



SEAFORD TOWN COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT 2009/10



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Introduction

Welcome to the Seaford Town Council Annual Report for 2009/10 we trust it will provide an insight into our business and activities over the past municipal year.

This is the full report, a summary will appear in our next newsletter. It incorporates all the committee reports made by the Town Council's committee chairmen to be presented at the Town Forum on 27 April 2010. The Town Forum is not like other meetings of the Council or its committees, it is a meeting of electors of the Town, YOUR meeting. Any registered elector in the Town is entitled to attend and ask questions.

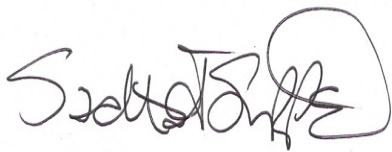
At the time of producing this annual report our accounts for 2009/10 are not available, therefore we have included financial information relating to the financial year 2008/09. It is anticipated that the unaudited accounts for 2009/10 will be available to the public in June 2010 and the audited accounts will be available once returned from our auditors.

A list of all the Town Councillors, who serves on each committee and their representation on outside bodies is included in the next few pages.

Our web site will continue to be updated with regular news updates, council minutes and a variety of community and business information.

www.seafordtowncouncil.gov.uk

Lastly, if you have any queries relating to the information contained in this document, please contact the council offices at 37 Church Street, Seaford BN25 1HG 01323 894870 or admin@seafordtowncouncil.gov.uk.



**Mrs Sam Shippen FCIS, Principal ILCM
Town Clerk**

Statement from the Leader of
Seaford Town Council,
Councillor Jon Freeman.



We face a difficult and uncertain future in local Government. Seaford Town Council receives its only funding from generating income from business activities such as the Golf Course and the Council Tax paid by local residents. No funding is paid to the town by the Government, either through subsidy or through the business rate levied on businesses in the town.

Due to the demand for service's which were previously provided by County and District Councils we need to demonstrate that we are giving everyone the best value for each pound we spend. As voluntary town councillors with limited officer staff we can only do this by working together, not only with other councils but also with the many excellent community organisations that work so hard in Seaford. Working together can make the difference. Thank you for all the ideas you give us.

As a Town Council we are working on a Vision Plan covering the next five years. May I highlight five priority areas where we are making, and will continue to make, a difference.

- **Young People** - to continue to work alongside young people by supporting the Young Mayor and the Youth Forum. We recognise the outstanding talent of our young people through our achievement awards scheme and other work with Seaford Head Community College. Young people need a "menu" of ways in which they can have a voice. We have backed with time and money a new football stand as well as improving cricket facilities.
- **Seafront** - we are working with the support of Seaford Community Partnership to re-generate our Seafront. Our partnership with the environment agency now means that the seafront is developing as a leisure area as well as maintaining sea-defences. Our route plan is now clear and involves all users and community groups.
- **Seaford Head Golf Course** - we have seen an increase this year in our golf course income, which we will use to re-invest in any additional monies on town projects. To this end we are re-building the clubhouse, which together with our new web site will open up the facilities for wider community use.

- **Finances** - our Town Clerk Sam Shippen and Projects & Facilities Manager Ben King and Corporate Services Manager June Hilderly are tasked with continually scanning our budgets to ensure that any savings can be re-invested in local community facilities.
- **Other Services** - we are developing the Salts and the Crouch Gardens and re-building in partnership the gardens, play areas and football stand. The Crypt has been devolved back to Seaford and is being re-vitalised by the management committee and will play a major role in creating a cultural heart in the town.

Apart from these 5 major areas we continue to hold our other 'big brother' councils and un-elected quangos to account by being constructive, robust and purposeful. Areas here include working alongside the Primary Care Trust and the Seniors Forum in order to secure funding so that access to local health services is improved so that travel to Eastbourne DGH is minimised and making sure we maintain good respite and day care services for older people.

Everyone can rest assured that all our councillors continue to be "voluntary" giving their time without any payment on behalf of the Town. As a Quality Council I believe our staff excel in their efforts not to "tick boxes", but to get things done. I would like to give thanks to all colleagues, Councillors of all political shades who have helped staff to cope during the year.

We continue to be pleased with the development of our pioneering move to 37, Church Street, particularly with the efforts that the CAB are making to cope with an ever bigger case load due to the economic situation. Our public meetings, particularly when concerning planning applications continue to be well attended.

