

# Sovereign Harbour Residents Association



[Home](#)
[About](#)
[Join](#)
[Letters](#)
[News](#)
[The Eleven Sites](#)
[Minutes](#)
[Contacts](#)
[Waterlines](#)

[Events](#)
[For Sale](#)
[Gallery](#)
[Harbour Amenities](#)
[Harbour Clubs](#)
[Map](#)
[Transport](#)
[Trades](#)
[Links](#)

## SHRA and Harbour Area News

If you have a local news story please [e-mail the web manager](#). This page contains 2009 news. [Click here for the news archives](#). [Event Announcements](#) are on their own page.

**NEW!** ▶ **05 Jan - Local choir seek accompanist** - the current accompanist of the [Sovereign Singers](#) female voice choir is unable to continue after May. The choir need to find someone to accompany them next Autumn from October to December and hopefully thereafter for a while.

As the choir donate all to charity their budget is minute for anything; they really do need a minor miracle so they may continue with their future musical and charity endeavours. If you can help the choir find an accompanist please contact the Musical Director on 01323 470 445.

**NEW!** ▶ **05 Jan - WRAS year's round up and xmas calls** - SHRA has supported East Sussex Wildlife Rescue and Ambulance service (WRAS) during the year by donating proceeds from its sales of The Crumbles Story book. [Here is a report from WRAS](#) about its work and its rescues over the xmas period. [The Crumbles Story](#) is still available from us at £7.99.

**NEW!** ▶ **02 Jan - Reminder - new Stagecoach bus numbers from Jan 03 2010** - buses on the routes to and from Eastbourne Town Centre and the North and South Harbour will be re-numbered as **Number 5 (ASDA & North Harbour)**, and **Number 5A (Beatty Rd and South Harbour)**. [More info...](#) [New timetable \(seems much the same\)](#).



▶ **22 Dec - More crime reductions** - December update from Sussex Police District Commander, Chief Inspector Jayne Dando. [Click here to read it...](#)

▶ **20 Dec - ESCC Bus Strategy Consultation** - We have just been made aware of this East Sussex County Council [consultation on its Bus Strategy](#). It covers buses coordinating with trains, having fewer emissions, being safer to travel on, running on time etc.

The consultation ends on 23rd December but we have been told that if you respond a few days after that your comments will still be included.

▶ **20 Dec - Lock and bridge work update message from Premier Marinas** - Season's greetings, We are pleased to advise the maintenance work being carried out on one of our two locks is now complete and open for business, ready for another busy year.

Unfortunately due to the recent poor weather we were unable to carry out the planned maintenance work and repainting of the South bridge as mentioned



Photo from Bing Maps ©

More local news at...

**EASTBOURNE**  
**Herald**

Eastbourne Herald

previously, however we are planning to carry out this work in early spring when hopefully the weather improves and before it gets too busy.

Kind regards,

**Dave Needham**

Assistant Marina Manager  
tel: 01323 470099

► **18 Dec - Beach work update from Pevensey Coastal Defence.** Whilst much of southern England may not think too much of the current weather – except my daughter who now has a day off school and can go tobogganing – those of us in the sea defence business think it is marvellous! North winds – no waves!

As a result the small recycling gang will stop work this afternoon for the Christmas period. Where and when they restart will depend on what weather the coming weeks bring, but it should not be before 4th January. One bulldozer will remain to complete minor outstanding works.

I hope you all have a peaceful holiday period. Here's to 2010!

Best wishes

**Ian Thomas**

Project Manager  
Pevensey Coastal Defence Ltd

Tel: 01323 761202 Mob: 07884 234298

email: [pcdl@pevensey-bay.co.uk](mailto:pcdl@pevensey-bay.co.uk) Website: [www.pevensey-bay.co.uk](http://www.pevensey-bay.co.uk)

► **Purse Buddie alarms for free** - The Crime Reduction Partnership have paid for a large number of "purse buddies" which are alarms that can be fitted easily to purses and handbags so that if they are removed a rather horrible and ear piecing alarm goes off.

