



# EAST PRESTON PARISH COUNCIL

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**MINUTES:** of the Proceedings of the Monthly Meeting of East Preston Parish Council held on Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2017 at the East Preston Infant School, Lashmar Road, East Preston

**PRESENT:** Councillors Christine Barber, Lisa Duff, Joop Duijf (Chairman), Pat Gander, Elizabeth Linton, Glyn Mathias, Rick McElroy, Danny Shah and Hazel Tester

**ALSO:** Clerk to the Council, Simon Cross

West Sussex County Councillor Peter Evans (until 19:59)

Arun District Councillors Ricky Bower, Terry Chapman and Mike Clayden (all until 20:12)

Arun District Councillor Roger Elkins (Ferring Ward) (until 19:59)

Five members of the public

**ABSENT:** Councillors Barbara Gale, Paul Kelly, David Moore and Steve Toney

\* \* \* \* \*

Cllr Duijf opened the meeting at 19:00. Cllr Duijf welcomed those present and reminded them of some items of meeting protocol.

## **251/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology and a reason for absence had been received from Cllrs Gale, Kelly, Moore and Toney.

## **252/17 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

None.

## **253/17 PUBLIC SESSION**

(Items below marked **No Agenda Item** are raised at the discretion of the Chairman.)

**No Agenda Item** – As a member of and on behalf of the Collage Reinstatement Campaign, Mrs Denton read the following statement to the meeting:

“As you may be aware our local W.I.s are still very concerned about the non-return of the Collage to the Village

Hall, and in view of the apparent belief of the Village Hall committee that we – Collage Reinstatement Campaign – are the only ones “still harping on about the Collage”, we thought it a good idea to prove to the Parish Council that the Village Hall committee are so wrong about this.

“I was invited by Yvonne Price – Federation Chairman of the W.I. for West Sussex – to come and address those attending their Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March meeting. There were at least 60 people in the Conservative Hall.

“I expressed our thanks for their continued support and for their strong and expressive letter recently addressed to the Parish Council.

“I left copies of our latest letter to the Village Hall committee, a final attempt to persuade them to do the right thing, together with copies of the responses from Christine Merrington-Trice and Claire Carwithen.

“I explained the council are the custodians of the Village Hall, and Village Hall committee are the tenants, with joint trusteeship, and pointed out that the only ones who can remedy this situation are the Parish Council.

“I also confirmed the message given to them by Yvonne Price at the beginning of the evening that the Collage was now hanging TEMPORARILY in the library. At this point there were many why’s – oh no’s – that’s not right and some of the other comments were:- “So few people use the library” – and by the way a librarian on duty said not many people had noticed it and no-one had asked about it?? “It won’t be seen by many people compared to the hundreds who use the village hall every week” and “Why doesn’t the council do something?”

“Four ladies came up to me at the end to say they lived in Rustington and come to our Village Hall a few times a week to attend various classes, but of course they would not be visiting the library, they knew about the collage which they have missed and now won’t be seeing.

“Other Village Halls have collages or pictures depicting the history of their village. Also any visitor to East Preston will not see the collage and therefore our residents are denied the opportunity of proudly showing them the history of our village.

“The Schedule states that the Village Hall is held on trust by the Parish Council for the purposes of a Village Hall for use and benefit or the public generally and especially for the residents of East Preston.

“Does this Parish Council honestly not realise the strength of feelings there obviously is for the return of the Collage and people are certainly not placated with the collage being in the library?

“Is it right that six or seven people are dictating to so many people in the village as to what happens to our Village Hall and Collage?

“I have two more meetings with the other W.I.s at which I will be giving the same information and asking them for their feedback.”

**Agenda Item 11a – Amenities Committee** – Mrs Akhurst stated the Planning Application (EP/42/17/PL) for the refurbishment of the Sea Road toilet block was now open for comment on the Arun District Council website. Mrs Akhurst asked if she could have certain information relating to the fig tree outside the toilet block to enable her to comment upon this in her response to the Planning Application. Mrs Akhurst asked for the location of the visible signs of decay, how and where the heartwood is compromised, which branches are susceptible to branch failure, the length of time covered by “short” and “medium” term, and details of the tree’s entries in the council’s annual tree surveys and other relevant information since 2012. The Chairman agreed this information could be provided to Mrs Akhurst.

**Agenda Item 13a – Community Engagement Committee – Community Speed Watch** – referring to clause 2g of the proposed Terms of Reference for the council’s Community Speed Watch team, Mrs Akhurst asked whether there could be patrols in Sea Road, specifically in the area of the shops immediately to the north of the junction with Vermont Drive. Mrs Akhurst again expressed concern about the collection of surface water during heavy rainfall outside these shops. This thoroughfare was widely used by pedestrians of all ages and fast-moving vehicles caused water to cascade on to the pavement.

**No Agenda Item** – Mrs Wallace read the following statement as a member of and on behalf of the Collage Reinstatement Campaign (CRC):

“As agreed by the Parish Council and the Village Hall, some effort has been made to encourage more volunteers and representatives to join the Management Committee of the Village Hall.

“We sincerely hope that these measures will be successful as it is evident that there is greater need of representation from users of the Hall and inhabitants of the Village. More transparency and accountability is vital and the contribution of feedback, suggestions and advice from a wider group will create a more satisfactory situation. While it is good to invite a response to hirers along with their invoices, posters asking for expertise in various skills from prospective volunteers may well be off-putting as well as unnecessary. It needs to be said that all trustees should be appointed representatives, elected individuals or co-opted (to be elected at the on-coming AGM).

“Each year there should be at least two ordinary management meetings apart from the Annual General Meeting. Annual Hirers’ meetings finally have proved to be insufficient in informing the village at large about what is going on. An example of this is that no-one outside of the committee has any idea how much the recent refurbishments cost or had any opportunity of input.

“Is it finally agreed that if the Trust Deed is adhered to, the way forward is clear and the Village Hall must be more accountable to the Parish Council and give more regular information to the Village, who after all own the Village Hall and have the right to know?

**No Agenda Item** – Mrs Amoo spoke as a member of and on behalf of the Collage Reinstatement Campaign (CRC):

“The Village Hall Foundation insists that the re-hanging of the collage in the Village Hall is a matter of Health and Safety. We, the Re-instatement Campaign, have provided them and the PC with a reputable surveyor's report, a reputable builder's report (in fact the same builder the council have seen fit to use to hang it in the library) as well as remarks from a health and safety expert all indicating that it would be perfectly safe if installed correctly.

