



# EAST PRESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Council Office, 122 Sea Road, East Preston, West Sussex. BN16 1NN

01903 770050

<http://eastpreston-pc.gov.uk/>

Email: [clerk@eastpreston-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@eastpreston-pc.gov.uk)

**MINUTES:** of the Proceedings of the Monthly Meeting of East Preston Parish Council held at 19:00 on Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022 at East Preston Infant School, Lashmar Road, East Preston

**PRESENT:** Councillors Christine Bowman, Kit Bradshaw, Andrea Chapman, Barbara Gale, Patricia Gander, John Gunston, Elizabeth Linton, Glyn Mathias, Rick McElroy, David Moore, Steve Toney (Chairman) and Steven Wilkinson

**ALSO:** Clerk to the Council, Simon Cross

County Councillor Roger Elkins (until 19:53)

District Councillor Terry Chapman (until 19:53)

Mr C, Mrs D and Mrs M

**ABSENT:** Councillor Lisa Duff

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The following abbreviations may appear in these Minutes:

ADC – Arun District Council;  
AoSERA – Angmering-on-Sea Estate Residents' Association  
BTP – British Transport Police;  
CPRE – Campaign for the Protection of Rural England;  
JEAAC – Joint Eastern Arun Area Committee;  
NHS – National Health Service;  
NR – Network Rail;  
PCSO – Police Community Support Officer;

SLCC – Society of Local Council Clerks;  
SW – Southern Water;  
TfSE – Transport for the South East;  
TRO – Traffic Regulation Order;  
VHF – East Preston & Kingston Village Hall Foundation;  
WRA – Willowhayne Residents' Association  
WSCC – West Sussex County Council;  
WSALC – West Sussex Association of Local Councils

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The meeting opened at 19:01.

## **089/22 INTRODUCTIONS**

Cllr Toney welcomed all present, ran through some protocol and led a round of introductions.

## **090/22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

All East Preston parish councillors were present except Cllr Duff.

**1609** The council **RESOLVED** unanimously to accept the apology and reason for absence from Cllr Duff (illness).

Mrs Lee and District Cllrs Bower and Kelly had sent their apologies for non-attendance at this meeting.

#### **091/22 DECLARATION OF PERSONAL AND/OR PREJUDICIAL/PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

Cllr Toney reminded councillors they could also declare an Interest at the beginning of each Agenda Item.

#### **092/22 PUBLIC SESSION**

**Agenda Item 11a - Amenities Committee** – Mrs M thanked the council and its officers for having listened to her suggestion to implement some openings on the northern side of the wonderful new fencing on the Village Green. Mrs M was certain this would be a boon for those with limited mobility wanted to access the Village Green from the north.

**No Agenda Item** – Mr C spoke in favour of the local branch of the Royal British Legion, explaining how valuable an asset it is for the village but it is struggling financially as the financial road between central Royal British Legion and branch seems to be only one way. He asked councillors to think of how the village could be encouraged to support the branch more.

#### **093/22 COUNCIL RESPONSES**

**Agenda Item 11a – Amenities Committee** – Cllr Toney thanked Mrs M for her compliments on the new fencing at the Village Green. Cllr Toney confirmed the Amenities Committee would be providing safety matting there in due course.

**No Agenda Item** – Cllr Toney said he would like to speak further to Mr C as he was currently Branch Secretary at the British Legion.

#### **094/22 WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL**

County Cllr Elkins started by clarifying the Clerk's wording in Minute 006/22 from the last meeting – it was not a matter of not having received a satisfactory answer as not having received any answer. He reported that he had today received an update which he would consider before forwarding to the parish council.

Cllr Elkins said a further £3m had been allocated to WSCC to support families already receiving Council Tax Relief where the pandemic has only increased the family's financial difficulties. He stressed this was a different fund to that set up to support Council Tax reductions to compensate for increases in fuel bills.

Cllr Elkins reported West Sussex County Council was working with an organisation called Connected Kerb which would be implementing a network of electric vehicle chargepoints across the county.

The county council had entered into a new contract to tackle Ash Dieback. Cllr Elkins urged anyone who noticed any ash trees of concern to report them to WSCC as a matter of urgency.

Cllr Elkins thanked the Clerk for sending him the comments the council had received in response to the broad suggestion of increased parking restrictions in Sea Road and North Lane between the junctions with Fairlands and Lashmar Road. Cllr Elkins said he would like to discuss with the council how best to progress this and when, as the methodology for implementing Traffic Regulation Orders was likely to change from April 2022. The new process may be speedier but it may be more appropriate to submit a request now rather than wait.

WSCC was proposing no further cuts to services within its budget for the coming financial year. A 2.99% increase was being proposed, which would result in a £640m revenue budget. Cllr Elkins said central government had provided "quite significant" financial support for the extra work the county council had had to undertake during the pandemic. He believed this funding was around the £150m mark.

Cllr Linton said she felt the slowness of response from WSCC following the meetings this and other parish councils had had with the Cabinet Member for Highways & Transport in September and October was "appalling". Cllr Elkins said he would highlight this to his colleague.

In response to a question about where a member of the public stood if a charging lead was trailed across a pavement, Cllr Elkins said he would revert to the legal team at WSCC for a comprehensive response.

Referring to Item 7 of the Clerk's Report, Cllr Mathias queried how long WSCC thought its road resurfacing programme would take if only one road in the village was being done per year. Cllr Elkins replied all roads in the county were inspected once a year, and those with the greatest safety needs for repairs were higher up the programme than others. He himself was surprised Vermont Drive had not scored more highly than Warren Crescent, and he asked the Clerk to provide him with the correspondence he had already had with WSCC on this. Cllr Elkins concluded by saying there was far greater demand than availability of resources.

The Clerk said he had attended the webinar by Connected Kerb on the subject of electric vehicle chargepoints and had subsequently submitted Expressions of Interest for both the Warren Recreation Ground and Village Green car-parks. He had also been in contact with the Chairman of the East Preston & N Kingston Village Hall Foundation who was happy for him to submit an Expression of Interest for the car-park there too.

Cllr Gander questioned who was responsible for litter clearance along the A24. Cllr Elkins said he would get a definitive answer as it may be the relevant district councils or it may be Highways England – the latter was responsible for litter clearance along the A27. Cllr Mathias said he could remember, not that long ago, there used to be large signs saying how much Horsham District Council had spent on litter clearance along the A24.

## **095/22 ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

(Throughout this Minute, Cllr Chapman refers to District Cllr T Chapman not Parish Cllr A Chapman.)

