

## Contact Your Councillor

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

**Ashplats**  
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**Imberhorne**  
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**Town**  
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Tony Scott 07583 120947  
Jason Woodgate 07813 778018

**Worsted**  
John Belsey 07721 303466

## COUNCIL MEETINGS

10th May	M	Annual Town Council
12th May	W	Planning
2nd June	W	Planning
3rd June	Th	Public Services
10th June	Th	Amenities & Tourism
17th June	Th	Finance & General Purposes
17th June	Th	Special Council
21st June	M	Planning
5th July	M	Council
12th July	M	Planning
2nd August	M	Planning
23rd August	M	Planning

### 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 with the exception of the Special Council Meeting on 17th June to approve the annual accounts, which will be held immediately following Finance & General Purposes Committee.

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.

## Making East Grinstead a Safe Place

**S**afe Places is a national network that identifies where anyone feeling vulnerable or unsafe can seek assistance. Individuals can sign up to the scheme and are issued with a card with their name and their emergency contact numbers. This card is then handed over at a Safe Place venue, where someone will make a phone call to the contact number and ask that they collect the person. It's that simple!

Businesses and organisations can sign up to the scheme, too, and receive a window sticker to identify them as a Safe Place, which helps card holders to identify Safe Place venues. Venues are also identified via a free app which will give directions to the nearest Safe Place.

To find out more, follow this link:  
<https://www.safeplaces.org.uk>

Thank you to Chequer Mead, East Grinstead Library, Mill View Care Home, Jubilee Community Church, Kings Leisure Centre, The Mug Tree, Age UK/Glen View, The Police Station at Chequer Mead and East Grinstead Town Council at East Court Mansion for registering as Safe Places.

Our aim is to have East Grinstead at the forefront of this initiative, providing a Safe Place to anyone, at any time.



## Contacts

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

## 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.

# THE Line

WHERE EAST MEETS WEST  
ON THE MERIDIAN LINE

May 2021  
Edition 81



NEWS FROM  
EAST GRINSTEAD  
TOWN COUNCIL

## Town Mayor Receives his Vaccination Vaccine Update

**T**own Mayor, Councillor John Dabell, received his vaccine at the Meridian Hall.

The vaccine roll-out is going well. At the time of going to press, there was a total of **15,622 doses (14,048 people vaccinated)** within East Grinstead. We have delivered 6931 Pfizer doses (5794 1st dose & 1136 2nd dose) and 8691 AstraZenica doses (8254 1st dose & 437 2nd dose). Second doses started on 1st April.

If you were unable to accept the vaccination due to having tested positive in the previous 4 weeks or being in isolation prior to surgery, or for another reason, you will be re-contacted by the surgery; you won't be missed out.

We would like to acknowledge the East Grinstead Lions Club, specifically Tony Hardisty, who has been at the centre in all weathers and has remained cheerful and helpful, and the local volunteers who have been helping get people into and out of the building safely and making sure we keep everything clean and infection free. A special thanks to Mandy Wilson, who has been volunteering with us since day 1. We have over 70 vaccinators working in the centre, and no one has said they do not want to come back for another shift.

The enthusiasm and the professionalism of everyone involved has been astounding, and we could not have had a better venue than the Meridian Hall. We are grateful to the East Grinstead Town Council for their support in accommodating the vaccination centre.



Cllr Dabell receives vaccine

Members of the Task Force at Meridian Hall

## East Grinstead CAP Debt Centre

**I**f you are feeling weighed down by debt, then we can help. We are fully committed to offering a service that takes into account your wider circumstances and emotional needs as well as your financial difficulties. Our service is completely **FREE** and available to everyone.

Due to Covid-19, we have temporarily replaced our face-to-face debt counselling service with phone based appointments. But despite this change, we continue to provide a holistic and personal service for each and every client. After 3 years here in East Grinstead we celebrate and salute the 12 families who have already gone debt free, giving them a fresh start.

