

# **The Annual Village Report**

## **2015-16**



**For Birling Gap, Crowlink, East Dean and Friston**

**May 2016**

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## Community Bus Service 41

The East Dean and Friston shopping bus Service 41 provided by Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd (CCB) runs twice weekly - on a Tuesday and Thursday. The Parish Council sponsors the Tuesday run. The service has been running three return shopping trips from Eastbourne to East Dean since October 2010. The service started with a Tuesday run and in April 2013 a Thursday service was introduced. Although CCB introduced a new timetable effective from 24 April 2016 there is no change to this service, which also takes in Jevington and Wannock. The timetable is on the Parish Council and Village Hall noticeboards, and on the Parish Council website

Unfortunately, passenger numbers have fallen slightly, and there has been a noticeable shift in the number of passengers from the Tuesday service to the Thursday service and this has resulted in an extra cost to the Council.

We hope the provision of this service has not reached a peak and we hope more people will start to use it. The bus picks up and drops off anywhere around the village, just hail the bus or ring the bell if you are a passenger, and it will stop anywhere provided it is safe to do so. It's like a taxi service – but without the related cost. The Concessionary Travel Scheme Passes are accepted on all CCB services during the off-peak times. Please pass the word.

The usual Christmas bus run was again held using the scheduled service. The East Dean Revellers were taken to and from the Downs Golf Club for a festive lunch, and a jolly good time was had by all. Owing to demand an extra bus was again laid on, courtesy of CCB.

The Parish Council will continue to support the Service 41 during 2016/17.

*Stewart Fuller  
Councillor and CCB Driver*

## Community Watch



*Neighbours helping Neighbours in East Dean, Friston, Birling Gap and Crowlink*

Since this scheme started in February 2012 we have received (29th March 2016) 171 calls for assistance – about one a week. The types of calls can be categorised as follows: –

Lifts to hospital, GP, Dentist or other health provider	73
Lifts for personal reasons (coffee mornings, funerals etc.)	34
Collecting prescriptions	13
Reassurance/problems with neighbours/lonely	11
Household – moving boxes, inserting batteries etc.	11
Lifts to go shopping	10
Dog walking:	9
Support for a carer of a dementia sufferer	7
Helping with library books	3

It should come as no surprise that about 50% of these are to do with health and we never question whether or not a taxi could have been used instead of relying on free transport from a volunteer. In many such cases transport is not the primary need; reassurance and company are also appreciated. These figures only show recorded requests and take no account for the hundreds of times repeat help is provided.

We currently have twenty-five volunteers. We try to spread the work fairly amongst them as sometimes, the need of a volunteer to be helping somebody, is almost as great as the need to be helped. For various reasons (proximity – availability) some volunteers are used quite often but some have received very few requests for help. Nevertheless, we still need more volunteers and a car is not essential as some tasks can be done on foot.

One of the advantages of this scheme is that it overcomes one's natural reluctance to ask for help. You simply 'phone one of the numbers below and a volunteer will be contacted anonymously. So, if you or somebody you know needs help with something – just phone.

**01323 423311 or 423101 or 423484**

These are examples of help that has been give. The service is free and confidential.

- Giving a lift from time to time
- Collecting prescriptions
- Helping with shopping
- Walking the dog or feeding the cat
- Providing some company
- Keeping an eye on a vulnerable resident
- Helping with something else

*Rob Page, Volunteer*

## East Dean Downlands (Roads) Ltd

'EDDR' is, of course, relevant only to the Estate and its private roads. Commonly known as The Roads Company, it was formed just over thirty years ago specifically for collecting monies that were due to the then Estate Company and spending these on repairing and maintaining the Estate roads and gullies. There are some five miles of road and over two hundred gullies to maintain. This task was taken over from Fairway Homes (which was eventually dissolved in October 2014) but not before certain rights were conveyed to EDDR, which now holds, for example, enforcement rights regarding 'covenanted' road maintenance contributions. Strictly speaking it has no legal obligation for road maintenance: that seems to have disappeared with Fairway in 2014.