In conclusion, may I thank all of our community groups for their energy, experience and good humour over the past year.



Seaford Head Golf Course

Report by the Mayor of Seaford Town Council, Councillor Tracy Willis.



May I start by saying a huge thank you to all the officers, staff and councillors, and especially my Deputy Councillor Bob Allen for all their support during my year. My special thanks must go to my two charities the Newhaven & Seaford Sea Cadets and Seaford Life Guards for supporting my charity events and also lending a helping hand on event days, and an especially big Thank You to the people of Seaford, as without your support my year would not have been as successful, nor fulfilling as it was.

As I am writing this report and looking back through my mayoral diary, it's hard to believe that my term of office is coming to an end already. It's fair to say that I have had one of the most exciting, hard working and uplifting times of my life.

The Mayoral role is more of a civic role than a political role and because of this I have managed to become much more involved with the hard working people of Seaford, there are many unsung heroes in our town working behind the scenes raising money for all sorts of worthwhile causes and promoting Seaford in the process, I have had the privilege to have these groups support me in my year and for that I am eternally grateful.

My mayoral year has presented me with some fantastic opportunities to meet with many other professionals, and I hope that my photo diary will give you a brief insight to the experiences that I have had. I loved organising the Bike Fest and Armed Forces Day. These are two events that will be especially embedded into my mind, the sheer fact that the town and surrounding areas came out to support this was overwhelming, especially for a first attempt, I am pleased that the weather stayed nice, as between you and me, I had no backup plan! The support from the officers was fantastic especially when we were laying stakes out at 7am in the morning!!!

The South Coast Triathlon got off to a very cold start, the weather was not kind to the participants and the water not only looked freezing, I was assured after that it most definitely was!

My Mayor's Ball was also a huge success, with over 140 people in attendance we managed to raise a considerable amount for my charities.

I have continued my links with the young people by visiting our primary schools, and invited their student councils to a "Meet the Mayor" session in the council chamber, all the visits were a pleasure and it's nice to say they

asked some very good questions. They were all polite and well mannered, and a real credit to their parent's. I have also been meeting with the brownie packs and girl guides; they are a lively bunch and also a credit to their families and leaders. I am pleased to see that the young people are becoming more involved in the town and helping us to focus on their needs, we continue to have a great rapport with the schools and colleges, and I am grateful for the support that we have received from them.

Seaford is a fantastic place to live, the people are enthusiastic, passionate, hard working and committed, I have learnt many new things about our town and indeed had the pleasure of showing three very special guests the Lord Lieutenant Mr Peter Field and Mrs Field, and also the High Sheriff Mr Bill Shelford around the town on a special tour, Mr Shelford then returned with Mrs Shelford to give a talk of his own about his role, I am also grateful to them for taking the time out of their busy schedule.

It's impossible to go through the whole of my mayoral year as I have attended over 200 engagements myself not including that of my deputy, but I can assure you that each and every one has been a most enjoyable experience, I hope that I have managed to highlight the wonderful community that we have and to all the lovely people that I have met and worked alongside this year, once again may I thank you for everything that you have done for me and the town.



Starting the Seaford Triathlon



Launching the new Seaford
Lifeguard patrol boat.



Seaford Bike Fest



Mayor's Charity Golf Day



Seaford Rotary Donkey Derby
with Rotary Chairman
Bill Yoxall (right)



World Sight Day Rotary
with Chairman Bill Yoxall



Armed Forces Day



The Brownies "Meet the Mayor"



Sea Cadet Unit Awards



Collecting for Ghurkha Charities

SEAFORD TOWN COUNCIL

Directory of Councillors

(LDC) = also Lewes District Councillor
(ESCC) = also East Sussex County Councillor

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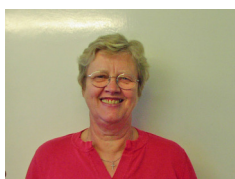


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Seaford Town Council Staff

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SEAFORD HEAD GOLF COURSE

Head Greenkeeper

Mr Jon Linscer

Deputy Head Greenkeeper

Mr Simon Lambert

Greenkeeper

Mr Chris Walsh

Trainee Greenkeeper

Mr Jake Lawrence

The Council



Report of the Mayor, Councillor Tracy Willis

The Town Council as a whole group normally meets on at least 6 occasions per year, during 2009/10 it has met 7 times.

