



## SPRING 2023 NEWSLETTER



# VILLAGE COUNCILLORS NEEDED

## Elections for the 9 seats on the Village Council are on the 4<sup>th</sup> May 2023

You can stand if you are over 18 years old and a British or Commonwealth Citizen. You must be on the register of electors or live or work in the area.

If you are passionate about your community and want to help make a difference, being a Village Councillor is a rewarding opportunity to work with others in your community to help improve the services and facilities for all residents.

Training for new Councillors will be provided.

Candidate nominations open on Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> March – the nomination period is only 11 working days. The absolute deadline for submitting nomination papers, which must be hand delivered in person to Mid Sussex District Council is 4pm on Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> April 2023. However, it is *not* advisable to do so on the last day because if the papers are not valid/correct, there would be very little time to rectify any issues.

Candidate nomination packs can be collected from the Village Council office or by going to [www.midsussex.gov.uk/elections-voting/upcoming-elections/](http://www.midsussex.gov.uk/elections-voting/upcoming-elections/). From that list, you will need to select the 'Town & Parish Council Election for Independent Candidates.'

For more information about what the Village Council does, please look at the website or call or visit the Village Council office to arrange a chat with a current serving Councillor.

### **Report a Problem with a Road or Pavement**

There is now a new online form for reporting problems to West Sussex County Council Highways. Please go to [www.westsussex.gov.uk](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk) click on Roads and Travel and then click 'make an enquiry or report a problem with road or pavement.' This is the place to report blocked drains and gullies, problems with roads and cycle paths (including potholes), pavements and verges, hedges, weeds and grass etc.

### **ANNUAL VILLAGE MEETING**

The Annual Village Meeting will be held at the Village Centre after the elections, in late May – the provisional date is the 25<sup>th</sup> May, but this will be confirmed shortly. The meeting will be a chance to meet your new Councillors and talk about any issues of concern. Notices will be placed around the village and information will be on the web site and in the monthly e-news.

## A BLOOMING MARVELLOUS CORONATION!!

Help Ashurst Wood celebrate the Coronation in style by decorating the front of your property. Use plants, bunting, and flags or just let your imagination run wild! There will be a prize for the top 3 best dressed homes. Please call into the Council Office for an application form.

After the Coronation of King Charles III, why not take a walk around the village and look at all the entries, then pop into one of our two local pubs and raise a glass to our new Monarch!

**GOD SAVE THE KING!**



### PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING PHOTOGRAPHIC ID WITH YOU WHEN YOU VOTE IN ELECTIONS

For a full list of accepted ID, please see [www.midsussex.gov.uk/elections-voting/bring-photo-id-to-vote](http://www.midsussex.gov.uk/elections-voting/bring-photo-id-to-vote)



LOCAL ELECTIONS TAKE PLACE ON 4<sup>th</sup> MAY 2023  
(You do not need photo ID if you request a postal vote)

### **Village Council Office**



The Council Office is usually open Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9am until 2pm and on Thursdays from 9am until noon.

The office is staffed by Rebecca and Samantha who always welcome questions or concerns from residents.

The office also offers a photocopying service with the following prices:

- A4/A3 black & white copies – 10p per copy
- A4/A3 colour copies - 50p per copy

Outside office hours, a message can be left on the answering machine or email [clerk@ashurstwood-vc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@ashurstwood-vc.gov.uk) or [assistant@ashurstwood-vc.gov.uk](mailto:assistant@ashurstwood-vc.gov.uk)

### DOG WASTE BAG DISPENSERS

Please can dog owners remember that the dog bag dispensing units are **only** for use when you have forgotten to bring your own bags with you. The bags are being taken in bulk and, if this continues, the Village Council will sadly no longer be able to provide this service, which was originally designed to help alleviate the on-going problem of dog mess in the village.

### YOUTH CLUB

**Ashurst Wood Youth Club** continues to be very popular. If your child aged over 11 would like to attend the sessions which take place on Wednesdays during term time from 7pm until 8.30pm at John Pears Pavilion and you would like more information, please email:

[awyouthclub@gmail.com](mailto:awyouthclub@gmail.com)