



Councillors are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of East Dean and Friston Parish Council to be held in the Small Hall of the Village Hall, East Dean on Thursday 1 February 2024 commencing at 7.30 pm

Members of the public and press have a right, and are welcome, to attend meetings of the council, and to speak during the Public Session. Meetings may be recorded.

Sam Adeniji

Sam Adeniji
Clerk to the Council
25 January 2024

AGENDA

Public Session

Council Session

1. Acceptance of apologies for absence
2. Declarations of Interest*
3. To approve the minutes of the parish council meeting held on 4 January 2024
4. Report of the Member of Parliament
5. Report of the County Councillor
6. Report of the District Councillor
7. Update from the meeting of 4th January 2024

FOR DECISION:

8. **Wealden Communities Development Worker**
An introduction by Melanie Nick the 3VA Communities Development Worker for Wealden on supporting local groups or people interested in setting up new community groups.
9. **Wealden District Parish Conference (Report 9)**
To consider nominating up to 2 delegates to attend the Wealden District Parish Conference on Thursday 14 March 2024 at the Hailsham Community Civic Hall on Vicarage Lane, Hailsham BN27 2AX.
10. **South Downs National Park Board Councillor representative vacancy (Report 10)**
To consider a response to a vacancy on the board of the SDNPA.
11. **Rural Grass Cutting Service (Report Item 11)**
To consider a response to ESCC Rural Grass Cutting Service for 2024/25.

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12. **East Dean & Friston Speed Limit Reduction (Report 12)**
To consider the response from the ESCC Transport Development Control
 13. **Payments and Receipts (Report Item 13)**
To approve payments to be made in February 2024 and to note payments and receipts for January 2024.
 14. **Outdoor dining area adjacent to the café**
To review an update from Cllr Bryant and decide on how to proceed.
 15. **Annual Village Meeting 2024 (Report Item 15)**
To note the report and issue any further instructions to the Clerk.
 16. **Friston Pond**
To consider the proposed pond works programme and potential funding.
 17. **Road Safety at Crowlink Friston (Report Item 17)**
To decide on a course of action regarding inconsiderate parking on the Crowlink slip road by Friston Pond.
 18. **D-Day 80 – 6th June 2024 (Report Item 18)**
To consider plans for the 80th anniversary of the D-Day celebrations.

FOR NOTING:

19. Urgent Items not on the Agenda which the Chair is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency but not decision.
 20. **Reports**
 - a) Chair of the Council
 - To note the sad news regarding The Parish's Flag Master
 - b) Planning Committee
 - c) Finance – to note the Budget Monitoring Report for Month 10, 2023/24 (Report Item 21c to follow)
 - d) Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
 - e) Rights of Way and Highways
 - f) Tree Warden
 - g) Recreation Ground
 - h) Defibrillators
 - i) Downlands Estate Management Group
 21. **Correspondence (Report Item 20)**
To note a report by the clerk on correspondence received (if any)
 22. **Date of next meeting: Thursday 7th March 2024 at 7.30 pm**
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- * **Declarations of Interests** – Councillors are reminded to make any declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests or other Interests that they may have in relation to items on this Agenda. Notice should be given at this point in the Meeting of any intended declaration. The nature of the interest should be declared at the commencement of the item or when the interest becomes apparent. Members should remember to advise The Clerk of any changes to their declared interests, as they arise.

Date: 01 February 2024

Title: Report Item 9 – Wealden District Parish Conference

By: S Adeniji (Clerk)

Purpose: Consider an invitation to attend the Wealden District Parish Conference

Recommendations: To consider nominating up to 2 delegates to attend the Wealden District Parish Conference on Thursday 14 March 2024 at the Hailsham Community Civic Hall on Vicarage Lane, Hailsham BN27 2AX

Introduction:

1. Wealden District Council will be consulting on a new local plan for the district in the spring. Whilst the local planning team have been working with town and parish councils during the preparation of the plan, WDC feels appropriate to run this year's conference around the forthcoming public consultation on its local plan.
2. In addition to the local plan, the conference will also provide town and parish councils the opportunity to feed into upcoming work to review the district councils' work on climate change and hear about the Local Government Association's campaign 'Civility in Public Life'.
3. WDC will be running the Parish Conference on Thursday 14 March 2024 at the Hailsham Community Civic Hall on Vicarage Lane, Hailsham BN27 2AX. This will be during the local plan consultation period and the conference will allow town and parish council representatives to hear from, and ask questions of, the local plan team.
4. The conference will open at 9.30am with tea and coffee with a prompt start at 10am. The expected end of the day will be 3pm. An official invite and agenda will follow nearer the time of the meeting.
5. Places for the conference are limited to two representatives per town/parish council. As with previous years to cover the provided lunch there will be a small charge of £30 per delegate.



East Dean & Friston

P a r i s h C o u n c i l

Date: 01 February 2024

Title: Report Item 10 – SDNPA Board Councillor representative vacancy

By: S Adeniji (Parish Clerk)

Purpose: To provide background information and a timetable

Recommendations: To consider a response to the vacancy

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1. As East Dean and Friston parish is located wholly within the National Park boundary the parish council is entitled to nominate a councillor representative to sit on the SDNP Board.
 2. Elections were conducted last year for the Board of the South Downs National Park Authority. There are six parish representatives: two from each of Hampshire, West Sussex and East Sussex, serving on the 26-person Board.
 3. Due to Councillor Meyer having moved out of the area, he is no longer eligible to sit on the SDNP Board. As a result, a vacancy has arisen for a councillor representative to sit on the Board.
 4. Town, parish council or parish meetings located wholly or partially within the National Park boundary are entitled to nominate a councillor representative. In the case of a parish meeting, it can only be the Chairman of that PM.
 5. The first stage is to decide whether or not the parish council wishes to nominate a councillor and send the name to Trevor Leggo as soon as possible. This part of the process will need to be completed by **February 15th**.
 6. Should more than one nomination be received for this vacancy it will be necessary to hold a ballot and the parish council will be notified should this be the case.



East Dean & Friston

P a r i s h C o u n c i l

Date: 01 February 2024

Title: Report Item 11 – Response to ESCC Rural Grass Cutting Service for 2024/25

By: S Adeniji (Parish Clerk)

Purpose: To consider the proposals from ESCC

Recommendations: To consider a response Rural Grass Cutting Service for 2024/25

1. In the summer the parish council agreed to self-deliver urban grass-cutting services for 2024/25 within the parish. This is a separate proposal and it relates to the rural grass-cutting services.
2. Over the past 3 years, a trial of reduced rural grass-cutting has been undertaken by East Sussex County Council (ESCC in selected Parish and Town Councils) across the County. This was as part of the “Rural Verges as Wildlife Corridors - Trial of Early Season Reduction in Rural Grass programme” which aims to reduce cutting rural verges or change the schedule in line with wild plant cycles.
3. As agreed at the Lead Member for Transport and Environment meeting on 11th December 2023, ESCC has formally adopted this as a policy, so that the reduced rural cuts (excluding single track lanes for safety) are available to all Parish and Town Councils to opt in to.

There are two Rural Grass Cutting options as follows:

4. Option 1 - Standard Rural Grass Cutting Service – No change

Two cuts per annum of a 1 metre wide swathe along the verge plus visibility areas cut for visibility at junctions and for safety on the inside of bends where sight lines between road users may be obscured by vegetation.

5. Option 2 - Environmental Enhancement Service (reduced rural service)

Excluding single track lanes, the first cut at the start of the season to be only visibility cuts for safety at junctions and on the inside of bends where sight lines between road users may be obscured by vegetation. The second cut later in the season will be visibility plus a 1 metre wide swathe along the verge.

6. Future Changes to Rural Grass Cutting

Please note, that the option decided on by the parish council this year will become the default option going forward. ESCC will not ask the parish council each year

which rural grass cutting option it wishes to take forward. Should the parish council wish to change options, the council can email ESCC, and this can be implemented the following season. The parish council would not be able to change options part way through the grass cutting season.