“We now have a letter from the Arun District Council Director of Services saying "The Council (Arun) has not stopped the collage from being reinstated, and has provided advice on what steps would need to be taken to safely do so," also "I am sure that the collage could be re-hung if appropriate steps were taken to do so" further "To have the collage re-hung; you would need to convince those in control of the premise in which you seek to have it erected, to do so."

“We have demonstrated to this council that the collage is or was a fixture as are the kitchen units and in terms of the trust deed, the VHF should have sought the PC's agreement to remove it. When is the council going to take this matter in hand and insist that the collage be re-hung in the Village Hall?”

## **254/17 COUNCILLOR RESPONSES**

The Clerk responded to the point about the wording of the statement beside the Millennium Wall-hanging at the library. The wording in the statement, something both the library and the CRC had said was necessary, was chosen as it detailed the official reason the Village Hall had stated in its letter dated 21<sup>st</sup> October 2015 for returning the wall-hanging to the Parish Council.

The Chairman supported the Clerk’s comment. He carried on to say he was aware there were groups within the village who wanted to have representation on the Village Hall committee. He had not seen the letter from the ADC Director of Services. He also said getting the wall-hanging reinstated in the Village Hall was not a simple, overnight matter.

Cllr McElroy confirmed all regular hirers had been sent a letter inviting them to join the committee. This letter had also been sent to organisations still existing from the original lease.

Mrs Wallace reminded the meeting the lease allowed for representation from new organisations with similar aims.

The Clerk advised the meeting Sussex Police had to authorise all Community Speed Watch locations in the area and one of the criteria was advance visibility of the team. Two locations had been approved in Sea Road – adjacent to the north-west corner of the Village Green for traffic heading south and the footpath outside the Village Hall for northbound traffic. (Clerk’s Note: an email from Sgt Pipkin of Sussex Police, 25<sup>th</sup> August 2016, advised there was no set distance but the patrol needed “to be obvious to drivers. They should be 50m from a junction”)

## **255/17 WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL (WSCC)**

County Cllr Evans opened by announcing the plans to expand the East Preston Infant and Junior Schools, for which a drop-in session was planned for Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> April. Most people at the meeting knew nothing about this plan although Cllr Tester had that day received a letter dated 14<sup>th</sup> March inviting her to the drop-in session.

Cllr Evans said he was hopeful building work would start this summer – no building contract length was yet known. Cllr Evans believed the expansions would be brick-built. The expansion will allow for three-form entry and would expand the capacity of the Infant School to 270 pupils and the Junior School to 360 pupils – 90 pupils per year group. There was also provision for a free school for 210 pupils “somewhere in the area”. Cllr Evans explained it was cheaper to expand an existing school than to provide a new one. The Junior School was to become a [Schoolworks](#) Academy from May of this year.

Several councillors expressed concerns about the increased traffic the expanded schools were likely to generate. Cllr Evans said a new Travel Plan would be in place for the expanded schools.

The Clerk asked what was the future of the temporary building erected at the Infant School as part of Planning Application, WSCC/047/15/EP? Cllr Evans replied he had only been part of the planning discussions since last Thursday and was not yet familiar with all the details of the application.

District Cllr Bower restated his alarm at the planned expansion of East Preston’s schools, primarily to enable them to take in children living in new developments in south Angmering. He welcomed any modernisation of East Preston schools but remained alarmed at the prospect of such young pupils having to cross the Roundstone Level Crossing whether by car, bike or on foot. It was just not a safe option when a new school could be built in Angmering, perhaps the free school already mentioned by Cllr Evans. ADC had been in discussions with WSCC about the Infrastructure Delivery Plan which mentioned provision of six new primary schools and one new secondary school, all in Arun, but this expansion had not been mentioned in that meeting. Cllr Evans replied ADC had been provided with a document about schools provision by WSCC in February. District Cllr Chapman confirmed ADC was not aware of the expansion of the two schools and he had even been at a meeting with a senior WSCC officer who had failed to mention the plans.

With reference to communications, Cllrs Duff and McElroy confirmed both schools had communicated with parents about the expansion plans and the drop-in session. Junior School parents had been kept informed about the change to Academy status too.

There was concern about the lack of clarity on the drawings of where there would be lifts in the next two-storey sections of the buildings.

Cllr Evans moved on to remind those present of the County Council elections taking place on 4<sup>th</sup> May. Those not yet registered to vote had until 13<sup>th</sup> April to do so, via the ADC website.

West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service was recruiting retained firefighters.

The elderly can get extra help with heating grants. The eligibility criteria had recently been relaxed somewhat making more people eligible.

WSCC finally had its own Coroner’s Court, in Crawley.

The Chairman made the following speech to Cllr Evans: “If I am now properly informed this is your last attendance as a WSCC councillor before you and Margaret retire very soon. I presume you are looking forwards to this but I hope you will miss our sometimes awkward questions and do not forget you are always welcome.

“You have been a ward member of East Preston and Ferring and were elected to West Sussex County Council in 2005. You, if you could, visited our Full Council meetings and informed us what was going on, not always what we wanted to hear but nevertheless useful information to make our role sometimes a bit easier from what you told us. As you know without information you cannot function properly.

“You have been involved in Public Service since 1999. You have been a Cabinet Member for Public Protection and for the last five years or so as Cabinet Member for Children – Start of Life.

“For WSCC you served on the Strategic Planning and Public Protection Select Committee, appointed the Older People’s Champion for West Sussex and recently became Deputy Mayor of Chichester City Council.

“You filled your life with being Chairman of the Ferring Conservative Association, Chairman of the East Preston and Ferring Youth Clubs, and Governor of Ferring Primary School and The Littlehampton Academy.

“You have been involved in the Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee and the Joint Eastern Arun Area Committee. And not to forget Arun Health and Wellbeing Board, Local Government Association and many more. Safer Arun Partnership, the West Sussex Countryside Trust, Duke of Edinburgh’s Award County Committee do not sound unfamiliar to you.

“All with all, I wonder how you found the time to marry Margaret in 2014.

“We appreciate your involvement and efforts to make East Preston a better and safer place to live, thank you for that. And finally, a big thank you and we hope you have a wonderful retirement.”

Cllr Evans responded he had always enjoyed East Preston and thanked the parish council for being the voice of the community and for being willing to stand up and give time and effort in public service.

(Cllr Evans and Mr Elkins left at the completion of this item.)

## **256/17 ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL (ADC)**

District Cllr Bower said ADC had approved the latest version of the Arun Local Plan as ready for consultation. The housing figure had been set to 919 units per annum, which was almost double the initial figure proposed by ADC a few short years ago. As mentioned at the last meeting, Cllr Bower had met with Gavin Barwell, Housing and Planning Minister last week. Mr Barwell had appeared receptive to the problems ADC will experience with increased housing numbers. Mr Barwell wanted to explore further the Strategic Infrastructure Fund which allowed Local Planning Authorities such as ADC to borrow money upfront for the provision of improved infrastructure and then reclaim that money from developers.

