



CROWBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

Annual Report



2022-2023

CONTENTS

| | |
|--|----|
| Town Conference Agenda 2023..... | 2 |
| Minutes of Town Conference 2022..... | 3 |
| CTC Councillor Attendance..... | 6 |
| Town Mayor’s Report..... | 7 |
| Allotments and Cemeteries Committee Report..... | 10 |
| Communication and Events Committee Report..... | 11 |
| Environment Committee Report..... | 13 |
| Finance and General Purposes Committee Report..... | 14 |
| Planning and Development Committee Report..... | 15 |
| Sport and Recreation Committee Report..... | 16 |
| Fairtrade Report..... | 19 |
| Dementia Alliance Report..... | 20 |

CROWBOROUGH ANNUAL TOWN CONFERENCE

Wednesday 1st March 2023 at 7.30pm

UNITED REFORM CHURCH, CROFT ROAD

AGENDA

1. To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 20th April 2022
2. Mike Cooke will speak about the Crowborough Food bank.
3. To note the receipt of Reports of Trustees / Groups with Council representation
4. To note the receipt of the Town Mayor's Report
5. To note the receipt of Reports from the Chairmen of Committees
6. Questions Received for Councillors

Councillor David Neeves

Town Mayor

14th February 2023

***The Meeting is persuasive only and resolutions are not binding upon
Crowborough Town Council except in relation to the provision of allotments***

Minutes of a meeting of the 117th **ANNUAL ASSEMBLY** of the Local Electors of the Parish of Crowborough held at the United Church, Croft Road, Crowborough on Wednesday 20th April 2022 at 8.15pm

Town Councillors Present:

| | | |
|------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Alison Arthur | Kay Moss* | Matthew Street |
| Peter Bucklitsch | David Neeves | Neil Waller* |
| Martyn Garrett | Alan Penney | Natalie Whittle |
| Richard Jury | Ron Reed* | |

*Denotes those also WDC Councillors

In attendance:

| | |
|----------------|----------------------|
| Melanie Street | Assistant Town Clerk |
| PCSO M. Duvall | Sussex Police |
| PCSO M. Jarvis | Sussex Police |

11 members of the public

Crowborough Town Councillors held 'surgery time' prior to the formal meeting in order to enable residents to ask them questions individually.

MAYORS CHARITIES – PRESENTATION OF CHEQUES

The Mayor, Cllr David Neeves, presented representatives from his two chosen charities (Crowborough Foodbank and Abbeyfield Crowborough Society) with cheques for the monies raised at the annual town firework display.

The Mayor welcomed all those present and thanked them for attending.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from:

CTC Cllr Tracey Lovewell
CTC Cllr Gareth Owen-Williams
CTC Cllr Colin Stocks

ESCC Cllr Johanna Howell
ESCC Cllr Philip Lunn

TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21st APRIL 2021

The minutes of the meeting held on 21st April 2021 were approved.

PCSOs MATTHEW DUVALL AND MATTHEW JARVIS – SUSSEX POLICE

Sargeant Graham Bond was unable to attend but had arranged for Police Community Support Officers [PCSO] Duvall and Jarvis to attend in his place.

The PCSOs began with an update regarding the speed camera on A26 Eridge Road. They confirmed that this had been switched off in order to facilitate repairs and allow for an upgrade but that it would be in use again soon.

PCSO Duvall explained how the new police station was set up and how it was being utilised by the various policing teams. He described the role of the PCSO and how it included responding to calls, scam-awareness, neighbour disputes, general nuisance calls, anti-social behaviour calls and keeping local partners up to date. He shared that there is a direct number for residents to call regarding Operation Blitz so that calls can be dealt with quickly on a Friday or Saturday evening.

TO NOTE THE RECEIPT OF REPORTS OF TRUSTEES/GROUPS WITH COUNCIL REPRESENTATION

The reports were noted and received by the meeting.

TO NOTE THE RECEIPT OF THE TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT

The Town Mayor's Report was noted and received by the meeting.

TO NOTE THE RECEIPT OF REPORTS FROM THE CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES

The reports were noted and received by the meeting.

OPEN FORUM – QUESTIONS FOR COUNCILLORS

The Mayor invited questions from those present.

Q: Can you share any information on the Vision Document? What stage is it at and how will it shape the town?

