

# We Say Goodbye to Rev Canon Clive Everett-Allen

REV Canon Clive Everett-Allen receives his Freedom of the Parish Charter from Town Mayor and Mayoress Dick and Janet Sweatman at a special retirement event arranged by St Swithun's Church.



## Contact Your Councillor

### Ashplats

Liz Bennett .....01342 301007  
John Dabell .....01342 317745  
Danny Favor .....01342 410244  
Jacquie Russell.....01342 850347  
**Baldwins**  
Margaret Belsey.....01342 321574  
Nick Hodges.....01342 300113  
Julie Mockford .....01342 325552  
Norman Webster .....01342 317806

### Herontye

Christine Mainstone .....01342 326454  
Adam Reeves .....01342 887635  
Dick Sweatman.....01342 322743  
**Imberhorne**  
Bob Mainstone.....01342 326454  
Frank Osborne .....01342 322646  
Rex Whittaker .....01342 302515

### Town

Edward Matthews .....01342 301002  
Norman Mockford .....01342 325552  
Adam Peacock .....07444 533028  
Peter Wyan .....01342 313985  
**Worsted**  
John Saull .....01342 822712

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

## Council Meetings 2015/16

21 September	Planning
24 September	Finance & General purposes
28 September	Charities*
5 October	Council
12 October	Planning
2 November	Planning
23 November	Planning
26 November	Public Services
3 December	Amenities & Tourism
7 December	Charities*
10 December	Finance & General Purposes
14 December	Planning

Full committee and council meetings are held in the Council Chamber at East Court Mansion and are open to the public.

\*Charities Committee meetings are held at Chequer Mead Community and Arts Centre.

Meetings commence at 7.00pm with a maximum of 30 minutes for public questions, and 15 minutes before committee meetings.

## Contact the Town Council

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

**Call:** 01342 323636 **Click:** [www.eastgrinstead.gov.uk](http://www.eastgrinstead.gov.uk)

## Contacts

East Grinstead Town Council .....	01342 323636
East Grinstead Tourism Desk.....	01342 410121
West Sussex CC Area Highways.....	01243 642105
Central Sussex College.....	01342 321874
Citizens Advice Bureau .....	03444 771171
East Grinstead Library.....	01342 332900
Queen Victoria Hospital.....	01342 414000
Affinity Sutton .....	0845 6887717
King's Centre .....	01342 328616
Police Station, East Court.....	101
Mid Sussex District Council.....	01444 458166
Samaritans.....	0845 7909090
Chequer Mead.....	01342 302000
Museum.....	01342 302233
EG CVS & Volunteer Centre .....	01342 328080

FIND help with services provided by West Sussex County Council, Mid Sussex District Council or East Grinstead Town Council at the Help Point in the library.

The Help Point is open Monday 9.30am – 7pm, Tuesday to Thursday 9.30am – 6pm, Friday and Saturday 9.30am – 5pm.

### Disability Access – East Grinstead

**Phone:** 01342 322242

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# THE Line

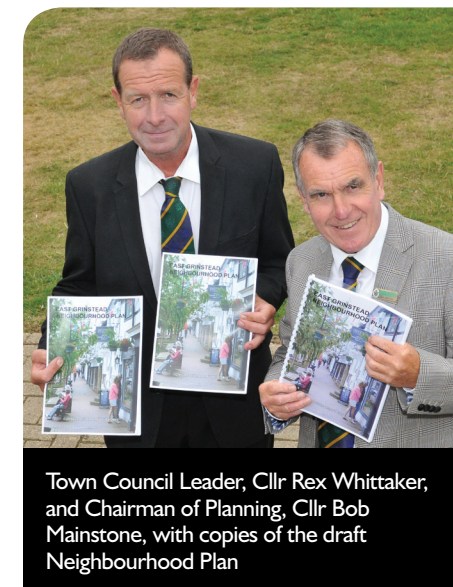
WHERE EAST MEETS WEST  
ON THE MERIDIAN LINE

AUTUMN/WINTER 2015  
EDITION 67



NEWS FROM  
EAST GRINSTEAD  
TOWN COUNCIL

## Neighbourhood Plan – Have Your Say!



Town Council Leader, Cllr Rex Whittaker, and Chairman of Planning, Cllr Bob Mainstone, with copies of the draft Neighbourhood Plan

PLEASE look at the draft East Grinstead Neighbourhood Plan and submit your comments on the Town Council website: [www.eastgrinstead.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan](http://www.eastgrinstead.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan). It's also available to view at the library.