Cllr Bower said the inability for local builders to meet the proposed target had been flagged on numerous occasions. He believed 840 units had been built in 2016. ADC was looking work with major developers to break up their sites so smaller building companies could get involved and build some properties here and there.

District Cllr Chapman said ADC had increased cemetery fees by 5% year-on-year for three years after which the fees would be reviewed. As more and more cemeteries fill and are closed, the upkeep costs falling on the District Council increased.

ADC was about to undertake a large drainage project for the outfalls from the Willowhayne estate. The outfalls were installed in 1933 and possibly last inspected in 1947. Currently they were about 33’ below the shingle level. The project would leave the outfalls buried as they appeared to work well that way.



On 11<sup>th</sup> April, ADC would be opening a new adventure golf course at Norfolk Gardens. Cllr Chapman urged those present to sample the Norfolk Gardens café for themselves as it has been partially-refurbished by the council's grounds contractor with further welcome refurbishment to follow.

District Cllr Clayden added taxi fares would remain the same for the coming year, at the request of taxi drivers themselves.

(Cllrs Bower, Chapman and Clayden left at the completion of this item.)

## **257/17 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2017**

The draft Minutes had been circulated on 8<sup>th</sup> March asking for comments by 15<sup>th</sup> March. No comments or suggestions had been received.

A deletion suggested by Mrs Akhurst was accepted, following which:

**1084** The Council **RESOLVED** unanimously the Chairman could sign the Minutes as a true record of the meeting that took place on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

This action was completed and Cllr Duijf thanked the Clerk for the Minutes.

## **258/17 UPDATE ON MATTERS IN THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

Council NOTED the following report which had been circulated in advance of the meeting:

### **Monthly Update Report**

1. **Introduction**
2. **Minute 163/17 – West Sussex County Council – road surfacing**
3. **Minute 167/17 – Planning & Licensing Committee**
4. **Minute 169/17 – Millennium Wall-hanging Working Party – installation in East Preston Library**
5. **Minute 171/17 – Angmering Parish Council – Roundstone Level Crossing fingerpost**
6. **Minute 172/17 – Commonwealth Day**
7. **Minute 173/17 – Arun District Council - Streetnaming**
8. **Minute 174/17 – Item 9 – Things we have been asked this month**

#### 1. **Introduction**

This is the report covering items discussed during Full Council meetings up to and including the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

#### 2. **Minute 163/17 – West Sussex County Council – road surfacing**

At the West Sussex County Council Parish and Town Council lunch held on 17<sup>th</sup> March, Cllr Duijf advised the cabinet minister for Highways & Transport of the need for a complete resurfacing of the route of the 700 bus service. See Cllr Duijf's report at Agenda Item 17b below for more details.

#### 3. **Minute 167/17 – Planning & Licensing Committee**

The Planning Application to build four flats and four maisonettes on the site of Tudor Lodge in Sea Road has been refused Planning Permission by Arun District Council. The full details of the Refusal can be found in Minute 185/17 of the Planning & Licensing Committee meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> March.

4. **Minute 169/17 – Millennium Wall-hanging Working Party – installation in East Preston Library**

Following the resolution by this council “to approve expenditure of £264 including VAT to install the wall-hanging in East Preston Library temporarily”, Mrs Amoo wrote to the council:

Dear Sir

I should like to inform all the councillors of how bitterly disappointed I am with the outcome of the vote on whether to spend £264 of Council funds to hang the millennium collage in the library albeit "temporarily".

The councillors are "deemed to have been elected" yet not one chose to represent the majority view (more than 300 parishioners). The decision of the full Council now means that a minority view enjoys almost the unanimous support of our elected representatives. I do not believe that this is how democracy works.

Yours  
Celeste Amoo

The wall-hanging was installed in the library on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March, and below is a photograph of Cllr Duijf and library Cluster Manager, Jane Chilton in front of it:



The wall-hanging has been added to this council’s insurance policy covering loss or damage – a nominal value of £1,000 is in the policy as it would be almost impossible to calculate the value of the hours necessary to recreate the wall-hanging. The installation is covered by the insurance for installers Seth Evans Joinery Ltd. and will be checked annually.

On 19<sup>th</sup> March, I was asked by Mrs Wallace to circulate to all councillors the following email sent by the Collage Reinstatement Campaign to the Village Hall Foundation Committee:

Dear Chairman and Members of the East Preston Village Hall Management Committee

We would like to clarify our Position.

The only reason for this campaign is to return the Collage to its rightful place in the Miller Barn.

We have repeatedly acknowledged the effort your Committee gives to the upkeep of the Hall and fully appreciate any improvements made, although it must be said that change is not always better for everyone.

The deposition of the present committee is certainly not our aim, although the lack of transparency and accountability from a minimal body of people is disturbing and has caused us to question practices in the administration of the Foundation. In our probing to seek for the truth in the matter and discover how this situation came about, your committee may have been caused discomfort and even annoyance, but any agency which serves the public must expect scrutiny.

We have pressed to meet with the Committee to share information and discuss the subject which was declined.

The fact that the Committee was returned at the AGM does not mean that the decision to remove the Collage was acceptable, but simply that there were no nominations willing to join your committee or stand against you, which is not surprising in such an unfriendly climate.

We know of no one who objects to the Collage being returned. If there are individuals disliking the Collage on aesthetic grounds, it does not mean they think it should be removed. Morally, they do accept the will of the majority.

Our only motive for pursuing this matter is to see democracy in our community, showing respect for the wishes of the inhabitants of East Preston.

The Collage Reinstatement Campaign

5. **Minute 171/17 – Angmering Parish Council – Roundstone Level Crossing fingerpost**

I sent Angmering Parish Council a letter on 10<sup>th</sup> March advising this council would contribute £582.50 upon completion of the work providing “the existing East Preston R D C roundel is refurbished and reinstated and the works are completed before 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017.” The initial response from the Deputy Clerk of Angmering Parish Council was, “Many thanks for this. I don’t anticipate difficulty in meeting either of those conditions. We’ll keep you informed.”

6. **Minute 172/17 – Commonwealth Day**

Cllr Duijf duly raised the Commonwealth Flag on Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> March, following the reading of the Commonwealth Affirmation by Noah Amoo. A small number of residents attended the short event as did Cllr Toney.

Here are a couple of photographs from the event:



7. **Minute 173/17 – Arun District Council - streetnaming**

Council received the following email on 13<sup>th</sup> March:

Hello Simon

I sent a couple of emails and phoned the developers’ office but, unfortunately, no luck with Honeywood Close and we have registered the site as Bradbury Close. I agree with you that at least an alternative was suggested and we did try.