A: [Answered by Cllr George Moss] The town council has a working group reviewing and updating the Vision Document. The group has only recently formed. It has met twice with the next meeting scheduled for 14th May 2022. Work is in its early stages. So far, each of the aims of the document has been assigned a 'lead' councillor and work is just commencing. Any comments are welcomed.

Q: [Follow-on from previous question] Does everyone know what the Vision Document is for and what it aims to do?

A: [Answered by Cllr George Moss] It is an aspirational document which sets out town aims for the next five, ten or twenty years. The document was last updated in 2014 and is currently being reviewed. It is based around core aims which include transport, being a visitor destination, working with youth, sport/leisure, environment and various other aims. When finalised the document will be lodged with Wealden District Council and East Sussex County Council to inform decision making in Crowborough.

Q: [Follow-on from previous question] Will a questionnaire or survey go out to residents?
A: [Answered by Cllr George Moss] When work has progressed on the document, workshops will be held to involve local residents. This is an interactive document, and the working group would like to involve as many people as possible.

Q: Many residents are concerned that the Number 29 bus only runs once per hour. Can you put pressure on the bus company to return the service to half-hourly?

A: [Answered by the Mayor] Bus services are not within the remit of the town council and as a private business the council cannot insist the bus company runs any services, however, it could investigate asking the bus company to do this. It may be helpful to contact your East Sussex County Councillor for more detailed information.

Q: There was a recent article on Radio Sussex which stated that the local bus companies were hoping to provide electric buses which would result in an improved service.

A: [The Mayor acknowledged this comment]

Q: Is it possible to have a regular item on the town council's Environment Committee agenda relating to buses? A lot of attention is given to rail transport, and it would be good to give an equal weighting to buses. Is the town council doing anything to lobby for the electrification of the rail line?

A: The comment regarding buses on the Environment agenda will be forwarded to the Chairman of the Environment Committee for his attention as he is unable to attend this meeting. The council's representative regarding local railways is Mr John Coleman. The comment regarding electrification will be passed to Mr Coleman at the next Environment Committee meeting and an answer sought.

There were no further questions. Cllr Matthew Street shared information regarding the town council's 2022 free-to-attend events including the Boundary Walk, Queen's Jubilee lunch, Queen's jubilee lighting of the beacon and CrowFest.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm.



Crowborough Town Council
Council and Committee Attendance
1st April 2022 – 31st January 2023

| NAME | NUMBER ATTENDED | NUMBER EXPECTED |
|---------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Cllr Alison Arthur | 12 | 13 |
| Cllr Peter Bucklitsch | 15 | 22 |
| Cllr Michael Cooke | 24 | 27 |
| Cllr Suzanne Dixon | 11 | 12 |
| Cllr Martyn Everitt | 16 | 16 |
| Cllr Martyn Garrett | 39 | 47 |
| Cllr Richard Jury | 35 | 35 |
| Cllr George Moss | 28 | 32 |
| Cllr Kay Moss | 34 | 36 |
| Cllr David Neeves | 45 | 50 |
| Cllr Gareth Owen-Williams | 10 | 19 |
| Cllr Alan Penney | 27 | 30 |
| Cllr Ron Reed | 19 | 30 |
| Cllr Matthew Street | 16 | 21 |
| Cllr Neil Waller | 14 | 18 |
| Cllr Natalie Whittle | 18 | 20 |

In addition to attending Council and Committee meetings, councillors also represent the Town Council on various outside groups or organisations and attend numerous additional meetings.

TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT

A message from the Mayor Cllr David Neeves

It has been another successful year for Crowborough Town Council. A long-awaited project has finally begun, a play area has been refurbished and we saw the town's first outdoor music festival. On a personal level, it has been a busy year. Some new events, some usual ones and one profoundly sad one.



My two charities



I decided to choose the Crowborough Foodbank for a second year and added Grove Park Charitable Trust as my second charity. Both organisations support our community in different ways. The foodbank supply food and essential hygiene items to those in need who have been issued with a food voucher. Grove Park does amazing work with disadvantaged children, and it was absolute honour to open their new garden during the summer.

Miniature railway

I was able to bring my inner child out as I attended the annual opening of the miniature railway. I have never driven an actual train so driving a miniature locomotive will be the nearest I will ever get. My thanks goes to Crowborough Miniature Railway for a lovely day and for making us feel like royalty.



