

## Contact Your Councillor

Email your councillor at  
initial.surname@eastgrinstead.gov.uk

### Ashplats

Margaret Belsey	01342 321574
Liz Bennett	01342 301007
John Dabell	07802 641502
Danny Favor	01342 410244

### Baldwins

Dean Duly	01342 619918
Helen Farren	07713 253929
Christine Mainstone	07495 387849
Julie Mockford	01342 325552

### Herontye

Stephen Ody	07855 046703
Adam Peacock	07444 533028
Dick Sweatman	01342 322743

### Imberhorne

Frank Osborne	07428 536376
Frazer Visser	01342 323066
Rex Whittaker	01342 302515

### Town

Charles Amos	07484 880233
Edward Matthews	07966 840185
Tony Scott	07583 120947
Jason Woodgate	07813 778018

### Worsted

John Belsey	07721 303466
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## COUNCIL MEETINGS

1st December	Public Services
5th December	Planning
8th December	Amenities & Tourism
15th December	Finance & General Purposes

### 2023

4th January	Planning
9th January	Council
12th January	Consecutive Standing Committees for Budget
23rd January	Planning
30th January	Council (Budget and Precept)
13th February	Planning
2nd March	Public Services
6th March	Planning
9th March	Amenities & Tourism

### NOTES:

- 1) All full Committee and Council meetings are held in the Council Chamber at East Court Mansion or virtually and are open to the public. Meetings commence at 7pm. The meeting on 12th January will commence at 7pm, with the Standing Committee meetings following consecutively.
- 2) Council meetings provide a maximum period of 30 minutes for public questions commencing at 7pm.
- 3) Committee meetings provide a maximum period of 15 minutes for public questions commencing at 7pm.

## About the Finance & General Purposes Committee

This committee looks after budgets, watching how money is spent and invested. It also considers matters relating to the staff of the Council and anything else that may not come under the remit of other committees. Finance & General Purposes makes recommendations to the Council for the dates of meetings, standing orders and committee membership by co-option. Annually, it awards grants to community bodies and considers recommendations from other committees if they have financial implications.

Agendas, minutes and reports for meetings of the Finance & General Purposes Committee can be found on the Town Council website [www.eastgrinstead.gov.uk](http://www.eastgrinstead.gov.uk)

The public are welcome to attend each meeting, and the agenda will be posted as usual on the Council's notice boards and website.

## Meet your Town Councillors

There is a regular opportunity to meet your Town Councillors at a drop-in surgery on the second Saturday of each month from 10am – 12noon at East Grinstead Library. Come along to discuss any issues that may affect you. The Town Councillors are always happy to help.

## Contacts

Chequer Mead	01342 302000
Citizens Advice	03444 771171
Clarion Housing	03001 000303
Disability Access – East Grinstead Area	01342 322242
East Grinstead Foodbank	07983 209940
East Grinstead Library	01342 332900
East Grinstead Tourism Desk	01342 410121
East Grinstead Town Council	01342 323636
Kings Centre	01342 328616
Mid Sussex District Council	01444 458166
Mid Sussex Voluntary Action	01444 258102
Museum	01342 302233
Police Station, Chequer Mead	101 or 01273 470101
Queen Victoria Hospital	01342 414000
Samaritans	0845 7909090
The Hope Job Club	01342 488282
West Sussex CC Area Highways	01243 642105

## CONTACT THE COUNCIL

**Visit:** East Court Mansion, College Lane, East Grinstead RH19 3LT

**Call:** 01342 323636

**Click:** [www.eastgrinstead.gov.uk](http://www.eastgrinstead.gov.uk)

Find help with services provided by West Sussex County Council, Mid Sussex District Council or East Grinstead Town Council in the library or call 01342 332900.

The library is open: Monday 9.30am – 7pm,  
Tuesday – Thursday 9.30am – 6pm, Friday and Saturday 9.30am – 5pm.