District Cllr Chapman opened by providing some more information on the government levelling-up fund, which in this area would be overseen by the district council. The government hoped to complete its first wave of grants by the end of this year, but nowhere especially local was in that first wave. Amongst a range of highlights from a report on the fund, Cllr Chapman noted what he believed would see an augmentation in the responsibilities for parish councils. He asked councillors to keep an eye on developments with the fund, upon which he would be reporting each meeting.

Partly in response to Cllr Mathias's comment above about the road resurfacing programme and partly in reference to a new report published by Transport for New Homes, Cllr Chapman said there was a governmental shift away from permitting non-sustainable housing developments, the sort not served by any public transport which meant residents were reliant on yet more car movements in an area.

Cllr Chapman was hopeful ADC was about to adopt a new code for Planning Application site visits which would once again give town and parish councils the right to be represented and heard at site visits. Cllr Chapman said there had been a marked improvement in ADC's performance in Planning Inspectorate appeals since the 2019 review of ADC Planning had taken place. He put this down to ADC's Planning Officers being much tighter on what they wrote as material reasons for refusing Planning Permission.

Cllr Chapman said he had noticed an increase in householders buying property in the village, redeveloping it regardless of local feeling, and then selling on and leaving the village again. He did not feel this was right.

Cllr Mathias asked Cllr Chapman when a local council was permitted to involve the ADC Planning Committee in a decision upon an Application. Cllr Chapman suggested the local council's committee could make that request when it submitted its objections if it felt strongly enough about an Application.

Cllr Mathias also asked Cllr Chapman about a recent Planning Application to which the parish council had objected. Substitute plans had been received by ADC, published on the day before the decision had been made, the parish council had not been alerted, and the decision had been to allow the revised development. Cllr Chapman said that was unacceptable and asked for the Clerk to send him more details.

Ending by responding to Mr C's comments about the British Legion, Cllr Chapman said he had regular dealings with central British Legion and part of the problem was the ever-increasing pressure on the British Legion from the number of veterans needing extra help. Cllr Chapman said there had been something like 37,000 military charities at one point. When some failed, as was inevitable for a number of reasons, the burden of those helped by that charity fell back on to the British Legion.

(Cllrs Chapman and Elkins left at the conclusion of this item.)

## **096/22 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2022**

The draft Minutes were circulated to all councillors on 11<sup>th</sup> January asking for suggested amendments by the 18<sup>th</sup> January. None were received, however Cllr Moore had replied, "I have carefully read through the draft Minutes and found them to be a correct reflection of the meeting."

1610 The Council **RESOLVED** unanimously the Chairman could sign the Minutes as a true record of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> January.

## **097/22 UPDATE ON MATTERS IN THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

Council NOTED the following report, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting:

# **Monthly Update Report**

1. **Introduction**
2. **Minute 827/21 – West Sussex County Council – Sea Road pavement extension**
3. **Minute 838/21 – Warren Recreation Ground – Annual General Meeting**
4. **Minute 011/22 – Community Engagement Committee – Littlehampton Community Fridge on Tour**
5. **Minute 017/22 – Clerk’s Report – Item 6. Queen’s New Year’s Honours**

### 1. **Introduction**

This is the report covering items discussed during Full Council meetings up to and including the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

### 2. **Minute 827/21 – West Sussex County Council – Sea Road pavement extension**

I have now had a reply from the Managing Director of Landbuild, hoping to get out to visit the site and give us a costing in the not-too-distant future.

### 3. **Minute 838/21 – Warren Recreation Ground – Annual General Meeting**

In 2020, a member of the public attended our Come and Meet Your Local Councillors event and discussed getting more involved in the community. As the accountant we used for the Warren Recreation Ground Annual Return paperwork was emigrating to Australia, and as the member of the public is an accountant, the latter seemed a good fit to take on that role for us. I approached him and he agreed.

Each year’s accounts have to be filed by 31<sup>st</sup> January of the following year. For the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020, we had to request an extension as the accountant was ill with Covid.

After much chasing for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021, and promises all would be ready in plenty of time, by 28<sup>th</sup> January, I had not heard anything from the accountant for over a month. Very reluctantly, I had asked the Charity Commission for an extension and, quite rightly, they turned the request down as the ability to ask for an extension had only been for the first year of Covid. I attempted to upload the charity’s financial information on 28<sup>th</sup> January and because income and expenditure were both under £25,000 in the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021, the amount of supporting documentation required is less, so I was able to file in time.

The accountant did get in touch late afternoon on the 28<sup>th</sup> saying he would prepare something “hopefully today if not over the weekend”. It’s all too close to the deadline for my liking. With the accounts agreed at the charity’s AGM in September, for the small amount of work required, I see no reason why we should not have filed the charity’s Annual Return by the end of October. To this end, I will be asking the charity at this year’s AGM to agree to pay for an accountant to complete this role on behalf of the charity.

Update: the completed paperwork from the accountant arrived at 16:29 on 31<sup>st</sup> January. Thankfully his sums agreed with mine so no further action needed to be taken, but it does mean

we now have an independent examiner's report should we need one and this has also been published on the Warren Recreation Ground page of the council's website.

4. **Minute 011/22 – Community Engagement Committee – Littlehampton Community Fridge on Tour**

At the time of writing, the council has overseen four sessions from the Conservative Hall. These have been under the guidance of Cllrs Linton, Duff, Toney and Gunston respectively. All have gone well, the weather being good enough to place tables outside in front of the hall's doors. Public attendance has been good, and with the exception of the fourth week, all food has been found a new home. There is some concern about how well the sessions will run when the weather is bad enough they have to be held in the foyer, but we will cross that bridge together when the time comes.

5. **Minute 017/22 – Clerk's Report – Item 6. Queen's New Year's Honours**

I have been in further contact with Mhairi Sharp and we have agreed the content of an article for the Winter 2022 Newsletter.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

31<sup>st</sup> January 2022

The Clerk said he had nothing to add but would take questions if there were any. There were none.

**098/22 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

The Accounts for January 2022 had been distributed to Members in advance of the meeting.

- 1611** The council **RESOLVED** unanimously to approve the Outstanding Purchase Orders report for 2021/22, value £6,448.54 (excl. VAT).
- 1612** The council **RESOLVED** unanimously to approve the Supplier Non BACS Invoices Paid report for January totalling £630.22 (incl. VAT) (including unreported additional payments from the previous month).
- 1613** The council **RESOLVED** unanimously to approve the Supplier BACS Invoices Paid report for January totalling £15,743.91 (incl. VAT).
- 1614** The council **RESOLVED** unanimously to approve the List of Sales Receipts & Bank Receipts by Bank report, showing £320,425.22 (incl. VAT) for the financial year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.