Anyone who would like one free of charge can call PCSO Martin Hylands on: 0845 60 70 999 Ext 14462 or [e-mail him](#) with your name and address or contact info. [Click here for more details...](#)

► **Thanks from WRAS** - as you will have read in [Waterlines](#), Ann Botha, the author of The Crumbles Story, allows us to donate a percentage of the profits from SHRA's sales of the book to a local charity.

This year we chose [East Sussex Wildlife Rescue and Ambulance Service \(WRAS\)](#) and we have now received a letter of thanks from them for our donation. [Click here to read it...](#) the thanks must really go to Ann and those who have ordered the book from us.

The Crumbles Story is still [available to order from us...](#)

► **New round of YouthBank grants opens.** If you've got a great idea but need the cash to make it happen, then YouthBank could be just the thing for you.

The next round of East Sussex County Council's YouthBank is open and young people are being urged to bid for money. The YouthBank gives young people the chance to apply for a sum of between £500 to £5,000 towards youth projects and services which will improve things to do and places they go in their community.



Young people are involved at every stage - they put forward their ideas and bid for funding, a panel of young people decides which projects should get the cash and then the young people themselves enjoy the projects.

Applications need to be in by noon on Monday 1 February 2010.

This a great opportunity, so check it out or pass this info on.

[Read Press Notice...](#) [Visit YouthBank Web page for info and application form...](#)

► **10 Dec - Register your property on-line for free and improve your chances of getting it back if lost or stolen.**



At Immobilise create a free private and secure portfolio of all your personal property (e.g. phone, TV, cycle). Should it then be lost or stolen, you can use Immobilise to tell law enforcement, your insurer, and the second-hand trade, to assist in recovering your property and catch the thief.

Immobilise is used by all UK Police forces to trace owners of lost, stolen and recovered property. In addition it is checked daily by a range of recovery agencies and lost property offices including that of Transport For London.

[Click here...](#) to register at the Immobilise web site.

► **04 Dec - East Sussex Wildlife Rescue and Ambulance Service (WRAS) launch Wildlife Adoption Packs.** WRAS have done sterling work around the Harbour and you can now help boost their funds by purchasing a deer, a swan or a hedgehog adoption pack for just £15. For this you will receive an adoption certificate, a soft toy, WRAS pen, WRAS key ring, a photo of one of our wildlife casualties and an information pack about that species. You will also be added to WRAS's newsletters mailing list.



If you would like to purchase an adoption pack please contact Kathy by email at [kcatz@sky.com](mailto:kcatz@sky.com) or click on the eBay link at WRAS's homepage where you will also find further details about their work. Web site: [www.wildlifeambulance.org](http://www.wildlifeambulance.org).

[December WRAS Newsletter](#)

► **01 Dec - Visible progress on the Health Centre** - After all the delays, and the Planning Application having been twice referred back to the Design Review Panel, there are now visible signs of progress on the site for the proposed Sovereign Harbour Health Centre.

Residents entering the North Harbour will probably have noticed that test drillings of the sub-soil on the site have started. The results will determine what foundations will be necessary to support the structure and, dependent on the results, it is anticipated that construction work should begin in the late Spring of 2010.



► **20 November - Harbour bridge works updates** - first, Premier Marinas report that the barrier replacement work on the west and south bridges is now complete.

Second, don't forget that there will be no day-time pedestrian access across the lock gates for approx 3 weeks from Tuesday 1st December.

And third, there have been complaints from residents regarding the North Harbour bridge in wet or icy weather conditions. Below is the reply recently received from Premier.

"Thank you for your email regarding the surface of the North Bridge. I am aware of the problem and have carried out an inspection recently. Unfortunately, we need dry warm conditions to repaint the surface of the North Bridge, therefore we will be carrying out some temporary repairs to the areas that need immediate attention until the Spring."

► **Eastbourne house building consultation** - the recently adopted South East Plan (SEP) stipulates that Eastbourne must allow 4,800 new homes to be built from 2006-2026. Since 2006 EBC has delivered 1034 new residential units, 44% more than the three year



target. A further 935 units have been granted planning permission, but have not yet been completed.

