

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL REPORTING TO THE ELECTORATE OF SEDLESKOMBE

MARCH 1975

On the 21st May, Mr. M. Drury was elected Chairman of the Parish Council. Following the death of Mr. Hodsoll in August and the resignation of Mr. Farrow in October there were two vacancies on the Council. An announcement on the Village noticeboard produced eight candidates. Mr. David Woodman and Mr. Malcolm Ing were co-opted.

FINANCE:

The General Rate (domestic) for 1974-75 was 44.9

Sedlescombe Parish Council asked for and received a Precept of £400 in April and an additional £500 in December. Mr. David Amies, our representative on the Rother District Council will give details of the rating position for 1975-76.

Copies of the Draft Accounts for 1974-75 and of estimates for 1975-76 will be distributed at the Parish Assembly on Tuesday, 18th March. The audited accounts for 1973-74 will be on the table for inspection.

SUB-COMMITTEES

Two additional sub-committees were created to deal with increasing Council responsibilities. These were a Village Hall Sub-Committee and a Planning Sub-Committee.

SPORTS FIELD AGREEMENT

After protracted negotiations which were initiated in March 1973, a new and satisfactory agreement for a further period of ten years was concluded between the Pestalozzi Childrens Village Trust and the Parish Council and was approved by the Charity Commissioners. The Parish Council has delegated authority to the Sedlescombe Sports Association under the direction of Col. Pile.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Lists of planning applications throughout the Rother District are sent weekly and plans can be inspected at the Watch Oak, Battle. Your Council completes a form which is sent to the Planning Officer supporting either an approval or a refusal of any application of a local nature. Three large separate applications totalled over 100 dwellings.

FOOTPATHS AND BRIDGES

Mrs. Salkeld has continued conducting parties on walks at the weekends. Twelve footpath signs have been erected. Copies of a letter have been sent to all farmers in the area asking for co-operation in maintaining footpaths in a reasonable condition.

The footpath from the school to Gorselands is now good.

The footpath from Balcombe Green to Churchlands Lane is in course of being surfaced with Chichester gravel.

Two bridges on footpath 10 in Cryalls Wood are in a bad state, but as the path is seldom used and the cost of repair would be heavy, your Council thought it should not be undertaken.

EAST VIEW TERRACE

A large posting-box has been promised but is not yet available. The Clerk had asked the County Council to establish One Way Traffic as the roads are congested at the week-ends and difficulty would be experienced if a fire-engine or an ambulance had to get through. This is considered unnecessary.

VILLAGE HALL PROJECT

As the finances of the Village Hall are insufficient to cover the extensive repairs necessary to enlarge it and make it a useful and attractive building, it has been decided, with the approval and help of the Trustees, to apply to the Charity Commissioners to appoint the Parish Council as Custodian Trustees. Copies of a draft Plan for the rebuilding of the Hall will be circulated at the Parish Assembly and the financial aspect will be explained.

THE COUNTY STRUCTURE PLAN

The County Planning Officer has arranged for public participation in the East Sussex County Structure Plan. A Meeting has been arranged for Wednesday, 16th April at Langton Hall, Battle at 7.30 p.m.