The council NOTED the paper Bank Reconciliations to 14<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

The council NOTED the year-to-date Budget Summary Report for 2021/22.

The Chairman thanked Mrs Khoo, the council's Book-keeper, for her preparation of all the above reports.

**099/22 REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

The council NOTED the following reports which had been circulated in advance of the meeting:

## **Committees**

The following committees met during January. Personnel on the 17<sup>th</sup>; Community Engagement and Planning & Licensing both on the 24<sup>th</sup>. With the exception of the confidential meeting from the Personnel Committee meeting, draft Minutes from these meetings have been circulated.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

31<sup>st</sup> January 2022

## **Amenities Committee**

The committee did not meet during January. The next meeting is 14<sup>th</sup> February.

**Village Green low level fencing** – New Place Fencing began work to replace the entire boundary fencing on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022. Work took approximately three weeks to complete. New Place Fencing kindly replaced an additional length of fencing by the Village Green notice board, at no extra cost. The new fencing includes two additional access points on the northern boundary as requested by members of the public. These will need some matting in place as soon as we can.

**Village Green Christmas Tree** - Ferring Nurseries have planted up the 6ft Rootballed Norway Spruce tree, on 24<sup>th</sup> January 2022. At the moment it looks fairly small in its new surroundings, but it will hopefully flourish and then replace the usual Christmas tree, saving the council a few hundred pounds each year. Ferring Nurseries are providing the aftercare watering programme.

**Sea Road Toilets** - The Loo of the Year Awards, Platinum logo, has been received. The logo is to be made in to a sign, and displayed on the external toilets wall. The Clerk and Assistant Clerk continue to carry out daily toilet checks, to ensure the toilets are in good working order and cleanliness is an acceptable level.

During a recent lengthy conversation, a wheelchair-using resident expressed the difficulties she had faced, saying “it is virtually impossible to open the door, keeping the RADAR key turned in position in the lock, whilst pulling open the door and manoeuvring the wheelchair. The only alternative is to wait for a passer-by to assist”. Although this has been discussed before, I have included this on the agenda for further discussion at the next meeting as I believe the lady’s comments are very valid.

**Floral displays** – Ferring Nurseries have started to put up spring baskets and planters. These will hopefully brighten people’s day.

Dawn Reid – **Assistant Clerk to the Council**

31<sup>st</sup> January 2022

## **Audit & Governance Committee**

The committee did not meet in January.

Mulberry & Co have set a date of 31<sup>st</sup> May for Andy Beams to visit and carry out the end-of-year Internal Audit. Any councillor interested in calling in to speak to Andy should make a note of this date and let me know of their intention to call in.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

31<sup>st</sup> January 2022

## **Community Engagement Committee**

The committee met on 24<sup>th</sup> January.

The following were agreed or discussed:

A play scheme was agreed to take place on the 23rd February with entry at £4 a child plus bring a vegetable and children under 8 need to be accompanied by an adult.

A blue plaque in honour of the artist Heywood Hardy was proposed to be unveiled on the afternoon of 30<sup>th</sup> April if the date was convenient with the householders Mr and Mrs Weaver. The plaque has been ordered.

The Planning Application for the Queens Platinum Jubilee Clock has now been submitted but at the time of writing, has yet to be validated and accepted by ADC. The installation of the electrics has yet to be priced and agreed and our Enerveo contact is not currently responding to messages. WSCC is aware of the proposal and will – presumably – respond officially to the Planning Application. As a project this has more elements to pull together than I think any of us ever imagined.

The Infant School sent a letter to Prince George requesting he come and unveil the clock for us and decorated the letter with some lovely drawings.

Come and Meet Your Councillors event was agreed to be scheduled for Thursday 9th June between 10:00 and 12:00. **Please can Councillors make a note in their diaries**, as it would be good to have plenty on hand, not only for the event itself, but also for the setting up and dismantling afterwards.

The Bell Orchestra has been booked for 17:30 on the 7th June.

Committee agreed a Festival Committee time capsule could be planted on the Village Green subject to Full Council agreement.

Free tennis coaching sessions would, hopefully, take place during Wimbledon and the week after on Friday morning 24<sup>th</sup> June, 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> July.

We are hoping to commemorate Merchant Navy Day on 3<sup>rd</sup> September and Emergency Services Day on the 9<sup>th</sup> September, venue still to be decided but a flag will be raised outside the library.

An article regarding parking restrictions between Fairlands and Lashmar Road has been written to appear in the Winter 2022 Newsletter and a proposal for Full Council put forward to request permission to submit it to West Sussex County Council.

Further to the agreement reached at January's Full Council meeting, the committee has started to discuss intergenerational playgrounds again.

100 Hedgehog highways will be purchased and made available to the first 100 people who would like one.

A calendar for 2023 will be produced for sale to anyone who wants one. Pictures and price still to be determined. Early days!

Subsequent to the meeting, Cllr Gander was attending initial meetings of those interested in an East Preston Men in Sheds group and East Preston in Bloom, and I am sure she will update us all at the meeting.

It's shaping up to be a busy year for the committee and the council's interactions with local residents.

Cllr Elizabeth Linton –  
**Chairman of the Community Engagement Committee**

29<sup>th</sup> January 2022

## **Finance & General Purposes Committee**

The committee did not meet in January.

After the usual struggles with the bank, the office Barclaycard has arrived, together with a back-up card in Cllr Gunston's name.

Following the council's agreement to the committee's request to provide £500 of Grant Aid funding to West Sussex MIND Youth Mental Health Service, Kim Anthony, Children, Young People and Families Service Manager, emailed in, "That's great news." Jenny Rowley, Funding Development Officer, added, "Thank you so much for letting us know, this is fantastic news. We really are appreciative for your support."

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

31<sup>st</sup> January 2022

## **Major Events Committee**

The committee did not meet in January.

Work is progressing on all of the committee's events for this year: *Funday Sunday*, 24<sup>th</sup> April; Jubilee weekend, 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> June; East Preston Food & Drink Festival, 27<sup>th</sup> August (tbc); East Preston Christmas Celebrations, 26<sup>th</sup> November.