In preparing its Local Development Framework (LDF), EBC has drawn up four alternative options that could conceivably deliver the remainder of the SEP target (2800+). The Council is now undertaking a full consultation on the advantages and disadvantages of these alternatives before agreeing a preferred strategy.

[Click here to view maps showing the four options](#). As you will see, none of the Options actually deliver the full SEP target. Option two comes closest and it is also the one with most obvious implications for Sovereign Harbour (150 homes). [Click here for some notes](#) about the options, including how the list of four was arrived at and some of the issues that had to be taken into account.

Drop-in consultation events are being held across the town, each one focusing on the plans for a particular local area (The Sovereign Harbour event was held on 14 November). In addition, a general exhibition will take place **at the Town Hall on Tuesday, December 15 from 3pm to 7pm** for anyone to drop-in. This is your chance to pop in and view the plans in detail, find out more and have a say in how Eastbourne and your neighbourhood should develop over the next 20 years. If you can't attend a meeting [click here to complete the consultation on-line](#).

EBC will publish its preferred development strategy at the beginning of next year.

► **20 November - Harbour Community Centre motion** - Cllr. David Elkin's motion to fund a Sovereign Harbour Community Centre from the windfall income received from the reduction in VAT, which was presented at the November meeting of the Borough Council (see below), was rejected by the members.

However, an amendment to the motion, calling on East Sussex County Council to provide funds from [s106 money](#) it is holding from the Sovereign Harbour development was passed. Cllr. David Tutt called on Cllr. Elkin to take this up with his County Council colleagues and promised that the Borough Council would allocate funds, provided that ESCC matched or bettered it.

The principle that a harbour Community Centre must be provided has now been firmly established, and it has been conceded that funding is available, the only argument is who will deliver it. Let's hope that political ambition and inter-party points scoring won't dominate the agenda and progress will be swift.

► **19 November - Eastbourne Community Bus Service**

**introduced** - Supported by funding from East Sussex CC, and available to residents within the EBC boundaries, the new local transport service is operated by Newhaven company CTLA.

Available Wednesday, Thursday and Friday between 9.30 am and 2.30 pm, the Community Bus will take you to and from anywhere within Eastbourne - door to door, but you must register as a member in advance to use this service. Membership is free. To qualify you must either: - Hold or qualify for a CountyCard concessionary pass - Have any form of mobility difficulty that prevents you using other local bus services. Journeys are booked by phone and a standard fare of £1.50 per journey is charged -the National Bus Pass is not accepted on this service. Telephone 01273 517 332, or visit: [www.ctla.org.uk](http://www.ctla.org.uk) for more details or [click here for a leaflet and membership application form...](#)



► **17 November - Councillor calls for cash to build a Harbour community**

**centre.** Councillor David Elkin, leader of the Conservatives on EBC, and Sovereign Harbour representative on the county council, will table a motion at tomorrow's (18th Nov) council meeting calling on EBC to "set aside money from the £2.5 million windfall received by way of a VAT refund to purchase a site on Sovereign Harbour to build a community centre".

He also wants to see the EBC take necessary steps to compulsory purchase such a site should the land owners not be helpful and to offer necessary advice to any bodies that come forward with a view to raise the required funds to build a suitable centre. Let's hope our Harbour area EBC councillors back this call. [More info...](#)

► **17 November - unwanted mail** - with a relatively high turn-over of residents in some apartment blocks, the receipt of mail addressed to previous or unknown residents can be a problem.



Royal Mail is legally obliged to deliver mail as addressed, irrespective of the name on it. They advise that you can help stop the continuous receipt of mail addressed to previous residents by simply drawing a line through the address, marking the items 'Not known at this address' and popping them back in a Royal Mail post box.

This can also help prevent identity theft since the sender then gets to know where a possible bogus name/address has been used. You may wish to [print out the attached notice](#) to pin up in the lobby of your block.