Ashdown Radio relaunch

I was asked if I could attend the re-launch of Ashdown Radio, formally Uckfield FM. I attended with the Mayor of Uckfield, Cllr Jackie Love, as well as Zoe Ball. I did my first radio interview which thankfully only lasted a few seconds. It is lovely to have a link between our two towns which can only prove positive. Ashdown Radio are very supportive of Crowborough and do attempt to attend the town events whenever possible. Councillors now fill an interview spot regularly.

Beacon Academy awards



I attended the annual awards evening at Beacon Academy where some really talented pupils were presented with certificates and trophies for their endeavours throughout the academic year. It never ceases to amaze me just how much talent we have locally. The future of Crowborough is in safe hands.

CrowFest

Due to Covid, it had not been possible for CTC to hold our annual Summer Fair in 2020 or 2021. Instead, these funds were used in 2022 for our first ever live music event, which proved to be a huge success. I was extremely honoured to open the event and attended both days. The event was totally free to attend and there were thousands enjoying the wide variety of acts on the stage. I managed to chat to some of the artists and they all said what a lovely event it was and I have to agree. The wide variety of stalls made the event seem like a festival and my sincere thanks goes to every single member of staff and volunteer who helped out over the weekend.

Refurbished play area

I was proud to open the refurbished play area at Goldsmiths. The contractor has done a magnificent job ensuring children have safe play equipment to get tired on. Also opened is the new BrewBox café in Goldsmiths providing tea and coffee for parents whilst their offspring have fun. I am sure the play area will see plenty of use during the next few years.

New bike pump track

A number of years ago, a local man approached the council with the idea of building a bike pump track. Due to an intervention from Covid, the project took a bit longer than expected to start, however I am delighted to report that building work commenced at the start of the year and the track is scheduled to open in March. I think it will be a popular attraction at Goldsmiths.

Passing of HM Queen Elizabeth II

We all knew this day would eventually come, but it was still a shock. The council had a plan already in place which was carried out perfectly. I was honoured to lay a wreath at All Saints church for Her Majesty and the Deputy Mayor read the Proclamation in my place for King

Charles III. I would like to thank all officers and staff who helped over that sad weekend and also to the Deputy Mayor for his support.

100th birthday flowers

This year the council decided that the Mayor should present flowers and a card to all centenarians in Crowborough. This is something I find very enjoyable as these folk have so many interesting stories and the three I have attended so far were surprised, but also very appreciative to have the Mayor to pay a visit to them.



COMMITTEE REPORTS

Allotments and Cemeteries Committee Report

Chairperson – Cllr Kay Moss



Allotments

The committee agreed to install a new boundary post and rail fence at Herne Road allotment site which was erected in autumn 2022. We have also installed new deer fencing at the Pilmer site and will be planting a new hedgerow at Owlsbury allotment site as part of the Queen's Green Canopy scheme

There has been an increase in the uptake of allotment plots this year. I suspect that this is due to the cost-of-living crisis. Hopefully those new to an allotment will continue when they reap the benefits of their hard work.

From 1st April the cost of a standard plot will be £34 per annum and an extra-large plot at Owlsbury £136. A £50 refundable deposit is required for each new plot. However, those residents in receipt of certain benefits are allowed a 50% reduction to the rent and deposit. Further information on becoming an allotment holder can be obtained from the council offices.

The council is investigating the use of land at the Owlsbury site which sits under the pylon and is not part of the current allotment site. One of the possible uses is for a solar farm. The committee also want to look at the environmental value of the land and if any further uses could enhance or be to the detriment of this area.

Cemeteries

New deer fencing has been installed along the unfenced west and southern boundaries of the Summersales site to protect the planting. The committee agreed a modular build design for the new Summersales contemplation building. A change to the relevant planning condition was applied for from Wealden District Council and this has been granted. Tender packs are being prepared for the construction of the building and it is hoped that the work will be started late this year.

Sadly, there have been several attempted and some successful break-ins at Herne Chapel. There has been a substantial amount of damage caused. Whilst insurance covers some of the costs, some will be borne by the council tax payers of the town. The council is now awaiting quotes for new doors.

Finally, I would like to thank the staff at the town hall and the grounds staff who look after these areas, investigate information requested by the committee and advise us at meetings.