Representatives of the committee are meeting with their East Preston Festival counterparts early in February to tie down which organisation is organising which bits of a picnic-style event on the Village Green on 5<sup>th</sup> June.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

31<sup>st</sup> January 2022

## **Personnel Committee**

The committee met on 17<sup>th</sup> January. Here are a few highlights from the meeting.

**Village Orderly** – the committee agreed Mr Williams had satisfactorily completed three months with the council and from 1<sup>st</sup> February he is no longer on probation.

**Meetings** – the committee agreed to continue meeting only in the school hall – neither the school's nor the Council Office meeting room – and to continue with the council's Zoom account as an option for meetings which are not open to the public. Both situations will be reviewed again at the committee's meeting in April.

The committee also agreed to write to Sir Peter Bottomley MP, expressing our support for the ability for local councils to hold meetings remotely when that was the most sensible option.

**Continuity Planning** – the committee discussed continuity planning with an eye on the May 2023 local elections, and Cllr Gander will say more after this meeting.

**Local Government Pensions Scheme (LGPS) Discretions Policy** – the council does not currently have a Discretions Policy and has been chased by Hampshire County Council to implement one. The related documents we were sent all stretched into tens of pages, but Cllr Gander found a very simple one online and that is further down this Agenda for council to adopt.

**Public Behaviour at Council Meetings** – the committee agreed public behaviour at council meetings continued to be very good. Thank you members of the public.



**Flat and Frontage Working Party** – the committee gave some thought to the Finance & General Purposes Committee’s idea to make the central part of the Council Office more open plan. A company has been asked to provide a design for this although there are some staff concerns about how this will affect privacy when meeting confidentially with members of the public.

The committee’s next scheduled meeting is in April.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

28<sup>th</sup> January 2022

## **Planning & Licensing Committee**

The committee met in person on 24<sup>th</sup> January. On 11<sup>th</sup> January, mainly because a suitable venue could not be found, the committee held an advisory call rather than meet in person.

On 11<sup>th</sup> January, the committee considered six Applications. As a result of the advisory call, Cllr Mathias and I agreed the committee would raise objections to three of those Applications – ones in Seawaves Close, Worthing Road and The Roystons.

On 24<sup>th</sup> January, the committee considered two Applications. The committee agreed to object to a proposed front boundary fence at a property in Vicarage Lane although not to the proposed extensions to the property. The committee had no objections to the other Application under consideration at the meeting.

The council also supported Angmering Parish Council in its objections to a proposed development on the western corner of Downs Way and Ambersham Crescent (A253/21/OUT). On 1<sup>st</sup> February we learned ADC had refused Planning Permission for this proposal which would have meant the loss of one of the small pockets of greenery dotted along Downs Way and its tributary roads. Last year, the council also supported APC in its objections to a proposal in another part of Downs Way (A/64/21/OUT) and we have been involved an appeal has been lodged with the Planning Inspectorate for this site.

The committee continues to explore cautiously its options for refreshing the Neighbourhood Plan and is including an article in the Winter 2022 Newsletter.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

26<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Additionally:

Amenities: Cllr Toney reported the replacement of the low-level fencing around the Village Green had completed, and with some offcuts, the team had managed to replace some fencing in the south-western corner which had been missed from the original specification. The living Christmas Tree was in place and he hoped it would grow nicely in the coming years. Elsewhere in the village, Ferring Nurseries had put out the winter planting.

Community Engagement: Cllr Linton asked councillors to make a note of the date for *Come and Meet Your Local Councillors* during this year’s East Preston Festival. The more councillors available on the day the better.

Major Events: Cllr Linton similarly asked councillors to be aware the council would be leading events over the Jubilee weekend of 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> June, and it would be good if councillors could make themselves available, if possible.

Cllr McElroy responded saying he had recently attended a WSALC training session on being a councillor at which the message had been councillors should be overseeing local residents doing things rather than doing things themselves. Cllrs Linton and Gander replied there were events the council ran for the benefit of the village and it was right the council did so, but there was no pressure upon councillors to take part if they were unable to do so.

There were no updates from the council’s other four committees.

Council NOTED the following report, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting:

### **Community Engagement Committee – Queen’s Platinum Jubilee time-capsule**

Cllr Linton to lead on this item.

**Council is asked to agree to the planting of a time capsule under the Jubilee tree on the Village Green.**

The council has received a request from the East Preston Festival Committee to plant a time capsule for the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee. Owing to printing deadlines, the Festival Committee needs a decision sooner rather than later, hence this coming to this meeting rather than going to next week’s Amenities Committee meeting. The Community Engagement Committee discussed this idea and agreed the time capsule should be planted underneath the Field Maple the council is planting in the north-eastern corner of the Village Green.

The Festival Committee’s idea is the time capsule should only be dug up and opened in seventy years’ time, but nobody has yet worked out how to get that message to the future residents of East Preston.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

28<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Cllr Linton confirmed the background to the proposal.

**1615** The council **RESOLVED** to allow the Festival Committee to bury a time-capsule adjacent to the Jubilee Field Maple in the north-eastern corner of the Village Green.

Cllr McElroy abstained.

### **101/22 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE – INCREASED PARKING RESTRICTIONS IN SEA ROAD AND NORTH LANE**

Council NOTED the following report, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting:

### **Community Engagement Committee – parking restrictions in Sea Road and North Lane**

Cllr Linton to lead on this item.

**Council is asked to submit a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) request to WSCC based upon the results of the online survey on providing additional parking restrictions in the Sea Road / North Lane area between the junctions with Fairlands and Lashmar Road.**

As per the agreement reached in Minute 735/21, I published an online poll on the subject of increased parking restrictions in the area of North Lane and Sea Road between the junctions with Lashmar Road and Fairlands. This was included in the e-newsletters of 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> December. The poll closed on 31<sup>st</sup> December.

The results were circulated to committee members on 11<sup>th</sup> January. 186 residents responded to the survey, which was run via a website called Smart Survey.

The main question was, “Do you agree there should be further parking restrictions in North Lane and Sea Road, between the junctions with Fairlands and Lashmar Road?”

152 respondents said yes, a pretty conclusive 83.06%; 23 said no, 12.57%, and 10 said they were unsure, 5.46%. Three respondents skipped this question.

Question two asked respondents to comment up on their answer – 114 did so. Question three asked respondents to provide their post code as we know not all recipients of the e-newsletter are in East Preston (or the UK even) – 180 did so, but I have not fully waded through those to see if there are any post codes clearly identifiable as outside the village. A quick search on BN16 3 showed one respondent from the Rustington part of Station Road and one from another Rustington address.