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# THE Line

WHERE EAST MEETS WEST  
ON THE MERIDIAN LINE

November 2022  
Edition 84



NEWS FROM  
EAST GRINSTEAD  
TOWN COUNCIL



## The Queen – A Message from the Town Council

East Grinstead Town Council was very sad to hear of the passing of HM Queen Elizabeth II on 8th September. This event triggered a response which was known as 'Operation London Bridge'. This was the code name for all government and local government departments to put in place preparations for the funeral of Her Majesty and associated events, and also to proclaim the new king and start preparations for his coronation.

Locally, for us, this meant that St Swithun's held a service of thanksgiving for the life and service of the Queen; this was attended on Sunday 11th September by the Town Mayor, Clerk and other Councillors, Chairman of the District Council, and our Member of Parliament, along with the public. For many this was the first time we sang 'God Save the King' at the end of the service.

Mount Noddy Cemetery has a wall for remembrance and here, along with a picture of the late Queen, a wreath was placed by the Town Mayor with other flower tributes from the public.



Top: MP Mimms Davies and Leader of the Council Cllr Dick Sweatman  
Above: Wreath Laying at Mount Noddy. Left: Commemorative Bench

A book of condolence was opened at East Court, St Swithun's and other places in the town for physical entries, and the Buckingham Palace online register was linked to from the Town Council website.

Flags were lowered to half-mast on East Court and in the Town Centre then returned to full-mast once the new king was proclaimed in London on the Saturday, but lowered again after the local proclamation on the Sunday for the remainder of the mourning period.

We held the proclamation on 11th September; the Town Mayor read the official proclamation to 200 people on the East Court terrace flanked by the Town Clerk, Leader of the Town Council, and Deputy Mayor. Three cheers were given for the new king and the national anthem sung. The Council is now starting to look at arrangements for East Grinstead to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III.

The Council is also purchasing a commemorative bench for the late Queen Elizabeth II (the site is yet to be determined). The Queen's Green Canopy has been extended to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth. The Council has already planted two trees as part of this project and will be adding another three this autumn, following donations from East Grinstead Natural History Society and the Blowe family.

# Town Events

For information on town events, contact our Community and Tourism Team on **01342 140 121** [communityandtourism@eastgrinstead.gov.uk](mailto:communityandtourism@eastgrinstead.gov.uk) or go to [www.visiteastgrinstead.com](http://www.visiteastgrinstead.com)

## Sunday November 13th

### Armistice Day

This year marked the nation's observance of Armistice Day. This year, an assembly took place at the WW2 memorial. The Town Mayor and representatives of the Royal British Legion laid wreaths, 'The Last Post' was played and prayers were led by St Swithun's. This was followed by a service of remembrance at the war memorial on the High Street.

## Saturday November 19th

### Town Council Christmas Lights Switch On and The Big Reveal

This very popular annual festive event showcased the town's shopkeepers' Christmas window displays. The event started with the East Grinstead Concert Band playing a selection of Christmas favourites. The Town Mayor turned the lights on, which was followed by the unveiling of the window displays along High Street and London Road.

## Saturday December 10th to 31st

### Chequer Mead Christmas Pantomime

Come along and get into the Christmas spirit with this year's panto, 'Aladdin'.

### Classic Car Day

East Grinstead Town Council hosted its first classic motor show on the historic High Street. Vehicles were invited from a variety of car clubs, and news of the event soon spread by word of mouth. We were delighted with the response from local enthusiasts and soon received applications from local owners as well as from further afield. A total of 95 cars registered to attend, so a massive 'thank you' to all!

Everything from Aston Martins to Volkswagen campervans was on display, with some truly classic motor cars including a selection of MG sports cars, Mustangs, Capris, Jaguars, a 'big' Healey, Midgets, Sprites and Sunbeams. We even had a couple of bubble cars!

For all other events in and around town, please go to [www.visiteastgrinstead.com](http://www.visiteastgrinstead.com)

## Breast Screening and PSA Testing

East Grinstead Town Council is proud once again to host the breast screening unit at East Court. The unit will be with us until May 2023, and screening is by appointment only. The unit has been hosted at East Court for several seasons now; it returns on a three-year cycle. Breast screening, along with the annual East Grinstead Lions Prostate Testing Day (Saturday 26th November), are vital early detection opportunities which East Grinstead Town Council is pleased to support; the Town Council encourages all eligible residents to take up testing when it is available.