The only way in which the company obtains money for spending on road repairs is by the annual contributions of householders, these being fixed by the company's shareholders. The company can, and occasionally does, enforce payment of 'covenanted' contributions, but these average only some £4 per annum per property. At the date of this summary, six weeks or so after the bills went out, almost 75% of the Estate have paid up for 2016, and almost 90% for 2015, with very few paying less than the Annual contribution. How do we persuade the 'recalcitrant' 10% to follow?

Since the formation of the company, and up to the end of 2015, the company has spent a total of £536,068 on repair and maintenance. How many people remember the state of the roads in 1984? The Ridgeway, for example, was falling apart. Their present appearance, however, hides the fact that very nearly all the roads have minimal foundations, quite inadequate for the weight of present-day commercial vehicles, which, unfortunately, we are powerless to prohibit. Ever wider vehicles are resulting in frequent damage to private verges – which EDDR has no authority to repair.

Finally, we plan to spend some £43,000 per annum for the next five years so need the active support of every household – the roads are used by all and for the benefit of all. Their upkeep is vital for safety, access (especially in emergencies) and for the value of property.

*Ron Pringle*  
*Secretary*

## East Dean & Friston Art Group

The East Dean & Friston Art Group meets each Tuesday morning at the Village Hall. We welcome everyone with an interest in drawing or painting whether an absolute beginner or with more experience. We tend to have a visiting tutor on alternate weeks and, at other times, share our combined knowledge and experience with one another as we have a go at a project. Above all, we do believe in enjoying our sessions. Our year culminates in our May exhibition which is always well-attended by the public and, during the summer, we arrange for small groups to go out into our beautiful area to paint or draw or sup coffee....

We'd love to welcome anyone who fancies a flourish with a paintbrush and you'll receive nothing but encouragement! We offer 'taster' sessions if this is of interest. Please contact our Club Secretary, Margaret Butler, on [mandmab@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mandmab@hotmail.co.uk).

*Paul Liddiard  
Chairperson*

## East Dean & Friston Cricket Club

"The East Dean & Friston cricket club play on the Recreation ground against other local villages in two Sussex leagues. There are two teams; namely the Saturday and Sunday squads and team members range in age from 15 to 60+ with post-match drinks and commentary in the Tiger - you can find out more on the club Facebook page / group - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/121057527969276/>

New players are very welcome, especially local village cricketers who are encouraged to make themselves known to the Saturday / Sunday captains who are Neil Gamble / Jason Woodford on the below numbers. A particularly warm welcome (and encouragement!) to those who "used to play at school".

The club welcomes everyone with an interest in cricket, regardless of age, sex or ability. As well as the playing of cricket, we also prepare the wicket, make the legendary match teas, score the games and organize the social activities including the annual dinner & awards evening. Most of all it's a friendly traditional village cricket club with a warm, inclusive team spirit. Membership costs £10 per year - yes you read that correctly!

Why not join us at pre-season cricket nets at St Bede's on Fridays in April and then nets on the square during the summer evenings (dates are notified via Facebook) – it's £4 per session. Bring along a friend!

Please get in touch with one of the captains for further details about playing cricket in the village.

*Saturday Captain: Neil Gamble*

*Telephone: 07747535414*

*Email: [neilgamble77@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:neilgamble77@yahoo.co.uk)*

*Sunday Captain:*

*Jason Woodford*

*Telephone: 01323 422265*

*Email: [woodandpud@gmail.com](mailto:woodandpud@gmail.com)"*

## East Dean & Friston Local History Group

The Group continues to have a healthy membership and a fee of £7 for 10 meetings and tea and biscuits is good value. We are managing to attract excellent speakers and thanks go to members who suggest speakers and topics and places of interest to visit. We are also very grateful to members and non-members for the wonderful material they continue to give to us for our archives. Many of you will have noticed the amazing Roll of Honour of those from East Dean School that served in the Great War that was rescued from rubbish many years ago and now hangs in our Village Hall thanks to the gift of a resident.

We are sure that the Welcome pack for new residents with its information about the Group and details of the 50 booklets we have produced secures the interest of those coming to live in this wonderful area.

A successful exhibition of RAF Friston and The Shepherd of Beachy Head was held at the National Trust Centre and at the opening of Gayles last year. Articles in the local paper also attract interest and the Barn Stores are quick to sell customers.