I contacted the local Operations Manager at Stagecoach and he replied, “We have no problem with your idea, anything which eases the flow of traffic is a good idea in my opinion.”

Sometime after the survey closed, the council received a response from the Vice-Chairman of the Disability Action Group of East Preston, supporting the proposal in some depth.

At its meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> January, the committee agreed to propose to Full Council a TRO request be submitted based upon the online survey results. I have let County Cllr Elkins know this. He has responded, “Happy to assist. Yes I did see this on the minutes, but has this approach followed the TRO guidance from the Web Site? Clearly a good response but I understand that demand is high, safety is clearly a key factor.”

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

31<sup>st</sup> January 2022

Cllr Linton explained, further to Cllr Elkins’s comments earlier, the council should vote to show its support for the public support for the proposals, realising the proposal is still very broad.

**1616** The council **RESOLVED** to submit a Traffic Regulation Order request to West Sussex County Council based upon the results of the survey on providing additional parking restrictions in the Sea Road / North Lane area between the junctions with Fairlands and Lashmar Road.

Cllr Bradshaw abstained, stating he had further questions he needed to ask on this.

#### **102/22 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE – HEDGEHOG HIGHWAYS**

Council NOTED the following report, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting:

### **Community Engagement Committee – Hedgehog Highways**

Cllr Gunston to lead on this item.

**Council is asked to agree to the purchase of 100 Hedgehog Highways from Hedgehogs R Us at a cost of £315 including postage.**

At the beginning of November, the council was contacted – along with many other councils – by Linda Cook, the founder of Hedgehogs R Us. Linda has a dream “to make the whole of the UK one giant Hedgehog Highway”.

Councillors can see some more about the highways here - <https://fb.watch/8Om1mGp0Bk/>

The Environmental Initiatives Working Party will oversee the distribution of the Highways, which are sold in batches of 50 at a cost of £150 plus £7.50 postage. The suggested resale price of each Highway is £5. This initial outlay would be paid for from the council’s Contingency Budget which can easily cover this.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

31<sup>st</sup> January 2022

Cllr Gunston explained the thinking behind the provision of Hedgehog Highways around the village, and noted the hedgehog population had halved since 2000.

**1617** The council **RESOLVED** unanimously to purchase 100 Hedgehog Highways at a cost of £315 including postage.

#### **103/22 PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – PENSIONS DISCRETIONS POLICY**

Council NOTED the following report, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting:

### **Personnel Committee – Pensions Discretions Policy**

Cllr Gander to lead on this item.

**Council is asked to adopt a Pensions Discretions Policy for the council.**

As mentioned in the Personnel Committee report above, the council is required to have a Pensions Discretions Policy but has not had one previously. The Personnel Committee found the Singleton and Charlton Parish Council policy and felt that was the simplest and best fit for our council.

The council needs to implement something, even if only as a stopgap, and the proposed policy meets the requirement. The committee knows it can review the policy in greater depth once it has been implemented.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

28<sup>th</sup> January 2022

The proposed policy was circulated as part of the pack for the meeting.

Cllr Gander spoke in support of this resolution, explaining 2015 legislation had enabled auto-enrolment to a pension scheme for all qualifying members of staff, meaning any qualifying member of staff who did not want to pay into the Local Government Pension Scheme had to opt-out. The West Sussex pension scheme was administered by Hampshire County Council which had made local councils aware where they did not have a Discretions Policy. Cllr Gander had found several examples online and the Clerk had sourced some local examples, but mostly they were very unwieldy documents. The example before the council this evening was based upon the simplest Cllr Gander could find and left the council scope to fine tune if it needed.

**1618** The council **RESOLVED** unanimously to adopt a Pensions Discretions Policy for the council.

#### **104/22 REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCIL WORKING PARTIES**

The following reports had been circulated in advance of the meeting:

### **Working Parties**

The Conservative Hall Working Party met on 31<sup>st</sup> January, and the Environmental Initiatives Working Party met on 17<sup>th</sup>. The council's other three working parties did not meet.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

31<sup>st</sup> January 2022

### **Conservative Hall Working Party**

The Working Party met on Monday, 31<sup>st</sup> January.

The working party considered a letter received from Terry Chapman, setting out the thoughts of the current Trustees of the hall.

The working party thanked Mr Chapman for the letter which made the whole subject easier to discuss. The working party has asked a few further questions of Mr Chapman and is asking council for some money for a structural survey of the building.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

1<sup>st</sup> February 2022

## **Environmental Initiatives Working Party (EIWP)**

The Environmental Initiatives Working Group met on 17<sup>th</sup> January.

The group was joined by Zoe Steel, a resident and member of Surfers against Sewage, who gave us an insight into times she has been ill after kite surfing in the sea off East Preston. We agreed to contact Southern Water to try and set up a meeting to discuss the issue and to contact Sir Peter Bottomley MP with our concerns. Simon has since written to Sir Peter and received a reply from his assistant highlighting the fact that the Environment Agency testing now rates bathing water in the constituency in 2021 as good as opposed to sufficient in 2019. The full reply has been circulated to everyone who attended the meeting.

We agreed the next step for the green buildings initiative - how to costs and implement the improvements suggested by the surveyor. We also decided to ask Full Council for £3,500 for a survey by Brighton and Hove Energy Cooperative to produce a report on solutions, costs and payback on renewable energy options to present to the buildings managers at a meeting to be held in March.

The group considered a suggestion from Kingston Parish Council and decided against publicising the petition opposing the Rampion II construction. The group made this decision on the basis the council had considered the Rampion II project and so far supported it, and the assumption anyone opposing the wind farm would be able to find the petition.

EP In Bloom, the Bee Squared initiative and Lisa's blog were also discussed.

Cllr John Gunston –

24<sup>th</sup> January 2022

**Chairman of the Environmental Initiatives Working Party**

## **Flat and Frontage Working Party**

Nothing to report on the Frontage side.

A verbal update on the flat above the Council Office will be provided at the meeting.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

31<sup>st</sup> January 2022

## **Leases Working Party**

Nothing to report.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

31<sup>st</sup> January 2022

## **Playing of Cricket Working Party**

Nothing to report this month.

Cllr Christine Bowman –  
**Chairman of the Playing of Cricket Working Party**

31<sup>st</sup> January 2022

Additionally:

Environmental Initiatives – Cllr Gunston had been in touch with Southern Water about sewage discharge into the sea, but was still awaiting a response as to whether it would send a representative to meet with local residents affected by this.

