



# EAST PRESTON PARISH COUNCIL

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## **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES:** of the Committee Meeting held on Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at East Preston Infant School, Lashmar Road, East Preston at 19:00

**PRESENT:** Councillors John Gunston, Elizabeth Linton (Chairman) and David Moore

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

**ABSENT:** Councillors Andrea Chapman, Lisa Duff, Patricia Gander and Steve Toney

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The following abbreviations may appear in these Minutes:

ADC – Arun District Council;  
NHS – National Health Service;  
NR – Network Rail;

VHF – East Preston & Kingston Village Hall Foundation;  
WSCC – West Sussex County Council.

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The meeting commenced at 19:00.

### **254/22 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE**

An apology and a reason for absence were received and accepted from Cllrs Chapman (ill), Duff (unavailable), Gander (holiday) and Toney (ill).

### **255/22 PERSONAL AND/OR PECUNIARY/PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS**

No declarations were made.

### **256/22 PUBLIC SESSION**

No members of the public were present.

### **257/22 PLAYSCHEMES IN 2021/22**

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

## **Playschemes – 2021/22**

**Committee is asked to review the February half-term playscheme.**

*A Morning with Nature* ran on the morning of 24<sup>th</sup> February. Thirteen of the fifteen places were sold. All but two of the children had their adults stay with them. After the event, I sent a questionnaire to the eight adults who had booked their children on to the event. Four have replied, and their feedback can be found at Appendix A below.

**Committee is also asked to consider whether to run another playscheme this year.**

There is £750 in the budget for playschemes during the 2022/23 financial year.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

21<sup>st</sup> March 2022

The committee AGREED the playscheme had definitely been one of the more successful ones over the years.

The committee AGREED to run a similar event during the October half-term. The Clerk would liaise with Mrs Sam Cross of Sussex Forest Activities and East Preston Infant School.

#### 258/22 ROUNDSTONE LEVEL CROSSING PUBLIC MEETING

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

### Roundstone Level Crossing

**Committee is asked to consider any progress made in relation to hosting a public meeting, with major stakeholders, concerning the Roundstone Level Crossing.**

No progress to report, as my Network Rail contact continues not to respond, so the meeting will not be taking place in March!

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

21<sup>st</sup> March 2022

The Clerk had nothing to add.

#### 259/22 BLUE PLAQUES

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

### Blue plaques

**Committee is asked to note any progress on the Heywood Hardy blue plaque for Forge House.**

The plaque has been ordered and is due to be delivered on 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

A provisional unveiling has been set for 14:00 on Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> April. The date is currently only provisional owing to the householders having some work done on the house and not wanting that to be evident in any photographs taken on the day.

Cllr Linton and I have visited Clymping church to see the Heywood Hardy paintings for ourselves. They are far more impressive in person than any photograph could show.

Graham Lewis of the East Preston & Kingston Preservation Society, has kindly agreed to draft the basis of a speech for Cllr Linton to use at the unveiling. Graham initially approached me wanting to write an article on Heywood Hardy's plaque for All About East Preston & Kingston. As the plaque is only likely to be unveiled at the end of April, we agreed he should aim to publish his article in the June edition, so he can include a photograph of the plaque in situ.

In other news on blue plaques, I got excited when a Littlehampton Gazette article (10<sup>th</sup> March) about the grandson of the man, John Cooper, who created the Mini Cooper said he

had lived and worked in East Preston. The journalist kindly passed on a letter to Charlie Cooper for me, and on 14<sup>th</sup> March, Mike Cooper – John’s son and Charlie’s dad – telephoned me. Sadly for East Preston, Mike confirmed John had lived in Botany Close, Rustington and the Roundstone garage, by the level crossing, had only become involved with the Mini Cooper brand after John had died. Graham Lewis is also a member of the Rustington Heritage Association, so I have shared this information with him and he has said he will take it up with the Association.