7. Please note, in both options safety remains a priority. The parish council can report any visibility or safety issues to the SLO to investigate and rectify as necessary.

8. Response Deadline

If the parish council wishes to opt into the Environmental Enhancement Service (reduced rural cuts), ESCC must be informed of the decision **by Friday 23rd February 2024**, otherwise, they will default to Option 1 – Standard Rural Grass Cutting.



East Dean & Friston

P a r i s h C o u n c i l

Date: 01 February 2024

Title: Report Item 12 – East Dean & Friston Speed Limit Reduction

By: S Adeniji (Parish Clerk)

Purpose: To receive an update from Cllr Seeley

Recommendations: To determine how to proceed with the application for speed reduction within the parish.

1. The parish council has been in discussion with ESCC regarding the introduction of 20mph zones within the parish. There are two proposals as follows:
2. The first proposal - roads south of the A259 - is to adopt a 20mph zone, a reduction of 10mph from the current 30mph, along Upper Street, Lower Street, Went Way and Gilbert's Drive. These are public highways maintained by the highway authority.
3. The second proposal - roads on the private Downlands Estate north of the A259 which are maintained by the residents but open to all road users - is to adopt a 20mph zone, a reduction of 40mph from the current national speed limit. This would include all the roads within the Estate from the two entrances at Windmill Lane, Friston and Micheldene Road, East Dean and also Downs View Lane, East Dean which is a cul-de-sac off the A259 at the eastern end of the village.
4. A feasibility study application fee of £500.00 was paid by the parish council to ESCC. A response has been received from ESCC.
5. The response together with Cllr Seeley's exchange is appended in ANNEX ONE of this report.

Parish Clerk (EDFPC)

From: Mark [redacted]
Sent: 18 January 2024 14:17
To: 'Paul Seeley'
Cc: clerk@edfparishcouncil.org.uk
Subject: RE: EAST DEAN AND FRISTON SPEED LIMIT REDUCTION

Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Paul

If every road north of the A259 is managed by the East Dean and Friston Roads Co Ltd then that does simplify things, as far as surveys go.

There would need to be more than one survey site, given the number of roads being considered. We can't assume that speeds are the same in every road, not that I'm saying we need to survey every road, far from it. As a start maybe just two sites, one in Michel Dean Road and one in Windmill Lane would be best as they would be the busiest, being the main access roads. A view could then be taken on if the lower speed limit had potential to be implemented and if so we could then consider how many more surveys were needed.

The figures quoted don't include the £500.00 previously paid. I'll check to see if any part of the £500.00 is available to be transferred to this and will let you know.

Kind regards

Mark [redacted]
Assistant Manager [redacted]
Communities, Economy and Transport

[redacted],
eastsussex.gov.uk



From: Paul Seeley [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, January 18, 2024 1:04 PM
To: Mark [redacted]
Cc: clerk@edfparishcouncil.org.uk
Subject: RE: EAST DEAN AND FRISTON SPEED LIMIT REDUCTION

Dear Mark,

Many thanks for coming back to me. I will raise your reply at our next Parish Council meeting at the beginning of February and let you know whether we wish to proceed.

Can you please confirm whether the £500 already paid is to be included in the survey fee or whether the figures you quote are in addition.

All of the roads north of the A259 and on the private estate are managed by East Dean and Friston Roads Co Ltd. They manage the roads on behalf of all residents. Therefore I don't see why there is a requirement for several surveys or the need to approach every land owner- or perhaps I'm missing something or over simplifying the position.

Kind regards,

Paul

On 18 Jan 2024 12:24, Mark Weston <mark.weston@eastdeanroads.co.uk> wrote:

Dear Paul

Please accept my apologies for the time its taken for me to get back to you.

When I was looking at which roads in the Downlands Estate are considered to be unadopted public highway and which are entirely private it didn't look right to me. As a result I asked colleagues to look at this again, which they have now done, and what we had shown is correct based on the information we have.

The entirely private roads would need the land owners consent to progress anything. In addition the roads in question are either unregistered or have a number of separate owners which further complicates things.