Cllr Gunston thanked Cllr Gander for organising and leading an initial meeting towards East Preston in Bloom ideas. Cllr Gander said there would be a follow-on meeting at which Courtenay Luscombe would visit suggested areas with the EP in Bloom team, advising them on what would grow well in these areas.

Flat and Frontage – the Clerk provided a confidential update on the tenancy of the flat above the Council Office.

There were no additional updates from the council's other three working parties.

### **105/22 CONSERVATIVE HALL WORKING PARTY – FULL STRUCTURAL SURVEY**

Council NOTED the following report, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting:

#### **Conservative Hall Working Party – structural survey**

Cllr McElroy to lead on this item.

**Council is asked to agree to expenditure of up to £2,000 for a full structural survey of the Conservative Hall.**

At its meeting on 31<sup>st</sup> January, the working party agreed it needed a full structural survey before it could discuss anything further. The working party is asking for £2,000 as it did not have a ready figure to hand but believed £2,000 would more than cover this task. There is enough money in the council's Contingency Budget to cover this expenditure.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

1<sup>st</sup> February 2022

Cllr McElroy explained the background to this resolution.

**1619** The council **RESOLVED** unanimously to expenditure of up to £2,000 on a full structural survey of the Conservative Hall.

Two quotations had been received the details of which had been circulated to members of the working party, most of whom had stated a preference between the two quotations.

### **106/22 ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES WORKING PARTY – GREENER BUILDINGS INITIATIVE**

Council NOTED the following report, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting:

#### **Environmental Initiatives Working Party – Greener Buildings project**

Cllr Gunston to lead on this item.

**Council is asked to agree to expenditure of £3,500 for the second stage of the Greener Buildings project.**

Further to the expenditure agreed by council in September 2021, Energy Performance Certificates have been received for nine of the eleven buildings identified by the EIWP. There is enough money in the council's Contingency Budget to cover this expenditure.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

31<sup>st</sup> January 2022

Cllr Gunston explained the background to this resolution advising the council nine of the eleven buildings originally identified had been surveyed and Energy Performance Certificates provided to the council. The changes recommended by the surveyor was mainly to do with the fabric of the buildings and would result in an estimated 25% reduction in emissions. To improve on that 25%, the building needed to look at providing renewable energy supplies, and for this, the EIWP wanted to work with an independent company which could give high-quality advice on renewable energy options for the buildings.

**1620** The council **RESOLVED** unanimously to expenditure of £3,500 for the second stage of the Greener Buildings project.

Mr C advised Cllr Gunston he was a qualified designer of heating systems and would be willing to listen in to any conversations the council had on such matters in future. Cllr Gunston thanked Mr C for his offer.

**107/22 CLERK'S REPORT**

The council NOTED the following report which had been circulated in advance of the meeting:

## **Clerk's Report**

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Police matters**
- 3. Anti-social behaviour matters**
- 4. Freedom of Information / Data Protection requests**
- 5. WSALC Clerks' Forum, 11<sup>th</sup> January**
- 6. Meeting with Angmering-on-Sea Lawn Tennis Club, 18<sup>th</sup> January**
- 7. WSCC, Arun Road Surfacing Programme 2022**
- 8. Men in Sheds, 25<sup>th</sup> January**
- 9. WSCC Chargepoint Network – Community Landowners' Event, 27<sup>th</sup> January**
- 10. Social media**
- 11. MailChimp stats**
- 12. A selection of things we have been asked since the last meeting**
- 13. Recent bouquets and complaints**
- 14. Leave**
- 15. February meetings and events**

**1. Introduction**

This is the report mainly covering January 2022 and matters which may not arise elsewhere on the agenda.

## 2. **Police matters**

Our only interaction with Sussex Police this week was when Caspar found someone's probation documents whilst out on his rounds. This has been heavily rained upon. I contacted PCSO Raju, and he came and collected the documents later the same morning. I do not know what happened next.

PCSO Raju provided a written report on 31<sup>st</sup> January covering the period 5<sup>th</sup> December to 30<sup>th</sup> January. This has been forwarded to all councillors for their information.

Something of interest in Katy Bourne, the Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner's weekly email published on 28<sup>th</sup> January, "In an average day Sussex Police receive 2,412 contacts across 999, 101 and digital channels. They record 1,350 incidents and 332 new crimes – including 15 sexual offences - and carry out 63 arrests." Councillors will have seen this as I send them Mrs Bourne's weekly emails, but members of the public may not have seen this.

## 3. **Anti-social behaviour matters**

Nothing to report although there have been some concerns expressed about the council's decision to locate a bench on the southern corner of Sea Lane and Normandy Drive. I have asked the chairman of the Amenities Committee to discuss this further at the committee's meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> February.

## 4. **Freedom of Information / Data Protection requests**

No Freedom of Information or Data Protection requests received since the last report.

## 5. **WSALC Clerks' Forum, 11<sup>th</sup> January**

Ultimately, I was unable to attend this meeting because it clashed with the advisory meeting of the Planning & Licensing Committee.

## 6. **Meeting with Angmering-on-Sea Lawn Tennis Club, 18<sup>th</sup> January**

I attended this first twice-yearly meeting of the year with Cllrs Toney and Gunston. The Tennis Club was represented by Chairman, Elaine Phillips, Membership Secretary, Kathryn Bardouleau, and Sarah Fisher, Administrator.

Elaine explained the club's plans to refurbish the interior of the club are still under consideration. Initial investigations have uncovered some structural issues and essential repairs that need to take priority. The added costs of these matters take the project over the currently agreed budget. Decisions are currently being made as to what the club can afford to progress.

The club would like to replace its floodlighting two years ahead of schedule in order to benefit from the cost savings.

Kathryn reported the membership was possibly the highest it has ever been with just short of 500 active members. Should all renew their membership in April 2022, the club will need to look at implementing measures to ensure all members get a fair chance at playing. Roughly one third of members are juniors, the other two thirds being adults.

On our side, Steve talked about the council's commitment to defibrillators in the village and John gave an update on the Greener Buildings project; the Tennis Club was one of the two buildings that had not yet had an Energy Performance Certificate issued.

The next meeting was scheduled for 21<sup>st</sup> June.



## **7. WSCC, Arun Road Surfacing Programme 2022**

On 20<sup>th</sup> January, we received the WSCC programme for roads to be resurfaced during the coming year. The information comes out as an official notice by local council. The roads listed in East Preston were Warren Crescent and Mayfield. I replied to say Mayfield may be in East Preston in postal terms but is in Angmering in local council terms. I received a reply thanking me for letting them know.

