

Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations, 2nd – 5th June 2022

Bexhill Beacon, Galley Hill, Bexhill



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HM The Queen was crowned on 2nd June 1952 and to mark the 70th Anniversary various public celebrations will be organised across the UK and Commonwealth.

The Bank Holiday that would have fallen on Monday 30th May 2022 has been moved to Thursday 2nd June and an extra Bank Holiday created on Friday 3rd June, giving UK residents a 4-day long weekend over which to celebrate.

This Report only deals with The Bexhill Beacon on Galley Hill.

It is planned, in line with previous Jubilee celebrations, that a series of Beacons will be lit across the country at a specified time on Thursday 2nd June. For the Diamond Jubilee, when over 4,000 Beacons were lit, the time was between 22.00 and 22.30 with Her Majesty lighting the last one at 22.30.

There was a requirement for local groups to register their Beacon before a certain date to be included within the national scheme and I expect the same to apply for 2022.

The Government through the DCMS will be issuing further directions throughout the year.

The Beacon on Galley Hill was donated by The Bexhill Old Town Preservation Society to Rother District Council, which also owns the land upon which it stands.

Together with another resident of Bexhill, I have registered with Rother District Council our intention to hold a non-commercial public event between 20.00 and 23.00 at Galley Hill on 2nd June 2022 which will include lighting The Beacon.

It will be a simple, dignified and respectful event to mark this historic occasion and at this stage will include only a choir and a piper. Although this may change, I am determined that it will not include fireworks, stalls, rides etc. It may be that other groups in the town will organise other events during the day and I would expect that there will be some street parties.

Rother District Council have held our application(s) in abeyance to give Bexhill Town Council first refusal as it were, to hold their own event.

He and I are seeking the views of the Town Council on this event and also offer to lead organising it on behalf of the Town Council, should that be agreed.

Brian DRAYSON, Councillor for Kewhurst Ward, Bexhill Town Council