

Date: 5th April 2018

Title: Report Item 5 – Business in Progress

By: K Larkin (Parish Clerk)

Purpose: To provide an update on progress since the March meeting

Recommendations: To note the progress report

The following are matters requiring further action:

- Sign Cricket Club hire agreement 2018
- Sign mowing contract with Grants (Eastbourne) Ltd

The following are matters of report arising from the March council meeting:

- **Registration of village hall site as an asset of community value** – Wealden District Council has confirmed that the parish council's application is now being processed and a decision should be made within the 8 week deadline normally allowed, i.e. by the end of April
- **Mowing contract** – at a meeting of Wealden clerks attended by representatives of East Sussex Highways it emerged that East Dean and Friston should receive the same contribution from the county for verge cutting in 2018 as it did in 2017. This has subsequently been confirmed. Grants of Eastbourne had in fact offered to do 10 verge cuts in the season, as before, despite expecting to be paid for 8 (due to a reduced ESCC contribution). This very generous offer will not need to be taken up in 2018, though ESCC's contribution may well be reduced in 2019.
- **Play area update** – Rampion Community Fund received so many grant applications that a decision was taken not to give grants to parish councils i.e. there will be no Rampion grant for the play project. Work on the installation of the new equipment is expected to begin a week after Easter.
- **Downlands Way covenants** – the Hon. Solicitor is drafting a Deed of Release which will be a comprehensive document to be signed by all parties.
- **Highway Drainage** – the agents acting for the Gilbert Estate have been given the contact details of the parish council's solicitor and are liaising with East Sussex Highways. Mr Davies Gilbert has invited the council to submit an invoice for the payment of the £3,000 fee straight away.
- **East Dean Village name plate** – ESCC are now sending this off for a quote and it should be installed in the new financial year.
- **Best kept village signs** – a quote has been accepted to remove these signs and repair the flint wall. The signs will be brought to the hall and refurbished before being re-mounted at the hall.
- **Reinstatement of highway verge near ANPR camera** – this is the responsibility of the contractor employed by the Sussex Police. East Sussex Highways may be able to exert pressure to make the contractor reinstate the verge as the work would have been done under licence. This is being pursued.

- **East Dean Post Office** – the Post Office has contacted the parish council to say that there was an issue at East Dean Post office which has been resolved, and that no further problems should arise. However, no further details were given because of ‘confidentiality’
- **ESCC consultation on recycling of non-household waste** – the parish council’s concerns have been logged as response ID ANON-8T54-ZVV3-E
- **Hedge cutting** – PH to clear shrub outside No. 50 Peak Dean Lane on Footpath 19
- **Biodiversity strip** – BG to report on maintenance requirements
- **South East in Bloom** – the information received about the proposed ‘Parish in Bloom’ initiative has been passed to the Gardening Club for information
- **Trees at entrance to Micheldene Road** – PS/KL to organise an inspection
- **Tree Warden** – Mr Williamson has received information about TPOs in the parish, and has already submitted a most helpful report on a current planning application.

The following are matters of report arising from earlier meetings:

- **War Memorial** – an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund is pending
- **Squeeze gate** – the family of the person memorialised has yet to be located
- **Diseased elms** – as yet there is no sign of any felling
- **Friston bus shelter** – the Perspex window is to be replaced