Finally, Margaret Gilbert, member of the Preservation Society and former parish councillor, recently told me the Preservation Society is considering marking the site of the East Preston Workhouse in some way. The only remaining building is the flint building on the corner of The Street and Fairlands; this was the engineer’s cottage. I have said the council would be happy to discuss this idea further.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

21<sup>st</sup> March 2022

The plaque had indeed arrived on 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

The Clerk confirmed the unveiling date was still provisionally 14:00 on Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> April, depending upon the state of the building works of the householders, Paul and Emma Weaver. A drinks reception could be held in the upstairs room of the British Legion after the unveiling; Pebbles could be asked to do some catering. Cllr Linton and the Clerk would consider who should be invited. The Clerk reported committee members of the East Preston & Kingston Preservation Society and the vicar and churchwarden from Clymping Church were already aware of the provisional date.

The committee liked the idea floated by Mrs Margaret Gilbert about the last remaining building from the East Preston Workhouse.

#### 260/22 QUEEN’S PLATINUM JUBILEE, JUNE 2022 – PUBLIC CLOCK

The committee considered the following paper which had been circulated in advance of the meeting:

### Queen’s Platinum Jubilee, June 2022

#### **Committee is asked to receive an update on the purchase of a village clock.**

The clock has been ordered and a 50% deposit has been paid. No delivery date has been given.

UK Power Networks has provided an MPAN and also a quote: “Your offer is based on variable direct debit payment and includes a discount of 0.5p/kWh for electricity and/or 0.1p/kWh for gas against our standard unit rate.” Such quotes are currently only valid for seven days, and I have informed UK Power Networks we are not in a position to proceed yet.

The Planning Application has a decision date of 4<sup>th</sup> April on it. Comments were due to be received by 15<sup>th</sup> March. One member of the public objected to the Application questioning why a clock is needed when everybody has one on their wrist, their phone or in their car.

WSSC Highways has not raised objections to the Planning Application but has advised we need to get permission from the WSSC Estates department, something I believed I had kicked off months ago. Two steps forward one and a half back.

Enerveo contact is still refusing to reply to my messages. Dawn is meeting an alternative contact this week and he may prove to be our way in.

Regarding the dedication of the clock, we have started to collate a list of residents born on 2<sup>nd</sup> June. Cllr Moore has agreed to play at the unveiling and the road closure has been applied for. There is also a chance the Upbeat Singers may have a rehearsal that morning, even though it is a Bank Holiday, and will come and join us at the clock – to be confirmed.

The Clerk reported he had finally received an order form to complete for Enerveo. He had run this past Cllr Toney who was happy for it to be completed and sent off. The committee AGREED to this, understanding Planning Permission and WSCC Permission has yet to be received. Cllr Linton said she believed the clock was being stored until we said we were ready to take delivery and the clock company would help with the installation if not do the actual hook-up. The committee AGREED it would be nice to have some flowers for around the clock for the dedication day, 2<sup>nd</sup> June.

The committee was happy to learn one resident born on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1952 had come forward. (The committee KNEW the Coronation had been on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1953, but the country was celebrating the Platinum Jubilee over the weekend of 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2022.)

Dedication plaques need to be worded and purchased for both the Jubilee Clock and the Jubilee tree.

## 261/22 QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE, JUNE 2022 – COMMEMORATIVE BEAKERS

The committee considered the following paper which had been circulated in advance of the meeting:

### Queen's Platinum Jubilee, June 2022

#### **Committee is asked to consider the purchase of plastic beakers for each child at East Preston Infant and Junior Schools.**

We probably have all received jubilee memorabilia from our schools in the past. A Silver Jubilee mug or a Charles & Diana mug for those young enough.

A few weeks ago, we were asked by Mrs New of East Preston Infant School whether we would be donating something to the children as the council had done in 2012 for the Diamond Jubilee. That year we donated ceramic mugs to all children at East Preston schools, plus a few extras for local home-schooled children or for adults that wanted to buy them for themselves or their grandchildren, that sort of thing.

