

Rendezvous

February 2018

Issue 27

.... with East Dean and Friston Parish Council

Hello and Welcome

..... here are some diary dates in February for meetings in the Village Hall:-

1 Feb - *Parish Council Meeting* starting with the public session at 6.30pm

20 Feb - *Planning Committee* starting with the public session at 6.30pm

22 Feb - *Council Surgery* at the Village Coffee Morning at 10am

Play Area

The Parish Council have been seeking grant aid for the Play Area Improvement from various agencies. Demand is high for this sort of thing, and there is fierce competition for limited funds. We are therefore delighted to report that we have been successful in obtaining grant support from The Big Lottery Fund (£10,000) and from SGN (£1,000). Great news! The new multi-play equipment has been ordered and manufactured and is currently being stored by the supplier pending installation around March/April time. The new kit includes slides, cabins, a climbing wall and ropes. Some of the existing equipment on site will remain; it is fundamentally in good condition, popular with families, and blends in with its environment. All the current equipment has undergone minor repairs following the annual safety inspection and monitoring will continue. Provision has been made in the forward three year financial review for additional play equipment upgrades.

Garden Waste

WDC has agreed to introduce customer charges for garden waste collections when the new Joint Waste Contract for refuse and recycling comes into effect in mid-2019. They have indicated that a charge of £1 a week is likely although the final figure will not be known until late 2018. WDC will be promoting offers on a range of home composting equipment before the new scheme starts, providing residents with the opportunity to compost for themselves.

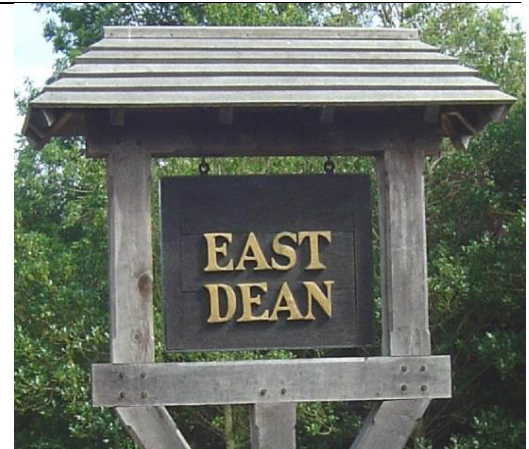


Mobile Library

ESCC's consultation on its draft strategy *East Sussex Libraries – The Way Forward* concluded in mid-December. The draft strategy set out a proposal to withdraw the Mobile Library Service as part of wider proposals to provide a modern, sustainable library service for the future. Following an analysis of the consultation input, ESCC is expected to consider an amended strategy in March 2018. If any revisions to the Mobile Library schedule are necessary we will issue an amended schedule of visits (see also Mobile Library on our website).

Sussex Police

Sussex Police celebrate their 50 year anniversary in 2018. The borough forces of Hastings, Eastbourne and Brighton, and the county forces of East Sussex and West Sussex, came together in January 1968 to form Sussex Police. Over the next 12 months they will be exploring a number of themes which show how dramatically things have changed – while others have remained almost exactly the same. More info on their website sussex.police.uk



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. Our next Annual Village Meeting will be held on Thursday 26 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 again being invited to have displays on show for visitors to see between 5.30-6.30pm; then brief updates on a selection of topics until about 8pm. We'll end with Q&A. There will be 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.

Dutch Elm Disease

Some diseased elms have been identified in the Twitten from East Dean to Friston, one elm in Friston churchyard and some in the adjacent field. Work on removal has been scheduled for late March/early April.

Tree Warden

Interested in becoming a tree warden to gather information about local trees and get involved in local tree matters, and to advise and assist the Parish Council? Contact the Clerk for further info.

Budgets

At our January meeting we approved the Budget and Precept for 2018/19 and noted the three year forecast to 2021/22. We considered a draft of the budget and forecasts at our November and December meetings and these reviews showed a need for an increase in the precept of around 20% (in line with that indicated last year). This increase will contribute to the funding of the updated play area and the Friston Build out and will raise the average Band 'D' home contribution by less than £1 per month. Expenditure in 2018/19 is budgeted at £72k made up of Council Office (£15k); Professional Fees (£5k); Memorial Railings (£3k); Pavilion (£4k); Play Area Project (£14k installation); Friston Build-Out (£6k being 50% match-funding); other projects/asset maintenance (£6k); mowing (£8k incl verge cutting taken over from ESCC); Community Bus (£3k); other services (£8k). Cash at the end of the year is budgeted at £22k. No further increase in the precept is assumed for the next three years. The detailed 2018/19 budget and forward projections is available on our website.



Grant Scheme

The Parish Council welcomes and values the work of local voluntary groups and organisations. It has a policy for making grants to groups and organisations which contribute to the welfare of the community by improving or supporting facilities and/or activities. Applicants will be able to apply for a grant between 1 March and 30 April each year by sending a completed application form to the Parish Clerk. Applications will then be considered at the June Council meeting and grants awarded will be paid by end June. Applicants must be able to demonstrate a clear need for financial support and detail the number of residents expected to benefit. If the application is for a particular project or activity, any Grant awarded will generally not exceed 50% of the cost of the project or activity. As a condition of receiving a grant, recipients will be required to acknowledge the Council's support in any publicity material. The Council will not normally support commercial organisations, major charities, bodies considered to be self-funded or provided for by other authorities.

Best Kept Village & Other Signs

There are several round plaques on the flint wall above the door to the old pump house on the Village Green, which the village won over the years. These are in need of some TLC. There is also the top sign on the wooden post against the wall which is most in need of painting; this sign and pole were left with the village as we won the last title. It has been agreed that these signs be taken down to prevent further deterioration, but not disposed of. At the Annual Village



Meeting we will ask for views about the future of the signs (now 30 years old).

Notice Boards

The Council owns four noticeboards in the village – two at Downlands Way car park, one adjacent to the Village Hall Car Park, and one at the junction of Windmill Lane and the A259. All are scheduled for refurbishment over the coming months. In addition we have the NB on the council website at:

edfparishcouncil.org.uk

Your Parish Council

Parish Councillors

Mike Keller (Chair)	422091
Brian Greenwell (Vice Chair)	423799
Tim Bryant	422442
Dave Clarke	07753 121083
Stewart Fuller	423710
Ian Haydock	423920
Phill Hill	423990
Amanda Hookham	422180
Paul Seeley	422361

Standing Committee

Planning Chair: Tim Bryant

Parish Clerk

Katrina Larkin

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

clerkedfpc@gmail.com

Parish Council Meetings

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

Thursdays 1 Feb, 1 Mar and 5 Apr

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

Finances for 9 mths to Dec '17

Receipts	£64,700
Payments	£41,443
Cash in Hand	£71,314

Pavilion Hire

The pavilion is a community asset owned by the Parish Council. It is used by the cricket club over weekends in the summer, but it is also available for individual hires for mornings or afternoons on weekdays and on non-cricket weekends. The Pavilion is closed for the winter and opens when the clocks change (25 March 2018). The hire fee for individual hires is now only £25 incl VAT per session. For further info or to book the Pavilion, contact the Parish Clerk (see above).

Email Register

Our email register is just one of the ways we use to keep you up to date. To be included simply send an email, with your name and address in the subject line to:

edfpc1@gmail.com