## Community and Tourism Team

The Community and Tourism Department has now been expanded to three, with the addition of its new member, Community Officer Sue Jackson, who joins Manager Alice Fletcher and Community Officer Roger Gwatkin. The role of this department is to support community initiatives throughout the town, working with local groups.

This year, the team held the Love East Grinstead day on the High Street, the Classic Motor Show and, of course, the ever-popular summer music programme East Court Live!



## Have You Seen SID?

The Town Council is pleased to announce the purchase of its new speed indicator device (SID), which will highlight and record the speed travelled by motorists around the roads of East Grinstead.

Previously, the Council joined a shared ownership scheme with the parishes of West Hoathly, Balcombe, Worth, Turners Hill and Ashurst Wood. The new acquisition will mean that the town can deploy the device to a wider range of locations and for longer periods of time. The Council will also continue to be part of the shared scheme, which will allow greater coverage across the town.



Example SID in action

## Community Revenue Grant

East Grinstead Town Council welcomes and values the work of local voluntary groups and organisations in the town and sets aside a small amount within the revenue budget to pump-prime specific initiatives. The Town Council's Finance & General Purposes Committee was pleased to be able to award grants to the following groups:

Being Neighbourly	£500
Sussex Mediation	£100
Ashurst Wood Short Mat Bowls	£100
Greenstede Talking News	£250
East Grinstead Camera Club	£250
Evergreens of East Grinstead Pensioners Club	£300
East Grinstead Community Bonfire	£350
Family Support Work	£500
Ashdown Woodturners	£150

The grants are awarded annually, and next year's grants need to be applied for by the beginning of September 2023.

## Youth Sports Grants

There is a £3,000 grant for youth sports. Application forms are on the Town Council website and need to be submitted by 30th November 2022.

## Warm Spaces

The Town Council has set up an emergency grant totalling £5,000 for the Warm Spaces scheme. Warm Spaces are designated places that people can visit to keep warm in the winter if they can't afford to heat their homes. The grant is to be distributed to local venues that are supporting the Warm Spaces scheme. As grants are awarded, this will be notified on the Town Council website and social media.

Please go along to these places, where you'll get a warm welcome as well as a warm space.

## Fairtrade Fortnight 2023

Fairtrade Fortnight 2023 will run from 27th February to 12th March, when Fairtrade East Grinstead will be organising a range of events. East Grinstead has been a Fairtrade town since 2005 with the support of East Grinstead Town Council. For further information, go to [fairtrade-eg.co.uk](http://fairtrade-eg.co.uk) or contact Susan Joy on **01342 835 190 / 07821 379 064** or at [SusanJoy471@hotmail.com](mailto:SusanJoy471@hotmail.com)

## East Grinstead Food bank

East Grinstead Food Bank supports individuals and families who simply cannot put food on the table. Since its beginning in a garage ten years ago, in December 2012, the food bank has assisted over 15,000 people, including over 6,000 children.

Located in the Jubilee Community Centre in Charlwoods Road, East Grinstead, the food bank is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 1pm until 3pm.

If you need support, please call **07856 864 251**.

If you wish to make a donation, please see [www.eastgrinstead.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.eastgrinstead.foodbank.org.uk) or download the free Bank the Food app on your smartphone at [www.bankthefood.org](http://www.bankthefood.org) (or use the QR code) and sign up to get an updated list in real time of which items are most required.



## Feeling Weighed Down by Debt?

Then let us help you. CAP Debt Help is fully committed to offering a FREE service that takes into account your wider circumstances and emotional needs as well as your financial difficulties. The service is designed to be accessible to everyone, which is why face-to-face appointments and holistic provision are absolutely key. Over four years in East Grinstead, CAP Debt Help has seen 17 families go debt-free, giving them a fresh start. No matter how challenging your situation may seem, there is hope. So call today and begin your journey to debt freedom.

## East Grinstead CAP Debt Centre



Call FREE on **0800 328 0006**

[www.capdebthelp.org](http://www.capdebthelp.org)

Free debt counselling in your community from an award-winning charity