Currently, the Infant School has 270 children on roll, and the Junior School has 310, a total of 580.

Cllr Linton and I have had a look around for products and, in line with the council's carbon reduction ethos (perhaps), found these - <https://www.printed4you.co.uk/jubilee-universal-tumbler-white>. Don't be fooled by the price, you probably have to buy a million to get them at 10p each. Attached is how our logo would look in purple. I have gone back and asked if they could put the council's name around the logo or whether we would have to find someone ourselves to do that.

The quotation we have been given so far is based upon 500 units (I'm not sure why) and comes out at £2.09 a cup, excluding VAT. If the committee wanted to pursue this idea, it would be wise to ask council for about £1,400 for 650 cups.

Rustington PC is giving commemorative medals to the children attending Rustington primary schools. I have been given the details of the chosen supplier, but the website has not been updated since last October and has no Platinum Jubilee items on it, and the supplier is apparently proving a bit of a nightmare.

In 2012, councillors went into the schools to distribute the mugs.

The committee AGREED unanimously it was happy to ask Full Council for up to £1,500 for 650 reusable Platinum Jubilee beakers.

Committee members would be happy to go into the two schools to present the beakers to schoolchildren if the headteachers wanted them to.

The following supporting paper had been circulated in advance of the meeting and covered the next two Minutes:

## East Preston Festival, 3<sup>rd</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> June 2022

**Committee is asked to consider the council's contributions to Festival week.**

The Major Events Committee is already working on the dedication of the Village Clock and the Jubilee tree. I have informally asked Dorothy Lee to dedicate the tree on 5<sup>th</sup> June, and Dorothy has happily agreed to do so. The committee is also liaising with the East Preston Festival Committee about a picnic-style event on the Village Green on Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> June.

Additionally, the council has agreed to run these two events during Festival week:

**The Bell Orchestra** – this is all booked for 17:30 on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> June, all paperwork completed. Aside from the Festival programme, we need to look at any other ways we can publicise this event. It is already on the All About website and will go into the What's On guide in the June printed edition.

It would be useful to know which councillors are likely to be around for the event so we can tidy up the relevant Risk Assessment and other documentation. If possible, I think it would be useful to have a lead contact councillor who can be there, with me, from maybe 16:00 to greet and help the company set up. I would suggest other councillors come along from 17:00 to mingle with the public as necessary.

**Come and Meet Your Local Councillors** – scheduled for 10am on Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> June between 10am and midday, there is probably nothing else to consider at this time. The new lessees of The Clockhouse are due to take over on 1<sup>st</sup> April. We will need to visit them sooner rather than later as The Clockhouse has previously provided the furniture we have used for the event. If that option is no longer available to us, we will need to think of what to do as an alternative.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

22<sup>nd</sup> March 2022

### **262/22 EAST PRESTON FESTIVAL, JUNE 2022 – THE BELL ORCHESTRA**

Cllr Linton said she was happy to be the lead councillor on the day and to be available from 16:00. Cllrs Moore and Gunston said they would likely be available during the event too.

### **263/22 EAST PRESTON FESTIVAL, JUNE 2022 – COME AND MEET YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLORS**

The committee AGREED the event should, as far as possible, be run along the same lines as previously. The committee AGREED the event ran best when held outside the Council Office, so all attempts to borrow appropriate furniture should be made. The Clerk would ask Cllr Chapman if she would be willing to make cakes for the event again.

The following supporting paper had been circulated in advance of the meeting and covered the next two Minutes:

## Free tennis coaching; Merchant Navy Day; Emergency Services Day

**Committee is asked to receive an update on these activities.**

**Tennis coaching** dates have been agreed and publicity will start towards the end of May, probably.

**Merchant Navy Day** is pretty self-organising these days. Cllr Moore has been in touch with Lt Brian Osborne regarding a uniformed presence at the occasion. I have contacted Fr Andrew.