Kind regards

Jayne  
Senior Data Matching Assistant and Address Management Coordinator



8. **Minute 174/17 – Item 9 – Things we have been asked this month**

The East Preston Butchers re-opened on Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

27<sup>th</sup> March 2017

**Minute 172/17 – Commonwealth Day** – Cllr Duijf said he was disappointed to see so few councillors at Commonwealth Day as six had said at the last meeting they would attend. Similar disappointment could be said about Beach Clean No. 9 on 2<sup>nd</sup> April and the tree-planting at the Warren Recreation Ground earlier on the day of the meeting.

**259/17 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

The Accounts for March 2017 had been distributed to Members in advance of the meeting. One question was asked and answered about an Outstanding Purchase Order.

- 1085** The council **RESOLVED** unanimously to approve the outstanding Purchase Orders report for 2016/17, value £6,299.98.
- 1086** The council **RESOLVED** unanimously to approve the Late Payments report for February 2017, value £260.81.
- 1087** The council **RESOLVED** unanimously to approve the Supplier Invoices Paid report for March 2017 totalling £24,799.16 including VAT.
- 1088** The council **RESOLVED** unanimously to approve the List of Sales Receipts & Bank Receipts by Bank report, showing £257,513.35 net for the financial year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017.

The council NOTED the paper Bank Reconciliation to 14<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

The council NOTED the 2016/17 Budget Summary to date without comment.

**260/17 REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

The council NOTED the following three reports which had been circulated in advance of the meeting:

**Committees**

Since the last meeting, the following committee meetings have taken place: Amenities on 20<sup>th</sup> March; Audit & Governance on 13<sup>th</sup> March; Community Engagement on 27<sup>th</sup> March; and Planning & Licensing on 13<sup>th</sup> March. Draft Minutes from all these except Community Engagement have been circulated to all councillors.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

27<sup>th</sup> March 2017

**Amenities Committee**

The committee considered an offer from Mrs Wilkinson of Sea Lane to provide a wooden post and rail for a small piece of southern fencing adjacent to Mrs Wilkinson's property. The committee considered this offer but agreed to stick with the metal railings and concrete posts as per the rest of the southern boundary.

I reported this back to Mrs Wilkinson who replied, "Thank you for letting me know the outcome. I must say I'm very disappointed. East Preston continues to become urbanised to the detriment of the area. I'd appreciate this sentiment being conveyed to the council."

Tracy Khoo – **Assistant Clerk to the Council**

22<sup>nd</sup> March 2017

## **Community Engagement Committee**

The committee met on 27<sup>th</sup> March.

The meeting was also attended by Mike Johnson of Intavisual who discussed the council's requirements of its sound kit and make suggestions as to how the existing kit can be used more effectively. The meeting agreed Mike should provide a formal quote for the additional kit he believed necessary. Mr Johnson also made reference to the need for all councillors to be aware of how they are speaking – he has often found those people who believe they do not need to use microphones because they can be heard tend to tail off whilst speaking.

The committee continued to consider the suggestion from the Finance & General Purposes Committee about hiring out this council's Community Speed Watch equipment. On the understanding there was probably little call from other groups to hire the equipment, the committee agreed to hire out the equipment only when a request was received from Sussex Police. The committee agreed some Terms of Reference for the Community Speed Watch team and these are at Agenda Item 13a below for agreement by council. The committee noted the stats recorded by the team since the beginning of the year and these will be included in the Minutes of the meeting.

The committee agreed to run a playscheme with ACCelerate during the Autumn half-term. The likely date is Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> October but we are waiting for ACCelerate to confirm. The committee also agreed to run a Track Party at the end of the summer holidays – likely date is Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> September but we are waiting for the suppliers to confirm.

During the Festival, the council will be running two events. On Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> June the council will re-run its successful *Come and Meet Your Local Councillors* event in the morning, and two days earlier, the council is handing over the Village Green for a visit from former East Preston business, *Owls About Town*. Councillors' support at both these events is crucial and if you have not already answered Simon's 20<sup>th</sup> March email about your availability, please do so as soon as possible.

On Wednesdays in June, the council will be running some free tennis coaching events for adults. These are being run in conjunction with the Angmering-on-Sea Lawn Tennis Club.

The Food & Drink Festival and the Christmas Celebrations events are both progressing nicely. Just a reminder, the Food & Drink Festival is on 26<sup>th</sup> August and the Christmas Celebrations will be on 25<sup>th</sup> November.

Cllrs Duff and Gander are going to complete a National Lottery application for funding of a 24/7 defibrillator for use at the southern end of the village. We have been given some advice for this by Community Heartbeat Trust.

The committee reconsidered a suggestion councillors should be given official slips of parking they could use when they come across inconsiderate parking. The committee continued to agree this was not a sensible idea as such slips would most likely be ignored, would be left as litter and could put councillors at risk of at least verbal abuse.

The committee considered correspondence received about the difficulty some residents had in reading some articles in the Winter 2017 newsletter. Prior to the meeting, Simon had asked our printers/designers to comment upon the correspondence and the response had been very positive whilst confirming the newsletter conforms to the Equalities Act 2010. The committee agreed it did not want to go back to having less information in the newsletter but at a bigger font size. The council's editorial team will work with the designers to make improvements where possible.

Finally, the committee agreed to a suggestion councillors meet with the members of the East Preston Infant School council – all twenty of them! This should be a fun and very rewarding event for both organisations. Although we have not set a date, if you would like to join all members of the Community Engagement Committee at this event, please let Simon know.

Cllr Hazel Tester – **Chairman of Community Engagement**

28<sup>th</sup> March 2017

In response to a question from the Chairman, Cllrs Tester and Gander confirmed the Clerk's annual appraisal had been completed.

## **261/17 AMENITIES COMMITTEE – VILLAGE GREEN CAR-PARKING**

The council NOTED the following report which had been circulated in advance of the meeting:

### **Amenities Committee – Village Green car park**

**Council is asked to agree a recommended parking scheme for the Village Green car-park.**

At its meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> March, the Amenities Committee AGREED to RECOMMEND to Full Council the following Parking Scheme for the Village Green car park: this would consist of a three-year contract where One Parking bear all set-up costs, including signage, potential vandalism costs, full management and enforcement of site and regular emptying of the machine. Takings would be split 50/50 year 1 and 60/40 (in the Parish Council's favour) years 2 & 3. In addition to this, 10% of every Penalty Charge Notice (PCN) issued on site would be paid to the Parish Council. The machine would always remain the sole property of One Parking.

