



SHRA and Harbour Area News

This page contains 2011 news. [Click here for the news archives.](#)

[Don't miss the local events news and announcements page - click here](#)

If you have a local news story or issue please [e-mail the web manager.](#)

NEW! ▶ **15 March - Dog Poo Fairy Awareness Campaign -** EBC are running a new dog fouling awareness campaign in partnership with [Keep Britain Tidy](#) to encourage dog owners to clean up after their pets. [Click here for details and poster...](#)



Eastbourne has local Dog Control Orders to promote responsible dog ownership. The Orders cover:

- poop scoop requirements
- where and when dogs must be on leads
- areas where dogs are banned.

Under the Poop Scoop Requirements you must bag and remove any mess caused by a dog under your control. Bagged dog mess can be deposited in the special red bins provided or any other official bin. Any person who commits a Poop Scoop offence is liable to prosecution or a fixed penalty fine of £75.

Poop Scoop requirements apply to all land open to the air to which the public have access, including:

- All roads, footpaths, verges, walkways and passageways
- Parks and gardens, including the woodland area of Hampden Park
- Recreation and sports grounds
- Open amenity areas including the downland estate
- Surface area car parks
- Beaches and promenades

[Click here for more info on the Dog Control Orders...](#)

NEW! ▶ **15 March - Harbour Walkers Sign Up -** Local Rotary clubs report that sponsored walkers are signing up to the 5Km walk around Sovereign Harbour they have organised for the morning of **Sunday 17th April 2011**. This community event is not a race but a stroll around the Harbour to raise money for the Help For Heroes charity.



[Click here to visit the event website \[www.h4h.rotarysh.org\]\(http://www.h4h.rotarysh.org\)](#) where you will find further registration details and can download registration forms, maps, sponsorship forms, posters and register on-line.

Latest news from...



Neighbourhood Watch schemes increasing

Planners say people support new supermarket plans

Plans to convert 'hotel' into flats given the go-ahead

Campaign to tackle dog mess problem

Police seek whereabouts of woman in CCTV picture



NEW! ▶ 14 March - Spring Offer From Harbour

Counsellor - As a Spring incentive, professional counsellor and Harbour resident Tory Macdonald, is pleased to offer half-price initial Counselling Consultations until the end of May 2011. SHRA members will also receive a 10% discount on subsequent consultations (usually £40, reduced to £36 per hour). All contact is treated in the strictest confidence. [Click here for flyer and contact details...](#) or visit the web site at: www.listening-to-you.co.uk



NEW! ▶ 12 March -SHRA Response to the Eastbourne Plan

Consultation - On Friday afternoon (11th March) SHRA Chairman, Jan Weeks, and Vice-chairman, Rick Runalls, presented SHRA's formal response to the Eastbourne Plan consultation to the Council, along with a supporting petition containing 1,550 signatures. The document was received on behalf of EBC by the Mayor, Cllr. Carolyn Heaps.



Jan Weeks said, "The Eastbourne Plan, as far as the vision for Sovereign Harbour is concerned, is a flawed document that gives harbour residents absolutely no confidence that anything will change, except for a further reduction in the sustainability of the community.

The negative comments of residents who responded to the online consultation and the number of residents who signed the petition is a clear demonstration of the strength of feeling that exists on the harbour.

The Borough Council and the land owner cannot continue to ignore residents' justifiable aspirations."

Members of the SHRA committee will be meeting with Stephen Lloyd MP and members and officers of the council on 21st March to discuss the issues.

[Click here to read SHRA's response document...](#)



NEW! ▶ 10 March - Good News! -Seniors Free Bus Pass

Start Time Retained -Following representations from [Eastbourne Seniors Forum](#) and [East Sussex Seniors Association](#), the East Sussex County Council (ESCC) Cabinet have agreed to keep the start time for the use of Seniors Free Bus passes at 9 am.