I have made initial contact with the Fire & Rescue Service and Sussex Police about **Emergency Services Day**. The former was more keen than the latter, but it is early days. Both Headteachers have responded positively to the possibility of taking some pupils onto Lashmar Rec to visit whatever emergency services we can get there.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

21<sup>st</sup> March 2022

**264/22 FREE TENNIS-COACHING SESSIONS**

Cllr Linton reported Mr Cook had more recently suggested different dates to the original three agreed before the last meeting, i.e. 24<sup>th</sup> June, 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> July. The more-recently suggested dates were 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> June. Cllr Linton would get a definitive decision from Mr Cook. The Clerk reminded the meeting the original three dates were closer to Wimbledon and that had been seen as a selling point in the past.

**265/22 MERCHANT NAVY DAY, 3<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2022**

The Clerk confirmed Fr Andrew Perry, St Mary the Virgin church, had confirmed he was willing and able to offer a spiritual contribution should the council feel it wanted one.

Cllr Moore was liaising with the Littlehampton Sea Cadets.

**266/22 EMERGENCY SERVICES DAY, 9<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2022**

There was nothing to add.

**267/22 ST MARY THE VIRGIN, CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL, 8<sup>TH</sup> TO 11<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**

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

**St Mary the Virgin Christmas Tree Festival, 8<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>  
December**

**Committee is asked to consider the council's involvement in this year's Christmas Tree Festival, which is running 8<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> December.**

Malcolm McLelland, Chairman of the Friends of St Mary's, has confirmed the event will be running again this year. The council had successfully taken part in the past. It is early to be thinking about this, but we may want to decide now whether or not we wish to take part and, if so, we may want to start thinking about how to decorate the tree. We may, for example, have calendars for sale and may wish to reflect that. Or, with the local elections in May 2023, we may want to use the event as a reminder of all the council has achieved in the village since May 2019.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

21<sup>st</sup> March 2022

The committee AGREED the council should take part in this event again. As they had previously contributed successfully, the committee AGREED to ask Cllrs Chapman and Duff to lead on the decoration of the tree. The committee AGREED to review four years of council achievements.

**268/22 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 24<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2022**

The draft Minutes of the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> January had been circulated to all members on 27<sup>th</sup> January asking for suggested amendments by 3<sup>rd</sup> February. No amendments were suggested, but Cllrs Gander and Toney had replied the draft Minutes were accurate.

The committee AGREED unanimously the Minutes could be signed as a true record of the meeting which had taken place on 24<sup>th</sup> January and Cllr Linton duly completed this task.

## 269/22 UPDATE ON MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The following report by the Clerk was circulated in advance of the meeting:

### Matters Arising from previous meetings

**Minute 947/21 – Merchant Navy Day, 3<sup>rd</sup> September** – further to the update provided at the last meeting, Mr Day provided me with an update on 31<sup>st</sup> January, citing a response he had received from central Royal British Legion. The response from the RBL is lengthy and I suggest it is read by anyone taking part in the organisation of Merchant Navy Day this year, nearer the time.

**Minute 959/21 – Littlehampton Community Fridge on Tour** – one Fridge session, presided over by Cllr Toney and Ken Glover, did have to set up inside the foyer of the Conservative Hall. This did work ok.

**Minute 073/22 – Newsletter – Winter 2022** – distribution took place during the second half of February. One of the households which has not received the past few Newsletters directly, did receive this one directly. When presenting her invoice, Dana Fisher of Applegate, the distribution company, wrote, “I’ve had less no thank you’s on this delivery than normal and perhaps only 2 people handing back, one incredibly rude guy who asked if I could read? And then some neighbour telling me not to mind him, he’s always like that. It just floats off me and I apologise, take the newsletter and say they should ring the Parish News if there’s an issue.”

