

Rendezvous

July 2014

Issue 11

.... with East Dean and Friston Parish Council

Hello and Welcome

..... here are some diary dates in July:-

10 July – *Parish Council Meeting* starting with the public session at 6.30pm

22 July – *Planning Committee* starting with the public session at 7pm

31 July – *Council Surgery* at 10am at the Village Coffee Morning

All Change at the Council

At the Annual Council Meeting on 22 May Rob Page decided, for family reasons, to stand-down as chair of the council, but he remains a councillor. Stewart Fuller was unanimously elected as Rob's successor. Also at the meeting it was agreed to disband three standing committees - *Finance and General Purposes*, *Recreation Ground*, and *Village Events*, and to return their functions to the full council. Revised Financial Regulations based on NALC's model have recently been adopted and these can be seen in the library of the council's website.

Recreation Ground



A survey of asbestos at the pavilion has been completed and the results put on to the asbestos register. The findings of the survey will be taken into account during the proposed refurbishment works. The waste collection arrangements are being changed so that there will be no winter collections (from after the Bonfire to the end of March) and weekly collections during the summer.

Birling Gap Road

The Birling Gap road is due to be "surface dressed" and this is currently scheduled for 22 August and will cover the road from Birling Gap to the A259. It's a few weeks away yet and things may change depending on weather and the ESCC work schedule. We'll keep you posted.

Tour of Britain

The 2014 Tour of Britain bike race takes place from Sunday 7th to Sunday 14th September - eight days of action packed racing throughout the UK. On Saturday 13 September the 7th stage of the race will be taking the riders through Wealden, and we are on part of that route; so another opportunity for some cheering and flag waving. Details of the route will be provided nearer the day.

Community Watch

This scheme was launched in February 2012 as a direct result of that part of the Parish Council's Village Plan which recognised the particular needs of a number of residents. The objective is to encourage neighbours to help neighbours. If somebody needs help, for example with a lift to the GP; walking the dog or feeding the cat, or just a bit of shopping they simply phone any one of three local numbers – 423311, 423101 or 423484 – and they will be put in touch with a volunteer who lives nearby. The service is completely free. In the last two years *Community Watch* has dealt with and recorded some 90 requests for help. However, many are unrecorded and the total figure is probably closer to 200 times that help has been provided.



Village Design Statement

Over the past several months a working group has been busy reviewing and rewriting our Village Design Statement, the current version of which was prepared some years ago. The aim of this initiative is to enable the SDNP, as the Planning Authority, to adopt the VDS as a Supplementary Planning Document which will carry significant weight in the determination of planning applications at the Planning Authority level. The current VDS does not enjoy such status. The SDNP has been working with the team to help guide and ensure consistency with their own planning policies. The document will describe the existing essential character of our village and provide advice on future development. The target is to have the final document ready before the end of the year, but before then a council review will be held at which residents will be invited to attend.

The Pond's Looking Good



Litter Bins

A number of adverse comments have been received about overflowing litter bins in the village. We have written to Wealden District Council asking for extra capacity or more frequent collections, and requested new lids for several existing bins.

Car Parks

Wealden District Council have recently concluded a comprehensive review of their car parks and concluded that the great majority should remain free, but that 24 hour parking should become 23 hour to prevent roll-over parking. These provisions will apply to East Dean.

Exceat Bridge

We have held discussions about traffic control at Exceat Bridge with ESCC Highways, and there were two outcomes. First, during Airbourne on 14-17 August we hope the event organisers will arrange police control with support from ESCC on the Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Secondly, permanent traffic lights at the bridge are highly unlikely as they scored low on ESCC's assessment. This is owing to the need to control the car park entrance/exit at the Cuckmere Inn (Golden Galleon), and the overall volume of traffic which at times could cause greater queuing if controlled by lights. We are nevertheless continuing our campaign and are now seeking views of other organisations about the need for some form of permanent control at the bridge.

Annual Village Meeting

Over 120 residents attended the AVM in the Village Hall on 19 May to find out about the results of the Village Survey and to hear presentations from a

number of clubs and societies within the village. If you would like a copy of the survey results, a summary is available in the council's on-line library, or call the clerk for a hard copy. A number of issues from the survey requiring the Council's attention have been added to the *Village Action Plan* (VAP) which is also available in the on-line library

and on village noticeboards. The Annual Village Report is available in the library, too. For those of you who have long-term diaries, next year's AVM will be held on Thursday 30 April 2015; the theme is yet to be decided.



Speed Limits on the Estate

From the Village Survey over 350 people supported efforts to have a 20mph limit on the estate, but only 88 supported speed bumps. As regards the speed limits, ESCC Highways have unfortunately estimated the cost of installing repeater signs all around the Downlands Estate at approximately £7,200 for the works, plus £1,000 legal costs, all of which would need to be met locally. Apart from the funding, another limiting factor would be the siting of the signs.

Communications

Based on the survey there was all-round support for our methods of communicating – noticeboards, parish magazine, *Rendezvous*, website, surgery and email. So we'll keep all our lines open. As regards access to the Council website 56% of the 344 respondents did visit the site, and a large proportion were also members of the Council's email register. Thank you all. For those of you who haven't visited the website or joined our register, why not do so? You may find it interesting and helpful.

<http://www.parish-council.com/eastdeanandfristonparishcouncil/>

Your Parish Council

Parish Councillors

Stewart Fuller (Chair)	423710
Phill Hill (vice Chair)	423990
Tim Bryant	422442
Dave Cooper	422486
John Hine	422275
Simon Hunt	423669
Rob Page	423484
Jen Sargent	422326
Vacancy	

Parish Clerk

Katrina Larkin
The Old Cottage, Lewes Road
Laughton, East Sussex, BN8 6BQ
01323 811870

Parish Council Meetings

The next two regular Council meetings will be held in the Small Village Hall at 6.30pm on:

10 July and 4 September

Residents are very welcome to attend, observe and participate in the public sessions. The agenda and minutes are placed on Council noticeboards and on the Council website. There is no Council meeting in August.

Standing Committees

Name	Chair
Planning	Tim Bryant
Rights of Way	Phillip Hill

Finances for year to May

Receipts	£21,780*
Payments	£4,391
Cash in Hand	£36,749

* Half of annual precept rec'd in April

Charity of the Year

St Wilfrid's Hospice is the Council's Charity of the Year 2014/15. The charity will receive the proceeds of fund-raising such as the Council's Village Fete stall, and receipts from the walking guide.

Email Register

The Parish Council has an email register for use in sending out urgent or important items or where timescales are short. If you would like to be included on the register please send an email, with your name and address in the subject line, to:

edf.email@yahoo.co.uk