Our outside visits far and near are popular and in 2016 we ride to The Keep in style on a Cuckmere bus. We not only have a guided tour behind the scenes but precious archive material relating to East Dean and Friston (some of it given by the Village) will be there for us to see.

The bottom line is clear: we are proud of the village that we live in and our surrounding areas.

*Mary Brunt  
(Joint Secretary)*

## East Dean & Friston Parish Magazine

Although the magazine has always been produced by the church, it is a **parish** magazine, not a church one, and its aim is to record and represent the rich life we can all share here. It is residents' willingness to write reports, publicise activities, share photos and experiences or be creative that helps us achieve this. More than forty stalwart deliverers enable us to give our monthly magazine free of charge to every home and business within our community – free, because of the kind donations made by our readers and the income from advertising local businesses. Being self-supporting like this is vital, and so is promoting everything that is so good about living in East Dean and Friston. Thank you, everyone, for all that you do to help us reflect life in a very special place.

*Christine Jeffery  
Editor*

## East Dean & Friston Residents' Association

### ***Introduction***

The Association has again been extremely busy this year and been actively involved on many local issues. Although TeamGrit was not called upon over the winter, members of the Village Volunteer Team have helped on a number of occasions, such as setting up for The Annual Flower Show and helping spread bark on the local footpaths.

With the marked increase in planning applications we were delighted that Dr Tom Maxwell agreed to be co-opted to the Committee to take over responsibility for planning matters, representing the Association at the monthly Parish Council Planning Committee meetings. The Fridays application was just one of these applications that took up a lot of Committee time this year. We are in regular contact with our local Member of Parliament, Maria Caulfield and have held meetings with her to enforce the views of local residents on a range of matters, including the DGH, Police cuts, the A27 and Exceat Bridge. These are just a few of the local issues where we do our best to represent and protect the interests of local residents and try to be the collective voice to ensure the village retains its unique character and community spirit.

### ***Village Fete***

The Association feels it important to ensure that the traditional Annual Village Fete continues. We will, once again, be organising this, which will be on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July. Following last year's resounding success, it will be held on The Greensward again and all local clubs and societies will be invited to take a stall. Once again there will be the popular Bouncy Castle, Punch and Judy, fun children's races and also the ever popular Tug o' War. A beer tent, hot dog stand, ice cream van and the WI's tea and delicious cakes will keep hunger and thirst at bay. For a change this year music will be provided by The Sussex Stompers, a very popular Jazz Band, who are sure to get everyone dancing. We are very grateful to our joint sponsors, the design and printing firm, The Manor Group and local estate agents, Leaper Stanbrook. In addition we shall have a display of locally owned Classic Cars, which should bring back happy memories to many of us. Last year it was the biggest and best Fete with over 25 stalls. If you would like to take a stall this year, please email: [edfresidentsassociation@gmail.com](mailto:edfresidentsassociation@gmail.com) or contact the Stalls Coordinator, Rosie English on 422387.

### ***High Speed Super-Fast Fibre Broadband***

During last year we liaised with the Project leader of Openreach, the contractor appointed by East Sussex Broadband team, as they installed Super-Fast Fibre Broadband (SFFB) to the village. This involved many meetings and discussions as sites were found and agreements reached with home owners for the erection of three new Fibre Cabinets. Many options were considered but, eventually, in order to minimise the disruption and avoid hundreds of individual Wayleave Agreements, it was decided to install Fibre to Cabinets (FTC) rather than Fibre to Premises (FTP). Although this meant retaining the original copper connections we at least have the benefit of Fibre to the Village and thus we can all now benefit from a major increase in internet speed.



### ***Neighbourhood Watch***

In the absence of a Chairman for the local Neighbourhood Watch, the Residents' Association has stepped in and has agreed to use its large email subscription database to distribute relevant news to its members. We receive the weekly Police bulletins on local criminal activity and, after filtering out news of other areas, pass on information which we think may be of interest. This can be actual criminal activity, thankfully very rare for our village, or it can be news on security issues or computer scams etc. Bulletins are displayed on the Residents' Association noticeboard by the shops in order to alert residents not on the email list. Committee members also attend regular meetings of the Neighbourhood Forum, Local Action Team, organised by Hailsham Police, and exchange news and information with other Residents' Association groups. We take these opportunities to lobby for greater cover by the local Police Community Support Officer, (PCSO) in the face of further cuts in the Police budget.