**Minute 075/22 – Official Guide and Map 2022-23** – this was signed-off by Cllr Linton on 28<sup>th</sup> February, but at the time of writing we have not been given an expected delivery date. Those involved in the preparation of the Guide have been disappointed we have not been able to use many of the photographs organisations submitted. I propose once we have received paper copies of the Guide, a few of us get together and work out a sort of template page for future productions, setting a word count which leaves room for a photograph. This may also make the whole Guide somewhat fairer across each organisation.

**Minute 079/22 – WSCC Traffic Regulation Orders – Sea Road / North Lane** – as already reported to Full Council, following a site meeting with Rob Torrance, WSCC, and Cllr Toney, I have submitted a request for this to be considered officially by WSCC. This has been initially actioned by Neil Smith, WSCC PMO Officer, “I refer to your application of 24<sup>th</sup> February for a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to prohibit waiting over sections North Lane and Sea Lane, East Preston I have now completed a technical assessment of your proposal and will include it in the forward programme for future work. It will, however, have to compete with other priorities for inclusion in the 2022/23 works programme.”

**Minute 080/22 – Hedgehog Highways** – these have been made available to members of the public and we have sold some. A photograph of a Hedgehog Highway in situ will probably help us to sell more.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

21<sup>st</sup> March 2022

**Minute 080/22 – Hedgehog Highways** – the committee AGREED to try to get something out to parents via the school’s e-newsletters.

## 270/22 INTERGENERATIONAL PLAYGROUND

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

## Intergenerational Playground

### **Committee is asked to continue consideration of an intergenerational playground for the village.**

Following the last meeting, Cllr Linton and I visited a playground at Thakeham which we had been advised was intergenerational. There were items there which could be considered intergenerational and there was no signage denoting any age restrictions for the equipment. At the time we visited, there were no customers at all.

Interestingly, a consultation with Thakeham residents in 2021 did not receive a strong message of support for adult gym equipment.

Although no formal request has been received, there has been some talk by the Amenities Committee of wanting to take this piece of work back. Perhaps the best way forward would be a working party comprising members from both committees.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

22<sup>nd</sup> March 2022

Cllr Linton had worked with the council's Assistant Clerk, Mrs Reid, to identify some much smaller, simpler pieces of play equipment which could be used inclusively. Details of these were in the Council Office for councillors to look at. Committee members AGREED to look at the details with a view to the committee making a proposal on this to Full Council in May.

### **271/22 NEWSLETTER – SPRING 2022**

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

## Newsletter – Spring 2022

### **Committee is asked to consider content for Newsletter No. 62, Spring 2022.**

The Winter issue is scheduled for publication in May.

Copy should be with me by Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> April at the latest.

Standard year-round articles include:

- Village Life – diary
- Thanks – please let me know of anyone or any organisation you think could be thanked publicly
- EIWP update (JG)

Standard Spring articles include:

- Chairman's Annual Report (SC and ST)

Currently, other potential articles include:

- East Preston in Bloom update (PG)
- East Preston Men in Sheds update (PG)
- EP WI (Janet Williamson)
- Village Defibs (SW)
- Publicity for council Festival events
- East Preston Festival publicity
- Publicity for Jubilee picnic
- Lisa's blog (LD)



Anonymous letters (SC)  
DAG Reach the Beach campaign (DAG) (this will be an updated version of the article in the e-newsletter of 16<sup>th</sup> March)  
Advance notice about the Christmas Tree Festival  
Article on the return of the Old Worthing Road bus-stop, successfully campaigned for by local residents with assistance from us

Offers to write any of the above articles, even those with initials beside will be welcomed.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

22<sup>nd</sup> March 2022

Additionally, Cllr Linton AGREED to draft the articles on council Festival events and the Jubilee picnic. Cllr Gunston AGREED to write the article about the Christmas Tree Festival, if the Friends of St Mary's did not draft something themselves. It was suggested Cllr Chapman might be best-placed to write about bird boxes and Hedgehog Highways.