► **03 November - Haven Beacons PTFA Newsletter published.** Click here to read it... You can help the PTFA raise funds for the school by doing your online xmas shopping via: [www.thegivingmachine.co.uk](http://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk)

► **03 November - Latest EBC report on Harbour roads adoption.** In the North harbour several roads were adopted during September and October, but not Pacific Drive, which is expected to be adopted by end of next month. In the South Harbour over half of the roads are now adopted; surveys and remedial work continue on others. [Click here to read Report...](#)

► **23 October - Stagecoach takeover of Eastbourne Buses cleared** - the Competition Commission have published their final report on the takeover of Eastbourne Buses by Stagecoach and have concluded that it has not reduced competition. Their conclusion reads:



"...in comparison with the situation expected to prevail in the absence of the merger, we conclude that the merger of Cavendish, EBL and Stagecoach has not resulted, and may not be expected to result, in an SLC [Substantial lessening of competition] in the market for the provision of bus services in the Eastbourne area. [Click here to read the full Report...](#)

This final decision differs from the CC's provisional report. The reasons given for the change of view are set out in the final report and this [Press Notice...](#)

During the CC inquiry Stagecoach were prevented from making any changes to routes and timetables. Understandably, the company was also reluctant to repaint buses and make other improvements. So, on the positive side, it does now mean that Stagecoach can press ahead with post-merger work, including, with support from ESCC, the cross-harbour bus lane.

► **22 October - Harbour construction photos** - some old colour photos showing the early stages of the construction of the locks and outer harbour have to come light. Taken by photographer Peter Wakely in 1992 for [Natural England](#), they are part of a series showing shingle habitat loss. Click below to view them (2 PDF files which may take half a minute or so to download due to their large size). [Set one...](#) [Set two...](#)



► **17 October - Dog fouling problem** - it is unsightly, it stinks, it attracts flies, it can cause illness, including asthma, epileptic fits and blindness, predominantly in children under five. It should not be found on our streets and walkways, nor on beaches or open spaces where our children play.

It is the thing we receive many complaints about - the long Inner Harbour walkway beyond the bridge by The Harvester



seems to be a particularly dirty area, despite the red dump bin by the cormorant platform.

For information, there are in fact 17 dog bins around the harbour, and owners who fail to clean up after their dog can be issued with a Fixed Penalty Notice, or if the case goes to court a fine of up to £1000.

SHRA and [Sovereign Harbour Neighbourhood Panel](#) have raised the issue with EBC Environmental Health on a number of occasions, and the Eastbourne Dog Warden and EBC Enforcement Officers do patrol the area from time to time and have spoken to some dog owners. But, there seems to be a hard core of unsocial and uncaring dog owners who either just can't be bothered or think it beneath them to pick up their dog's mess. We will continue to pursue the issue.

The police are also concerned about the problem, and have highlighted the area around the RNLI station in their latest blog. [Click here to read it...](#) They ask that residents report any person who commits this offence to the Dog Warden at [www.eastbourne.gov.uk/dogs](http://www.eastbourne.gov.uk/dogs) (Tel: 01323 415 380).

Without co-operation from the public 'naming and shaming' it will remain a problem. When reporting a sighting to the Dog Warden you will be asked to give your name and address. Should the information result in a conviction your details, we have been assured, will not be disclosed.

► **14 October - Latest news on Medical Centre** - Dr Adoki's project team reports that they have been making good progress on the detailed design drawings.



However, the level of detail that had been requested meant that it was not feasible to submit the drawings to the October EBC Design Review Panel - not least because two weeks' notice is normally required. This has not held up the project programme at all and the team expect to submit details for consideration at the November panel, along with other design matters being progressed in parallel, with a view to being on site in late Spring 2010.

We also understand that other formal matters that developments like this require, such as a Transport Plan, are progressing satisfactorily.

We have an assurance that SHRA will be informed when project milestones are passed. When we are, we will of course report it here and in Waterlines.

► **24 September - Medical Centre Update** - SHRA has received the following update from Peter Waugh, Dr Adoki's project manager.