Proposed enforcement rules would be:

- 50p per hour daytime parking (8am to 6pm) max 3hr stay and no return within 1hr;
- £1 for parking overnight (6pm to 8am) daytime rates kick in at 8am;
- Free Disabled Bay parking (restrictions as above);
- Enforcement 7 days per week, including Bank Holidays.
  
- Allowance for full closure of car park during parish events where needed.

The Committee voted unanimously to refer this revised Parking Proposal back to Full Council for further consideration and agreement.

Tracy Khoo – **Assistant Clerk to the Council**

27<sup>th</sup> March 2017

After some debate about the provision of a free-to-use disabled parking bay:

**1089** The council **RESOLVED** not to amend the proposed enforcement rules to remove the Free Disabled Bay parking.

**1090** The council **RESOLVED** unanimously to adopt the recommended parking scheme for the Village Green car-park (as detailed in the supporting paper above).

## **262/17 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE – COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH**

The council NOTED the following report which had been circulated in advance of the meeting:

### **Community Engagement Committee – Community Speed Watch Terms of Reference**

**Council is asked to agree Terms of Reference for the council's Community Speed Watch team.**



At its meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> March, the Community Engagement Committee AGREED Terms of Reference for the council's Community Speed Watch (CSW) team to recommend to Full Council.

In June 2013, this council "RESOLVED unanimously to support the Sussex Police Community Speedwatch campaign" and created an East Preston Parish Council Community Speed Watch team (Minute 359/13, Resolution 0674). Early in 2014, a number of then councillors and one local community volunteer attending a CSW training session and started to go on patrol.

The Community Engagement Committee's budget has funded the purchase of a speed gun, two A-boards and some hi-vis tabards for use by the team.

Recently, the Community Engagement Committee realised there were no Terms of Reference for the CSW team and at its meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> March, it agreed the Terms of Reference below should be presented to the council.

**East Preston Parish Council Community Speed Watch team  
Terms of Reference**

(version 1 – adopted ???)

1. Overview
  - a. The Community Speed Watch team operates to ensure speed limits in East Preston are respected.
  
2. Responsibilities
  - a. To carry out regular Community Speed Watch patrols in conjunction with Sussex Police
  - b. To advise the Clerk and Sussex Police of future patrol locations, dates and times
  - c. Always to operate as instructed by Sussex Police
  - d. To report each patrol to Sussex Police as per Sussex Police instructions
  - e. To provide reports on the numbers of vehicles monitored and reported in each patrol. (These reports will be compiled into a report to each Community Engagement Committee meeting)
  - f. To identify new patrol locations and to inform Sussex Police so the appropriate safety and feasibility checks can be completed
  - g. To comment upon the suitability of new patrol locations suggested by others
  - h. To ensure the council's Community Speed Watch equipment is fit for purpose
  - i. To liaise with members of the community or councillors wishing to join the team
  - j. All members of the team must have completed the Sussex Police training before going on patrol in an active capacity
  
3. Membership
  - a. At all times, at least one East Preston parish councillor must be a member of the team.
  - b. The minimum number of active members of the team should be three. If the number of team members prepared to carry out patrols drops below three, the Community Engagement Committee should be informed immediately.
  - c. Any volunteer invited at the discretion of the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of East Preston Parish Council. The volunteer need not be a parish councillor.
  - d. There is no limit on the number of volunteers in the team but membership may be fluid depending on team needs and volunteer expertise.
  - e. No member can be added to or removed from the Community Speed Watch team without the agreement of the Community Engagement Committee.



4. Reporting Structure
  - a. The Chairman of the Council shall nominate the Community Speed Watch lead councillor, in consultation with other councillors.
  - b. The Community Speed Watch team will report to the Community Engagement Committee in the first place.
  - c. No proposal or guidance from the Community Speed Watch team will be council policy until agreed by Full Council
5. Community Speed Watch Equipment
  - a. All Community Speed Watch equipment remains the property of East Preston Parish Council at all times. (This includes but is not restricted to: one Unipar Genesis hand-held radar, two A-boards and Community Speed Watch signage, hi-vis tabards.)
  - b. The council reserves the right to hire any of its Community Speed Watch equipment to other local Community Speed Watch teams. Only requests received via Sussex Police will be considered.
  - c. Once a request has been received, the Community Speed Watch team leader will be responsible for liaising with the hiring team to agree collection and return times.
  - d. A hire fee of £50 per day will be made, payable in advance to East Preston Parish Council. This will offset any Portable Appliance Testing needed once the kit has been returned.
  - e. The Community Speed Watch team leader will be responsible either for having the Portable Appliance Testing carried out by a qualified person or for getting the kit to the Council Office for council officers to arrange the testing of the kit.
  - f. The Community Speed Watch team leader will be responsible for ensuring the regular calibration of the hand-held radar.
6. Officer support
  - a. There will only ever be limited administrative support available from the council's officers.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

28<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Although some concerns were expressed and discussed about aspects of clauses 2h and 2i and the number of team members who should be on patrol at any one time not being shown:

**1091** The council **RESOLVED** to adopt the Terms of Reference for the council's Community Speed Watch team.

The number of team members who should be on patrol at any one time was deemed to be covered by clause 2c as Sussex Police dictated such matters not the council.

Currently active members of the team were Cllrs Kelly, Moore and Toney and community member, Mr Eschbaecher.

## **263/17 REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCIL WORKING PARTIES**

Members NOTED the following report which had been circulated in advance of the meeting:

## Working Parties

Neither working party met during March. The East Preston Food & Drink Festival Chairman, Cllr Tester, Cllr Linton and I met with Colin Cox of Colin's Amusements just to clarify both parties' requirements for village events.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

23<sup>rd</sup> March 2017

Cllr Tested added the next meeting of the Food & Drink Festival Working Party would be on 20<sup>th</sup> April.

### **264/17 ARUN DISTRICT ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS (ADALC)**

The council NOTED the following reports which had been circulated in advance of the meeting:

#### **Arun District Association of Local Councils**

**Council is asked to confirm the incumbent Chairman of the Council (or nominated substitute) is authorised to make decisions on behalf of this council at Arun District Association of Local Councils (ADALC) meetings.** This resolution to stand until further notice.

Nearly five years since ADALC was re-established, its workings are becoming more formal. The Chairman and I believe it is the right time for council to agree, until further notice, the Chairman of the Council be authorised to make decisions on behalf of this council at ADALC meetings. These would most likely be on whether or not this council supported ADALC in the sending of a particular letter to another organisation or such like. In all cases, it is expected the Chairman would have a reasonable idea of how council would want him to vote.