## 272/22 COUNCILLOR WALKABOUTS

The following paper was circulated in advance of the meeting:

### Councillor walkabouts

#### **Committee is asked to review councillor walkabouts.**

Now the weather finally seems to be improving, if willing, we should start carrying out councillor walkabouts and, if we are going to do them, what is the best way to schedule them. I am thinking rather than a Doodle poll, which takes time for all of us, perhaps it would be simpler to know each month which councillors are willing to do a walkabout that month. Then I pair those councillors up and, between them, they decide themselves when they are going out. I can still give guidance on where they should go.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

21<sup>st</sup> March 2022

The committee AGREED it would be less onerous on the council's staff if each committee member made his or her own plans to go out on walkabouts when they had a spare hour. It was suggested they could do this on a rotational basis, ringing other councillors to see who was available. The Council Office could suggest locations for walks to try and balance these across the village.

## 273/22 WAR MEMORIAL

Cllr Moore had received Sjt. Davis's complete military history from the Ministry of Defence. Cllr Moore felt this conclusively detailed Sjt. Davis had, after some delay, died of wounds received in Sicily during the Second World War and, therefore, his inclusion on the village war memorial was justified. Cllr Moore had shown the relevant paperwork to Cllr Toney.

The committee AGREED there was enough information now for a proposal to be put to the local branch of the British Legion, suggested Sjt. Davis be included at the bottom of the list of names under a new heading of 1946.

Cllr Linton thanked Cllr Moore for his efforts to date. Cllr Moore will draft a cover letter to accompany the relevant papers when they are passed to the British Legion.

## 274/22 MEN IN SHEDS

The following paper was circulated in advance of the meeting:

### East Preston Men In Sheds

#### **Committee is asked to note progress made in this matter.**

Cllr Gander to lead on this item.

Two well-attended meetings have been held in the upstairs room at the British Legion and a third is scheduled for 5<sup>th</sup> April. The group seems happy to chat about life over a cuppa and a biscuit as no progress has been made with finding a suitable venue to do anything more (literally) constructive.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

21<sup>st</sup> March 2022

Nothing was added in Cllr Gander's absence.

**275/22 EAST PRESTON IN BLOOM**

The following paper was circulated in advance of the meeting:

### East Preston In Bloom

**Committee is asked to note progress made in this matter.**

Cllr Gander to lead on this item. Several meetings have now been held and projects have started to be undertaken. Paperwork such as a disclaimer and a Risk Assessment have been started but not yet completed.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

21<sup>st</sup> March 2022

Cllr Gunston reported there were about ten to twelve core volunteers so far. Most were not really fitting in with the social side of the idea, but maybe that would come more once the initial projects had been completed. Cllr Gunston thought a little more formality would not go amiss. The next strategy meeting was scheduled for 31<sup>st</sup> March.

**276/22 COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH**

The following paper was circulated in advance of the meeting:

### Community Speed Watch

**Committee is asked to consider further the suggestion to purchase Speed Indication Devices.** My thanks to Cllr Toney for sterling work in getting suppliers to send us information, but I have still not had time to sort through it yet.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

22<sup>nd</sup> March 2022

The Clerk had nothing further to report yet.

**277/22 2023 EAST PRESTON CALENDAR**

The following paper was circulated in advance of the meeting:

### East Preston 2023 Calendar

**Committee is asked to continue consideration of an idea to produce a 2023 East Preston calendar.**

The Council Office has drawn up a list of what topic might represent each month. We are happy for this to be adapted.

Month	Theme
Jan	Winter
Feb	Sunrise/sunset
Mar	Celebrity
Apr	Spring
May	Spring
Jun	Festival
Jul	Summer
Aug	F&DF
Sep	Classic Car Show
Oct	Hallowe'en
Nov	Fireworks
Dec	Christmas

We are also very happy for councillors to submit photographs they feel may be suitable for each month. Obviously, some months we may wish to montage several photographs on a topic.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

22<sup>nd</sup> March 2022

The committee was happy with the proposed subjects per month and would seek photo opportunities through the year.