"The Eastbourne Borough Council Planning Committee agreed on 1st September that the Medical Centre should receive full planning permission. Their formal approval letter is now expected by the end of September. Some design details and a 'Transport Plan' have to be agreed with officers during the progress of the detailed design and preparations, including landscaping.

The first work, which should happen quite soon, is when a small drilling rig is set up to take deep samples of the ground. This will establish the form of foundations needed to support the building. We expect a lot of shingle, mud and sand.

After that are some months of detailed design and tendering - we will keep patients and residents in touch with progress. We are continuing to speak to Carillion regarding their sale of the land. It was wonderful that so many residents came to

the town hall for the planning meeting and spoke in support of the project."

► **24 September - Letter from Dr Adoki** - thanking SHRA members for their support for a Harbour Medical Centre. [Click here to read it...](#)

► **19 September - "...make Eastbourne an uncomfortable place for those intent on committing crime."** Update from Sussex Police District Commander, Chief Inspector Jayne Dando. [Click here to read it...](#)

► **13 September - Sovereign Harbour Trust Payment Demands** - we have been informed that the Sovereign Harbour Trust has recently started a campaign to recover unpaid "Estate Rent Charges", the precept on harbour residents that we are all contracted to pay.

We have been contacted by residents who have received demands for up to seven years back payments, with a threat of County Court action if payment is not made within fourteen days.

We must emphasise that a number of these demands are *not* in respect of arrears of payments, but for charges that have *never* previously been invoiced due to administrative failings within the Trust.

What makes this particularly unreasonable is that, for a number of years, the SHRA has challenged the Trust over the number of occupied properties declared in their invoices, and the Trust has consistently claimed that its numbers are accurate. Although we understand that the Trust has agreed, in some cases, to accept a regular monthly payment, it will add compound interest on the whole of the outstanding amount until the arrears are cleared.

The SHRA committee feels that the conduct of the Trust is both immoral and outrageous and should be challenged. Once again this "charitable" Trust, which should be working for the benefit of the community, is treating harbour residents with disdain.

If you have received a demand for back payment of Trust charges, *that have never previously been invoiced*, please let us know. We would also appreciate copies of any relevant documentation.

The formation of the SHT and its operation has also always been shrouded in mystery, and the Trustees have vigorously resisted any attempt to seek transparency. Any information, or any documentation, you can provide that will help to complete the picture, would be gratefully received. And if you have legal experience and would be prepared to donate a little of your knowledge and time in the interest of the harbour community, we would be very pleased to hear from you.

Whatever our views on the morality of this issue, we all entered voluntarily into this agreement and have to live with the consequences. This very unfair contract gives the Trust enormous powers to recover debts, including a lien on your property, so although we sympathise with your urge to refuse payment, we would strongly advise that you resist it.

Please e-mail [info@shra.co.uk](mailto:info@shra.co.uk) or call 07770-621368 and we will get back to you.

► **11 September - Quad Bikes on Harbour waste ground (Site 7 - alongside Pacific Drive) get Section 59 warning** - if caught again by Police the vehicles can now be seized and it will cost £150 to recover each one. Please report any vehicles using this site to PCSO Martin Hylands ([e-mail](#)) or telephone 0845 60 70 99 Ext 14462. [Further info...](#)

► **01 September - Medical Centre Plans Approved** - the Public Gallery of the September meeting of the EBC Planning Committee was packed with almost 100



Sovereign Harbour residents anxious to know whether the plans for desperately needed harbour Medical Centre would receive approval. The Planning Officers had produced a comprehensive report, which concluded that, on balance, the benefits to the community outweighed the concerns of the Design Review Panel, and the variation in the use specified for the site in the Borough Plan.

Nigel Waterson MP, Stephen Lloyd and Cllrs. David Elkin and Susan Morris all gave their support to the application, as did SHRA Chairman, Jan Weeks, and other harbour residents. Every representation emphasised the importance to the sustainability of the Sovereign Harbour community and all received applause from the residents in the Public Gallery. The committee could have had no doubt as to the mood in the chamber.