I was surprised to see Warren Crescent listed rather than, say, Vermont Drive, as we receive several calls a year about Vermont Drive but none about Warren Crescent. I walked home via Warren Crescent and whilst it is bad, I think Vermont Drive is worse and is definitely busier being the only route for access to several other roads and a favoured route to roads such as Homelands Avenue and Lavinia Way. After a bit of toing and froing, I did receive the following slightly good news for Vermont Drive, "The latest assessment scores for Vermont Drive and Warren Crescent are 45 and 38 respectively. We have recently updated our condition assessment process which has meant that Vermont Drive now has a score that is higher (and hence indicating a higher maintenance need) than Warren Crescent. However, at the time that we compiled our scheme design programme the assessments that we had at the time indicated the opposite, which is why Warren Crescent has been included in the 2022-23 programme and Vermont Drive has not. Vermont Drive will be considered for treatment in the 2023-24 highway maintenance programme". The word considered is a worry though.

## **8. Men in Sheds, 25<sup>th</sup> January**

Together with Cllr Gander, I attended the initial meeting of the residents interested in setting up an East Preston Men in Sheds group.

Ten residents attended, at least two of whom had experience from attending local Men in Sheds groups. Cllr Gander led the group in introducing themselves and giving some idea of what they would like to achieve from membership of the group. The general feeling seemed to be friendship and comradeship through shared projects of value for the community.

The group agreed to meet again on Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> March. An article to that effect has been submitted for the Winter 2022 Newsletter.

## **9. WSCC Chargepoint Network – Community Landowners' Event, 27<sup>th</sup> January**

On 18<sup>th</sup> January, the council was invited to attend this event which was an update on the WSCC scheme to implement electric vehicle charge-points across the county.

WSCC is entering into a concession contact with Connected Kerb, meaning Connected Kerb will incur all the costs of installing, maintaining and running the network. The contract will be structured in such a way as to enable community land owners to use it, meaning local councils or any third sector organisation in the county has the potential to benefit from charge-point installation at no cost.

This event lasted an hour during which County Cllr Deborah Urquhart explained the county council's commitment to electric vehicle charging and, most importantly for us, how community landowners could apply to have their sites considered. Sites with 24/7 availability would be considered first. The app which would be used for payment could be enabled to send a text to prompt a driver when the charge had nearly completed; this would reduce the chances of drivers overstaying. Overstay penalties could be activated too.

I had submitted an application form for both the Village Green and Warren Recreation Ground car-parks before the event had finished. I have subsequently contacted the chairman of the Village Hall Foundation to ask whether the Foundation would like me to submit a request on its behalf too. Most charge-points can be implemented under Permitted Development.

I found the application form a bit disappointing as there was no space to add freeform information to our application, for example, the results of the environmental survey we carried out last year

which showed 75% of respondents were in favour of the council implementing electric vehicle charge-points in the village. There was also a question about which nearby streets do not have off-street parking, but no indication as to how close the streets should be and if that information is viewed by someone unfamiliar with the area, how well will they be able to judge the situation?

After the event, I contacted the WSCC contact saying East Preston would be willing to talk about being a pilot site but was told there would be no pilot sites.

## 10. **Social media**

No Facebook posts seen by over 500 people since the last report. So, our three most-seen posts were:

- Repost of Surrey Police post about the Highway Code changes – 495 people (Sussex Police only posted something about the changes two days after they had come into effect, and that was only the same graphic Surrey Police had posted.)
- East Preston Parish Council news – 27<sup>th</sup> January 2022 – 486
- Post about a set of keys found in Golden Avenue - 402

† Food & Drink Festival page

▲ East Preston Business Community page

\* East Preston Christmas Celebrations page

(posts up to and including 31<sup>st</sup> January)

The number of people currently liking the council on Facebook is 1,447, an increase of 2 on the last report.

## 11. **MailChimp stats**

Since the last papers were issued, the council has sent out the following emails to local residents on the council's main e-mailing list:

Parish Council news – 5<sup>th</sup> January – sent to 901, opened by 621 (68.9%)

Parish Council news – 13<sup>th</sup> January – sent to 899, opened by 633 (70.5%)

Parish Council news – 27<sup>th</sup> January – sent to 899, opened by 633 (70.5%)

## 12. **Things we have been asked since the last meeting**

“Can you tell me how I can apply for a Covid grant?” (No, not really. I directed the caller to ADC.)

“Can you arrange for me to have a key to the West Kingston greensward?” (No. I directed the caller to the West Kingston Residents' Association.)

“Can you do anything about the lady who feeds seagulls in Station Parade?” (Outside our area. I directed the caller to Rustington Parish and Arun District Councils for their assistance.)

## 13. **Recent bouquets and complaints**

(In addition to anything reported above)

In the course of signing up her husband for the Men In Sheds initiative, a resident wrote, “[The council is] brill and so is the Newsletter. All very much appreciated.”

From a resident of Kingston, apropos of nothing in particular, “You are one general good egg!”

#### 14. **Leave**

Alison is off on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> February and for the whole of the week beginning 21<sup>st</sup> February. Nobody else has any leave booked during February at the moment.

#### 15. **February Meetings and Events**

This list may be incomplete and is subject to change.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Southern Water, Water Resources Management Plan (10:00, online) (PG only)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> East Preston in Bloom (12:00, British Legion) (PG and DR only)
- 7<sup>th</sup> Full Council (19:00, East Preston Infant School)
- 14<sup>th</sup> Planning & Licensing Committee (18:00, East Preston Infant School)  
Amenities Committee (19:00, East Preston Infant School)
- 15<sup>th</sup> Twice-yearly meeting with East Preston & Kingston Bowls Club (09:00, Bowls Club) (ST, JG, GM and SC only)
- 17<sup>th</sup> SLCC Arun Clerks’ Networking (11:00, Bersted) (SC and DR only)
- 21<sup>st</sup> Finance & General Purposes Committee (18:00, East Preston Infant School)  
Environmental Initiatives Working Party (19:00, East Preston Infant School)
- 25<sup>th</sup> Sussex Police Big Data presentation (13:00, online) (CB only)
- 28<sup>th</sup> Planning & Licensing Committee (18:00, East Preston Infant School)  
Major Events Committee (19:00, East Preston Infant School)

N.B. where committee meetings fall on the same day, the timings of these meetings may be subject to change.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

31<sup>st</sup> January 2022

**Item 7 – WSCC, Arun Road Surfacing Programme 2022** – Cllr Linton wondered why, if Vermont Drive now scored more highly than Warren Crescent, the two roads could not simply be swapped in the programme. The Clerk replied that really was for WSCC to answer although it was at least partly to do with the fact the legal notice about the programme had now been issued.