During the year the Council reviewed its Financial Regulations, introducing some changes to procedures to reflect the roles and responsibilities of officers and committees in relation to good practice in financial activities.

The role that the public can play at meetings was formalised into a Public Participation Policy which sets out how and when the public and Councillors who have a prejudicial interest in an agenda item can speak. The facility for Public Participation is granted towards the start of each Council or committee meeting.

Formal approval of the progression to planning application stage of potentially Seaford Town Council's biggest project to date, the building of a new Clubhouse at Seaford Head Golf Course was given after being referred by both the Golf Course and Finance & General Purposes Committees.

The Council have considered information and changes proposed in relation to the South Downs National Park and the Cuckmere Estuary during 2009/10, it is important that Councillors can receive first hand information from officers of other organisations where their proposals have an impact on the immediate area and beyond. We hope to continue as a Council to influence the decisions being made by others that affect our town.



Seaford Half Marathon August 2009



Seaford Head at Splash Point

Committee Membership 2009/10

Community Services Committee – 10 members plus 3 ex-officio

R.P. Taylor – Chair	C. Conil
R.C.S. Brown – Deputy-Chair	M.P. Cornforth
P.L. Bennett	J.H. Freeman (Ex-officio)
R.W. Bennett	L.E. Holland (Ex-officio)
P.A. Bower	J.C. Peterson
R.F. Collict	L. Wallraven
	T.A. Willis (Ex-officio)

Finance and General Purposes Committee – 10 members

plus 2 ex officio

R.F. Collict – Chair	C. Conil
R.W. Bennett – Deputy-Chair	J.H. Freeman (Ex-officio)
R.E Allen	L.E. Holland
P.A. Bower	R.J Sinclair
R.C.S. Brown	I.J. White
E.N. Collict	T.A. Willis (Ex-officio)

Golf Course Committee – 10 members plus 1 ex-officio

R.W. Bennett – Chair	J.H. Freeman
P.A. Bower – Deputy-Chair	B.W. Groves
P.L. Bennett	L.E. Holland
R.C.S. Brown	I.J. White
R.F. Collict	T.A. Willis (Ex-officio)
C. Conil	

Planning and Highways Committee – 10 members plus 2 ex-officio

R.E Allen – Chair	B.W. Groves
M.P. Cornforth – Deputy-Chair	L.E. Holland (Ex-officio)
R.G. Amery	J.C. Peterson
E.N. Collict	R.J Sinclair
R.F. Collict	L. Wallraven
J.H. Freeman (Ex-officio)	T.A. Willis

Seafont Working Party – 5 members plus 2 ex-officio

J.H. Freeman – Chair	L.E. Holland (Ex-officio)
R.P. Taylor – Deputy-Chair	I.J. White
R.C.S. Brown	T.A. Willis (Ex-officio)
C. Conil	

Community Services Committee. Report by Chair, Councillor Ralph Taylor.



During the year 2009-10, there have been several important developments in relation to the provision of community services in Seaford. Whilst the Community Services Committee's main concern has been with services provided by Seaford Town Council, the committee has also taken an interest in services provided by other bodies, such as the Environment Agency and the National Health Service.

The Salts

This important open space adjoining the seafront provides facilities for the Rugby Club, the Cricket Club, Seaford Lifeguards and the Scouts, as well as tennis courts, a pitch and putt course and skateboard ramps. There is also a café and a children's play area, whilst The Base provides a meeting place for young people.

Given the number and range of users of the park, there is pressure on space and facilities. However, a number of improvements and developments have been made or agreed during the year.

These include:



- Provision of a youth shelter adjoining the skateboard ramps
- Approval of an extension to the cricket pavilion
- Provision of a swing seat for disabled children in the play area
- Replacement of some play equipment.

In the course of the year it became evident that there was significant water leakage from the water supply pipes serving The Salts and this has necessitated a survey and a programme to repair and renew these services. New operators have been appointed for the café and it is expected that this will lead to refurbishment of the building and an improved service.

The Crouch

This is another key open space which, like The Salts, caters for a wide range of users, including Seaford Town Football Club, The Crouch Bowling Club, The Exchange community garden, and the many children who use the play area.

Improvements and developments made or agreed during the year include:

- Provision of a new football stand
- A redesign of the children's play area



- Continued progress of The Exchange community garden
- Development of the Peace Garden, as a joint project with Seaford Quakers.