Usually, the nominated substitute would be the incumbent Vice-Chairman of the council but on occasions where he or she could not attend in place of the Chairman, the Chairman and the Clerk would agree the most suitable councillor to attend depending upon the topics on that meeting's Agenda.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

28<sup>th</sup> March 2017

**1092** The council **RESOLVED** unanimously to confirm the incumbent Chairman of the Council (or nominated substitute) is authorised to make decisions on behalf of this council at Arun District Association of Local Councils (ADALC) meetings.

### **265/17 CLERK'S REPORT**

The council NOTED the following report which had been circulated in advance of the meeting:

# Clerk's Report

1. **Introduction**
2. **Police matters**
3. **Freedom of Information / Data Protection requests**
4. **East Preston Business Community Business Breakfast, 2<sup>nd</sup> March**
5. **Tenancy meeting with East Preston & Kingston Bowls Club, 7<sup>th</sup> March**
6. **Tenancy meeting with East Preston & Kingston Village Hall Foundation, 8<sup>th</sup> March**
7. **Sussex and Surrey Associations of Local Councils Clerks' Networking Day, 21<sup>st</sup> March**
8. **Meeting with Worthing Homes to discuss Nursery Gardens, 31<sup>st</sup> March**
9. **Social media**
10. **A selection of things we have been asked this month**
11. **March bouquets and complaints**
12. **Leave**
13. **April meetings and events**

1. **Introduction**

This is the report mainly covering March 2017, and covers matters that may not arise elsewhere on the agenda.

2. **Police matters**

Mid-month, residents of Copse View wrote in: "We are also wondering about the possibility of a fixed speed camera being installed along Worthing Road. Although there are people monitoring traffic speed from time to time with hand-held equipment, we are seeing more and more incidents of speeding, including some idiots overtaking other drivers who are keeping to the speed limit."

I forwarded this query to Sgt Pipkin who provided the following response: "Thanks for sight of this Simon. Speed enforcement, especially the installation of fixed site cameras, is based on collision and injury data – mainly KSI (killed or serious injury). Across all areas of Sussex, and probably the rest of the country, there will be drivers who exceed the speed limit and there will be those who drive with complete disregard whether there is speed enforcement or not. Those occasions are rare, and on the road in question, no different. The number of reports of speeding that we receive along this road are low, as is the collision data where speed has been a causation factor. The perception of speed is often higher than actual speed and the work of the community speedwatch group is to identify the scale of that perceived issue which may lead to further work by the local policing team or the road policing unit. At this time there is no evidence to support an argument for a fixed site speed camera in this location."

3. **Freedom of Information / Data Protection requests**

No requests received or made.

4. **East Preston Business Community Business Breakfast, 2<sup>nd</sup> March**



A small but interactive attendance at this month's Business Breakfast. Cllr Tester also attended this meeting on behalf of the council.

Topics covered included hopes for the forthcoming budget, new tax rules for self-employed people, the Food & Drink Festival, the Business Community Directory and the East Preston Festival. Aside from the community members there being supportive of and looking forward to the Food & Drink Festival, the only thing to be reported back to Full Council was we made it clear the Official Guide cannot wait beyond the end of March for the Business Community Directory before being distributed.

The next Business Breakfast will be on 5<sup>th</sup> April.

#### **5. Tenancy meeting with East Preston & Kingston Bowls Club, 7<sup>th</sup> March**

Cllrs Duijf, Gander, Mathias and I attended the six-monthly meeting with East Preston & Kingston Bowls Club. The club was represented by Gordon Leaman (Chairman) and John Jones (Treasurer).

The delegation was shown around the new kitchen facilities the club has installed. These have been extended into an underused side corridor room. The next refurbishment project will be for the bar to include all-new equipment as the existing equipment has passed its best.

New internal and external lighting has been fitted partly as a safety measure, partly to be more energy-efficient.

After the bar has been refurbished, the one remaining major expense will be to re-roof the clubhouse. This was expected to cost £15,000 in about three years time and the club already had most of that money set aside.

The club is aiming to expand the social membership of the club in an attempt to offset the reducing membership being felt by many clubs across the country. It is hoped the improved facilities will also attract new members from other clubs which have unfortunately closed. The club has a music licence now and has several varying social nights arranged for this year.

In 2018, the club hopes to be able to host county matches.

The council's Audit & Governance Committee had drafted a generic checklist to be used with all tenants in tenancy meetings and this was passed to the Bowls Club for initial consideration. A completed version has been returned by the club's secretary but I have not yet had a chance to look at it.

The next six-monthly meeting has been scheduled for October.

#### **6. Tenancy meeting with East Preston & Kingston Village Hall Foundation, 8<sup>th</sup> March**

I attended this meeting together with Cllrs Duijf, Gander, Mathias and McElroy. The Village Hall Foundation committee was represented by Mr Melser (Vice-Chairman), Mrs McElroy (bookings secretary) and Mr Merrington (premises manager).

At the start of the meeting, the delegation was shown around the refurbished toilets and kitchen. Asked if they were happy with the refurbishments, the councillors said they were.

Mr Melser said the biggest problem facing the committee was the low number of volunteers willing to be a part of the committee. The committee had written to a number



of local organisations inviting each to put forward someone to be on the committee – at the time of the meeting the only response received had been from this council. In light of this, the Foundation would like to review the lease with a view to having it reflect modern times. The councillors present agreed to review the lease too and a follow-up meeting specifically for the lease will be held in mid-June.

The committee's other concern was the continuing campaign to have the Millennium Wall-hanging reinstated in the Village Hall. Discussing this, it became clear the council has received a lot more contact about this than the Village Hall Foundation committee.

The committee was advised of the Audit & Governance Committee's draft checklist and said it was willing to help hone this in due course.

Mr Merrington again asked whether the council was now having regular meetings with its tenants. He was advised the council had been having regular meetings with its other tenants for some time and proof of this, with dates, had been provided to the last tenancy meeting with the Village Hall Foundation at which he had been present.

The next tenancy meeting proper will be on 13<sup>th</sup> September.

#### **7. Sussex and Surrey Associations of Local Councils (SSALC) Clerks' Networking Day, 21<sup>st</sup> March**

Tracy Khoo and I attended this event at Fontwell Park. The only other (traditional) Eastern Arun council represented was Kingston Parish Council.

The first session of the day was a discussion on how to deal with difficult councillors. Various examples of poor councillor behaviour and attitude were mentioned through the session but also frustration at the government's continued refusal to address this situation beyond the naïve statement bad or poor councillors will lose their post at the ballot box. This statement constantly refuses to acknowledge the difficulty councils have in having candidates stand for election. For example, in the May 2015 local elections, this council had seven candidates for thirteen places. During the following co-option exercise, over twenty local residents expressed interest in joining the council.

