

## FINANCE

The General Rate for 1969-1970 was 13/10.

Sedlescombe Parish Council levied a 2d rate last year. Its commitments included work on the Children's Recreation Ground and donations to the Church Restoration Fund, the Tennis Club, the Churchyard Fund, the Sedlescombe Playing Fields Trust and the Village Hall.

On the advice of Messrs. Belisha & Co., Stockbrokers, the Parish Council's holding in 5% National Development Bonds was sold in September 1969 for £2,540.15s. and its holding in 5% National Development Bonds for £1,921.12.11, making a total of £4,462.7.11, which exact sum was re-invested in 6¾% Treasury Loan 1995-1998. The Parish Council's Capital Investment now stands at £7,596 in 6¾% Treasury Loan.

Copies of the Draft Accounts for 1969-1970 and of Estimates for 1970-1971 will be distributed at the Parish Assembly Meeting on Tuesday, 17th March. The audited accounts for 1968-1969 will be on the table for inspection.

## GREGORY'S BAKERY

The R.D.C. had sent the Parish Council a copy of a letter to Mr. Comarcho in which it was stated that the use of the premises for light industry or for redevelopment of the land for housing would be favourably considered but the R.D.C. would strongly oppose any change of the premises which would detract from the amenities of the area.

## THE HASTINGS DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

This scheme was supported by the Parish Council. A special Assembly of the Parish Meeting was called by the Chairman to explain its reasons for so doing. Both supporters and opponents of the scheme had an opportunity to express their views.

## CHILDREN'S RECREATION GROUND

A special Council meeting was called to discuss the terms of the Licence which has now been signed by representatives of the R.D.C. and Sedlescombe Parish Council. The Licence covers a period of five years from the 1st June 1969 but it can be terminated by three months' notice from either side. The Parish Council's Insurance Policy covers the use of a recreation ground. The ground has been rotovated, seeded, rolled, fenced and the hedges removed.

It has been decided to buy four swings from Charles Wicksteed of Kettering at a cost of £52.12s. The R.D.C. has agreed to lay the base at a charge of approximately £85 and to arrange for the erection of the swings in early April at an estimated charge of £25.

A Sub-Committee of the Parish Council will meet the parents and will discuss any suggestions concerning the Recreation Ground which will then be laid before the full Council for its approval.

THE VILLAGE NOTICEBOARD has been renovated

## SIGNPOSTS AND FOOTPATHS

The money spent on the repair of footpaths has been refunded by the County.

Mr. Redman has agreed sites for the twelve footpath signposts which have now been erected.

The surfacing of the footpath from Gorselands to the School had to be referred to the Highway Authority. In reply the Authority stated that it did not feel justified in spending the large sum of money required, as footways in Brede Lane will be constructed in 1970.

## CAR PARK AND PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The problem of traffic congestion near the Queen's Head has been discussed on the spot with the Police and an official from the County Council. The only solution is the construction of the promised Car Park. Planning has been settled but a few technical problems remain. It is unlikely that the R.D.C. will provide Public Conveniences.

## 'BUS SHELTER

In August the County Council gave consent to the erection of a 'Bus Shelter situated near the Coach and Horses Public House. Negotiations have been pro-

exact/

position and angle of the shelter has yet to be decided on.

#### BREDE LANE

Application was again made to the Highway Authority for a speed limit in Brede Lane and was again refused. No date has been given for the widening of the Lane, but the Council has been informed that footways will be constructed this year.

#### POSTING BOX ON THE VILLAGE GREEN

The Assistant Postmaster of Hastings has been negotiating for a larger Posting Box since a request was sent to him by the Council in May of last year. The owner of the Post Office property will not allow the crection of a pillar box on his ground and the Brewers are reluctant to permit a larger box inside the brick pillar which is now in use. The Parish Council considers the Pump House or a part of the Green adjoining it would be the only suitable places.

#### RETIREMENT OF MR. JAMES AS HEADMASTER

Mr. James, Headmaster of Sedlescombe School, retires in July after over 25 years of service to the youth of Sedlescombe. For a number of years he was a member of the Parish Council and he has always taken a great interest in local affairs. His enthusiasm and hard work have been an invaluable help to the Cricket Club of which he was Captain for many years. He will be greatly missed.