



Peacehaven & District
Chamber of Commerce

VISITOR'S PACK

A Voice for Local Business



Welcome to the Peacehaven & District Chamber of Commerce

Dear Visitor,

Congratulations on making the first bold move of visiting our member networking group. I know only too well how daunting your first meeting can be, but I hope we all made you feel very welcome.

I have been involved with the Peacehaven & District Chamber of Commerce since I started my company, Clean Cut Gardening in 2006. The Chamber has been an absolute integral part of nurturing and growing my business.

From starting out as being a one-man band in my old Ford Escort Car to expanding to a Multi Van Business, employing staff locally and turning my business into a National Franchise the Chamber and its members have been a huge source of help and support.

As well as the support and camaraderie that the Chamber brings, I have been passed many business leads that have come directly from association with other members of the Chamber. More than ever, I value the relationships that Chamber membership has provided.

I'm still very much on my journey and look forward to welcoming you into the Chamber and learning more about you and your business.

Yours sincerely

Simon Studd

Simon Studd

Chair

Peacehaven & District Chamber of Commerce





Aims & Benefits of the Chamber

The Peacehaven & District Chamber of Commerce is a business networking group and represents the local business community.

Peacehaven & District Chamber of Commerce is a dynamic member-led organisation, working to support the local business community and specifically our network of member businesses. Our aim is to strengthen the position of our members and ensure that the interests of local businesses are heard. We can help any size of company at any stage of development to grow and prosper within the Peacehaven and South Coast area.

Why Join the Chamber of Commerce?

There are lots of good reasons to join the Peacehaven & District Chamber of Commerce, whether you are a local business, a community organisation or a member of the local resident's association. For many members, the Chamber offers a welcome opportunity to get together with like-minded people and discuss the achievements and challenges of business life. The Chamber provides many opportunities to build your network and open up a world of opportunities to raise your profile in Peacehaven and the surrounding area.

Established Organisation

The Peacehaven & District Chamber of Commerce is an established organisation launched in February 2007 by the then Mayor of Peacehaven, Cllr Elayne Merry. The Chamber quickly established itself as the area's premier business support and networking organisation. Since then it has become a respected organisation, representing the interests of local businesses in the South Coast area. Today, membership is drawn largely from Peacehaven and Telscombe Cliffs but as a testament to the strength of the Chamber, members are joining from Newhaven, Seaford, Lewes, Brighton and even as far away as Portslade.

Breakfast Club Networking Meetings

The heart of the Peacehaven & District Chamber of Commerce are our bi-weekly Breakfast Club networking meetings. Held on the first and third Tuesdays of the month, the meeting offers our members the opportunity to relax and enjoy informal networking with fellow members, promote their business and listen to informative and inspirational speakers. The meetings are held between 7:00 and 8:30 in the morning to avoid interfering with your working day.

- Network with business owners in the local area – Building a network of contacts can really help to promote your business. Word of mouth referral is one of the best adverts



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for your business, and by sharing what you do with our members helps them to refer new business to you.

- Promote your business in our one-minute round – Your opportunity to give a brief overview of your business to other members and guests.
- Referrals and Testimonials – Pass referrals to other members and an opportunity to thank and recommend fellow members for work they've done.
- Listen to the speaker of the day – At the end of each meeting, one of our members has an opportunity of showcasing their business in a twenty-minute presentation. Occasionally we invite an outside speaker, to come and give a presentation on topics relevant to the local area and residents.



Online Member's Directory

The Peacehaven Chamber website carries a Member's Directory, which is available to internet users looking for local services. Our members can upload a short overview of their business and the services they offer. The Members Directory has a space for logo and banner images, website & social media links as well as contact details. Inclusion in our online directory creates an association of your brand with the trusted organisation that is the Peacehaven & District Chamber of Commerce, adding credibility to your business as well as helping the search engine optimisation (SEO) ratings of your own website.



Social Media Promotion

The Chamber use social media to promote and publicise events and businesses. Regular updates are posted through Facebook, Twitter and email.

Monthly Information Newsletter

A monthly Newsletter is produced giving members access to all the current information on grants, fundings and items of interest.