Public consultation opened on 27 July and will end on 21 September (noon).

The plan sets out where housing development will be supported in the town

through to 2031 and the policies that must be observed when planning applications are assessed.

The plan is important, because without it we have little defence against developers, other than those rules set by the Mid Sussex District Plan, which has only limited control over East Grinstead. We must have a plan to prevent developers making applications to build wherever they wish in the East Grinstead parish. With a plan, we can decide where we will allow development, rather than having it forced upon us. You may not agree with all of our plan, but having one puts us in a strong position.

With a plan, we can also gain 25% of the money developers have to pay towards improving infrastructure (the Community Infrastructure Levy), which means we have a greater say in how money is spent in our town.

After 21 September, all your comments will be considered and any necessary changes made. The Neighbourhood Plan will be submitted to Mid Sussex District Council, who will conduct a separate consultation before it is sent for independent examination. If the examiner approves our plan, it will finally be

put to a public referendum of East Grinstead registered voters.

The Town Council started the path to a plan in 2011, and through to 2013 conducted surveys asking residents what they wanted for their town. The public were consulted on a draft plan in late 2013, and over 1000 comments were received. These comments, consideration of other neighbourhood plans and new government guidance led us to make significant changes. Therefore this second draft plan now focuses on planning policy to ensure compliance with the principal law. It centres on policies that are relevant for determining plans that fit in with the character and individuality of East Grinstead. Throughout all stages of the plan, the policy of not considering development outside the town's boundary has remained firmly in place.

Thank you if you have already submitted your comments. If you haven't, we encourage you to do so by 21 September (noon).

## High Street Flower Beds

BEAUTIFUL displays in the High Street flower beds have become much-anticipated focal points during the changing seasons. The beds, owned by West Sussex County Council, were until 2012 maintained by Mid Sussex District Council. After funding cutbacks, it was agreed that the Town Council would take over their care.

Town Clerk Julie Holden had a vision to create floral tributes to mark events and anniversaries from East Grinstead's rich history. These are planted to be at their peak during late spring and summer. The rest of the year, colourful and often scented seasonal plantings fill the beds. To make this possible, the Town Council raises funds through sponsorship; thanks are extended to Mason & Beer, PLB, Bluebell Railway and EG Rotary Club.

Once the Town Council has decided the themes for each year, a team of people and departments spring into action. Artistic Head Gardener, Jenny Watson, creates the designs; Community Service Manager, Katrina Hamill,



East Grinstead Town Council Head Gardener Jenny Watson with Councillor Peter Wyan

project-manages the work, sourcing props and liaising with the nursery contractors who turn Jenny's designs into working plans and choose and plant appropriate plants. The hard-working outdoor services team, under Jenny's supervision, clear and prepare the flowerbeds, install props, and water, weed and maintain the beds to keep them looking their best. Town Promotions Manager, Dawn Spalding, designs the boards to be placed in the beds to explain the themes.

Cllr Peter Wyan, Chairman of Amenities and Tourism Committee, explains, "The Town Council is very proud of the high quality of the flower beds in the High Street, the design of which reflects important local and national events. We receive numerous compliments from visitors and residents. I'd like to extend my sincere thanks and congratulations to everyone involved for all the hard work put in to create such a special feature for East Grinstead."

Planning is already underway for plantings for 2016.



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## Diary Dates

### Mid-week Collector's Fair

21 October, 18 November, 16 December (10am to 3pm)  
Chequer Mead Theatre, De La Warr Road, East Grinstead, RH19 3BS

### Christmas Family Festival

THE popular Christmas family festival returns to the centre of East Grinstead on Sunday 6 December, 10am to 4pm. London Road will be closed to traffic and the street will host the French Market and seasonal entertainment for all the family.

Town Mayor, Dick Sweatman, will open the event, and Father Christmas will be there to meet the children.



### 'Twas the Sunday Before Christmas

WHY not finish off your Christmas shopping in a relaxed manner? The High Street traders pull out all the stops to create a traditional Dickensian feel. Why not join the famous Traders' Choir as they sing carols around the tree? Sunday 20 December, 10am to 4pm.