One of the most heartening developments has been the establishment of Friends of The Crouch, a body which brings together user groups and local residents.

The Seafront

The seafront is an area of considerable interest and concern to Seaford residents. One of the difficulties is that a number of bodies are responsible for different aspects of the seafront – the Environment Agency is responsible for the beach and sea defences, Lewes District Council for collecting litter from the promenade and cleaning the Martello toilets, and the Town Council for the shelters, public benches and beach huts.

The Seafront Theme Group of the Seaford Community Partnership has brought forward some exciting ideas for the improvement of the seafront and these have been approved in principle by the Community Services Committee.

The Crypt Gallery

During the year, negotiations have continued with Lewes District Council regarding the transfer of ownership of The Crypt to Seaford Town Council. The frontage to the gallery is also to be transferred and in due course this will enable the gallery to expand, with a new “shop-front” entrance from Church Street.



An enthusiastic management committee has been formed to take day-to-day responsibility for The Crypt and it is planned to re-open the gallery in May 2010.

Health and social care facilities

At consecutive meetings in September and November 2009 the Community Services Committee considered reports on the provision of health and social care facilities and services in Seaford. The Town Council has been pressing for improved provision for several years. The Primary Care Trust has accepted the case for improved facilities and recognises that this will enable outpatient and other services to be located closer to local people. However, it is a cause of frustration that it is taking so long to provide better facilities and services for our community.

At its November meeting the Community Services Committee received a report from the Seaford Seniors' Forum on the uncertain future of Homefield Place, a well-regarded local facility for older people with mental health problems. The Forum was concerned that Homefield Place might be closed, leading to the loss of an important local service. The committee took the view

that services needed to be provided in a consistent and integrated way and urged the County Council, the Primary Care Trust and the Partnership Trust to work more closely together in order to ensure integrated provision of services in Seaford.

Other facilities and services

The Community Services Committee has responsibility for some other facilities and services, including the Martello Fields, the War Memorial and the Allotments and works closely with appropriate bodies who have a relevant interest in them.



Seaford War Memorial



Blatchington Pond

The Finance &
General Purposes Committee.
Report by Chairman
Councillor Rosemary Collicot.



Once again, Personnel issues appear to have taken priority on the F&GP Agenda. During the run-up to Mike Wright's retirement as Administration Manager in November we agreed that this would be a suitable opportunity to look at our staffing structure. In August, we asked external consultants who are both working for other local councils to carry out a review of our staffing structure. The report was considered at our meeting in September and the proposal was accepted for a Management team of four (including Fraser Morley at the Golf Course), with three full-time administrative assistants assisting with aspects of their work. Following advertisements, we were able to appoint a Corporate Services Manager and a Projects & Facilities Manager. We welcome both June Hilderly and Ben King to complete our management team. We were sorry to see Mike retire in November after 9 years with the Council but wish him a long and happy retirement.

2009/10 was also the year in which we said goodbye to Mike Cookson, who had been our Internal Auditor since the Town Council started its life in 1999. In his place, we welcomed Paul Hartley, who has wide experience of auditing the accounts of local councils and we are grateful to him for his assistance during the past financial year.

One of the matters on which our Internal Auditor commented during the year was the low level of the Council's Reserves. This was in part due to unexpected expenditure incurred by the Council to deal with long-standing damp problems at Hurdis House which became particularly noticeable after the building had stood empty during the winter of 2008/09. As no budgetary provision had been made for the necessary repairs, it was necessary to take some £33,000 from the Reserves, thus reducing them to a level which is lower than either the Council or the Auditor would have liked.

Having received advice from the Internal Auditor as to the recommended level of our Reserves, we decided when we considered the budget proposals for 2010/11, mindful of the effect on local taxpayers, to build up our balances over a four-year period, rather than the Auditor's suggested one-year period. A further change in the current year's budget has been to merge all the money we give in grants (a total of some £11,000) into one grants pool and to invite all organisations seeking funding to apply for grants at the same time.

