

.... with East Dean and Friston Parish Council

Hello and Welcome

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

4 Jun - *Parish Council Meeting* starting with the public session at 6.30pm

14 Jun - *Liberteas* - Magna Carta tea party (see article overleaf)

23 Jun - *Planning Committee* starting with the public session at 6.30pm

25 Jun - *Council Surgery* at 10am at the Village Coffee Morning

New Council

Local councils are the backbone of local democracy and are of increasing importance. Over 200 new councils have been set-up over the last decade, with local councils continuing to expand their role, taking on new responsibilities and services from other authorities and organisations. There are 9,000 parish and town councils with some 80,000 councillors, and we are part of that number. Your Parish Council consists of nine Councillors supported by the Parish Clerk. At the recent elections all councillors were required to stand down and five decided not to stand again. Only seven names were put forward to fill the nine vacancies so these were elected un-opposed; subsequently we co-opted another, so now we are eight – four from the previous Council and four new. We are all very pleased to form the new Council and look forward to serving the community of East Dean & Friston, Birling Gap and Crowlink. Councillors' names and contact details are shown overleaf and details are also on the Council website. We'll aim to fill the one remaining vacancy shortly.

Annual Council Meeting

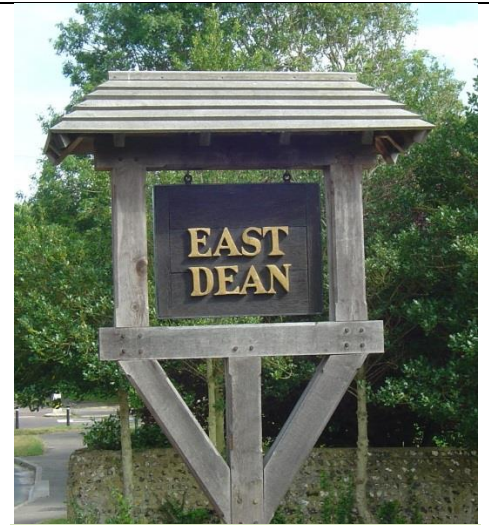
Each year the Council hold an annual meeting to make appropriate appointments and confirm certain rules and regulations. The ACM this year was held on 14 May at which Stewart Fuller was re-elected Chair, and Phill Hill Vice Chair. Phill was also re-elected Chair of the Rights of Way committee and Ian Haydock became Chair of Planning. Michael Keller and Jen Sargent join Phill on ROW and all Councillors sit as members of the Planning Committee. Jen becomes lead member for the Recreation Ground and Village Events and Stewart continues as lead for Finance and General Purposes. Ruth Maxwell



was nominated to become a Trustee of the Village Hall Trust to maintain the interface between the two organisations. Other roles and responsibilities will be assigned later. At the ACM it was also agreed that the Council's charity for the year from fund-raising events would be the Royal British Legion.

Publication of Minutes

To help reduce costs, minutes of Council and committee meetings will no longer be placed on Council noticeboards. However, meeting agendas will continue to be posted on the NB's as will the *summary of items discussed* at Council Meetings. Full minutes will continue to be available via the Council website or from the Parish Clerk on request.



Council Assets

A Parish Council is a true corporation with perpetual succession. It will continue to exist even if it has no members! Its status enables it to own property. The ED&F Parish Council owns Friston Green and the nearby car park; the QE II Recreation Ground; the pavilion and main contents; the tennis courts and playground; Downlands Way precinct car park; the four bus shelters, three noticeboards and 24 public seats; various gates and fencing; several parcels of land and the East Dean Village Sign (above). Its asset register also lists the War Memorial and railings and flag pole and signs on the Village Green; plus a number of pieces of office equipment.

Cut it Back

ESCC are promoting the *Cut it Back* campaign to raise awareness that maintenance of trees and hedges on private land is the responsibility of the property or landowner. Overhanging trees and hedges which are not properly maintained can cause a danger to pedestrians and/or motorists; so please inspect and maintain your trees and hedges regularly during the growing season to avoid a visit from ESCC Highways.