No matter how challenging your situation may seem, there is always hope. So ring us today and begin your journey to debt freedom.

Call **FREE** on 0800 328 0006.

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

Free debt counselling in your community from an award winning charity



Produced with passion using responsibly sourced materials.  
Please share your newsletter and recycle afterwards.

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01293 773085  
[www.madideas.com](http://www.madideas.com)



# Diary Dates

For information on these and other events in and around the town, contact our Tourist Information on 01342 410121 [tourism@eastgrinstead.gov.uk](mailto:tourism@eastgrinstead.gov.uk) or go to [www.visiteastgrinstead.com](http://www.visiteastgrinstead.com)

**All events in East Grinstead are subject to government guidelines and restrictions, and any that have been planned may be cancelled at short notice if the organisers have been advised to do so.**

## East Court Live, June and July – Cancelled

Sadly, the Council has taken the decision to cancel this year's June and July events. However, it is hoped that August's event will take place, but please look for further updates and confirmation on the Town Council and Visit East Grinstead websites.

**East Court Live August:** Live music is planned on the terraces, followed by a firework display. Free entry. There will be a pay bar and food stalls. Parking on site is dry weather dependent. Please use town car parks where possible (free on Sundays).



## A Brief Word about the Amenities and Tourism Committee

The Amenities and Tourism Committee is part of East Grinstead Town Council and is responsible for a wide range of services to the community. Amongst these is the maintenance of Mount Noddy Cemetery and its Memorial Wall. We also look after Queens Road Cemetery, which at present is undergoing a project to return it to a space for public use.

East Court Mansion and its buildings, known as the East Court Estate, is a large part of this committee's responsibility. As well as housing the Town Council offices, it also provides and maintains office space for local businesses, as well as offering venues to hire for civil ceremonies and functions: the Meridian Hall is used for many things including weddings, parties and fundraising and, presently, is hosting the Covid-19 vaccination programme. There are also the beautiful grounds, the playpark on the estate and The War Memorials to look after too.

In addition to the grounds to maintain, there are the flower beds and hanging baskets to look after and keep looking at their best in order to show off East Grinstead in its best light to visitors and tourists. Shortly, we will have a new Wayfinding system installed in the town to assist our visitors share the rich history and diverse community that we call East Grinstead.

## East Grinstead Town Council Unveils Commemorative Benches

East Grinstead Town Council has placed two commemorative benches for the Covid pandemic: one bench to remember all who have been lost or suffered through the lockdowns, and one to thank the many who have made and continue to make great efforts to help bring us through.

The two benches were placed at the McIndoe Lawn on 24th February and unveiled by Cllr Helen Farren (Chairman of the Amenities and Tourism Committee, pictured). Cllr Farren said, "These benches are our permanent memorial to all affected by the pandemic through the grief of losing a loved one, the loneliness of shielding and even being restricted from going outside. We also wanted to separately say thank you to all those working so hard to keep us safe and bring us through. As the Prime Minister has announced the roadmap towards the end of restrictions and a return to normality, it seemed appropriate for East Grinstead to unveil its memorial."

There are two benches. One is a bespoke steel bench with representative images of all groups of people touched by the pandemic and with the inscription:

*"For many months, to sit outside was but a wish"*

The second is an East Grinstead Town Council standard bench with the inscription:

*"Recognising all those who helped to overcome Covid 19"*

*NHS, key workers and all volunteers"*

It is hoped as people sit on the benches by the statue they will reflect on the struggle of the Second World War, when pioneering surgery was developed, through to the 2020/21 pandemic, when again pioneering science was needed to bring us back to being able to enjoy the simple things like sitting on a bench in the sunshine while remembering those who did not make it.



Cllr Farren



## Reflections Day, 23rd March 2021

The Town Council marked the anniversary of the day that lockdown started, with the Town Mayor, Cllr John Dabell, laying a wreath of daffodils and spring flowers at the Memorial Wall at Mount Noddy and, on the 23rd only, with a smaller posy resting on the Covid remembrance bench by the McIndoe statue.

