

Meeting to consider suggestions for new road names for Battle CP

4th February 2021

Objective

To generate a pool of suitable road names in readiness for times when Battle Town Council is asked for suggestions or wishes to offer alternative names to those put forward by developers.

Present

Kevin Dixon, Rother District Councillor

Glenna Favell, Chairman, Battle Town Council

Jill Gyngell, Chairman, Planning & Transport Committee, Battle Town Council

Amanda Kerr, Wild About Battle

George Kiloh, Battle & District Historical Society

Hazel Sharman, Battle Town Council, Netherfield Ward

Dale Wheeler, Vice-Chairman, Planning & Transport Committee, Battle Town Council

Background

Several developments of varying sizes are planned within the parish, all needing road names. Blackfriars is likely to be the next development to be given planning consent. Although suggestions from developers are invited and considered, the final decision resides with RDC. However, RDC attaches considerable importance to the views of Parish/Town Councils.

Themes

It was noted that RDC favour road names that have a proven historical connection to the land and that preference is given to names that reflect local natural history or the nature of the terrain. Proposals relating to a person's name need to have a historical connection or to be for a commemorative purpose. Suggestions for themes were made and then names were collated under each theme.

Themes

Local features	Local flora and fauna
Local connections	Local people

Features

Windmill	River Brede	River Line
Tannery	Tower	Shaws

Connections

St Valery sur Somme

Flora and Fauna

Campion	Centaury	Cleavers	Loosetrife
Mullein	Saxifrage	Twayblade	Willowherb
Woodruff	Hawthorne	Blackthorn	Hornbeam
Rowan	Elms	Oak	Nightingale
Nightjar	Woodcock	Dormouse	Badger
Pipistrelle			

People

Eliza Acton	Violet Akehurst	Duchess of Cleveland	Edward Cresy
William Frankland	Thomas Pilcher	Lewis Pyke	Sir Francis Ronalds
Samuel Sanders Teulon		Augustus Webster	

Alternative road name suffixes

The RDC draft Street Naming Policy lists the following suffixes:

<i>Street</i>	<i>Road</i>	<i>Way</i>	<i>Place</i>
<i>Lane</i>	<i>Avenue</i>	<i>Drive</i>	<i>Grove</i>
<i>Gardens</i>	<i>Crescent</i>	<i>Close</i>	<i>Hill</i>
<i>Rise</i>	<i>Row</i>	<i>Terrace</i>	<i>Mews</i>
<i>Circus</i>	<i>Wharf</i>		

It was agreed that RDC should be asked to consider suggestions for additional suffixes.

Approach	Croft	Drove	Field
Green	Twitten	View	Walk

Invitation for comment and further suggestions

It is hoped that a short article could be included in the BTC Annual Report, noting that suggestions from our local area would be welcomed. It is important that names should be meaningful and it can be understood where names come from.

Final list

A final list of road names, suggested by residents, will be posted on the Battle Town Council website in order that developers can refer to it when considering names. The list can be added to if further ideas are put forward.

Further thoughts

There was discussion about the Blackfriars development. It was suggested that a flora and fauna theme would suit the whole development, with separate categories for each of the three areas currently being planned and the western area e.g. trees, birds, flowers, animals.

It was wholeheartedly agreed that it should be suggested to RDC that the spine road is named **Lewis Pyke Avenue***.

See appendix

Appendix Where suggestions came from ...

People

Eliza Acton (1799-1858): born at Battle, the first person to write proper cookery books aimed at housewives rather than professional cooks, including recipes for Jews and Catholics. For the first time recipes included weights, volumes, temperatures and times. She'd tasted the lot.

Violet Akehurst (1925-41): lived at 4 Coronation Gardens, joined the ATS very soon after her 16th birthday and posted to AA battery at Richmond, Surrey. Contracted pneumococcal meningitis and died in November. Her military grave is in the cemetery.

Edward Cresy (1792-1858): he was the man appointed, on the petition of ratepayers, to be the health inspector in 1850. He found a terrible state of affairs: no running water and the water used was often contaminated by animal and human waste; sewage flowing anywhere, across the High Street down what's now Western Avenue (at one time Shytteborne Lane) or across people's floors, pigs in houses.... And a rotten state of health – typhus etc etc. His report pulled no punches and within a year there was running water and shortly after that a sewage farm reached by pipes. A few years later the cemetery opened.

William Frankland (1909-2020): medic, pioneer of research into allergies and their connection to over-cleansing.

Thomas Pilcher (c1556-1587): born at Battle, he fled the country to become a Catholic priest in France, came back to England but was imprisoned. Released on condition he never returned, he did so, no doubt in disguise. On the second trip he was recognised, tried for high treason and hanged, drawn and quartered in Dorset. There are horrible accounts of how it was done.

Lewis Pyke (1887-1961): farmer, took lease of Blackfriars in WW1, bought it from the Abbey in 1924 and farmed there to his death. Was commemorated in name of Pyke House next to the Chequers, which it is assumed he bought and covenanted it for an educational purpose. He was also the convener of the meetings in 1950 that set up the Historical Society.

Sir Francis Ronalds (1788-1873): scientist and inventor, retired to Battle and is in the cemetery. Best known for an early form of electric telegraph, the first to work, but it was turned down by the Government.

Samuel Sanders Teulon (1812-73): notable Victorian architect of Netherfield church and old school. Well-known for churches and country houses, embracing the neo-Gothic style. The only well-known architect working at Battle

Both **Augustus Webster** and the **Duchess of Cleveland** were custodians of Battle Abbey.

Granville Coghlan (1908-83): British Lions Rugby Union player, played on a Lions Tour in 1927.

Frank Chacksfield (1914-95): popular pianist, composer and arranger of easy listening music in the 50s and 60s in Britain and internationally. He had chart success in the very early years of the charts. There is a section in the museum dedicated to him.

Features

Tower - the old water tower in Netherfield

Tannery - was on the current filling station/Tesco site in Battle

Rivers - Blackfriars feeds into the River Brede, Lilybank feeds into the River Line