This is great news and will be appreciated especially by Seniors wanting to attend the DGH for early appointments.

Eastbourne, along with other areas in the county, had an earlier start time than many counties but with the Tory cut backs and the move of responsibility to the County Council, this extra time was under threat.

Following lobbying by ESSA and ESF at their regular meetings with executives of ESCC and approaches to Stephen Lloyd MP, this important extra time has been saved.

NEW! ▶ **07 March - Harbour Yacht Beached** - Harbour resident Mick Cox has sent us photos of the yacht *Puffin* beached at Langney Point on Sunday afternoon with the RNLI in attendance and trying to get a line to her.



We don't know the full circumstances of the incident, but there were strong winds blowing on-shore at the time. [Click here for the photos...](#)

NEW! ▶ **05 March - Tax Refund Email Scam** - A couple of residents have asked us to warn others about receiving emails purporting to come from HMRC ([HM Revenue and Customs](#)) saying they are entitled to a tax rebate and to fill in an online application form. The emails and form are actually part of a 'phishing' scam, designed to get you to reveal your bank and credit card details to crooks.



The genuine HMRC never send notifications of a tax rebate by email, or ask you to disclose personal or payment information by email. Any suspect emails received may be reported or forwarded to HMRC at phishing@hmrc.gov.uk

Never give out your bank or credit card details via unsolicited emails, and only disclose them on shopping or other sites you know to be safe and trustworthy. Never, ever disclose any PIN numbers to anyone.

- Check out [Consumer Direct web site](#) for general advice about scams.
 - Check out the [Get Safe Online web site](#) for safe surfing advice.
 - Check out [Financial Fraud Action UK web site](#) for advice on credit card fraud and identity theft protection for consumers, and for retailers and traders.
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NEW! ▶ **04 March - Missing Cat Update** - Sadly, Pat Ferguson's missing cat Hamish has been found dead. Apparently he fell in to the harbour and drowned. Some kind person fished his body out and took him to the vet in Seaside who traced Pat through his micro chip.

~~**MISSING**~~

Pat is very grateful to whoever recovered him and took him to the vet, and says "I tried to find out who it was but they only have 'a member of the public' on their records. If the person concerned is reading this, please accept my grateful thanks; not knowing what had happened to him was so hard. Hamish was a much loved friend and companion."

Pat also wishes to thank all her wonderful neighbours who have been so kind.

NEW! ▶ **03 March - Harbour Part Time Job Vacancy** - Local company require part time person(s) to work on small boat within the inner harbours keeping waterways clear of litter, debris and weed. Some beach cleansing work on foot also required. 4 hours per morning, Monday to Friday.

WANTED

Full company induction training as well as RYA powerboat level 1 training provided. Uniform and Personal Protective Equipment supplied. Initially the position is for six months. There may be an opportunity for additional hours with the company working on other projects.

Please e-mail john@southernlandservices.co.uk with brief c.v. or call: 07734 579 561 for more details.

NEW!

▶ **01 March - Tory Litter Pick** - local Conservative Party members arranged and took part in a litter pick on Pacific Drive last Saturday afternoon. They covered the area from Harbour Quay through Pacific Drive to The Waterfront and left it looking a lot more tidy.



[Click here for a Conservative Party press release and enlarged photo...](#)

NEW! ▶ **26 Feb - Hot Fat Smell** - from a Henley Park area resident comes a report of an obnoxious hot fat smell in the air at lunch times and in the early evening. It is difficult to pin-point where the smell may come from - blown by the wind, in that area it could come from the retail park, the Yacht Club, any one of the Waterfront restaurants or even from a neighbour's extractor.



Our advice to anyone having problems with strong and regular cooking smells is to report it to the Eastbourne Borough Council Environmental Health Team on 01323 415 353 or by emailing them environmentalhealth@eastbourne.gov.uk

If you do report such a problem, it would be helpful if you could please let us know as well, so we can determine how many people are affected and in which areas.