In 2009/10 grants were given either in cash or in kind to the following organisations:

Organisation
16th Seaford Scouts
1st Seaford Boys Brigade
6th Seaford Scouts
ABC Fund
Access in Seaford and Newhaven
Bishopstone Parish Hall Management Committee
Citizens Advice Bureau
Cuckmere Community Bus
Cuckmere Estuary Partnership
Friends of Bönningstedt Twinning Association
Friends of Seaford Library
Friends of Tidemills
Hillcrest Amateur Boxing Club
Lewes District Churches Homelink
Mercread Club
Newhaven & Seaford Sea Cadets
Newhaven, Peacehaven and Seaford Lions Club
Newhaven, Peacehaven and Seaford Lioness Club
Newhaven/Seaford Station of NCI
Relate Brighton Hove & Worthing
Seaford Battery Service
Seaford Community Partnership
Seaford Chamber of Commerce
Seaford Fair Trade Group
Seaford Hard of Hearing Club
Seaford Inner Light Club
Seaford Lifeguards
Seaford Live
Seaford Museum & Heritage Society
Seaford Music Society
Seaford Neighbourhood Watch
Seaford Photographic Society
Seaford Rainbows
Seaford Seniors Forum
Seaford Silver Band
Seaford Triathlon
Seaford Waste Forum
Seaford Youth Forum
Seahaven Lioness Club
Smarter Seaford
SNAPPS
Sussex Air Ambulance
Vitalise
Wildlife Rescue Ambulance Service

I am grateful to Sam, our Town Clerk, who has coped with the Council's finances (together with Simon Cooper (temporary Finance and Projects Officer)) during the period we were without a Finance Officer and to all our staff who have kept smiling and giving an excellent service to the public throughout the recent period. I hope that 2010/11 will see the start of a less traumatic period in the Council's life.



Seaford Museum and Heritage Society and The Friends of Tide Mills have both benefited from Seaford Town Council Grants



Section 1 – Statement of accounts for

SEAFORD TOWN COUNCIL

In completing the boxes below please explain any significant variances on a separate sheet and send this to the external auditor together with a copy of your bank reconciliation as at 31 March 2009.

	Year ending		Notes and guidance
	31 March 2008 £	31 March 2009 £	
1 Balances brought forward	205,533	222,332	Total balances and reserves at the beginning of the year as recorded in the financial records. Value must agree to Box 7 of previous year.
2 (+) Annual precept	298,150	319,930	Total amount of precept received in the year.
3 (+) Total other receipts	714,645	498,474	Total receipts or income as recorded in the cashbook less the precept. Includes support, discretionary and revenue grants.
4 (-) Staff costs	228,465	221,449	Total expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all employees. Include salaries and wages, PAYE and NI (employees and employers), pension contributions and employment expenses.
5 (-) Loan interest/capital repayments	19,538	28,571	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on borrowings (if any).
6 (-) Total other payments	747,993	532,920	Total expenditure or payments as recorded in the cashbook less staff costs (line 4) and loan interest/capital repayments (line 5).
7 (=) Balances carried forward	222,332	257,846	Total balances and reserves at the end of the year. Must equal (1+2+3) – (4+5+6)
8 Total cash and short term investments	186,309	272,147	The sum of all current and deposit bank accounts, cash holdings and short term investments held as at 31 March – to agree with bank reconciliation.
9 Total fixed assets and long term assets	4,400,184	4,400,184	The recorded book value at 31 March of all fixed assets owned by the council and any other long term assets e.g. loans to third parties and any long term investments.
10 Total borrowings	307,072	291,763	The outstanding capital balance as at 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PWLB).
11 Trust funds (including charitable) disclosure note	N/A	N/A	The council acts as sole trustee for and is responsible for managing trust funds or assets. (Readers should note that the figures above do not include any trust transactions.)

I certify that the statement of accounts contained in this annual return presents fairly the financial position of the council/meeting and its income and expenditure, or properly presents receipts and payments, as the case may be, for the year ended 31 March 2009.

Signed by Responsible Financial Officer



Date 22/6/09.

I confirm that these accounts were approved by the council/meeting and recorded as minute reference

C23.1.

Date 25/06/2009.

Signed by Chair of meeting approving this statement of accounts



Date 25-06-09.

The Planning & Highways Committee. Report by Chairman Councillor Bob Allen.



The committee met 17 times during this period and debated 163 planning applications. It welcomed the proposal by East Sussex County Council to replace temporary classroom accommodation with permanent buildings in Seaford schools. It is still pressing Lewes District Council for a defined planning policy for the former gasworks site and adjacent area to update the guidance of 2004. Among other notable applications was that for the former Annecy Convent, where the committee thought that any large development, whilst retaining the external features of the building would put an unacceptable load on the traffic in the area, a view not supported by LDC or ESCC highways.