Communication and Events Committee Report

Chairperson – Cllr Matthew Street



CrowFest

Without question, the key event of 2022 was CrowFest - the two-day music festival that incorporated the traditional summer fair activities. It took place on the 16th and 17th July at Goldsmiths Recreation Ground with over 10,000 people attending the event over the weekend.

The event offered a programme of music by upcoming artists from Crowborough and the surrounding area. There was a wide range of food choices for the event goers and the regular summer fair activities, such as the performance arena, also attracted large crowds. The running track was transformed into a market as well as a children's activity zone. A total of 40 pitches were booked by various stall holders, including charities and local businesses. The children's area offered a messy play section for the young children and free face painting, whilst the inflatables and crazy golf activities were also very popular. A new addition this year was the ECO Hub which was successfully run in liaison with Green Transition Crowborough. The marquee offered a wide-ranging programme and activities for visitors to explore.

Following CrowFest, a survey was posted on Crowborough Town Council's social media channels to receive feedback on the event. 683 people responded and we received hundreds of positive comments. 98.09% of those who responded indicated that they would like to see CrowFest repeated, which is a great indication of how valued it was. The results also suggested a range of ideas for the events team to consider for any future events. We hope to put on a similar event on in 2024.

Other events

It was with great disappointment and sadness that we had to cancel the Fireworks display in 2022 due to the extreme wet weather and waterlogging. The Town Council successfully managed to deliver the remainder of our planned events programme in 2022, including the Town Conference, Boundary Walk, the marking of Sussex Day and the Queens Jubilee celebrations which began by lighting the Beacon followed by the Big Lunch a few days later. The event was very well attended, and it was a great family day out to mark such important and historic moment in time.

Crowborough Town Council, together with Crowborough Veterans & Supporters Association planned and delivered both Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday which were well attended and ran smoothly.

The Christmas Fair had a slightly different layout than usual - with the stalls being located on the High Street only, rather than going up onto Croft Road - this meant there was much more room for the land train to drive up to the Grotto. Having the event open for another 30 minutes also made it possible for the public to enjoy the festivities and do some shopping whilst the lights were on. Many residents attended and we are grateful to the Crowborough Players for turning the lights on.

The 2022 events programme ended with another successful and well attended Civic Carol Service at All Saints Church.

2023 Events Programme

2023 will be just as exciting as last year, with lots to look forward to:

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 st March | Town Conference |
| 6 th May | Kings Coronation |
| 14 th May | Boundary Walk |
| 16 th June | Sussex Day |
| 15 th July | Summer Fair |
| 04 th November | Firework night |
| 11 th November | Armistice Day |
| 12 th November | Remembrance Sunday |
| 24 th November | Christmas Cracker |
| 7 th December | Civic Carol Service |

Finally, I would like to finish by thanking Mia Kelly for organising such a wonderful range of events and Peter Cunnington for his support, particularly with the mammoth task of organising the first ever CrowFest.

Environment Committee Report
Chairperson - Cllr Gareth Owen-Williams



I was honoured to take over the reins as Chair of the Environment Committee this year. The committee has a varied remit, being responsible for street furniture (such as bus stops, notice boards, signs and bins), transport, CCTV, street lighting and our fantastic nature reserves, managed by the Ranger, plus other areas around Crowborough.

There have been lively debates this year on whether we should ask for a 20 mph speed limit, scrap our cameras, discourage dogs from the reserves and reduce our commitment to lighting.

We're indebted to John Coleman for his regular updates on local rail issues although there's rarely good news. We now have the improved footbridge but electrification seems a long way off and there's a real threat that we'll lose our ticket office.

Due to the increased fuel costs we raised the contribution we make to Wealdlink as it provides a valuable service to those with transport issues.

We welcome the increase in verges allowed to grow which encourages wildlife but are frustrated at the seemingly random times at which the County Council cuts the remainder. As always, we're keen to prevent any junctions from becoming overgrown to the point of lack of visibility.

The unexpected rises in electricity costs have affected street lighting budgets and replacement units, although welcome, are more expensive than we'd like and something else over which we have no control.

CCTV is another expense and we're currently awaiting news from the Police as to how we can make best use at an affordable price. We're pleased that they're now supplying us with statistics which will help us make these important decisions. In October, we agreed to continue to support the CCTV partnership on this basis.

The Country Park and Nature Reserves have made good progress under our new Ranger and we've been grateful for the assistance of students from Grove Park.