▶ **25 Feb - Police District Commander's Message** - read about the falling crime figures, the new 'Community Resolution' system, and a warning about thieves targeting bank card users at supermarkets. [Click here to read it...](#)



▶ **24 Feb - Update from the Harbour Office** - Premier Marinas would like to inform everyone of the following forthcoming work and events.



- **North Bridge** - We have been experiencing problems with the new surface on the North Bridge. Unfortunately, the freezing and snowy weather conditions in December were unsuitable for the materials used and therefore the contractor will be returning early in the Spring to re-surface the bridge. This may cause a little disruption, mainly to the boating community but I will keep you up to date as and when.

- **Dredging** - This is programmed for the week commencing 28th March 2011 when the dredger *Sospan Dau* will be with us to dredge the outer harbour channel ready for the coming Spring.

- **Open Day - 9th April 2011** - We are planning an open day at the Marina for prospective customers. There will be a Boat Jumble Sale outside the Marina Office, and the Yacht Club will be open for anyone to pop in and see the facilities, and meet some of the Sovereign Harbour Tenants who will be happy to offer any advice regarding the maintenance of vessels.

▶ **19 Feb - CBBC Seek Kids and Family** - The Sussex Safer Roads Partnership (SSRP) tell us that CBBC are looking for 11 - 14 year olds (and their parents) to star in a new show about road safety.



The information from the production company behind the new show is as follows:

"According to road safety charity Brake, in 2009, 12 children under the age of 18 were killed or seriously injured on UK roads...every day. Now in a unique venture, we are giving children the chance to take their parents to task over their poor driving habits and the opportunity to prove to them just how easy it is to be a safe driver.

During an intense fortnight of master classes, under the watchful eye of Approved Driving Instructors, the children and their parents will learn about all aspects of road safety and safe driving.

Parents will be given expert help and training to make them better drivers and their children will also learn first-hand the importance of road safety... when they are put in the driving seat too – always under the watchful eye of the Academy's driving professionals."



Details on how to apply are [on the SSRP website](#) and applications need to be in by **11 March**. SSRP are hoping that the production company will also be interested in using some information from their ground-breaking [ROUTES package](#) as well since it focuses on reducing death and injury amongst this key age-group.

► **17 Feb - Dredger Operations Begin.** As anticipated below, the large dredger *Prins der Nederlanden* has arrived this morning to start pumping its first load of dredged shingle ashore via the temporary underwater transfer pipe.



The deliveries will continue on a daily basis, weather permitting, for a week or more. At times her radio signal is intermittent, but you can often track *Prins der Nederlanden's* position on our [Live Ship Movement page](#) (you'll find her listed in the drop-down vessel list as "Prinsdernederlanden"). She should either be off Eastbourne or picking up shingle off Littlehampton, or travelling between the two.

► **15 Feb - Some Council Tax Banding Reduced** - We were interested to learn that some of the residents of 4/5 bedroom town houses in St. Kitts Drive have received a letter from the [Valuation Office](#) informing them that their Council tax banding is being altered. The banding runs from A (the lowest) to H (the highest).



Apparently a new tenant moved in and challenged why the Council tax band was F when a similar property on another part of the estate was E.

It seems the Valuation Office agreed and have altered the existing entry from F to E and back dated the valuation to the date of moving in. This means residents can expect not only a lower Council tax bill from now on, but also a refund on any over-payments.

On such a large estate with so many similar dwellings it could benefit residents to check on the valuation office website what band their neighbours are in. [Click here to start the on-line search process...](#)

► **15 Feb - Planning Shenanigans** - Documents have come to light that confirm that EBC, without officially informing anyone, changed the boundary of the Sovereign Harbour Neighbourhood (No. 14) after the Local Development Framework (LDF) consultation processes began.



[These 2009 LDF documents](#) clearly show that Kingsmere was firmly designated part of the Langney Neighbourhood (No 8), and that Sovereign Harbour (No 14) was, quite rightly, its own self-contained area.