**278/22 ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES WORKING PARTY**

The following paper was circulated in advance of the meeting:

**Environmental Initiatives Working Party**

**Committee is asked to considering the commissioning of a logo for the Environmental Initiatives Working Party.**

The Working Party is chugging along undertaking various initiatives in an attempt to reduce the carbon footprint of the village. Part of the working party's commitment is to produce an article for each newsletter. This started over two years ago with an article in the Autumn 2020 Newsletter, *A greener future – Environmental Issues Working Party*. For some time now, I have thought it would be good to have a logo for the working party, which could sit behind or alongside its articles, giving them an identity, a sense of cohesion and continuity. Cllr Chapman has drafted a logo but it needs to be created properly. ADC have said they could do this for about £50 for us. We may be able to find someone local, willing to do it for less, if committee agrees with this idea.

**Committee is also asked to receive and update on any other matters from the Working Party.**

The committee liked the idea of a branding for the working party and AGREED to see if someone in the village would be able to create a logo free-of-charge first.

Cllr Gunston reported the Greener Buildings Project was progressing and he hoped the council would receive a report from the Brighton & Hove Energy Service Cooperative (BHESCo) by the end of May.

The working party's attempt to mount bird boxes in Two Acres had been beaten by the shortness of the available ladder. The committee AGREED Andy Billups should be asked if he could help.

#### 279/22 QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS

The following paper was circulated in advance of the meeting:

### Queen's Birthday Honours

**Committee is asked to consider if any local residents should be put forward for an award in a future Queen's Birthday Honours List.**

At the September meeting and again at the January meeting, the committee agreed to think more about any resident who could be put forward for an award.

The committee again struggled with thinking of one single person the council could put forward. The committee AGREED it could instead, perhaps, think of a more local awards scheme, somewhat similar to Rustington's Parishioner of the Year Award, but different. The committee AGREED an Agenda Item for the next meeting of *How should we recognise local heroes?*.

#### 280/22 MEET AND CHAT SESSIONS

The following paper was circulated in advance of the meeting:

### Meet and chat sessions

**Committee is asked to consider how the council could facilitate more regular meet and chat sessions.**

Following the East Preston Voluntary Service Thank You Party, several councillors present at the event have said it highlighted that there are lonely people in the village. We already knew it, but some of us had perhaps not come so face-to-face with it as we did at the party. Lovely people, delighted to be out and amongst other lovely people. As he left, Bob Billingham who was there photographing the event, said he had met some lovely, interesting people he would otherwise never have had the chance to talk with. Some attendees said they just craved the opportunity to get out, to meet others, and there was no need to go to the expense of food and drink.

There is some mileage in the argument both Men in Sheds and East Preston in Bloom provide regular opportunities for members of our community to get together. Events such as Funday Sunday, the Food & Drink Festival, *The Bell Orchestra* and Christmas Celebrations provide similar opportunities on an ad-hoc basis.

Cllr Linton reminded the meeting the council had implemented two Happy To Chat benches in the village. These had been slightly undermined by being unveiled early in the pandemic and perhaps people had missed the point of the benches. Cllr Linton AGREED to write a newsletter article to remind residents.

**281/22 PARKED PROJECTS**

The following paper was circulated in advance of the meeting:

Parked projects

**Committee is asked to note the committee's currently parked projects such as Sporting Memories and other wellbeing projects, defib familiarisation sessions, East Preston Resource Centre, future village publications and the provision of further blue plaques.**

This new Standing Agenda Item will be where committee members can agree which other items of committee business should be kept in mind if not under active consideration. This is also an opportunity to remind other committee members of projects which may have been overlooked.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

22<sup>nd</sup> March 2022

No changes were made to the list.

**282/22 NEW ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING (23<sup>RD</sup> MAY)**

Nothing was suggested.

*The Meeting closed at 20:45.*

Chairman: *Cllr Elizabeth Linton* Date: **23<sup>rd</sup> May 2022**