### ***Replacement Mains Gas Pipework***

Last year many properties in Peak Dean Lane, Micheldene Road, Summerdown Lane and other roads, suffered months of inconvenience as the mains Gas Pipeline was replaced. Under the direct orders of The Health and Safety Executive the remaining pipe network has to be replaced as a matter of urgency. The next phase will be Micheldene Road from the A259 up Deneside and then up Hillside and along Windmill Lane. Discussions were held with interested residents, the Contractor and Southern Gas to identify a suitable and convenient site for the temporary storage of a container and spoil. Given the lack of alternatives, these will again be located on the Greensward as this presented the least disruptive location. We are grateful to the Deneside homeowners for their understanding of the realities of the situation. Using this location will reduce road blockages and will be the easiest to restore once work, which may take five months, has finished.

During this work it would be a great help to everyone if any private or builders vehicles could be parked off-road, as the roads in the village are very narrow with little space to overtake. This will reduce delay to the work, minimise any damage to neighbours' grass and also will ensure that any emergency vehicles can pass unhindered.

### ***Welcome Packs***

Whenever we are advised of a new resident taking occupation we deliver a Welcome Pack, which gives details of village clubs and organisations, shops and restaurants as well as information on the Village Hall. If you have any literature on a local organisation that you would like included, please contact Ruth Maxwell on 423397. If you are aware of anyone moving into a home near you, please telephone Ruth or email us at [edfresidentsassociation@gmail.com](mailto:edfresidentsassociation@gmail.com) and we shall arrange for a pack to be delivered.

### ***The Greensward***

We arranged for Contractors to level off the worst of the pits and bumps on the Greensward which were becoming a hazard. This work will be completed prior to the Village Fete in July and so will cause minimal disruption.

### ***Village Design Statement***

The Association is proud to have contributed to the complete re-write of The Village Design Statement. This followed our initiative over two years ago to update the previous edition to complement the current planning advice and protocols implemented by the South Downs National Park Authority, the planning authority now responsible for our village. In the last few months the South Downs National Park's representatives have provided great assistance, encouragement and pertinent advice to the point that the updated document has just been approved by the Park's Planning Committee. This document will be accepted as a Supplementary Planning Document and be invaluable in providing guidance on all planning and development matters for our village. Our very grateful thanks are due to all members of the team, especially Mrs Katrina Larkin, clerk to the Parish Council, and Residents' Association committee member Dr Ruth Maxwell for their hard work and tenacity in seeing this through to conclusion.

### ***Code of Best Practice***

The Association, jointly with the Parish Council, publishes a Code of Best Practice in order to minimise disruption and disputes caused by building projects. While we are unable to recommend builders, landscapers etc., we have compiled a list of firms that have agreed to comply with this code.

### ***And finally...***

I would like to thank all those residents who take the trouble to respond to my emails and for all the kind comments made and many words of support. We work very hard to keep the village informed to the best of our ability on anything that we feel may affect local residents. With over 500 residents on the Association's email circulation list, this has proved to be a very fast and efficient means of passing on quickly any public service notices such as road closures, computer scams, criminal activity (thankfully very few) etc. By using the bcc facility, personal email addresses are kept confidential, so if you would like to receive these occasional notices please contact me on [edfresidentsassociation@gmail.com](mailto:edfresidentsassociation@gmail.com) and I shall be pleased to add you to the list.

*Roy Webb*  
*Chairman*

## **East Dean & Friston Short Mat Bowls**

Short Mat Bowls has been played in the large village hall from shortly after the hall was opened in 2000 and our 16th season, which again has been thoroughly enjoyed by all those that have played, has just ended.

Our season runs each year from the start of October to the end of March. Our two hour sessions run on both Monday and Friday afternoons from 2.15 to 4.15, which includes a short tea and biscuit break.

It is a very easy game to learn and instruction is available and you will be playing on one of our two mats within a few minutes. There are no joining fees, no dress code other than flat shoes, bowls are

available or you can bring your own, very few rules to learn, and you only pay a small fee when you attend and it is open to all villagers.