In the [2010 LDF Eastbourne Plan document](#) Kingsmere has been added to the Sovereign Harbour Neighbourhood (14) in what we believe is a deliberate attempt to boost the Harbour's sustainability figures by having it now contain the Kingsmere Community Centre.

Interestingly, at around the same time as this boundary bending, EBC started the process of moving our Polling Station away from Kingsmere Community Centre because it recognised that it was too far away from the harbour!

► ♥ **14 Feb - High Tides, Pevensey Beach Work, Big**

Dredger - Report from Ian Thomas of Pevensey Coastal Defence Ltd (PCDL) - Although the odd day now begins to hint of spring, we have some significant tides to negotiate before we can look forward to summer.



Two of the **highest springs of the year occur next Sunday and Monday**, and with that in mind we will be starting two dump trucks and an excavator on Thursday morning so they are already here should there be any sudden need to move shingle over the weekend. Small amounts of work are required at 'White Horses'/Sovereign Harbour, Beachlands and Herbrand Walk, and it is likely that we will start at Sovereign Harbour on Thursday.

Currently the forecast is for light winds at the end of the week, but "changeable" from the weekend onward. It is still far too far away to guess what weather we actually might get, but March has produced a significant storm in each of the last three years.

Thursday 17th will also see the start of 200,000 m³ of shingle being pumped ashore at Eastbourne. Dredger *Prins der Nederlanden* is ten times the size of *Sospan Dau* (the dredger used to clear the harbour), and will be pumping ashore more than 10,000 m³ per day via a temporary 1km long pipeline laid on the sea bed.



It is much different from the technique used at Pevensey and makes for quite a spectacle. Discharge starts one hour before high water and last about 4 hours should anyone care to watch.

I will update you on Pevensey progress once works are in progress.

Kind regards

Ian Thomas

Project Manager

Pevensey Coastal Defence Ltd www.pevensey-bay.co.uk

[Click here for a few photos of the beach work in town...](#) beyond the pier where the excavations are deep and the lorries drive up and over the groynes on banked-up shingle.

▶ ♥ **14 Feb - New Member's Discount - Elbrus Tolima**
[Land and Estates Management Ltd](#) of 63 Seaside, Eastbourne BN22 7NE, are offering a 10% discount to SHRA members (landlords and tenants). For details contact them on 01323-419 657 or email info@elbrustolima.co.uk



▶ **10 Feb - For Sale and Wanted Small Ads** - Don't forget we offer a free listing on our '[For Sale](#)' or '[Wanted](#)' pages where you can advertise your goods for sale or 'swaps' and wanted items.



To be honest, we don't seem to generate a lot of sales... whether this is because people are not aware of the service or are just not interested in the items on offer, we don't know. But, it is worth a look now and then to may be spot the odd bargain. On offer at present are such items as hoovers, blinds, telescopes, electrical goods and even a lovely house in France. [Click here...](#)

▶ **09 Feb - Haven School Enlargement** - Statutory notices for the proposed enlargement of The Haven CE/Methodist Primary School from one form of entry to two forms of entry were published on Friday 4 February 2011.



There now follows a four week representation period, after which the Local Authority must determine the notice within two months. A copy of the notice and

the full proposals are available at:

www.eastsussex.gov.uk/yourcouncil/consultation/2010/thehavens/default.htm

► **09 Feb - Torpedo Netted** - The fishing vessel *Royal Sovereign*, which operates out of the harbour, hauled up an old WWII torpedo on Tuesday night. [Full story and photo is on the Premier Marinas blog...](#)



Update from the Neighbourhood Policing Team. The torpedo has been recovered and taken to the harbour's hoist bay where it is currently sitting. It has been declared safe by the authorities; the "warhead" part of it has fallen off sometime ago. Apparently the Redoubt Museum is interested in taking it away for their site.

