on call for any emergencies! Thanks are also due to

Councillors O'Connor and Robinson, as well as Mrs O'Connor for cooking, and also to Councillor Clarkson who also helped out.

Alternate Weekly Bin Collections Update

Lewes District Council began their alternate weekly bin collections from Monday 9th February. All households should have received their new calendars by now, so if you have not please call LDC on 01273 471600. You can go online to find out when your collection day is at <https://www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/article/1158/When-is-my-bin-collection-day> or scan the QR code opposite.



With some exceptions (some flats, houses of multiple occupation, town centre

properties with nowhere to store a bin off the street, and properties who use a gull-proof sack for refuse), all properties will now have one collection day for all their bins. Food waste will be collected weekly, and while recycling and refuse will be collected on alternate weeks.

WEEK ONE:
Recycling and
food waste collected



WEEK TWO:
Refuse and
food waste collected



If you have any questions, there will be drop in events at Peacehaven Town Council between 10am and 1pm on Mondays 9th and 23rd February, where Neil Peters from Environment First will be able to speak to residents and discuss the options on offer to help with the transition, as well as hand out food waste receptacles as required.

Contents:- Cllr contact details; Meeting dates; Events; Neighbourhood Plan Update; ESCC WhatsApp channel; Spotlight on Saltdean; Green Corner; LDC Spatial Strategy; Solar panel readings; Adverts

Telscombe Town comprising of Telscombe Cliffs, East Saltdean & Telscombe Village



Telscombe Town Council, Telscombe Civic Centre, 360 South Coast Road, Telscombe Cliffs, East Sussex, BN10 7ES.
Open Monday to Friday 9am - 4.30pm, excluding bank holidays.

Email -
enquiries@telscombetowncouncil.gov.uk
Website -
www.telscombetowncouncil.gov.uk
Telephone - 01273 589777

Town Clerk & RFO: Stella Newman, PSLCC Email - stella.newman@telscombetowncouncil.gov.uk (full-time)

Amenities Officer: Bianca Buss Email - amenities@telscombetowncouncil.gov.uk (part-time)

Admin Assistant: Diana Joel Email - admin@telscombetowncouncil.gov.uk (part-time)

Admin & Finance Assistant: Angela Greenfield Email - office@telscombetowncouncil.gov.uk (part-time)

Committee Chair & Vice Chairs:-

Amenities/Civic Centre -

Chairman - Cllr Laurence O'Connor

Vice Chairman - Cllr David Judd

Planning & Highways -

Chairman - Cllr Cathy Gallagher

Vice Chairman - Cllr Neil Watts

Policy & Resources -

Chairman - Cllr Ciarron Clarkson

Vice Chairman - Cllr Christine Robinson

Telscombe Town Council's Meetings Dates

FEBRUARY TO APRIL 2026

Amenities & Civic Centre	Wed 4th February
Planning & Highways	Wed 18th February
Audit (sub-committee)	Wed 4th March 6:30pm
Policy & Resources	Wed 4th March
Planning & Highways	Wed 11th March
FULL COUNCIL	WED 18th MARCH
Amenities & Civic Centre	Wed 25th March
Planning & Highways	Wed 1st April
ANNUAL TOWN	WED 15th APRIL
Planning & Highways	Wed 22nd April

Councillors Telscombe Cliffs Ward:-

- Ciarron Clarkson**
cllr.ciarronclarkson@telscombetowncouncil.gov.uk
- David Judd**
cllr.davidjudd@telscombetowncouncil.gov.uk
- Columbus Ndeloa**
cllr.columbusndeloa@telscombetowncouncil.gov.uk
- Isobel Sharkey**
cllr.isobelsharkey@telscombetowncouncil.gov.uk
- Neil Watts**
cllr.neilwatts@telscombetowncouncil.gov.uk
- Tony Williamson**
cllr.tonywilliamson@telscombetowncouncil.gov.uk
- Vacancy x2**

East Saltdean Ward:-

- Cathy Gallagher**
cllr.cathygallagher@telscombetowncouncil.gov.uk
- Michele Lawrie**
cllr.michelelawrie@telscombetowncouncil.gov.uk
- Laurence O'Connor**
cllr.laurenceoconnor@telscombetowncouncil.gov.uk
- Brian Page**
cllr.brianpage@telscombetowncouncil.gov.uk
- Christine Robinson**
cllr.christinerobinson@telscombetowncouncil.gov.uk

District Councillors for Telscombe:-

- Cllr Ian Alexander**
ian.alexander@lewes.gov.uk
- Cllr Laurence O'Connor**
Laurence.o'connor@lewes.gov.uk
- Cllr Christine Robinson**
Christine.robinson@lewes.gov.uk