The Chief Executive of the National Association of Local Councils (NALC), Jonathan Owen presented an update on NALC and the growing role of town and parish councils in local government. He started by quoting Sajid Javid MP, the new Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, "Global Britain must be made from strong foundations and I think our parish and town councils are a key part of that." There are currently 10,000 parishes covering 40% of England and parishes are springing up in cities such as London and Birmingham and large towns such as Crewe and Swindon. £500m is raised annually in the precept – that figure has doubled in the past ten years.

In a recent survey, 70% of councils said they wanted to deliver new services. Barriers to them doing so included lack of staffing and funding, reluctance from principal authorities and the legal framework. Jonathan highlighted some examples of where town and parish councils are branching out: Sevenoaks is running a theatre and a bus service, Forest Row has its community café and Newport Pagnall has proposed 30% new homes than its District Council is seeking.

NALC is launching a National Improvement Strategy to look at how capacity can be built to enable willing councils to provide more services to their communities. NALC wants to encourage more people to become councillors and to get government agreement to quash any referenda principles for councils wishing to increase their precept.

The final presentation of the day was from Liz Leggo, a pharmacist who has been working with SSALC on how town and parish councils could engage in Health & Wellbeing initiatives in their communities. Hopefully this will be discussed further by the Community Engagement Committee at its May meeting.

## 8. Meeting with Worthing Homes to discuss Nursery Gardens, 31<sup>st</sup> March

Further to an action arising from the Planning & Licensing Committee meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> March, I am meeting with a representative of Worthing Homes and some Nursery Close residents to discuss further the problems experienced by Nursery Close residents because the four properties in Nursery Gardens have the same postcode.

## 9. Social media

Facebook posts reaching more than 500 people published since the last supporting papers:

- Photos of the library Cluster Manager's cats which needed rehoming – 1,730 people
- Photos of new yarnbombing in the northern shops – 1,628
- Photo of Lashmar Rec playground on a foggy evening – 1,343
- Announcement the Winter 2017 newsletter was out for delivery – 996
- Post about Sussex Life annual awards – 869
- Public Notice about temporary closure of Toddington Lane, Littlehampton - 795
- Poster for WSCC Joint Eastern Arun Area Committee meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> March – 738
- Two photos of East Preston beach in 25<sup>th</sup> March sunshine – 710
- Post announcing the re-opening of East Preston Butchers - 690
- Poster for WSCC *Reduce Stress* wellbeing event – 639
- Publicity for Friends of Langmeads litterpick on 4<sup>th</sup> March – 623
- Repost of Sussex Police warning about distraction burglaries – 601
- Poster for WSCC *A Celebration of Poetry* event - 588
- Poster for Home-Start Arun zumba event – 542
- Repost of Sussex Police post following the Westminster terror attack – 515

† Food & Drink Festival page

▲ East Preston Christmas Celebrations page

(posts up until 27<sup>th</sup> March)

The council has successfully transitioned to Nextdoor from Streetlife but has yet to post.

## 10. Things we have been asked this month

“Could you help move this tumble-dryer?”

“Who can I speak to about my telephone? It told me to change the batteries and I have done that but it is not any better. As you can tell I’m an elderly person and I get confused.”

“Please could you give me some information on Angmering? I have called Littlehampton Tourist Information and they directed me to you.” (redirected to Angmering Parish Council)

“Where can I go kayaking locally?”

“How can I use Facebook?”

“How do I get hold of a local telephone directory?” (call BT on 0800 833 400)

#### 11. **March bouquets and complaints**

(In addition to anything above.)

Thanks from the family of former councillor, Betty Wagstaff, for the tribute paid in the Winter 2017 newsletter.

From residents of Willowhayne Cottages for helping them with an application for an Access Protection Line, “Thank you so much for your help it’s now all sorted and paid for.”

Thanks from the Friends of Langmeads for help in publicising its litterpick on 4<sup>th</sup> March.

Thanks to the Community Speed Watch team from residents of The Street: “Hi Simon. I thought I would let you know that the guys were here again yesterday doing another speed check, I think this is the fifth time now. As I said previously, it has made quite a difference but the effect gradually wears off but not to the degree that it originally was. Thanks once again from several local residents and ourselves. Regards, D”

Thanks from a member of the Disability Action Group of East Preston for the council’s support of the Quiz Night on 15<sup>th</sup> March.

Thanks from a resident of Normandy Lane for assistance with getting an apparently abandoned but taxed car moved from outside her property, “It’s not what you know, it’s who you know?”

Thanks for a resident of Chestnut Court for spending some time explaining the council’s precept increase, “Thank you Simon for your full reply. [...] I do value the time that is spent by Councillors. Your final comment sounds positive but I guess we will just have to see what else occurs that may attract that sum or part of it. Thank you for your hard work.”

From a resident of Westfield Avenue also for explaining the council’s precept increase, “Thanks for your reply, much appreciated!”

From a resident who had been verbally abused by another resident, “It is very kind of you to reply to my rant. As you suggest I will try and focus on all the lovely people we have met and friends we have made here. Thanks again for listening, I really appreciate it.”

A general comment from a resident the day after the Westminster terrorist attack: “We were in the part of London that suffered the horrible attack today. Fortunately we had gone passed a couple of hours before. Such events put a lot of things into perspective. I am so grateful we live in a peaceful place.”



## 12. Leave

Tracy will be on leave on 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> April.

## 13. April Meetings and Events

This list may be incomplete and is subject to change.

- |                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| 2 <sup>nd</sup>  | - Beach Clean No. 9 (11:00, bottom of Sea Road)   |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | - Full Council (19:00, East Preston Infant School)  |
| 5 <sup>th</sup>  | - Business Breakfast (08:00, Seahorse Café)   |
|                  | - ADC Parish Briefing (11:00, Civic Centre) (JD and GM only)                                      |
|                  | - East Preston Flood Action Group multi-agency meeting (14:00, Conservative Hall) (JD or SC only) |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> | - Personnel Committee (tbc)   |
|                  | - Planning & Licensing Committee (18:00, East Preston Infant School)                              |
|                  | - Warren Recreation Ground AGM (19:00, East Preston Infant School)                                |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> | - Society of Local Council Clerks, Sussex Branch AGM (10:00, East Grinstead) (SC only)            |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> | - St Barnabas Hospice Outreach Project (10:00 – 14:00, Village Green car park)                    |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> | - Planning & Licensing Committee (18:00, East Preston Infant School)                              |
|                  | - Annual Parish Meeting (19:00, East Preston Infant School)                                       |

N.B. where committee meetings fall on the same day, the timings of these meetings may be subject to change.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

28<sup>th</sup> March 2017

**Item 13 – April meetings and events** – the Clerk announced it was not possible to hold the Warren Recreation Ground Annual General Meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> April as the accounts would not be ready in time. The charity's Annual General Meeting had previously been held towards the end of the calendar year but in the past year he had learnt a charity's accounts should be signed-off within two months of the charity's year end, 31<sup>st</sup> March. The clearer division of the charity's finances being implemented by the council in the new financial year should make this easier in future.