► **28 Jan - Medical Centre Piling to Commence** - Piling work for the Medical Centre will commence on Monday 14 February and will continue for about two weeks. This essential operation will be quite noisy. Should you have any queries or concerns about this work please do not hesitate to contact the Project Manager Dave Thomas on 07957 366364.



Further information and contact details will be found in the [attached Residents Newsletter](#) issued by the contractors...

► **27 Jan - Eastbourne Beach Management Works Commencing** - The reason for the appearance of the Portacabin offices on Site 1 (see below) is [explained in this EBC leaflet...](#) which gives details of the beach replenishment work that will be carried out at a number of locations along the Eastbourne seafront.



The work is scheduled to be completed by the end of March, and at some times public access to the beach will be restricted because of the heavy plant moving about.

► **26 Jan - Portacabins appear on Site 1** - a local resident has informed us that two Portacabins have appeared on the area of land that was originally designated for the hotel, between the Martello Tower and the water treatment works, and where the fireworks took place last November.



On making some enquiries we have learnt that they are for the use of contractors on an EBC sea defences project. A press release with further details is expected by the weekend.

► **23 Jan - Huge Turnout at Local Consultation Event** - over 460 residents attended the Eastbourne Plan consultation exhibition at The Haven school on Saturday.



Judging by the swarms of voting stickers on the response boards, and by the comments left by visitors on hundreds of post-it notes, the vast majority of those attending left the Planning Officers in no doubt as to their feelings regarding the proposal for 150 additional properties at Sovereign Harbour.

Pictured below are SHRA and Conservative Party members demonstrating their opposition to the proposals outside the school. They collected nearly 440 signatories to a petition calling for no more housing at the Harbour.

It is not too late to comment on the plan. You have until March 11 to write in to EBC or comment on-line. There will be another exhibition event at the **Town Hall**

on February 21st from 2pm-6pm, showcasing all the neighbourhoods and policies detailed in the Eastbourne Plan.

Copies of the Plan and consultation procedures can be found on the Council's website at: www.eastbourne.gov.uk/eastbourneplan or by contacting EBC on 01323 415255. The recent history of the LDF is outlined on [SHRA's LDF page...](#)



► **20 Jan - Bus Link Update** - SHRA continues to apply pressure to get the long awaited bus lane linking the South and North Harbour constructed. The buses-only lane would enter the retail park from the end of Atlantic Drive, cross the car park and join the road that leads to the Pevensey Bay Road roundabout.



A cross-harbour bus route would likely lead to an increase in services, while stops right in the retail park would benefit not only residents, but also the retailers and The Waterfront businesses.

We wrote to Stagecoach about the bus link late last year, and they have now responded. Their letter makes clear that the long-term sustainability of bus services to the Harbour may depend on the construction of the bus lane. [Click here to read letter from Stagecoach...](#)

Also, we understand that a meeting took place in mid-January between representatives of ASDA, Prudential (as landowners) and the County and Borough Councils, all of whom recognised the strong desire for a cross-harbour bus connection and the benefits it will deliver.

Because previously suggested routes for the connection are no longer feasible, the meeting identified a workable alternative that in principle appears acceptable to all parties. If this is confirmed we hope that a firm timetable can be quickly established for delivery of the link.

► **18 Jan - Work Begins on the New Health Centre** -

After years of hope and protest and battles, site leveling and clearance has begun in preparation for the Health Centre build on the parcel of land between Pevensey Bay Road and Pacific Drive, North Harbour (Site 7).

At times we thought it might never happen, so it is good to see the work beginning. [Click here for more photos...](#)



[Click here to watch](#) a short video on YouTube of the activity!

► **15 Jan - More Housing at Sovereign Harbour - Report.** A Report has come to light that was commissioned last year by EBC entitled '*External Review of Sites with Residential and Employment Potential*'. The results of this review, which assessed in particular the economic viability of each site, were used by EBC to complete its evidence base for *The Eastbourne Plan* which has consequences for Sovereign Harbour (see below).