County Councillor for Telscombe:-

(ward area Telscombe, East Saltdean & North Peacehaven):-
Cllr Christine Robinson
Cllr.christine.robinson@eastsussex.gov.uk

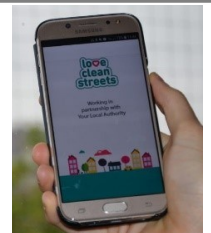
- There is a maximum of 15 minute public question time at the beginning of each meeting with questions relevant to that Committee.
- Meetings start at 7.30pm unless otherwise stated & are held at the Civic Centre.
- Agendas are displayed on Council notice boards and the website a few days before meetings.
- Dates are subject to change - please phone the Civic Centre on 01273 589777 to ensure the meeting is being held or check the website.
- A full list of dates is available on our website—dates may be subject to change.
- The Council, members of the public & press may record/ film/ photograph or broadcast meetings when the public and press are not lawfully excluded.

Other Useful Contact Details

Citizens Advice 03444 111 444 Lewes District Council 01273 471600
Peacehaven Town Council 01273 585493
East Sussex County Council 0345 608 0190 Highways 0345 60 80 193
Chris Ward MP 01273 082531 chris.ward.mp@parliament.uk

Report property, street and environmental issues in Lewes or Eastbourne, including fly tipping, dog fouling, planning breaches and more via the Report It smartphone app.

<https://www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/streets-parking-and-travel/report-it/>



What's On

Bingo takes place on the last Friday of the month from 7-9pm in Telscombe Civic Centre. We have limited spaces so **booking is essential** to avoid disappointment.

We will include updates on our website, noticeboards and Facebook page of all upcoming events.

To see Council events and classes/events being held at the Civic Centre, scan the QR code which will take you to our website page.



MAYOR OF TELSCOMBE'S QUIZ NIGHT

7:30pm
Saturday 13th March



Raffle

Bring your own
food & drink

Teams of
up to 6
@ £3 per
person

Telscombe Civic Centre, 360 South Coast Rd BN10 7ES

01273 589777

Pre-booking essential - cash only

In aid of Mayor's charity fund

TELSCOMBE TOWN COUNCIL PRESENT OUR SUMMER FAYRE

★★★★★☆☆★★★★★
Saturday 11th July 2026

12-4pm

Chatsworth Park

★★★★★☆☆★★★★★
Fun fair

Dance & martial arts displays

Wild Earth Drummers

Rising Stars Singing

Animal handling

Ice Cream Vegan food Pizza Drinks

and much more ...

SAVE THE DATE!

Neighbourhood Plan Update

At the end of November 2025, Lewes District Council, who are the Planning Authority, received the Government Examiner's final report on the Peacehaven and Telscombe Neighbourhood Plan.



The journey started for both Town Councils in 2013 and the first Steering Group was confirmed in 2018. Apart for a short break, I have been Chair of the Steering Group since then. The journey is coming to an end with the Referendum scheduled to take place in April or May 2026.

A public survey undertaken by the Steering Group in 2018 asked if the Vision for the plan was supported with a positive result of nearly 90%, broken down by Strongly Supported (51.9%) and Supported (38.46%).

Both Town Councils have been working to achieve that vision which is: "Peacehaven and Telscombe Towns aim to be sustainable, with clean air and an environment providing a good quality of life for all inhabitants and visitors."

Why have a Neighbourhood Plan?

To quote from the report "The Localism Act 2011 provides a welcome opportunity for communities to shape the future of the places where they live and work and to deliver the sustainable development they need. One way of achieving this is through the production of a neighbourhood plan."

The Examiner Report is 55 pages long and sets out the statutory requirements of a Neighbourhood Plan and the evidence and process the Examiner is required to follow.

A further comment is that "The Plan is presented to a very high standard and contains 39 policies. There is a positively worded foreword which sets the scene and a helpful contents page at the start of the plan. The Plan is interspersed with numerous photographs of the area which gives it a very distinctive feel."

The Steering Group are working with Lewes District Council to finalise arrangements with the Electoral Commission regarding the Referendum.

The Council intends to provide updates and refreshers for Residents now that we are confirmed that The Plan can go to Referendum. All documents will be publicly available in due course.