Several members of the committee expressed their personal dislike for the design of the building and then, to the amazement of the residents present, began to nit-pick the details of the design. The application was only approved after the committee chairman, Cllr. Madell, had railroaded the committee into agreeing that the design details should be revisited, and the result put to the Design Review Panel for approval. Considering that the Panel had already rejected the design, and only meets every three months, this can only result in further unnecessary delay to this vital project. It appears that our concerns over possible continued political interference could be correct.

Yes, an iconic, landmark building would be great, but harbour residents just aren't prepared to wait another twenty years for it, we need it NOW!!

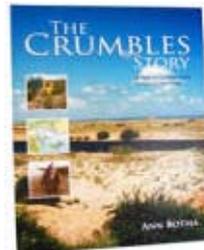
► **28 August - Advertising hoardings removed** - the large adverts that Premier fixed to the railings at The Waterfront without planning consent have been removed. This follows complaints from SHRA and residents that the adverts disfigured the area and obscured the pleasant views of the harbour from this popular seating spot. [The Herald has the full story...](#)



► **26 August - New South Harbour landmark.** Intrigued by the appearance on a private terrace overlooking the outer harbour of a large, globe-like weather vane surmounted by a galleon in full sail, SHRA asked the owner for its story. We were surprised to learn that the galleon was rescued from the rubbish bin. [Click here to read its history...](#)



► **25 August - The Crumbles Story - back in stock** - Where did the rock of the harbour arms come from? What was the Crumbles Railway? What is the wreck visible at low tide? We have a limited number of signed copies of the very informative paperback book, 'The Crumbles Story' by local author Ann Botha that answers these questions.



If you are interested in the history of the land on which Sovereign Harbour is built, the industry and events that took place on it, and its unique flora and fauna, this book is for you, and at just £7.99, it won't break the bank. The book contains many illustrations in colour and B&W.

To order a copy and pay with your credit card send an email to the webmaster [webmaster@shra.co.uk](mailto:webmaster@shra.co.uk) with your name and address and we'll email you a PayPal payment request (you don't need to have a PayPal account).

Or send a cheque for £7.99, payable to SHRA, with your name and address to:

The Crumbles Story  
SHRA  
PO Box 124  
Eastbourne  
East Sussex BN24 9AW

We will deliver the book to your door, or post it to you if outside the area.

► **18 August - Discount for SHRA members** - The Quayside Dental Practice, which has been in operation at the Waterfront for 7 years, has just launched a new Private Health Centre. The practice is offering a 10% Discount for SHRA members until end of 2010.

Simply present your SHRA membership card at their reception for 10% off any dental treatment, 10% off Podiatry and Osteopathy and Sports Massage Sessions.

► **17 August - East Sussex Vegetated Shingle Management Plan Published** - Vegetated shingle, such as we have along the Sovereign Harbour beach front, at Langley Point and between the harbour and the Sovereign Centre, is an extremely rare habitat. This report shows the current state of these areas, and other similar areas along the E. Sussex coast, and gives advice on the future management of these fragile habitats. [Full Report...](#)

► **09 August - Southern Water still charging for surface water drainage.** In response to complaints from our members that Southern Water is still wrongly charging for surface water drainage, SHRA made a complaint to the Consumer Council for Water about the matter. The complaint also noted that a leaflet issued with water services bills entitled 'All you need to know 2009-2010' gave details of the surface water drainage charge, but failed to address the rebate procedure.

A reply has now been received from a member Southern Water's 'Directors' Revue Team'. Significantly, it re-confirms that nobody who lives on the harbour should be paying for surface water drainage.

So, check your bills and, if there is a charge of £22 for surface water drainage, call 0845-272-0845 to claim your rebate. You will be told that you can only claim for the current year but, because SW has knowingly been charging in error, you should insist that all previous payments are refunded. [Click here to read the full reply](#) (includes SW's Complaints Procedure leaflet).