You can download the Report from the EBC web site [by clicking here...](#)

The table commencing on page 26 of the Report, and pages 120 onward, give details of the development proposals and viability findings for 7 sites at Sovereign Harbour. It is worrying that flats are proposed for the majority of these sites, and that the sites are generally considered viable, when there is clearly already a glut of flats on the Harbour.

The proposals, which would probably form the basis of any new 'Master Plan' for the Harbour, also appear to drive a residential bulldozer over land originally intended for the Business Park development, and would completely surround the inner North harbour with buildings.

The proposals in this Report are further evidence of the Council's intention to hoist more residential development on Sovereign Harbour.

► **12 Jan - Sovereign Harbour Veterans (40 plus) Football** - If you are over 40 and still have an interest in playing friendly football matches on Sunday mornings, (winter and summer), with people similar to yourself, the Sovereign Harbour 'veterans' (40 plus) football team would love to hear from you. [Click here for more details.](#)



► **02 Jan - Sovereign Harbour 'Eastbourne Plan' Drop-in Event** - Last month (see 17 Dec below), we announced that the consultation period for '[The Eastbourne Plan](#)' had commenced.

SHRA and EBC hope all Eastbourne residents will have *their* say in the future for *their* town, and EBC's Planning Policy Department have now arranged a drop in-event at Sovereign Harbour and sent us the following article to encourage everyone's participation in this important consultation process.



"Over the next three months until 11th March 2011 a series of consultation events, exhibitions and stakeholder meetings will take place around the Borough.

The Council hopes to engage with residents and businesses in Sovereign and deliver the necessary community infrastructure required. We aim to address existing service provision deficiencies in Sovereign, whilst at the same time increasing access to public transport and levels of employment activity".

'The Eastbourne Plan' will form the basis for the town's future development over the next 15 years. The current consultation and meetings are probably our final chance to have an input over the future development of the Harbour.

SHRA strongly oppose the plans proposal to build 150 more residential properties at Sovereign Harbour, which goes against statements made by the Lib Dems when in opposition. Our opposition to further residential development at Sovereign Harbour is supported by our MP Steven Lloyd [in this letter from him...](#)

There will be an opportunity for Sovereign's residents and businesses to make their comments at the Council's dedicated neighbourhood drop-in event being held in the **Haven School, Atlantic Drive between 10am -2pm on Saturday 22nd January 2011.**

In addition there will be an event held on **February 21st from 2pm-6pm, at Eastbourne Town Hall**, showcasing all the neighbourhoods and policies detailed in the Eastbourne Plan.

Comments on the plan may also be submitted on-line or in writing by 11 March 2011. The [EBC Eastbourne Plan web site](#) has a useful guide on how to respond to the consultation on-line.

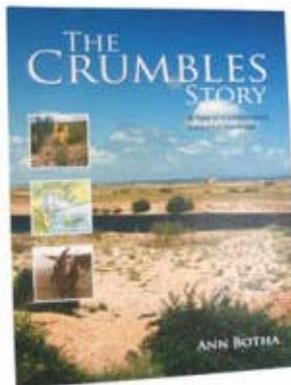
Copies of the Eastbourne Plan can be found on the Council's website at www.eastbourne.gov.uk/eastbourneplan or by contacting EBC on 01323 415255. The recent history of the LDF is outlined on [SHRA's LDF page...](#)

SHRA believes parts of the Plan are flawed and biased against Sovereign Harbour and intends to offer a formal response, but all residents are strongly encouraged to also respond and to submit *their* views on *their* town.

► **The Crumbles Story - available from SHRA** - 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 little 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 on-line with your credit card, send an email to the webmaster webmaster@shra.co.uk and we'll email you a PayPal payment request link (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

The price includes delivery - we will pop your book through your letter box, or post it to you if outside the area.

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