To cover all of these roads would require quite a few survey sites. I think it would probably be sensible to have a few carried out first on the 'main roads' to see what the data shows before going to far as this would be the cheaper option. Depending on the results would also determine how much more data would be required. One issue there may be with this is siting the equipment. Normally its attached to lamp columns, sign posts, etc, which there are fewer of in this area. It may be they would need to be attached to private posts, etc, in which case we would need the owners consent. Probably one to look at more closely if you want to proceed.

On the Southern side of the A259 I think you would need 3 or 4 sites to cover all the roads suggested, depending on the extent of Gilberts Drive you wanted to cover. I'm assuming it would be from Mary Ann Lane to the A259. If this is the case I think 4 would be needed. 2 in Gilberts Drive, 1 in Lower Street and 1 in Upper Street.

I've spoken to our Transport Monitoring Team who have given me the current prices to give you a guide. If more were required the rate may well go down but as it stands for one 7 day count

(speed & volume of traffic via a radar box) the cost is £422.00 + VAT, 2 would be £644 + VAT, 3 £966.00 + VAT and 4 £1288.00 + VAT.

I'm happy to discuss or meet again, just let me know.

Kind regards

Mark -----

Assistant Manager - Transport Development Control

Communities, Economy and Transport

eastsussex.gov.uk



From: Paul Seeley - paul.seeley@eastsussex.gov.uk
Sent: Friday, November 10, 2023 10:38 AM
To: Mark mark@eastsussex.gov.uk
Subject: EAST DEAN AND FRISTON SPEED LIMIT REDUCTION

Dear Mark,

Thank you so much for meeting with me this morning and discussing the speed reductions at East Dean and Friston.

I will forward the email stream to you post this email but set out below what the Parish Council is proposing and hope that we can move this on to the survey stage with you.

The contact at your new contractors who has been liaising with us is Victoria Rojanachotikul who is the Stakeholder and Engagement Officer at Contracts Management Group - Communities, Economy and Transport.

As explained the village is split in two by the A259.

The first proposal - roads south of the A259 - is to adopt a 20mph zone, a reduction of 10mph from the current 30mph, along Upper Street, Lower Street, Went Way and Gilbert's Drive. These are public highway maintained by the highway authority.

The second proposal - roads on the private Downlands Estate north of the A259 which are maintained by the residents but open to all road users - is to adopt a 20mph zone, a reduction of 40mph from the current national speed limit. This would include all the roads within the Estate from the two entrances at Windmill Lane, Friston and Micheldene Road, East Dean and also Downs View Lane, East Dean which is a cul-de-sac off the A259 at the eastern end of the village.

The Parish Council has paid £500 to your consultant and further details are in the emails that I will forward.

I look forward to hearing from you in due course as to how we may proceed.

Kind regards,

Paul Seeley

Chairman of East Dean and Friston Parish Council.

This message is intended for the use of the addressee only and may contain confidential or privileged information. If you have received it in

Date: 01 February 2024

Title: Report Item 15 - Annual Village Meeting

By: Sam Adeniji (Parish Clerk)

Purpose of Report: To provide a draft programme and schedule for the Annual Village Meeting 2024

Recommendations: To agree the programme and schedule

1. The 2024 Annual Village Meeting is scheduled for Friday 12 April. The relatively early date mirrors the timing of last year's meeting.
2. The council has already agreed in principle that the AVM is structured in the normal way, with clubs and societies being invited to take a stall and/or give a presentation at the meeting, and residents being asked if there are any specific topics they want aired.
3. A timetable for the meeting is set out below, though the titles of the Presentations will need to be filled in nearer the time, and a final review can be done at the council meeting on 4th April:

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		Indicative Timing
1	Browse the club displays; wine & nibbles	5.30pm – 6.30pm
2	Welcome	6.30pm – 6.35pm
3	Apologies	
4	Minutes - Annual Village Meeting held on 21 April 2023	6.35pm – 6.40pm
5	Annual Village Report 2024	6.40pm – 6.50pm
6	Presentations	
	i) Clubs and Societies	6.50pm – 7.20pm
	ii) Topics – to be confirmed, e.g. reduced verge cutting in the 30 mph zone from 2024 onwards?	7.20pm – 7.35pm
	iii) to be confirmed	7.35pm - 8.00pm
7	Q & A Session/discussion	8.00pm – 8.30pm
8	Conclusion & Close	8.30pm

4. Here is a timetable for the preparations:

By:-	Item
5 th February	Residents asked for agenda/Q&A items via website, email, and notices Village organisations invited to attend, contribute to the Report, and suggest topics
Thur 7 th March	<i>Update at March Council meeting</i>
Mon 11 th March	Last day for contributions to the Annual Village Report, and graphics for the slide show
Mon 25 th March	Draft Annual Village Report to the Chairman for comments
Mon 25 th March	Publication of formal agenda by the Chairman
Thurs 4 th April	Parish Council Meeting – finalise agenda, running order, agree final draft of Annual Village Report, graphics for the slide show and table plan
Friday 5 th April	Annual Village Report to printers
11/12 April	Dry run
12 April	Annual Village Meeting



East Dean & Friston P a r i s h C o u n c i l

Date: 01 February 2024

Title: Report Item 17 – Road Safety at Crowlink Friston

By: Cllr M Bustard

Purpose: To receive an update from Cllr Bustard

Recommendations: To decide on a course of action regarding inconsiderate parking on the Crowlink slip road by Friston Pond.

Introduction:

A resident Caroline Napier, has formally raised the following issue with Parish Council, Friston Church, Cllr. David Greaves and she has been in contact with the police.

Issue in summary:

- At Christmas, particularly inconsiderate parking on the slip road from A 259 to Church and badly parked vehicles along the verge at the edge of the pond;
- Similar parking issues during the year.

Key safety concerns:

- Drivers leaving the A259 trying to use the slipway have to reverse on the very fast A259-this is dangerous;
- Emergency vehicles might be unable to reach residents/property/visitors in Crowlink;
- Many of the churchgoers are elderly ,some with mobility challenges who need to be able to park by the Church. For them crossing the very busy Friston Crowlink junction is particularly hazardous and for some impossible,
- Once the Exceat bridge works are completed there is concern that the volume of traffic at the Crowlink/Friston junction will increase the safety risks.

Action taken so far:

- Very helpful Church Warden-David George made an announcement at Church yesterday reminding the congregation about parking safely. He has also spoken to Caroline Napier.
(Members of the public often park by the church.)
- Michael Bustard has visited Caroline Napier who is coming to the 1.2.24 Parish Council meeting-open to the public session.
- According to Caroline Napier the police are unable to help but will ask Highways to undertake a safety audit at the top of Friston Hill.

Some possible actions by ED&F Parish Council:

- Formally ask East Sussex Highways to undertake the safety audit and press for yellow lines in the slip way and alongside the pond;
- Temporarily upgrade the Parish Council signs on the flint wall to read No Parking-Leave clear for Emergency Vehicles(this may need diocese's approval). Erect identical(revised signs on verge by the pond;
- Continue to liaise with the Church to achieve best outcome for all stakeholders.

Date: 01 February 2024

Title: Report Item 18 – D-Day 80th June 2024

By: S Adeniji (Parish Clerk)

Purpose: To outline an invitation to take part in events commemorating the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings.

Recommendations: 1. To consider plans for the 80th Anniversary of the D-Day landings on 6th June 2024.