Some members of the public have been keen for a number of years for Crowborough and East Sussex to reduce speed limits to 20 miles per hour and the committee narrowly agreed to support this so wrote to East Sussex Highways as requested. There was not a positive response but I imagine that this subject will continue to be raised.

An interesting year as Chair and I continue to be proud of the work Crowborough Town Council carries out with the assets it has.

Finance and General Purposes Committee Report

Chairperson - Cllr Peter Bucklitsch

The last year has been a challenging one with the surge in inflation affecting the costs of running the Council. The staff have made great efforts to restrain expenditure and the rise in the precept has been restricted to 4%.

Councils are required to maintain levels of reserves in order to avoid financial irresponsibility, and Crowborough Town Council has acknowledged this with the rise of 4%. In times of hardship for the people of Crowborough this increase is a balance between fiduciary duty and a desire to protect the people of Crowborough from excess Council spending.

Around 20% of the precept is being spent on debt repayment, with half of that due to the overspend on the Pine Grove project. The object of the Pine Grove purchase was to establish a commercial centre for startup businesses that would be both an asset for the town and provide revenue towards the cost of Council operations.

As the Finance and General Purposes Committee we ensure that the committed expenditure remains in budget, with the help of the other committees, and this has been achieved this year. Thank you all the staff who made this possible.



Planning and Development Committee Report

Chairperson – Cllr Richard Jury

2022-2023 has been another challenging year for the Planning and Development Committee as the sheer volume of applications has remained at a high level despite the difficult economic climate.

Substantial new proposed developments have been fewer in number than during recent prior years but many of these have continued to grace the committee's desk as they are often being modified by developers or have unresolved issues, dealt with by reserved matters prior to construction actually commencing. Whilst larger developments are not as numerous there has been a marked increase in small but still multi property applications that are complex to deal with and are often unpopular with neighbours due to the fact that they often seek to replace a single older property with multiple houses on the same plot. Resubmissions of previously rejected applications without any meaningful revisions remain a source of frustration for both the committee and affected residents creating ongoing uncertainty for those involved.

A new and concerning trend of applications has also started to emerge in relation to land along Alice Bright Lane which the committee considers completely unsuitable for development and which has never been identified as such. The Town Council has objected to any substantial development upon this area due to its greenfield nature and generally poor access for both vehicles and pedestrians. To date two applications for just under 40 houses in total have been rejected by the District Council Planners but more applications and/or appeals against these refusals are likely to follow.

A Staff shortage at the district council planning department has also been causing a number of issues, especially in regard to planning enforcement. There is nothing directly that the town council can do to address this which is unfortunate as it is leading to a number of problems for those living near developments in progress where planning conditions are not being enforced. The town council will continue to report to planning enforcement any suspected breaches of planning control.

The lack of a District Level local plan remains alarmingly apparent as is the lack of a five-year land supply for development. This has manifested itself in the approval of numerous planning applications, in spite of significant local opposition by the district council. Unless national policy changed it is likely that Crowborough will continue to see more houses being constructed for the foreseeable future, this may include more encroachment into the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural beauty. The position from central government is looking more promising than a year ago but no concrete change has yet to happen in particular in the area of perceived housing need. The town council will continue to oppose development that we do not feel is in Crowborough's best interests and seek to mitigate as best we can, the effects of any such development that are subsequently approved in spite of opposition.

Finally, I would like to thank the members of the committee, in particular those new to the committee for their diligence and the invaluable support from the town hall staff, especially as this is the committee that meets the most frequently.



Sport and Recreation Committee Report

Chairperson – Cllr Kay Moss



Wolfe Recreation Ground

Tennis Courts – The tennis courts have been refurbished using Section 106 money and are now available free of charge for residents' use. No booking is needed, just turn up and play.

Pavilion – The decision has been made to demolish the old pavilion. There is a working group which is investigating a design for a new environmentally sustainable building to replace the old building. The idea is to have a building which can be used by the community, with a possible café and sports clubs' facilities (changing rooms, showers etc). A qualified architect is to be engaged to assist with the planning process and to draw up plans for the design.

Works Yard – Work to update facilities at the works yard is to be started soon.

A bench donated by the Crowborough Lions was installed at the recreation ground. Sadly, not long after it was installed it was vandalised. Each leg of the bench was sawn off at a different height. The committee decided at the time not to pay to replace the bench. However, a member of our grounds team managed to repair the bench and it was put back. Soon after the bench was reinstalled it was stolen.