Please come along to the Village Hall at any of the times shown above or phone Alan Robson on 01323 423299 for more information

*Alan L Robson*

## **East Dean Responders (*previously named Downland Heartstart*)**

### **Trustees' Annual Report for the year to 31 March 2016**

During the last 12 months our Community First Responders (CFRs) have been busier than usual and continued to work as many hours as they were able. This year they were called out 68 times compared with 45 times last year. However with only five of them it was impossible to provide sufficient cover every day let alone 24/7. Nevertheless these are the performance figures for the year to 31st March 2016. With Village only response times averaging of just over 4 ½ minutes our CFRs should be proud of what they have achieved.

<b>2015-16 Shouts</b>	
68	Total shouts for 2015-16
12	Stood Down once mobile
46	Ambulance/Paramedic arrived before CFR
10	CFR arrived at same time as Ambulance/Paramedic

<b>2015-16 Shout Response Times</b>	
6m8s	Avg. Response Time (to patient)
8m12s	Avg. Before Ambulance

<b>2015-16 Village Only Shout Response Times</b>	
4m31s	Avg. Response Time (to patient)
6m41s	Avg. Before Ambulance

<b>2015-16 Call Locations</b>	
Village	53
Beachy Head	5
Jevington	0
Seaford	4
Eastbourne	6

<b>Call Locations since 2012</b>	
Village	182
Beachy Head	12
Jevington	7
Seaford	15
Eastbourne	9

*Pie charts illustrating call locations are given at the end of this report. We are grateful to our member Simon Hunt for providing these details.*

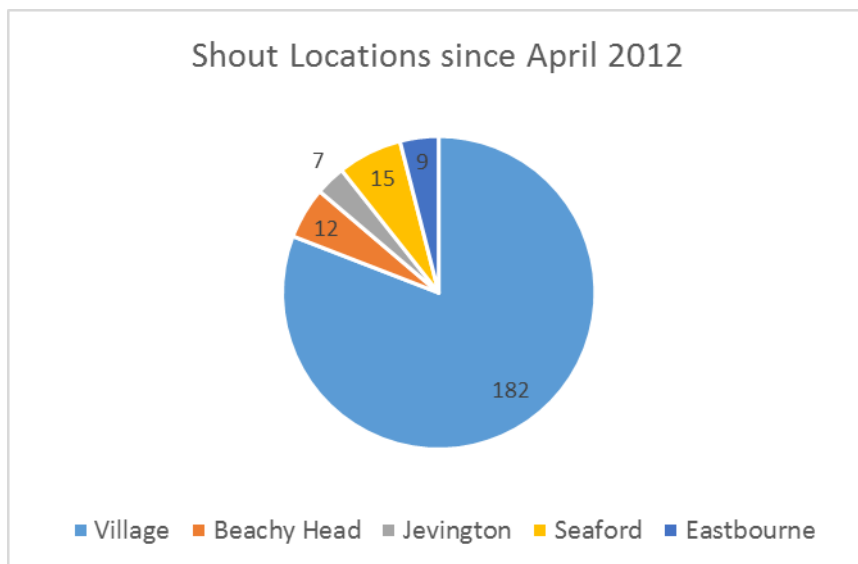
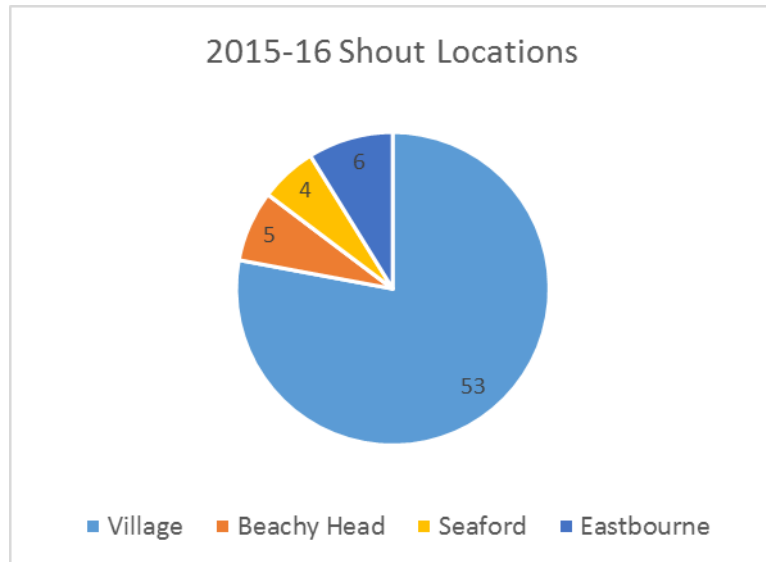
In November 2015 the Trustees decided to relaunch Downland Heartstart, rename it 'East Dean Responders' and raise our profile by organising more activities such as defibrillator demonstrations. It was hoped that this would recruit new Community First Responders (CFRs). It would also involve members and could result in them helping with fund raising and other activities. Although we have sufficient funds for immediate use there is likely to be significant future expenditure – equipping new CFRs costs £2,500 each; replacing obsolete defibrillators @ £1,000; and other equipment updates. Since our relaunch three public defibrillator demonstrations have been held. This has resulted in two people wanting to train as CFRs. This is most encouraging.

