

There will be an election on May 7th this year.....

No, not that one! There are also local elections for Parish Councils in Mid Sussex on May 7th, so this is a good time to consider getting involved. If you would like to find out more, please contact the Clerk or any Parish Councillor –contact details are at the bottom of this page.

Could you help.....?

If you live in Handcross, would you like to deliver the Parish Council's newsletter to some of the houses in your area? It is published four times a year, and a wider group of people delivering to a small number of local houses would really help our Handcross Parish Councillors! Please contact anyone listed on the back page of this newsletter if you might be able to help.

.....thank you!

Your Council

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www.slaughtampc.co.uk

Slaughtam Parish Council

Winter 2015 Handcross, Pease Pottage, Warninglid and Slaughtam

A Community Land Trust is launching in this Parish

Slaughtam Parish Community Land Trust (CLT) is a community benefit society with the object of providing and managing social housing and other community based resources, including recreation facilities, for local people. Membership of the CLT is open to anyone over 18 who lives in the Parish by purchase of a single £1 share. Members will have a vote on decisions on the management of any the assets acquired by the CLT. The founding board is in discussions with Hyde Hallam about involvement in their developments in Handcross.

To learn more about the Slaughtam Parish CLT, come and join us in the Parish Hall, Handcross on the **12th of March at 7:30 pm.**

To learn more about CLTs in general: **www.communitylandtrusts.org.uk**



Neighbourhood Plan

Work continues on the Neighbourhood Plan, as it does in parishes across Mid Sussex. Cuckfield's residents have voted for their NHP, which now forms part of the planning law affecting their parish, and Hurstpierpoint and Sayers Common's NHP goes to referendum in February. Once the Committee have completed the early, necessary statutory work on the Scoping Report and Sustainability Appraisal, we will be consulting everyone on the policies, plans, and aims – the vision for the parish in the future – that should be in our revised NHP.

Broadband update

In the Autumn newsletter we mentioned the good news for Handcross and Pease Pottage residents, the majority of whom are now able to access superfast broadband from the updated cabinets. West Sussex County Council has confirmed that there is still work planned for those properties directly connected to the Warninglid exchange, which is to be welcomed.

However, there will still be properties in the Parish (in particular in Slaugham) where fibre-based superfast broadband is not available. Additional funding (from both government and the County Council) is available for extending superfast coverage to properties such as these, and WSCC are currently carrying out a procurement process to contract a supplier for this work. We have asked that properties in the Parish not yet covered are considered for this funding.

Handcross Family Funday 2015—Saturday 4th July

Preparations are now underway for this year's family funday!

Last year we made a few changes to the fun day and hope that you liked them. Look forward to a few more different things this year too. The fun day will run from 12 midday to 4pm, with all the usual fun of the fair and attractions including the dog show, licensed bar, arena attractions, BBQ, grand raffle, and much more. Entry as always is free. We are, as always, grateful to Slaugham Parish Council who allow us to hold the fun day on the recreation ground each year.

The fun day is organised by a small group of 7 volunteers who work very hard to get everything in place helped by a few others on the day.

We are always looking for more helpers either on the day, before the day to help set up and on the Sunday to help put things away after the fun day is over. If anyone is able to help at all they can contact Neil Mitchell Chairman at neil.mitchell2@btinternet.com or 07732 043323.

Last year we **raised over £1700** from the fun day and we are always looking for local groups and organisations in the village that could benefit from a grant from the Association.

We are now looking for any groups, individuals or organisations who would like a stall this year to apply by emailing or calling us using the above details and leaving a message with your contact information and we will get back to you. Stalls cost £12 a pitch.

Neil Mitchell—Chairman. Handcross Association.

Pease Pottage News

It's hard to believe that it is 3 years since we revived the PPRA. A lot has happened in this time, new groups and friendships formed and there is still more in the pipeline. The Pease Pottage WI has become the Pease Pottage Ladies' Group – I assure you it's not because we don't fit the WI stereotype (though I'm sure some would question this), but because the WI funding arrangements make it difficult for us to operate on the funds available.

Other groups we hope to start this year are a gardening club, a daytime book club and a wine appreciation group (not to be confused with the evening book club as some of us do actually read books as well).

We are pleased to see that Redrow have now put up the newly named street sign for Haynes Way, named in memory of Peggy Haynes who many will remember as a colourful character from the village. Peggy began by selling flowers in the 1950s outside the Black Swan which progressed to Haynes' Florist next to the pub. This is now run by her son Tim who is seen below with his wife Lorraine.



30MPH!!!! At last after years of campaigning, the speed limit through the village has finally been reduced to 30MPH. With the current electrical works some of the signs are hidden at present but hopefully slower traffic will be an improvement for all of us.

Allotments...

Allotment gardening provides a wide range of benefits to communities and the environment. Apart from providing low cost food, they also provide valuable recreational opportunities involving healthy activity and social contacts. Allotments are significant to our green spaces and provide habitats for many forms of wildlife.

Taking on an allotment plot is not all hard work; it can have many advantages, providing fresh home grown vegetables, fruit and flowers for you and your family, free from artificial additives and at a fraction of that you would have expected to pay in a supermarket or greengrocer.

There is also the social side, meeting new friends with similar interests and enabling you to enjoy a healthy outdoor life with gentle exercise and a place to relax and unwind. Slaugham currently have vacancies at the Allotments in Handcross, if you are interested please contact the Clerk Sally Mclean clerk@slaughampc.co.uk or tel the Parish Office on 010403 733881.