### Chequer Mead

EAST Grinstead's Community Theatre and Arts Centre has a varied programme of entertainment over the coming months, with something for everyone, both on stage and screen: Simon Weston, Sir Robert Winston, the Snow Queen and the popular live screenings the National Theatre productions. Check the website for details.

Box office 01342 302000

#### Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs

Mirror, Mirror on the Wall...It's the loveliest pantomime of them all! Saturday 19 December to Wednesday 30 December.

## Cemeteries and Allotments

THE Town Council provides many services, and we will give you details of them in future publications of "The Line". Here are two services that we are legally required to provide for our residents.

### Cemetery Land

Since 1869 the town's cemetery has been in Queens Road. In 1916 the Mount Noddy Cemetery was opened, which has become the main cemetery for East Grinstead.

Mount Noddy is a nine-acre site owned by the Town Council. Designated areas include an area for the burial of children, a garden of remembrance and military graves. A special area contains a communal burial plot for 22 of the 108 people killed in the Whitehall Cinema bombing. A memorial sculpture honours the memory of unborn babies, and on a memorial wall plaques can be mounted in memory of the deceased.

Mount Noddy Cemetery is maintained by Cemetery Foreman Gary Hearn and administered by Finance Officer Peter Carr. Responsibility for the cemetery lies with the Amenities and Tourism Committee, chaired by Cllr Peter Wyan.

Cllr Wyan explains, "The Council values the outstanding care our staff

put into the upkeep of the Mount Noddy Cemetery. This year we entered it into the South and South East in Bloom Competition, and judges commented on the sympathetic environment of this important feature of our town."

### Allotments

East Grinstead Town Council provides two allotment areas for its residents: at Imberhome and Mount Noddy. The Council owns the land but leases the allotments to independent allotment associations that manage the day-to-day organisation, including lettings, site rents, collecting income and site improvements.

The Imberhome allotments have 90 plots. Tenants grow a wide variety of fruit and vegetables. Bees from hives on the site help pollinate the crops. The Council has owned these allotments since 1955. The Imberhome Allotment Association was formed in 1998. For information – [www.imberhomeallotments.org](http://www.imberhomeallotments.org)

Mount Noddy has 148 plots and is reached through the car park at the end of St John's Road. The allotment shop is open on Saturday mornings for the tenants. The whole site is very well maintained and in 2014 received the Best Allotment Award in the South & South East in Bloom competition. For information – [www.eastgrinstead.gov.uk](http://www.eastgrinstead.gov.uk)

Town Councillor Julie Mockford, who is also Chair of the East Grinstead



Chairman of the Allotments Association, Mr Alan Brunsden (centre), escorts the South & South East in Bloom judges around Mount Noddy

in Bloom Committee, commented, "Both our allotments are kept to a very high standard and well run by the associations. There is a real enthusiasm for obtaining an allotment these days to grow food for family and friends. It is heartening to see our allotments being so well used following years of decline. Keep digging!"

## New Town Promotions Manager

EAST Grinstead Town Council is pleased to announce the appointment of Dawn Spalding to Town Promotions Manager. Dawn has worked as part of the tourism team for ten years and has stepped into the role held, until his retirement, by Simon Kerr.

Dawn, originally from Norfolk, has lived in the town since 1991 and has two children who attended local schools.

The Town Council works in partnership with Mid Sussex District Council and West Sussex County Council to raise the profile of East Grinstead with tourists and locals alike. "Encouraging people to visit and stay in East Grinstead really boosts the local economy," says Dawn. "In addition to our role in supporting the delivery of tourism projects, we help local community groups and schools and have been part of the team bringing the East Court Live events to the summer calendar. East Grinstead is a great place to live, work and visit."

For information such as on places to visit, eating out, theatres, events, walks and places to stay, chat to the Town Promotions staff in East Grinstead Library. [tourism@eastgrinstead.gov.uk](mailto:tourism@eastgrinstead.gov.uk) 01342 410121



Peter Carr surveys the World War Two graves with Cllr Norman Webster, Cllr Adam Peacock and Cllr Christine Mainstone

## Disability Access Equipment Hire

DISABILITY Access East Grinstead has mobility scooters and wheelchairs to hire; contact details given under 'contacts'. (Back) Web: [www.egaccess.co.uk](http://www.egaccess.co.uk)

## Stocking Fillers

EAST Grinstead souvenirs are available from the Tourist Information desk in the library, and from the Town Museum and Town Council offices.