Nationally, Marie Curie called for a day of reflection back over the lost year of 2020, taking place on the anniversary of the Prime Minister placing the country into lockdown on 23rd March – a time to collectively think back and remember all who have been lost or suffered at the hands of the pandemic. The daffodil is the emblem of Marie Curie Cancer Care.

The Covid remembrance bench was unveiled on 24th February and has been a place for people to sit and reflect. On this reflection day, a small hand-tied posy of daffodils was placed on the bench to mark the anniversary, while the Town Mayor laid a wreath at the cemetery's memorial wall.

The wall at Mount Noddy is the focal point for any town-wide or national grieving, and anyone is welcome to place flowers in remembrance there at any time.



## Wayfinding – Interactive Town Trail

The Town Council is introducing a new Wayfinding History Trail. Following the station to statue route, the monoliths and heritage panels will provide historical information and walking distances to landmarks such as the museum, High Street, station and Forest Way.

Each sign will have a QR code (which can be scanned by a smart phone) and link you directly to a page on the Visit East Grinstead website or museum website to tell you more about the location. There is also a digital map embedded on the Visit East Grinstead website which will advise of the route and the stops along the way.

The initial phase has five monoliths (the station, two on London Road, the statue and the entrance to the Forest Way) and five heritage panels (St Leonards Park, Whitehall Buildings, Sackville House, Sackville College and McIndoe Statue).



If this is successful, we will be looking to add more to this trail, linking the Worth Way and adding more information about hidden historical treasures in East Grinstead. As well as providing fun for visitors, it is hoped to encourage Bluebell Railway users to venture into East Grinstead during their day trips.

Councillor Helen Farren (Chairman of the Amenities and Tourism Committee) said, "As we start to open up again, we hope this trail will encourage people to explore our town's diverse history."

Graphic Rendering of Plinth and Monolith

## Youth Sports Grants

### Ashurst Wood Junior FC

The club provides children with the opportunity to play football at grassroots level, by keeping its fees the lowest in the area. It has applied for £500, as due to Covid it needs to upgrade its first aid kits to include hand sanitisers, anti-bacterial wipes, face masks and gloves.

### Felbridge & Sunnyside Cricket Club

The club fosters and promotes the sport of cricket at all levels. It has applied for £500 to purchase junior equipment: netting for mobile practice, a net and an automatic bowling machine. Total cost of project: £2,000.

### East Grinstead Cricket Club

The club provides cricket for the East Grinstead community and surrounding area. It has an active junior coaching and practice programme with ever-increasing numbers. It has applied for £500 to support the junior programme. The club starts coaching from 6 years old and runs regular teams in the Sussex League's under 9s to under 16s.

### East Grinstead Rugby Football Club

The rugby club aims to create a supportive environment where positive and competitive rugby can be played and enjoyed by all ages. It has applied for £500 to purchase junior tackle bags to help with learning to tackle and to assist with confidence for the young in this difficult skill. The club also provides kit, especially shirts for junior and intermediate members.

### Imberhorne School

The school provides sport opportunities for the young people of East Grinstead through school and club settings. It has applied for £450 to provide fitness equipment for girls' football training groups, including slalom poles, resistance bands and skipping ropes.

### Meads Football Club

The club has applied for £500 towards the cost of coaching qualifications and training.



Ashurst Wood Junior FC & Felbridge & Sunnyside Cricket Club

## Winter Support Grant



East Grinstead Town Council is pleased to announce that it has received funding from the Sussex Community Foundation and proud to have been able to give £1600 in one-off payments to families for help with fuel bills, winter clothing and general support. We would also like to say thank you to our community partners:

Being Neighbourly EG, Jubilee Community Church and East Grinstead Citizens Advice in West Sussex