1. D-Day on 6th June 1944 was the largest Naval, Air and land operation in history, involving many hundreds of thousands of Allied forces.
2. The 6th of June 2024 marks the 80th anniversary of D-Day. The bravery and sacrifice of those people in securing the peace and freedom we enjoy today will be observed by the lighting of beacons around the United Kingdom.
3. Villages, towns, cities and organisations of all sizes are being invited to mark the 80th anniversary of D-Day by lighting a beacon at 9.15pm on 6th June 2024, in celebration of the 'light of peace' that emerged out of the darkness of war, followed by an event to commemorate one of the most momentous achievements in living memory. The event could be devoted to raising valuable funds for The Royal Naval Association, ABF The Soldiers' Charity, The Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund and The Merchant Navy Association. Details on how to participate and register our involvement can be found on pages 31 and 32 of the Anniversary Guide which is in ANNEX A of this report.
4. Further details on the various types of Beacons that can be used for this special commemoration/celebration event can be found on pages 19 – 23 of the Anniversary Guide.
5. The Parish Council has a permanent beacon on the recreation ground which meets all the criteria and is newly installed for the Platinum Jubilee.
6. The Parish Clerk has registered the Parish Council involvement and has received a Certificate of Grateful Recognition and the Event Logo.
7. The Guide, along with the official logo for the event, and the Certificate of Grateful Recognition, can now be downloaded from the following website - www.d-day80beacons.co.uk.

8. In addition to its guide, the D-Day 80 organising committee have also developed several ways in which a Council and community can take part in this special occasion. This has been appended in ANNEX of this report.



TOWN, PARISH & COMMUNITY COUNCILS - D-DAY 80 - 6TH JUNE 2024

As you are aware, we are organising D-Day 80 - 6th June 2024, throughout the UK, Channel Islands, Isle of Man and UK Overseas Territories in Commemoration/Celebration of the 80th Anniversary of the D-Day landings on the five Beaches in Normandy, France, which took place on 6th June 1944, enabling your Council and local community to use this occasion to pay 'tribute' to the many, many thousands that sacrificed so much in helping to secure the freedom we all enjoy today. With this in mind, we have developed several ways in which your Council and community can take part in this special occasion.

(1) BEACON: Light a Beacon at 9.15pm on 6th June, as encouraged by Prime Minister Rishi Sunak (See page **3**) of the Guide To Taking Part which can be viewed and downloaded from the D-Day 80 website - www.d-day80beacons.co.uk

From the Guide (see pages **41** to **45**), you will see there are several styles of Beacons that can be used for this occasion, many of which you may have used for previous occasions, and those of you with the permanent Beacon Braziers and gas fuelled Beacons produced for our late Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee, are urged to re-use these to save money. With regard to the Bonfire Beacons (see pages **41** and **42**), these are ideal for country parks, village greens and our farms throughout the UK etc.

(2) LAMP LIGHT OF PEACE: We understand that there are areas of our local communities unable to light Beacons for various reasons, so we have developed the Lamp Light of Peace (see page **39**) providing a simple and cost effective way of becoming and being part of this event by lighting it at 9.15pm on 6th June next year, coinciding with the lighting of the Beacons that night, and once used for this occasion, they can be re-lit at 11am on 11th November in 'Remembrance' for many years to come. (The flame in the Lamp, along with the Beacons, will represent the 'light of peace' that emerged from the dreadful darkness of War). We believe these are suitable for Care Homes, Hospitals, and Pubs etc, and have already had several taking part. (See examples on the D-Day 80 website).

(3) RINGING OUT FOR PEACE: With the valuable assistance of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers (see website), we are encouraging every Cathedral and Church throughout the UK, Channel Islands and the Isle of Man to ring their Bells at 6.30pm on 6th June, so we ask you to contact your local Churches etc, inviting them to take part.

(4) All those taking part in the above will be sent the Certificate of Grateful Recognition, enabling them to download, print and frame it as a permanent reminder of their involvement (see website). From the website and Guide To Taking Part, you will see there are other elements taking place, making up this Commemoration/Celebration event, with many taking part already as their personal tributes. Those taking part in this event are being asked to go to page **52** in the Guide, outlining their involvement as requested, to enable us to register their participation, and send them their Certificate.

We do hope that your Council will participate in one or more of the above, and look forward to hearing from you in due course.

My warmest regards to you all,

Bruno Peek

Bruno Peek CVO OBE OPR
Pageantmaster, D-Day 80, 6th June 2024
Telephone: + 44 (0) 7737 262 913
Email: brunopeek@mac.com
www.d-day80beacons.co.uk