► **05 August - Insulation Grants and Discounts** - we recently heard from a resident that their property did not have cavity wall insulation. Being over 60 he was able to have it installed free of charge via a grant from East Sussex Energy Partnership. Grants or discounts for other energy-saving works are available for everyone. Click here for info sheet. Visit web site [www.eastbourne.gov.uk/energy](http://www.eastbourne.gov.uk/energy)

► **26 June - SHRA meet East Sussex County Councillor David Elkin** - Following the recent open meeting on Community Travel, SHRA representatives met this week with Cllr. David Elkin to discuss some of the issues raised at the meeting (e.g. the long awaited bus gate), and other matters affecting Harbour residents.

SHRA Chairman, Jan Weeks, said: "The meeting with David Elkin was very useful, and there was a frank and open exchange of views on a number of important issues affecting the harbour community."

The discussions focussed on the Health Centre, local travel issues, enforcement of traffic and dog fouling regulations and Government policy on coastal defences and the possible impact on Sovereign Harbour. Past and future planning issues were also discussed, in particular the use of cash provided under section 106 agreements for highway improvements and play areas, and the future of the 'Master Plan' for the final development of the harbour.

David Elkin said: "I'm very keen to make real progress on the issues raised and

look forward to working closely with SHRA to improve the sustainability of the harbour community."

► **20 June - Summary of the open meeting held to discuss Community**

**Transport** - Over 60 harbour residents attended the open meeting SHRA hosted on 18 June to discuss Community Transport.

- The first speaker, Roger Williams, Head of Transport Operations for East Sussex CC, outlined the benefits and pitfalls of Community Transport – that is, bus, dial-a-ride and other services not provided by a commercial transport company.



- The second speaker, Jeremy Cooper, Commercial Director of Stagecoach, explained the restrictions his company currently faced due to the on-going examination by the Competition Commission of their takeover of Eastbourne Buses and Cavendish. The Commission has insisted that services remain unchanged from the date of the announcement of their examination [unfortunately this date was after the old Cavendish routes were withdrawn]. He also explained that the company is reluctant to spend money on new buses or repaints until the Commission reports its findings in September.

- During the Q&A session residents ensured that the speakers were left in no doubt that the current hourly bus services were not adequate, and that evening services would be welcomed. Residents suggested possible route changes and diversions into the harbour to improve the rate of services. They also raised other matters such as dial-a-ride, early morning buses, and having buses arriving in Terminus Road in time for passengers to catch departing trains.

- In summing up, it became clear that a major contribution to more frequent bus services to and from the Harbour would be the opening of the long time talked about cross-harbour bus lane controlled by a bus gate. Both of the speakers, SHRA and Cllr. David Elkin, who also attended the meeting, said they would try to help move this forward.



► **20 June - Lucky usually isn't lost** - as you probably know by now, Lucky, the friendly black cat, is a well known character around Sovereign Harbour and is known to wander far and wide. He has been known to go missing occasionally, but just because he's a long way from home, it doesn't mean he's lost. You can be sure that if there is concern for Lucky's safety, a notice will be displayed on the SHRA notice board and on this web site.



► **13 June - Keep 'em peeled!** - Operators and owners of aircraft and sea going vessels are asked to be vigilant with regard to security issues and matters relating to smuggling (goods & human trafficking). Sussex police have a specialist Small Ports Unit who's purpose is to protect the national security of the UK. The unit is responsible for all sea ports (including marinas) along the Sussex coast. Shoreham Airport, Goodwood Aerodrome and numerous airstrips within the county also fall within its remit. General small ports enquiries should be directed to a member of the unit on 01273 515208 (answerphone outside office hours), or call the 24-hour number 01293 531994. [Click here to visit the Small Ports Unit web site.](#)

► **05 June - ESCC Elections - Sovereign Results**

Sovereign (Turnout 39.8%)

David Elkin (Conservative)	1184
Susan Morris (LibDem)	989
Rick Runalls (Independent)	809
Patricia Porte (UKIP)	343
Harry Boys (Green)	117
David Mieres (Labour)	68

► **01 June - SHRA submits comments on Eastbourne Buses merger** - the Competition Commission is investigating the competition aspects of the takeover of Eastbourne Buses and Cavendish by Stagecoach. SHRA has responded to their call for evidence. [Read SHRA's letter here...](#)

► **24 May - Hopefully we'll have some news for you youngsters and middle-aged soon** - in the meantime for the Harbour's seniors, babyboomers and old hippies here is some good [advice from EBC and the Food Standards Agency on healthy eating for older people](#). Actually, it is good advice for all ages. Peace and love man!