Cllr Cathy Gallagher, Chair of Steering Group

<https://www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/peacehaven-telscombe-neighbourhood-plan>

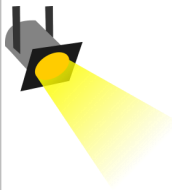
WhatsApp channel for people in East Sussex

East Sussex County Council have recently launched an official WhatsApp Channel which they hope local residents might find useful. They feel it can be a good way to share messages which residents know they can trust. About 80% of adults use WhatsApp and it's already used by the UK Government to give people another option to stay informed and updated. It will keep be used to keep people updated during emergencies, to help them find services they need, and sometimes simply to celebrate life in East Sussex

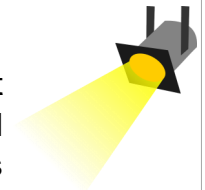
Following a WhatsApp Channel is completely private - followers' details are not visible to the channel or to other followers, and no personal information is shared. It's also a one-way system – followers cannot reply to posts (except with emojis) but they can share messages with other people.

You can follow the channel by scanning this QR code.





Spotlight on Saltdean



Telscombe Town Council has various responsibilities to support East Saltdean, one of the most important of which is access and maintenance of Telscombe Tye. It is hoped to improve gate entrances across the Tye and are seeking help from other organisations for even more improvements.

For example, we have approached the South Downs National Park Authority for help to make it easier to access the Tye via the entrance at the corner of Bevendean and Ashurst Avenues (*pictured right*). The Saltdean Residents and Community Association are interested in supporting this project and the Council is grateful for their support.



The Council is responsible for looking after grass verges, benches and the Robert Kingan playground in Bannings Vale (*see pictures below*).



We also recently installed three new perch benches on the Tye to allow people to sit, rest and enjoy the beautiful view.

If any East Saltdean resident has any issues they would like to raise, please call Telscombe Town Council on 01273 589777, or email enquiries@telscombetowncouncil.gov.uk

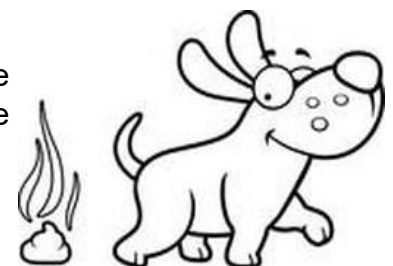
Alternatively you can contact any of your Councillors: Cllr Cathy Gallagher, Cllr Michele Lawrie, Cllr Laurence O'Connor, Cllr Brian Page or Cllr Christone Robinson. Their email addresses can be found on page 2 of this newsletter and their phone numbers are included on our website under the *Councillors* tab

Please pick up after your dog

There is nothing worse than treading in dog poo on your walk. Please bag it and take your dog poo home and put it in your own bin, or use any of the public bins available.

Please do not put it into other residents' private bins.

Many thanks



Green Corner - Volunteer Sessions & Litter Picking

It rained for the whole of the last session of 2025. Nevertheless, three valiant volunteers turned out to weather the downfall and help keep the park in tip top condition for the New Year.

Despite being soaked to the skin, the volunteers collected a bag of litter, swept and raked every path clear and cleared the drainage ditches which prevent parts of the paths from flooding. This is a really important task as making the paths accessible keeps the park open for all park users.



On Sunday 4th January 13 volunteers kicked off the new year with a bang for Chatsworth Park. The sun was shining but it was very cold. Luckily there was lots of work to do and planning for the coming year.

This brilliant group of volunteers collected five bags of litter and two wooden pallets which have now been gifted to the forest school. They also swept paths, cleared drainage ditches and cut back growth around the benches. The volunteers also inspected the mini forest and had a tour of the recently installed Willow Classroom, which The Willow Bank had installed in Chatsworth Park adjacent to the top pond.



The installation was a project organised by Telscombe Green Space Volunteers and funded with grants from Telscombe Residents' Association and The House Project and we thank them for their generosity. Prior to installation of the classroom, a Telscombe Green Space volunteer gave an assembly at Telscombe Cliffs Academy to help the students understand the value of Willow for nature. Following the assembly the students were asked if they would like to assist with the installation of the classroom and the teachers were inundated with requests. Twenty five students came to the park to receive special instruction from Head Willow Installer, Carine. The children learned about Willow plants, how to weave and secure them and how to maintain the plants.



The Willow Classroom offers many benefits to the park and park users. As well as being an interesting and attractive structure to look at, it will grow and change over the coming years providing lots of interest. Willow is an excellent habitat for birds like Willow Tits, Warblers and Sparrows

and as a source of food it can support a larger number of insects than even the Oak tree. The space the classroom creates can be used by children and families and we hope organisations like the schools will use it for education purposes. It also creates a landmark and point of interest where residents can interact and we hope offers an opportunity for groups and people who might not normally meet to speak with each other. Finally, there is the educational value for the students at Telscombe Cliffs Academy; as well as the assembly, some students were able to leave the classroom for a short time and take part in hands-on learning, outside. They experienced a craft that has been in use since at least the Mesolithic period, roughly 8,000–10,000 years ago. For those that had the opportunity to help with the installation we hope they take pride in their work and get a sense of joy as they see it grow and change in the coming years.

