



Udimore Parish Council Newsletter

Issue 13
January 2015

Next Council meeting

*The Parish Council will meet on
Wednesday
21st January 2015*

*At 6.30pm in Udimore
Community Hall.
All are welcome to attend*

The agenda at a glance

*The budget and precept for the
financial year 2015-16*

Plaque for memorial tree

Your councillors

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The November parish council meeting

The main item discussed was the public meeting held on 7th November about traffic on the B2089. The Parish Council noted that the overwhelming concern of residents is speeding vehicles. It was agreed that the Parish Council would approach East Sussex County Council about a uniform 40mph speed limit throughout Udimore.

As a preliminary to this, the Parish Council has been in contact with East Sussex County Council about speed and traffic surveys on the B2089 and a report on these discussions will be on the January agenda.

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Parish council website: www.udimore.org

Newsletter editor: Bob Turgoose

Policing in Sussex to 2020

At our November meeting PCSO Andy Smith alerted us to the further fundamental changes that will take place in Sussex Police between now and 2020. The force has to meet savings of £55million over the next five years, about 20% of its total budget. In their own words "Sussex Police is being re-designed for the Future." The Deputy Chief Constable said "We will make decisions on which services to prioritise and to whom they will be delivered, based on the level of threat, risk and harm."

Further information received from the Police since November indicates that the scale of the necessary savings make cuts in police numbers and in police support inevitable. What this will mean for policing in the Rye area is not yet clear but the police have promised further details will be made available early in 2015.

ESCC Countryside and Rights of Way Consultation

ESCC is seeking views of residents on its countryside parks and Rights of Way. There is a questionnaire on the ESCC website and all with an interest in ensuring that the parks and rights of way are protected in this time of financial stringency should consider responding.

Citizen's Advice

Rother District CAB have reminded us of the excellent work they do every day. Nationally they calculate that the Citizen's Advice Service receives funding of £217 million annually and provides about £750m of services to the public. In 2012/13 900,000 got in touch with their consumer service and in the same year they helped 304,000 with their housing problems, 500,000 with debt problems, 275,000 with employment concerns and 770,000 with benefit problems. CAB would welcome any financial support You are able to give them.

Elections to the Parish Council

Parish councillors serve four year terms which finish in May 2015. There will therefore be elections for all five places on the Parish Council on 7th May, the same day as the general election, provided that more than five candidates are nominated. If there are five or fewer candidates, each will be elected unopposed.

If you are considering standing for the council but are unsure what the role involves, please speak to the clerk or any councillor. Nominations close on 9th April 2015.

Udimore Parish Council, like all parish councils, has limited powers. Nevertheless, it is part of the democratic structure of local government in England and it is consulted by the County Council and Rother District Council on many matters and its views are welcomed and given careful consideration. Also, the views of local communities as represented by the Parish Council are sought by bodies such as Sussex Police, the Environment Agency, water companies, Fire and Rescue and the NHS.

Training courses for new councillors will be available, organised by the Surrey and Sussex Association of Local Councils, to which Udimore Parish Council belongs.

Udimore planning applications

All planning applications are decided by Rother District Council. Udimore Parish Council is always notified of new applications in the parish so that it can submit relevant local information or comments to the planning department at Rother DC. Since your last newsletter there has been one planning decision:

RR/2014/2840/P 5 Lower Cross Cottages, Udimore. Erection of single storey rear extension. Granted 14.1.15

Full details of all applications and decisions can be found at <http://www.rother.gov.uk/article/361/Online-Applications-and-Decisions>

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