Events Board

A monthly Events Board highlighting all upcoming events both social and business.

Spotlight Your Business

A monthly advertisement for members to Spotlight their business in depth which is shared to all members and non-members.

Shape the Future of the Local Area

The Peacehaven and District Chamber of Commerce are heavily involved in shaping the future of our local area. The Chamber regularly provides input to local governmental organisations such as East Sussex County Council (ESCC), Lewes District Council (LDC) and Sussex Police, where we provide a voice for local businesses in meetings. As a member you can share in awareness of local issues and events, and influence key local groups through representation by the Chamber of Commerce, an organisation that represents a unified voice for the local business community.

Seahaven Business Awards

The Seahaven Business awards is a business awards evening jointly run with the Newhaven and Seaford District Chambers of Commerce. The awards evening is an annual event that has been running since 2003 and features an awards ceremony and dinner attended by local business owners, local dignitaries such as mayors of the local towns, the Vietnamese Ambassador to the UK, who has a connection to Newhaven and the Deputy Lord Lieutenant of East Sussex. The awards are centred around seven awards categories from 'business person of the year' through to 'best eatery'. The Chamber encourages its members to apply for the awards, and we have had many successful winning members through the years. Being an award winner provides a major boost to promoting your business. Winners are interviewed on local radio and featured in the local press and can also promote their win by the use of winner's banners on any advertising they do.



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Social Events & Visits to Local Areas of Interest

There's time for a bit of fun too! There have been many Chamber organized social events over the years. Whether organised by the Peacehaven and District Chamber or jointly run with neighbouring chambers such as Newhaven and Seaford Chambers, the events provide a means of socialising and networking with other business owners at an entertaining occasion. Past events have ranged from the competitive, such as golfing days, go-karting or bowls evenings through to informative visits to local sites such as the Rampion Wind Farm or the Newhaven Incinerator. Through our programme of events, you can meet with potential clients and suppliers as well as network with other Peacehaven and South Coast business people who can help you out with information, support and contacts in a fun and relaxing environment.





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Help for your business

Whatever the needs of your business, we can help you find cost-effective solutions that will help your business to thrive. Whether you're looking to start a new venture or develop an existing one, we can provide a one-stop shop for all your business needs.

Membership Clarification

One Business per Membership

When you join the Peacehaven and District Chamber of Commerce, it is your **business** that becomes the member, not the individual. This means that if you operate more than one business and would like to promote each of them—both in our online member directory and during your 60-second pitch slots—**each business would need its own separate membership**.

Of course, if you have multiple businesses but choose to promote only one, that's absolutely fine. In that case, your membership would be associated with that single business, and only that business would appear in the directory and be eligible for your 60 second pitches.

Some of our members do run multiple businesses and choose to take out multiple memberships. This entitles them to have each business listed individually on our website and gives them a 60-second pitch opportunity at breakfast for **each** of their businesses.

If you have any questions about how this works or need help setting it up, feel free to contact any Committee member or alternatively email secretary@peacehavenchamber.co.uk

Joining the Chamber, Annual Fee & Payment Options:

Option 1 - Monthly payment via standing order

Most of our members choose to pay their membership by monthly standing order. A payment of £35 per month includes your payment for breakfast at our bi-weekly Breakfast Club Meetings, which effectively means you're getting your membership fee for free! (Breakfast meetings take place every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month).

Option 2 – Annual payment (Full Membership)

For businesses based in, or supplying products and services to, Peacehaven and the surrounding area.

Single payment of £120.00 paid annually on the date of joining

Option 3 – Annual payment (Affiliate Membership)

For voluntary organisations, not-for-profit sector, charities, schools & colleges, social enterprises.



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Single payment of £60.00 paid annually on the date of joining

For members paying via options 2 or 3

Please note - Your membership fee does not include the cost of your breakfast at our bi-weekly Breakfast Club. The Breakfast Club meetings requiring a cooked/cereal/yoghurt breakfast will require payment of £17.50 (£15.00 for affiliate members) each time you attend. You will be asked to book in advance in the usual way.

To join the Chamber, please visit the Chamber website at: -

www.peacehavenchamber.co.uk/join-the-chamber