

## .... with East Dean and Friston Parish Council

### Hello and Welcome

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

**3 Mar** - *Parish Council Meeting* starting with the public session at 6.30pm

**15 Mar** - *Rights of Way Committee* starting with the public session at 6.00pm

**15 Mar** - *Planning Committee* starting with the public session at 7.00pm

**31 Mar** - *Council Surgery* at 10am at the Village Hall Coffee Morning

### Annual Village Meeting

All Parish and Town Councils throughout England are required by law to hold an Annual Parish Meeting which must take place between 1 March and 1 June (inclusive), not starting before 6pm. Our next Annual Village Meeting will be held on Thursday 28 April in the Village Hall and all are welcome. This is not a parish council meeting but a meeting of the local electorate. Last year over 100 residents attended; a great turnout. Clubs and Societies are being invited to have displays on show for visitors to see between 6-7pm; then brief updates on a selection of topics plus talks/presentations from the clubs etc until about 8.30pm. We'll end with Q&A. There will be free nibbles and a glass of wine. Let us know if there are any specific topics you want to hear about. Watch out for posters around the village nearer the day. Hope to see you there.

### Airbourne



Based on a survey carried out by ESCC Highways, statistics show that increasing the priority for westbound traffic through the use of temporary traffic lights could (not surprisingly) produce a significant increase in traffic movement away from East Dean during Airbourne. The likely cost for

temporary lights is not expected to be high and will be shared between ESCC, Eastbourne Borough Council and ED&F PC. A further meeting is being organised to confirm agreement/arrangements. We're nearly there.

### 2016/17 Budget

At our January meeting we approved the Budget and precept for 2016/17 – no change in precept from this financial year. The main items of expenditure for next year include Council Office (£16k); Professional Fees (£5k); Pavilion (£7k); Play Area (£8k); War Memorial (£8k); other asset projects/maintenance (£9k); mowing (£8k); Community Bus (£3k). Looking forward, the amount of project work indicates a requirement for a planned 20% increase in the precept in 2017/18, although this will be reviewed as part of next year's budget round. The detailed budget and forward view is available on our website.

### Queen's Birthday

The Queen celebrates two birthdays each year - her actual birthday on 21 April and her official birthday which this year is on Saturday 11 June. She is 90 this year and a number of celebrations will be taking place over the weekend of 10-12 June throughout the country. Here we are thinking of planning some family event on the recreation ground. Are you, your club or organisation planning anything and would like to share the details? If so, please let us know and we will provide a consolidated itinerary of activities within the village.



### Bonfire Night

We held an Extra-Ordinary Meeting on 29 January to consider whether or not to hold a Bonfire Event in 2016. Following an extended public session, attended by 9 members of the public, councillors decided by a majority vote NOT to hold the Event this year. There was considerable goodwill for holding the Event, but concern that there were too many uncertainties which could not be resolved by the time the contract with the display organisers needed to be signed. The key factors leading to the final decision focused around the level of support from volunteers or professional teams, the implications of social media, detailed arrangements with the Gilbert Estate, safety issues with respect to Fire & Rescue, and possible road closures, as well as regulations over permits and insurance cover. However, we are keen to address these and other issues in time for a revitalised Event in 2017, and related planning for next year will start towards the end of this summer. We wish to thank those residents who attended and expressed their views at the Public Session and others who shared their thoughts via email. The full meeting minutes are available on the Council website.

### Mobile Library

The mobile library will be at the Village Hall car park from 11.10am to 12.10pm on Fridays 11 March and 1 and 22 April.

## Village Design Statement

The preparation of the parish's own VDS is now approaching the finishing line for the second time, having been turned away in the home straight the first time! Over the past few months the latest draft has been rigorously tested by SDNPA officers and carries a considerable amount of input from their Design Officer, as well as advice from the Development Management team (ie those officers whose job it is to assess planning applications against planning policy). The Parish Council will be approving the final revisions shortly and the completed VDS will then be on its way to the SDNPA Planning Committee for acceptance and adoption as a Supplementary Planning Document. It will then carry similar weight to planning policy. The end is in sight and we're aiming for adoption in April.

## The Drove

There are likely to be differences of opinion between the developers and the Council regarding the accessibility and width of The Drove which borders the Council owned Recreation Ground. Evidence shows that the route has benefitted from open access for several decades; hence we are applying to ESCC for it to be registered as a formal right of way. We are also proceeding with a *Determined Boundary* assessment between The Drove and the Rec as the development plans show an apparent encroachment onto Council property, and the planting of trees on PC land.

## Estate Roads

The estate roads are 'private streets', privately maintained. They have not been adopted by ESCC Highways, but may be used by the public. As part of the public highway they are subject to the normal 'rules of the road'. Two particular issues come up fairly often which we'd like to highlight. First - parking. The roads are



rather narrow and parking on them can cause difficulties for others. The problem is exacerbated when commercial vehicles are parked on the estate roads, particularly for the public service vehicles like the regular Cuckmere Bus and Kier waste trucks. We have received reports of the need for some to reverse and/or not attend owing to inconsiderate parking. What if it

were an emergency vehicle? Please, wherever possible, try and park off the estate roads and, in particular, if a commercial vehicle is to be present for some time at your property, arrange for it to park on your grounds – even partly off-road helps. Secondly – speeding. The estate roads have an advisory limit of 20mph. The roads are narrow, there are no pavements, so please think of others and drive within the 20mph limit. Thank you.

## Walking Maps

We have maps of three walks in the area, all starting and ending in the village car park. The walks cover: 2.5kms-1hr; 7kms-2hrs; 11kms-4hrs. The maps are available from various outlets around the village or can be viewed and downloaded from our website.

## Parish Council Website

Our website is updated regularly particularly the news page. Use the address below or google "east dean friston council". Also take a look at the Village Hall website, the PC is custodian trustee of the Village Hall.  
[parish-council.com/eastdeanandfristonparishcouncil](http://parish-council.com/eastdeanandfristonparishcouncil)      [edfvillagehall.org.uk](http://edfvillagehall.org.uk)

## Your Parish Council

### Parish Councillors

Stewart Fuller (Chair)	423710
Phill Hill (vice Chair)	423990
Oliver Boulet	423469
Jane Branson	07855791558
Joe Cullinane	423834
Ian Haydock	423920
Michael Keller	422091
Ruth Maxwell	423397
Jen Sargent	422326

### Councillor Movement

Ian Haydock decided to stand down as Chair of Planning effective from 19 January. He remains a councillor. Temp arrangements will be made until a permanent replacement is appointed at the Annual Council Meeting in May.

### 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:

**3 March and 7 April**

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

### Standing Committees

Name	Chair
Planning	vacant
Rights of Way	Phillip Hill

### Finances for year to Jan '16

Receipts	54,667
Payments	36,087
Cash in Hand	42,329

### Did You Know?

You can report and view street and road problems (including potholes, broken paving slabs and street lighting), on-line at [eastsussex.fixmystreet.com](http://eastsussex.fixmystreet.com). (Not applicable to Downlands Estate)

### Email Register

The parish council's email register is used for sending out urgent or important items. To be included on the register please send an email, with your name and address in the subject line, to: [edfpc1@gmail.com](mailto:edfpc1@gmail.com)