In March this year Trustees agreed to a programme of events which by raising our profile could result in more people coming forward to train as CFRs. We had hoped that our members would help with some of these activities and in January 2016 we sent them a questionnaire to assess to what extent they wished to be involved. We have 47 members but have only received 5 responses. Two offered to help in one way or another but three said that they were too old or unfit. Six of our members do not have email and were given hard copies of the questionnaire with a s.a.e. All but one has replied. Only one reply has come from the 41 who were sent the questionnaire by email.

In 2011 we decided to purchase two AEDs (automatic electronic defibrillators) for public use to be located in the village on each side of the A259. These had to be placed indoors because they are damaged by low temperatures and no suitable heated cabinets were available at that time. The logical places were therefore, in the Barn Stores and in the Village Hall. We decided that for insurance purposes the AED would be gifted to the Village Hall Trust although we would continue to maintain it and demonstrate it. We continue to own the one in the Barn Stores. It is not insured. Heated cabinets are now available and the ambulance service is recommending that all public AEDs be available for use 24/7. Consequently the Village Hall Trust has agreed that it be moved to an outside wall of the hall and at the same time have gifted it back to East Dean Responders. The Trust has also kindly donated £250 to assist with the cost of buying an outside cabinet. The AED was moved to a very visible heated outside cabinet on 4<sup>th</sup> April. The cabinet is alarmed but unlocked.

The Parish Council also gave us £333.40 this being the unspent balance which the Parish received from Wealden District Council's Community Dividend. One or two members have also made generous donations.

In November 2015 our existing CFRs were invited to become Trustees and all accepted. They were appointed in accordance with the Constitution which allows for an infinite number. Flora Richards, as Team Leader, was already a trustee. The result of this is that there are now 10 trustees, five of whom are CFRs and two of whom used to be. This will provide a more appropriate balance of experience within our trustees.



*Rob Page*  
*Hon. Secretary*

## REPORT by the PARISH COUNCIL

**New Council** - the Council term is four years and 2015/16 was the first year of your new Council. At the year-end your Parish Councillors were Stewart Fuller (Chair), Phil Hill (Vice Chair), Oliver Boulet, Jane Branson, Ian Haydock, Mike Keller, Ruth Maxwell and Jen Sargent. At the time of writing we have a vacancy which will hopefully be filled very shortly. My thanks go to my fellow councillors for their support and input during a very busy first year as we faced new topics and hence steep learning curves. My thanks also go to our District Councillor, John Wilton, our County Councillor Steven Shing, the Residents' Association, the Parochial Church Council and the Village Hall Trust for their continuing support. My grateful thanks also go to our clerk, Katrina Larkin, who keeps us on the straight and narrow; her wise counsel is always much appreciated.

**Meetings** - the Council usually meets on the first Thursday of the month (no meeting in August). During 2015/16 there was the Annual Meeting of the Council, 11 ordinary Council meetings and two extraordinary meetings – one to consider the Budget and the second to review arrangements for the annual Bonfire. All Council and Committee meetings are open to the public and at the start of every meeting there is a public session when any questions can be asked and any statements or presentations can be made. Agendas were posted on noticeboards and on the Council website. Summary minutes of Council meetings were posted on our noticeboards and links to the summaries and full minutes were sent to all those on our email register.