The loss of buildings of importance to Seaford's heritage is a constant theme when debating applications. In particular planning considerations were unable to prevent the loss of 1 Cricketfield Road, although this has resulted in the Museum and Heritage Society setting up a sub-group to investigate buildings of character in the town. Recently the Planning & Highways Committee, whilst not opposing the replacement of Bowden House school in principle, would like to see a high standard of design rather than the present proposal.

Parking and speed limits have been a constant matter for debate, with some successes over proposals for some of the roads. Consultation has been carried out over proposed improvements to traffic use and parking at Sutton Corner. An overview and comments on local bus provision have been debated on several occasions, particularly with respect to the provision of early and late services.

A bus shelter has been provided in Walmer Road. It was good news that a modification will be made by Network Rail to the level crossing at Tidemills; the committee being able to support the efforts of the Access in Seaford and Newhaven committee in this matter.

The committee is continuing to observe where section 106 money can be used to improve the amenities for the town.

Finally I would like to thank officers of the Council, Mike Wright and Sheila Lewry in supporting the work of the committee in producing minutes of the meetings.

The Golf Course Committee. Report by Chairman Councillor Jon Freeman.



By far the biggest area of activity for the Golf Course Committee in 2009/10 has been the considerations around the replacement of the Clubhouse. The Committee have spent many hours listening to presentations from prospective contractors, comparing the plans and ideas put forward. As you will have read elsewhere in this Annual Report we are now working with our preferred contractor, local company Cheesmur to take our plans through to planning application.

We finally launched our new website and I am pleased to report that it has been well received. You can even get a weather forecast on some days! If you haven't had the chance to take a look yet it can be viewed at www.seafordheadgolfcourse.co.uk

The addition of new winter mats is one of the improvements made in the maintenance of the course. Jon Linscer and his team of Greenkeepers have put forward plans for maintenance improvements which include additional treatments and the purchase of new machinery and equipment which will ensure that we continue to make improvements.

The Committee agreed a new contract with Golf Professional, Fraser Morley during the year which will bring him into the Town Council Management Team from 1st April 2010. Fraser and his staff will continue to be at the frontline with Club Members and visitors making Seaford Head Golf Course an increasingly enjoyable experience whilst we continue to develop our clubhouse and course.



Representation on Outside Bodies

Access in Seaford & Newhaven	R.E. Allen
Age Concern	L.E. Holland
Bishopstone United Charities	R.J. Sinclair & I.J. White
Christmas Lights Committee	P.L. Bennett, T.A. Willis, C. Conil & B.W. Groves
Citizens Advice Bureau	R.E. Allen
Smarter Seaford	C. Conil, R.J. Sinclair & R.P. Taylor
Cuckmere Community Bus	R.E. Allen
Local Action Team	P.L. Bennett & T.A. Willis
Mercread Youth Centre	M.P. Cornforth
Planning User Group	R.E. Allen
St. James's Trust	C.S. Lambert
Seaford Chamber of Commerce	P.A. Bennett & T.A. Willis
Seaford Head Nature Reserve	R.C.S. Brown, C. Conil & M.P. Cornforth
Seaford Head Swimming Pool	R.G. Amery & M.P. Cornforth
Seaford in Bloom	R.G. Amery & P.L. Bennett
Seaford Community Partnership	R.P. Taylor
Seaford Seniors' Forum	R.G. Amery
Youth Task Group	P.L. Bennett, C. Conil, R.J. Sinclair & T.A. Willis
Waste Forum	R.E. Allen & E.N. Collict
Fair Trade Group	L. Wallraven
Friends of Bönningstedt	R.G. Amery & R.C.S. Brown
Strengthening Local Relationships	R.E. Allen, R.F. Collict, L.E. Holland & I.J. White
Stakeholders Group on Health Issues	J.H. Freeman, C.S. Lambert, R.P. Taylor & I.J. White
Lewes District Association of Local Councils	L.E. Holland & J.C. Peterson
Community Transport for the Lewes Area	R.C.S. Brown
Cuckmere Estuary Partnership	J.H. Freeman
The Base Management Committee	R.F. Collict



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