**Item 9 - WSCC Chargepoint Network – Community Landowners’ Event, 27<sup>th</sup> January** – Cllr Gunston asked if Connected Kerb had given any idea of timescales. The Clerk replied Connected Kerb had not given any idea of timescales as it all depended upon the level of interest shown by local councils and community groups and other similar variables.

Cllr Toney thanked the Clerk for his report.

#### 108/22 **EXTERNAL MEETINGS AND EVENTS**

The council NOTED the following report which had been circulated in advance of the meeting:

### **Other meetings and events – Part 1**

**Council is asked to note the following reports:**

### **TfSE Growing the economy whilst decarbonising the transport system: how do we make it happen, 13<sup>th</sup> January**

## webinar

The webinar was organised by the Transport Planning Society (TPS) and Transport for the South East (TfSE) and focussed on the local transport challenge of achieving continued economic growth whilst decarbonising transport. TfSE outlined their decarbonisation activities - developing a model to determine the effects of transport interventions, working to develop decarbonisation pathways for the region, setting up a SE transport decarbonisation forum and working on a carbon calculator.

Professor Greg Marsden from the University of Leeds argued that we not only need a rapid shift to zero emission travel, but also increasing use of public transport and reduction in car traffic to have any hope of reaching CO2 targets. He identified some quick wins such as reallocating road use, annual travel cards and establishing mobility hubs where public transport and shared mobility (bike and car share) meet. Plans have to take account of fewer and more shared cars.

Katie Stewart – Exec Director for Environment, Transport & Infrastructure, Surrey County Council – said most emissions in the county were from transport (46%) and energy use in buildings (43%). They plan to set policies to prioritise change that is needed by proposing active travel, use of public transport and fewer car journeys. They are getting the infrastructure right by electrifying buses, funding electric vehicle charging points, loan-a-bike scheme, and looking to engage all residents to inspire behavioural changes.

Cllr John Gunston

24<sup>th</sup> January 2022

## WSALC Chairman's Forum, 13<sup>th</sup> January

### online

Cllr Toney was unable to attend this meeting.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

27<sup>th</sup> January 2022

## Arun District Association of Local Councils, 19<sup>th</sup> January

### Zoom

I attended this meeting as neither the Chairman nor the Vice-Chairman was able to attend.

Cllr Michael Tu from Arundel was appointed Chair.

### **Management Committee**

It was discussed and agreed that a small working party would be set up to improve activity and interaction with councils between meetings.

### **What do member councils expect from Arun DC?**

As there is a new CEO – agreed to build a positive relationship moving forward – identifying key issues to provide a framework for future meetings.

### **Queens Canopy**

Linked to the Queen's platinum jubilee there is a huge initiative to plant more trees. These can be obtained via Sussex Wildlife Trust, Woodland Trust and Queens Canopy. Org. It is hoped that 35,000 trees will be planted.

Have we made a pledge? It is possible to make an entry on interactive Queen's Canopy map. I advised meeting we have already planted 30+ trees from the Woodland Trust and will be planting a large Jubilee tree on the village green. [Clerk's note: we have attempted to make a pledge on the Queen's Canopy online map, but our submission has been rejected until we can add a photograph of the tree in situ.]

**A27 Consultation** – to ensure that towns and parishes are aware of the 12 public consultation events being held in various locations between 18th January and 24th February, the six 'Live Chat' events between 25th January and 4th March <https://a27arundelbypass.consultation.ai/> and the documents on deposit at 15 separate locations. Copies of documents are also available online at [www.nationalhighways.co.uk/a27arundel](http://www.nationalhighways.co.uk/a27arundel).

## **Rampion 2**

There was a full discussion about the anti-windfarm lobby.

## **West Sussex CC Chargepoint Network**

This is an initiative being led by West Sussex CC to install a network of electric vehicle charge points at public buildings and areas. (The Parish Council will be attending a presentation on 27/1). The contract is a concession, meaning that WSCC will partner with Connected Kerb will incur all the costs for installing, maintaining and running the network.

Cllr Patricia Gander

24<sup>th</sup> January 2022

## **East Preston Youth Club Annual General Meeting, 27<sup>th</sup> January**

### **Zoom**

Cllrs Chapman and Duff will report on this meeting.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

28<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Cllr Gunston said the main point he had taken away from the highly strategic TfSE call was in order to reduce vehicle emissions in the UK, all three of the following measures needed to take place – electrification of vehicles, greater use of public transport, an overall reduction in the number of vehicles on the road.

Cllr Gander said she had not mentioned it in her report on the ADALC meeting, but there had been some very strong negative feeling towards the Rampion 2 proposals, different to the East Preston view of the proposals. The Clerk reported he had seen a thread on Nextdoor started by an East Preston resident mentioning the proposals; the Clerk was surprised at how much of the thread was generally supportive of the proposal. Cllr Gunston reported the public consultation on Rampion 2 had been reopened for nine weeks as a number of properties which should have received direct letters about the consultation, because they were 100m or less from the coast, had not received those letters. Previous comments submitted did not need to be resubmitted.

Cllr Chapman provided a verbal report on the 27<sup>th</sup> January Annual General Meeting of the East Preston Youth Club. All existing officers going into the meeting had been re-elected into those posts. The committee had been hoping to restart sessions during February, but the lessees of the building used for sessions had not yet agreed to the Youth Club reoccupying the premises. The youth worker, Emma, was hoping to meet with the lessees in person to encourage them to allow the sessions to restart sooner rather than later. WSCC was involved somewhere but communications coming out of WSCC were minimal and had not been helpful yet. Cllr Chapman advised the council the committee would be asking, at the council's March meeting, for the sum in the 2021/22 budget for youth provision to be ring-fenced for future use. The committee's next meeting was scheduled for 7<sup>th</sup> April and anybody wanted to attend should contact Cllr Chapman for more details.

**109/22 RESPONSE TO EXTERNAL MEETINGS AND EVENTS**

There were no further comments about any of the above reports.

**110/22 NEW ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING (7<sup>TH</sup> MARCH)**

Nothing was suggested.

**The meeting concluded at 20:29.**

Chairman: *Cllr Steve Toney* Date: **7<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

END