Jarvis Brook Recreation Ground

The council staff have repaired and replaced parts of the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) at the recreation ground. This was because of vandalism.

The committee has decided to replace our rubbish bins on a rolling basis to dual recycling and general waste bins. It is hoped that this will encourage more recycling. The first of these bins to be installed was at Jarvis Brook.

The committee was approached by Artytime and the Jarvis Brook Residents Association (JBRA) regarding extending the skatepark at Jarvis Brook. The committee agreed in principle to the extension, which is to be community funded, with the funds raised by the two groups. The committee has asked to see the final design before planning permission is applied for and has agreed to negotiate a new lease with Wealden District Council on the land.

Goldsmiths Recreation Ground

Children's Playground – After delays due to both the contractors and the weather, the new playground was opened in the summer. The new playground which has many accessible features is proving a big success.

Following the death of the Queen, Her Majesty's Green Canopy project was extended to allow for trees to be planted in her memory. Five flowering cherry trees have been planted

on the bank above the playground as part of this project with a plaque dedicated to the memory of Her Majesty. These will provide shade in the future for those sitting in this area. The Bike Track – As this report is being written, the bike track is being constructed. Hopefully, by the time you are reading this the track will be open and in use. This track is for young children to learn to ride their bikes.

Toilets -Work to refurbish the toilets is underway. These toilets have been vandalised many times in the past. The refurbishments are designed to be more vandal proof. Let's hope this is not put to the test.

Kiosk – After the Council refurbished the kiosk, the tenant who was due to take on the lease changed their minds. An advert was placed for a new tenant. Applicants sent in their proposals for the kiosk and Brew Box were the successful contenders. The kiosk is now open for longer and they even stayed open during the snow.

The Beacon – a few years ago the beacon was changed to a gas ignition system. There were comments that the flame was not the same as before. We have now reverted to using logs in the beacon and have purchased fireproof matting to protect the running track in this area.

The council has put signs on two of the benches around the recreation area which state that they are "Happy to Chat" benches. The idea being that anyone sitting on one of these benches would be happy to talk to anyone else sitting there. It was proposed as a trial to try to combat loneliness. To-date we have not had any feedback on this idea. If you would like to see signs on benches in other recreation grounds, please let us know.

Chapel Green

The council planted lavender plant around the rock snake memorial. Most of these plants were then stolen. Bedding plants were planted in their place. The committee decided that laurel shrubs should be planted at the relevant time in order to create the original idea of a maze around the memorial. If these plants are again stolen the committee decided that the area around the memorial will have to be grassed.

In the summer a box was installed in a prominent position by a new broadband provider without the permission of the council. The Town Clerk met with the project manager who agreed that they would move the box with the council's permission to a less prominent place near the hedge, make good the area and a wayleave agreement would be put in place. 5 months later the work has finally been completed.

General

The Council was approached about installing a miniature golf course on council land. This was investigated and the council did agree an area at Goldsmiths which could be used for this purpose. Sadly, those who approached the council have decided not to continue with the project.

You will note from this report that vandalism is a constant issue for the council. Whilst some instances as covered by insurance this is not always the case. We have also had

several instances of fly tipping on council land. Both these issues are a waste of council resources, both time and financial. I would like to thank the staff for their time supporting the committee, carrying out repairs, inspections and maintaining our sports and recreations spaces.

FAIRTRADE REPORT

What is Fairtrade?



Fairtrade is a system of certification that aims to ensure a set of standards are met in the production and supply of a product or ingredient.

For farmers and workers, Fairtrade means workers' rights, safer working conditions and fairer pay.

For shoppers it means high quality, ethically produced products.

Through simple shopping choices you are showing businesses and governments that you believe in fair and just trade.

Crowborough has been and Fairtrade Town since 2008 and many shops, supermarkets and cafes in Crowborough sell or use a variety of Fairtrade products.

During the year Crowborough Fairtrade took part in a number of events and had stalls at CrowFest and the Christmas Cracker; with appropriate Fairtrade products to match the weather. Fairtrade Ice Creams and strawberries in the summer and hot punch and brownies in the winter; amongst other things; all made with Fairtrade products available from local businesses.