It was another busy and interesting year. Some of the issues considered are identified below:-

**Planning** – the Planning Committee met 10 times during the year to consider 23 Planning Applications (46 in 2014/15) and other planning related matters. 30 members of the public attended these meetings. During the year the Committee maintained a watching brief on progress with The Fridays Development and provided input to SDNPA as required. A summary of Planning Applications considered is shown in the *ON-LINE LIBRARY* on the Council website. The South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) is the Planning Authority for the area and the Parish Council is a statutory consultee and, owing to its local knowledge, is asked to comment on all planning applications within the Parish, which lies wholly within the National Park. In making comments the Committee takes account of individual resident representations and those of the Residents' Association, and is always mindful of the standards within the *ED&F Village Design Statement (VDS)*.

**Village Design Statement** - during the year the working group continued to review and update the VDS and the latest draft has been rigorously tested by SDNPA officers. The VDS has recently been submitted to the SDNP Planning Committee for adoption as a Supplementary Planning Document by the Planning Director. Once adopted it will form a material consideration when assessing planning applications and will carry weight similar to planning policy. The VDS will strengthen the voice of our community in planning matters. It's been a long journey but we're nearly there and thanks to all involved.

**Bonfire** – we didn't hold the Annual Bonfire Event in 2015. Following a review of the 2014 event, too many people from outside the village had started to attend and it was getting just too big. This, together

with the lack of volunteers, led to us to reluctantly decide not to hold the event in 2015. During year we invited residents to an informal meeting to discuss the possibility of holding the event in 2016. This was followed by an extra-ordinary Council meeting (open to the public) to decide on the issue. There was considerable good will for the holding of an event, but concern that there were too many uncertainties for 2016 which could not be resolved by the time the contract with the display organisers needed to be signed. These included the level of support from volunteers or professional teams; input from East Sussex Fire and Rescue; possible road closures; permits and insurances; and arrangements with the Gilbert Estate. We therefore decided, by majority vote, not to hold the event in 2016, but would start considering a 2017 event around mid-2016.

**Recreation Ground** –The recreation ground is nearly 4 acres and is registered as a QEII Field in Trust; it is a great community asset owned by the Parish Council. It includes a pavilion, cricket wickets, tennis courts and a children’s play area. Cricket is regularly played on the ground at weekends during the summer, along with a variety of other sports. During the year we were approached by a stoolball team from Eastbourne which was interested in using our recreation ground as their home base. We agreed. They changed their name to East Dean Geebro Stoolball Club and should be starting home matches very shortly. We hope residents will come and support the new team. During 2015/16 the Pavilion refurbishment programme continued with the replacing of a number of windows. The tennis nets are now up for the summer 2016 season.

**Finances** –During the year we received £54k and paid out £42k, a cash surplus of £12k. The closing bank balance was £36k. The precept (amount received from the council tax) was £48k. Other receipts were VAT refund (£4k); grants from ESCC for verge cutting (£1k); other income (£1k). Our summary expenditures were Council Office (£15k); Professional Fees (£4k); mowing and tree cutting (£7k); Pavilion (£4k); playground (£2k); donations (£2k); community bus (£2k); VAT (£3k); other (£3k). The cash build-up is to help finance some planned major expenditures in 2016/17 namely War Memorial refurbishment; pavilion and play area upgrade.

**Emergency Plan** – the Village Emergency Plan was reviewed and reissued during the year together with the related Self-Help Guide. Apart from certain name changes no other amendments were required. Both documents can be accessed via our website or hardcopies are available from the Parish Clerk. The Plan is in place to provide a Parish-led self-help response if the normal emergency response by the ‘blue-light’ services is delayed because of the scope or nature of the emergency.