2014/15 Finances

The Council's receipts during 2014/15 amounted to £64,815 and payments totalled £60,426, giving a surplus of £4,389. Of this, the bonfire contributed £1,905 after donating £500 to St Wilfrids. The precept (amount received from the council tax) was £40,770 and both the receipts and payments included a £10k bequest to the Village Hall. Other income items included pavilion hire (£2k), grants (£2k) and VAT refund (£4k). Main spend items were Council office (£14k), insurances etc (£3k), pavilion refurb (£12k), mowing (£6k), bonfire (£3k) community bus (£2k), communications (£1k), general maintenance (£2k), and VAT payments (£5k). Cash held at the year-end was £23,749.

Community Bus



Although there were some changes to a number of bus services in East Sussex effective during April, there was **no change** to the Cuckmere Bus (CCB) service 41 providing shopping services from East Dean to Eastbourne on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The timetable remains unchanged and is on the Downlands Way noticeboard and the Council website. Timetables for all services

are available on all Cuckmere Buses. Concessionary passes are accepted on all scheduled services, and service 41 is also supported by the Parish Council.

Liberteas

Magna Carta is one of the most famous documents in the world. Originally issued by King John as a practical solution to the political crisis he faced in 1215, it established for the first time the principle that everybody, including the king, was subject to the law. Although nearly a third of the text was deleted or substantially rewritten within ten years, and almost all the clauses have been repealed in modern times, it remains a cornerstone of the British constitution. Come and celebrate Magna Carta's 800th anniversary with us at 3pm on Sunday 14 June – see article in the June Parish Magazine entitled *Liberteas*.

Annual Village Meeting

The AVM was held on 30 April in the Village Hall and its success was measured by the number attending. Over 100 residents came to see the displays and chat with representatives from local clubs and societies and to hear a number of presentations. The Annual Village Report was made available and can also be seen in the on-line library on the Parish Council's website, or copies can be obtained from the Parish Clerk. The document includes reports from Cuckmere Bus, Community Watch, Downland Heartstart, Bowling Club, History Group, Parish Magazine, Residents' Association, Royal British Legion, Short Mat Bowls, Parochial Church Council and the Parish Council.

Some Stats from 2014/15

32 residents attended Council Meetings
41 residents attended Planning Comms
46 planning applications considered
489 members are on PC email register
2,479 passenger journeys on the local bus
9,171 visits to the PC website (below)
25,534 pages accessed on the PC website

MP and Councillors

Congratulations to Maria Caulfield and John Wilton on being elected as our MP and District Councillor respectively. Stephen Shing remains our County Councillor with county elections planned for 2017.

Council Website

Our website is updated regularly - particularly the news page. It also contains some useful standing information - so don't forget to check in now and again. Use the address below or google "east dean friston council"

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

Your Parish Council

Parish Councillors

Stewart Fuller (Chair)	423710
Phill Hill (vice Chair)	423990
Oliver Boulet	
Joe Cullinane	423834
Ian Haydock	423920
Michael Keller	422091
Ruth Maxwell	423397
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 Council meetings will be held in the Village Hall at 6.30pm on:

4 June and 2 July

Residents are very welcome to attend, observe and participate in the public sessions. Agendas are placed on Council noticeboards and on the Council website.

Standing Committees

Name	Chair
Planning	Ian Haydock
Rights of Way	Phillip Hill

Finances for year to April '15

Receipts	£1,507
Payments	£1,717
Cash in Hand	£23,539

Election Results

	Percentage of Votes Cast		
	UK	Lewes	ED&F
Cons	37	38	57
Labour	30	10	-
LibDem	8	36	25
UKIP	13	11	18
Other	12	5	-
	100	100	100
T/out	66%	73%	80%

Email Register

The parish council's email register is used for 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:

edfpc1@gmail.com