



Centenary of Armistice Day

Members of Rottingdean Parish Council (RPC) are mindful of the significance of Remembrance Sunday and especially this, the Centenary of Armistice Day marking the end of World War One. Furthermore, RPC is conscious of the efforts of the Rottingdean branch of the Royal British Legion to co-ordinate numerous suitable events to honour those that have fallen in the service of their country.

RPC is aware that the Rottingdean branch of the Royal British Legion has decided to withdraw from the organisation of the Beacon on the Beacon event on Sunday 11th November. RPC is not aware of the reasons for this. Given the significance of this date in the national consciousness, RPC wishes to clarify the Parish Council understanding of this situation.

Brighton & Hove City Council (BHCC) has given permission for a Beacon to be lit, subject to certain safety criteria. The Beacon Hill Working Group (BHWG) (a group comprising of some members of RPC) helped confirm the site for the beacon on Beacon Hill and the Friends of Beacon Hill (FoBH) cleared the location for the event. Administrative arrangements have since been made to enable the event to proceed, including a visit by the Sussex Archaeologist.

BHCC outlined the safety requirements applicable to both the site and the event. One requirement is not to burn small metal items, including nails, on the site, on account of environmental concerns and the safety of personnel. A survey relating to heritage aspects of the site was requested and took place, subsequently it has been requested that the burn should take place on a protective covering such as corrugated iron to protect the underlying ground.

RPC is supportive of enabling measures being taken to facilitate this event and also supports appropriate environmental protection and personnel safety conditions being applied. RPC remains happy to help if any obstacle is being placed in the way -that Councillors are currently unaware of - and have powers to remedy.