**Communications** – we are very keen on two-way communication. We let you know what is going on by articles in every edition of the monthly Parish Magazine, issuing our bi-monthly newsletter *Rendezvous*, updating the Council noticeboards, sending emails to those on our email register and by maintaining the Council website. During 2015/16 there were nearly 9k individual website sessions accessing over 22k pages, with a noticeable surge when the summary minutes are issued. The email register continues to grow with now over 500 addresses. Our on-line library contains all past copies of *Rendezvous*, the minutes of all meetings in the current and previous financial years, previous Annual Village Meeting Reports, governance documents, key statistics, planning applications considered, and more. During the

year we introduced a system whereby decision papers to be considered by Council are placed on the website in advance of our meetings so residents can review them and come along to meetings to express their views and/or comment. Again, those on our email register are advised when the papers are issued. Previous papers are retained on-line for reference. The service is there for you, so you know what your council is considering and deciding.

Many thanks

*Stewart Fuller*  
*Chair, East Dean & Friston Parish Council*



East Dean and Friston Parish Council 2015/16 Actual

Appendix 1

<b>SUMMARY</b>	
<b>Receipts</b>	54,699.47
<b>Payments</b>	
Council office	14,406.05
Professional expenses	3,515.10
Councillor expenses	406.07
Asset maintenance	8,181.52
Services	13,032.18
VAT on payments	<u>2,771.73</u>
	42,312.65
<b>Surplus for the Year</b>	<b>12,386.82</b>
Opening reserves	23,749.55
<b>Closing reserves</b>	<b>36,136.37</b>

<b>RECEIPTS</b>	
Precept	48,110.00
Support grant	558.00
Pavilion hires	110.00
ESCC verge cutting	1,499.54
Downlands Way Mtce	372.90
Village Hall rent	323.12
Bonfire	150.00
Other	37.32
VAT on receipts/reclaims	<u>3,538.59</u>
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b><u>54,699.47</u></b>

<b>PAYMENTS</b>	
<b>Council office</b>	
Clerk's salary (gross)	12,809.64
Employer's NICS	648.24
Travel expenses	332.28
Office phone/broadband/power	216.00
Office equipment	293.96
Postage, printing, stationery	<u>105.93</u>
<b>Total council office</b>	<b><u>14,406.05</u></b>

<b>Professional expenses</b>	
Insurances	1,420.69
Audit fees	430.35
Village hall rent	323.12
Subscriptions	563.56
Legal/professional fees	334.00
Election expenses	<u>443.38</u>
<b>Total professional expenses</b>	<b><u>3,515.10</u></b>

<b>Councillor expenses</b>	
Councillors' course fees	225.00
Chair's expenses	
Councillors' expenses	<u>181.07</u>
<b>Total councillor expenses</b>	<b><u>406.07</u></b>

<b>Asset Maintenance</b>	
<b>Pavilion</b>	
Pavilion refurb	3,323.00
Pavilion - general mtce	200.34
Cleaner's wages	290.00
Winterisation	-
Fire extinguisher mtce	25.70
Utilities	414.03
<b>Total pavilion</b>	<b><u>4,253.07</u></b>
<b>Sports ground and play area</b>	
General maintenance	2,148.98
ROSPA inspection	83.00
Safety surface	
Tennis court equipment	
Replacement playground kit	
<b>Total sports ground and play area</b>	<b><u>2,231.98</u></b>

<b>Other Assets</b>	
War Memorial	
Other village green assets	
Public seats	
Downlands Way mtce	584.50
Friston Pond mtce	
Bus shelters - cleaning/mtce	600.00
Notice boards	
Minor assets replacement	243.30
Other/provision/project	268.67
<b>Total other assets</b>	<b><u>1,696.47</u></b>
<b>Total Asset Maintenance</b>	<b><u>8,181.52</u></b>

<b>Services</b>	
<b>Mowing</b>	
General	1,210.00
Recreation ground	1,600.00
Private	2,300.00
Verges (incl. Fridays)	-
Extras	425.02
<b>Total mowing</b>	<b><u>5,535.02</u></b>
Donations	2,217.40
Public relations/services	923.00
PC and village website & Broadband	540.81
Cuckmere Community Bus	2,179.78
Tree maintenance	1,000.00
Village events	303.37
Bonfire	-
Dog bins	282.80
Footpath Maintenance	50.00
Path and highway signs	
General ROW maintenance	
Other	
<b>Total Services</b>	<b><u>13,032.18</u></b>