The Chairman thanked the Clerk for his work.

## **266/17 EXTERNAL MEETINGS AND EVENTS**

The council NOTED the following reports, some of which had been circulated in advance of the meeting and some of which had been circulated immediately prior to the start of the meeting.



## **WSCC Joint Eastern Arun Area Committee, 7<sup>th</sup> March**

### **Rustington**

The quarterly meeting of the Joint Eastern Arun Area Committee (JEAAC) was held at The John De Bohun Room, The Woodlands Centre, Rustington.

Vice-chairman Roger Elkins (ADC and Ferring) in the Chair opened the meeting and welcomed the large number of the Public, as well as the members from West Sussex County Council (WSCC), Arun District Council (ADC) and Town and Parish Councillors (PC). I was promoted for the evening to vice-chairman.

For those who might wonder, indeed there is also a JWAAC – Joint Western etc. The next meeting will have an extended membership from Town and Parish Councils and the complete membership will be: East Preston, Rustington, Angmering, Ferring, Littlehampton, Kingston, Findon, Clapham, Patching, Poling, Lyminster & Crossbush, Arundel, South Stoke, Burpham, Wrningcamp and Houghton.

ADC will have 6 councillors (cllrs) and WSCC also will have 6. The first meeting of the extended group will be held in The White Swan as the currently used venues cannot accommodate the participants. It has been criticized that the venue is not serviced by public transport so for people without their own transport cannot visit the meeting. A suitable venue will be sought.

As usual I would say the Minutes were accepted without any changes or amendments.

There were no questions from the Public, they all attended to hear the decisions made by the Community Initiative Funding (CIF) committee. Only County Council Members could vote on this.

#### **Community Police Issues**

Sergeant Pipkin provided an update on Community policing in the JEAAC area which resulted actually in answering the questions from the members. It was made clear that the usual supplied crime figures overview should be reinstated as it is impossible to judge the situation without it.

Police has changed their reporting to their website so if one wants to know you have to search for it. Doing so results in being unable to find the JEAAC area as it is presented per policing neighbourhood. It was also criticized because as per to date the figures are not updated, the latest ones at the moment of this report are of December 2016. For East Preston 25 crimes are registered for December. The website [www.police.uk](http://www.police.uk) shows the reporting area as East Preston, Kingston Gorse, Angmering-on-Sea and part of West Preston. It really is not very helpful that everybody is using different criteria to report.

**Highways and Transport Working Group** minutes were discussed (reported by me some time ago). The chairman Dr James Walsh updated the status for the A259 and the Lyminster bypass.

A recommendation was made and accepted to conduct a review of Town and Village Centre parking standards for new developments and, where necessary, to lobby the Government in this connection, which is a major problem in Town and Village Centres – our recent situation around the Tudor Lodge.

Fly-tipping is on the increase due to weekly closures and also the charges being in force for particular items like tyres and rubble.

A suggestion was made instead of keep filling the potholes more or less on a weekly basis to have the road resurfaced which at the end will be more economical.

#### **Community Initiative Funding**

This is the one the Public concerned was waiting for. Cllr Evans presented the 13

recommendations to award in full, partly or decline the request. Friends of Langmead were awarded £1,000 towards the provision of 2 noticeboards.

**Nominations to School and Academy Governing Bodies**

Mrs Sarah Grieg was reappointed to St Catherine's Catholic Primary School.

There were no Items raised by Town and Parish Council representatives.

Next meeting Tuesday 11 July at The White Swan Hotel, Arundel.

Cllr Joop Duijf – **Chairman of the Council**

10<sup>th</sup> March 2017

**WSSC Parish and Town Council lunch, 17<sup>th</sup> March**

**County Hall, Chichester**

At the invitation of the Chairman of West Sussex County Council (WSSC) Pat Arculus I headed to Chichester on Friday 17 March 2017 for a networking lunch. Arriving at Head Quarters, Chairs of Ferring, Kingston, Findon and Peter Evans were in reception and welcomed by Gina Hall (Chairman's Office).

Wendy Walker, County Archivist, took us to The Record Office for a tour through her domain and had interesting stories to tell. Several maps, a detailed map of the Work House was one of them, books etc. of our specific base were selected and discussed. It was interesting to read to Minutes of the very first East Preston Council meeting, if I remember well this was in 1894. Wendy suggested that if Council was interested a specific tour could be organised and specific information could be prepared to show and talk about it. This all for a small fee. Of course it is also possible to visit on an individual basis. I can recommend it.

Pat Arculus had made her apologies as an urgent matter had arisen but she joined later at the end of lunch. Lionel Barnard, vice-chairman, had taken over the honours. Several cabinet members were present, such as Bob Lanzer, Highways & Transport (H&T), David Barking, Residents' Services and others. Many questions were asked and answered such as the withdrawal of Chichester bypass proposal, the effect on the Arundel one and the connection of the Lyminster bypass to Crossbush, fly-tipping etc. It was suggested to H&T to consider a thorough resurfacing of Sea Road specifically that part used by the 700. Also the condition roughly in front of Hedgers was put forwards as surface water makes it dangerous. Operation Watershed runs for another year with approx. £500,000 available. Maintenance of the drainage system is foreseen but is greatly depending on reporting from the Public.

We thanked our guests and agreed that it was a useful excise to be repeated.

Cllr Joop Duijf – **Chairman of the Council**

20<sup>th</sup> March 2017

**267/17 RESPONSE TO EXTERNAL MEETINGS AND EVENTS**

Partly in response to a comment made by Mrs Akhurst earlier in the meeting, the Chairman highlighted his raising of concerns about the surfacing of Sea Road between the junction with The Street and the Village Hall at the Parish and Town Council lunch on 17<sup>th</sup> March. At that same meeting, he had also expressed village concerns about the amount of surface water which can collect outside nos. 43 to 49 Sea Road.

Mrs Akhurst replied the East Preston Flood Action Group was waiting for information from the National Flood Forum before it could have its next meeting, to which the Parish Council had already been invited.

**268/17 NEW ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING (8<sup>TH</sup> MAY)**

Nothing new was suggested.

**The meeting concluded at 20:40.**

Chairman: *Joop Duijf*      Date: **8<sup>th</sup> May 2017**

END