► **23 May - Beachy Head open-top bus tour now free for seniors** - The City Sightseeing open-top bus circular tour to Beachy Head now accepts senior citizen bus passes. Leaves from outside the pier on the hour and the half hour for a bracing round trip.

► **13 May - Sovereign Harbour developer bans ball games** - interesting piece in The Herald today about Fisherman's Village developer banning ball games after canvassing views of residents. [Read it here...](#)

► **02 May - Walking for Wellness from Sovereign Harbour** - A year ago Age Concern Eastbourne started a weekly Monday morning short walk from the Lifeboat Museum (10.00 am start) to the Pier which attracted a core group of people who attend come rain or shine! The walk is aimed at those who wish to increase their level of activity and exercise in a supported and social environment. It is a very friendly group who openly welcome new members.

The real measure of it's success has been the visible improvement in stamina of most of the walkers, and Age Concern always planned to add an additional, longer route for those ready to walk further.

They now do a 3 mile circular walk from Sovereign Harbour to the Sovereign Centre and back on Thursday mornings. The group meet outside the Bright Ideas shop at the Sovereign Harbour Waterfront at 10am.

► **29 Apr - Health Centre Petition** - Frustrated by the continuing delays in providing a Health Centre for

the harbour, Bermuda Place residents, Carole Penney and Marj Pratt decided that some direct action was needed, so they started a petition in support of Dr Adoki's plans for a facility on Site 7 (the land opposite the current Harbour Medical Practice premises).



To launch the petition, Carole, Marj and a few friends met on the proposed site for a 'photo opportunity' and soon attracted a number of passers-by who joined in with them. The residents then added their signatures to the petition, which was left at the Harbour Medical Practice reception.



► **24 Apr - Sovereign Harbour Residents Association (SHRA) meet with Eastbourne Borough Council (EBC)** - on 14th April Jan Weeks and Rick Runalls of SHRA met with Councillors David Tutt and Susan Morris of EBC to explore opportunities for a positive working relationship.

This followed the Annual General Meeting of SHRA at which members asked that an attempt be made to re-establish a productive dialogue with EBC after a period during which relationships had become strained.

The meeting was positive and it is hoped will provide a basis for co-operation on key issues affecting the Harbour community.

► **09 Apr - SHRA's views on letter from Cllr Morris about a Harbour Health Centre** - You will have recently received a personal letter from Councillor Morris, dated 31st March 2009, asking for your views on the location of a Health Centre. [Click here to read a response from SHRA](#)

► **24 Mar - MP Nigel Waterson issues news release on Lib Dem Master Plan** and the provision of Harbour Medical Centre. [Click here to read the news release...](#)

► **18 Mar - Minutes of SHRA AGM published** - the minutes of the AGM held on 12 March have been published on the [Minutes page...](#)

► **27 Feb - Liberal Democrats publish their 'Master Plan'** - Cllr Susan Morris has launched the Liberal Democrats 'Master Plan' consultation document, detailing their ideas for the 11 Sites. [Read the plan...](#) For further info on [the 11 Sites click here.](#)

► **08 Jan 2009 - Balcony victory for Harbour residents** - Sovereign Harbour residents who have been unable to use their rotted wooden balconies because they were unsafe are celebrating this week after town planners finally gave the go ahead to replace them with steel structures. [Full story...](#)

---

- [Home](#)
- [About](#)
- [Join](#)
- [Letters](#)
- [News](#)
- [The Eleven Sites](#)
- [Minutes](#)
- [Contacts ▼](#)
- [Waterlines](#)
- [Events ▼](#)
- [For Sale](#)
- [Gallery](#)
- [Harbour Amenities](#)
- [Harbour Clubs](#)
- [Map](#)
- [Transport ▼](#)
- [Trades](#)
- [Links](#)