Thank you to the students of Telscombe Cliffs Academy who helped install it and the teachers who facilitated the outing.

The Willow Classroom will be maintained by Telscombe Green Space Volunteers during their monthly sessions. They meet in Chatsworth Park car park at 11am on the first Sunday of every month and new members are always welcome.



A Spatial Strategy for Development in our Plan Area (Incorporating Site Allocations)



Regulation 18 Consultation - Phase 2

Lewes District Council are now consulting on the Phase 2 Lewes District Council Local Plan, after consulting on Phase 1 at the start of 2025. The Local Plan provides a planning framework for the plan area to 2042. It seeks to respond to the three overarching principles of sustainable development - social, economic and environmental.

This consultation sets out a spatial strategy and identifies sites for 8,568 net new homes over the plan period. This is against a government target of approximately 15,000 new homes.

Key components of the proposed Spatial Strategy

- Vision-Led & Transport-Driven: Development will be directed to locations with good accessibility, prioritising walking, cycling, and public transport over car dependency.
- Settlement Hierarchy: Growth is concentrated in the most sustainable settlements, categorized into five tiers:
 - Tier 1 (District Centres): Seaford, Newhaven.
 - Tier 2 (Service Centres): Peacehaven & Telscombe, Ringmer.
 - Tier 3 (Service Villages): Newick, Plumpton Green.
 - Tier 4 (Villages): e.g., Cooksbridge, Wivelsfield Green, Barcombe Cross.
 - Tier 5 (Hamlets): e.g., Wivelsfield, Barcombe.

It should be noted that none of the proposed sites in the Spatial Strategy are within Telscombe or East Saltdean although there are proposals for an area on land south of Valley Road, Peacehaven and some smaller sites within Peacehaven.

The Plan provides for 8,570 net new homes over the plan period, against a government formula which identifies a housing need for approximately 15,000 new homes in the Plan area. It also provides for retaining, promoting and regenerating employment development to meet the Plan area's need through the provision of sites to provide for approximately 4,900 sqm of office space, and for safeguarding existing employment allocations from loss to meet other employment needs.



You can view a paper copy of the Local Plan at Peacehaven Leisure Centre, Greenwich Way, Peacehaven BN10 8BB.

The consultation covers other policy areas such as Strategic Green Gaps, on which views are sought and it closed on 28th February at 6pm.

All the information you need can be accessed by scanning the QR code

Solar Panel Readings at the Civic Centre:







CO2 saved:- 91,780 Kg Total Energy Generated:- 161,019 Kwh

Total revenue generated since installation:- **£76,861.37**

Readings at date of going to press

Food Collection for SCDA at the Telscombe Civic Centre

We are now collecting for the SCDA which means everything donated to us will be passed to the Peacehaven Community Supermarket.

	TINNED VEGETABLES AND TINNED FRUIT Chopped tomatoes, beans, chickpeas, peaches and other fruit
	SAUCES AND SOUPS Cooking sauces Tinned vegetable soup
	RICE & CEREAL & TINNED PASTA Bags of rice Boxes of breakfast cereal Oats Tinned macaroni cheese
	TINNED MEAT AND TINNED FISH Tinned tuna or sardines, meatballs, chicken, hotdogs or ham
	HYGIENE PRODUCTS Soap, shampoo, shower gel Nappies (larger sizes) Toilet Roll, sanitary towels & incontinence pads
	CLEANING PRODUCTS Anything is appreciated!

Grief Cafés

Join us at Martlets (Hove) and Deco Café (Saltdean Lido)



Being bereaved can feel lonely and isolating. Come along and meet others who understand something of your grief journey.

No need to book, just come along.

For further information, please contact the patient & family support team on 01273 273400 or at bereavement@martlets.org.uk

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ALSO AT BRIGHTON (01273) 603013
Visit our website at: www.wagstafffuneraldirectors.com

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If you would like to place an ad or have any queries regarding advertising, please email the editor:-

stella.newman@telscombetowncouncil.gov.uk

Ad prices are as follows: Approx size 6cm h x 9cm w £40 per issue

Approx size 9cm h x 9cm w £60 per issue

Approx size 12cm h x 9 cm w £80 per issue

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