Fairtrade Fortnight is currently in progress from 27th February to 12th March and there will be a popup stall on the 4th March on Montargis Terrace, Croft Road Car Park, between 10:30- 12:30 where a couple of hundred bags containing samples of Fairtrade products will be available free of charge to whoever would like them. The bags will contain samples of Fairtrade tea, coffee, sugar, chocolate and we anticipate, at the time of writing, some products donated by local businesses, perhaps a Fairtrade banana! There will also be some information about Fairtrade in Crowborough.

Cllr Alan Penney

Crowborough Town Council Representative – Crowborough Fairtrade



DEMENTIA ALLIANCE REPORT



The Dementia forum has been busy over the last year. The Community Café is held on the last Thursday of each month at the Community Church on Beacon Road 2-4 pm. Although this is a dementia friendly session it is open to all. There is an activity at each session e.g. Arts and Crafts, singing, chair sports. Free tea, coffee and cake is also available.

On 7th October 2022 volunteers from the Crowborough Dementia Forum visited 39 businesses in the centre of Crowborough to make them aware of the group, give out a goody bag with leaflets about the community café, dementia friendly films at The Community Centre and The Wealden Dementia Charter. We spoke to them about the advantages of signing up to the charter and gave some advice about making their premises more dementia friendly. We also invited them to take part in a free dementia training session. Following this, I spoke to another 20 businesses in Basepoint and gave out the same information. Businesses who sign up to the charter get a sticker to put in their window so that people will know that their business is dementia friendly. Each business will also be mentioned on the Friends of Wealden Dementia Action Alliance Facebook page.

The free training session run by DISC was arranged for 17th November, and this was attended by 15 – 20 people. The training session was informative and interactive. Everyone had the chance to wear special glasses which gave you an insight into living with dementia.

We are intending to visit businesses in Jarvis Brook soon. We will then arrange another free training session for those who are interested.

The Pine Grove Pictures dementia friendly screenings are again for everyone and are free (donations accepted). Doors open at 1.00pm with films commencing at 1.45. The programme of films for the coming year is:

Annie Get Your Gun 28th March

Annie 16th May

Mama Mia 26th September

High Society 21st November

If any local business has staff who are interested in attending a training session or would like further information, please contact Zoe.sorrell@wealden.gov.uk.

We are hoping to start a sporting memories club. Further information will be available when we have volunteers confirmed to run this.

Cllr Kay Moss

Crowborough Town Council Representative – Wealden Dementia Alliance



FREE event

Wealden
Dementia Action Alliance

Crowborough Community Café



Oasis Community Church
Beacon Road, TN6 1AS

**Last Thursday of the month
2pm till 4pm**

- ✿ A free community cafe with entertainment and activities for local people.
- ✿ Free refreshments and activities
- ✿ Everyone welcome

Contact us:
 @ wellbeing@wealden.gov.uk
 ☎ 01323 443322

🐦 @wealdendistrict 📷 @wealdenc
 📘 Friends of Wealden Dementia Action Alliance

 Wealden District Council Rotary Club of  Crowborough



Five Ash Down Community Café

Hurstwood View Care Home, Linum Lane,
Five Ash Down, East Sussex TN22 3FH.






**Last Wednesday of the month
10am till 12noon**

Free refreshments and activities

Transport available within 5 mile radius, please contact us to book as spaces for transport are limited.

Contact information:
hurstwoodview@barchester.com
 Phone number: 01825 731700

FOUNDATION

Crowborough SPORTING MEMORIES

DATE & TIMINGS
First Monday of the month 11am - 12.30pm
Excluding Bank Holidays



AGE
50 years and over

COST
Free

VENUE
The Oasis, Crowborough Community Church, Beacon Road, TN6 1AS

WHAT TO EXPECT
A friendly and welcoming environment to reminisce about either playing or watching sport.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
emma.brooke@sussexcricket.co.uk

sussexcricket.co.uk/sporting-memories





FOUNDATION

In partnership with




2023 Dates:

| | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| MARCH Monday 6th | SEPTEMBER Monday 4th |
| APRIL Monday 3rd | OCTOBER Monday 2nd |
| MAY Monday 15th (due to BHs) | NOVEMBER Monday 6th |
| JUNE Monday 5th | DECEMBER Monday 4th |
| JULY Monday 3rd | |
| AUGUST Monday 7th | |

If you are interested in joining as a member or alternatively in helping support this club as a volunteer we would love to hear from you.

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