

**MONTHLY MEETING
OF THE COUNCIL**

**3RD FEBRUARY 2025
at 19:00**

SUPPORTING PAPERS

Please note not every Agenda Item will have a supporting paper.

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Agenda Item 6

Minutes of Monthly Full Council meeting, 6th January 2025

The draft Minutes were circulated to all councillors on 8th January, asking for suggested amendments by 15th January. None were received.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

27th January 2025

Agenda Item 7

Monthly Update Report

1. **Introduction**
2. **Minute 924/24 – Community Engagement Committee – Roundstone Level Crossing**
3. **Minute 010/25 – Financial Matters**
4. **Minute 014/25 – Finance & General Purposes Committee – Lashmar skatepark**

1. Introduction

This is the report covering items discussed during Full Council meetings up to and including the meeting held on 2nd December 2024.

2. Minute 924/24 – Community Engagement Committee – Roundstone Level Crossing

The council has now received the data from the survey carried out on 13th, 14th and 16th December. Cllr Linton and I have had an initial look through the information provided.

I can tell you across the three days there were 24,559 crossings of the Roundstone Level Crossing, of which 4.59% were pedestrians. 12,232 vehicles crossed north to south whilst 12,327 crossed south to north. Friday was the busiest day with 8,950 crossings, whereas Saturday had 7,194 and Monday, 8415.

On Friday, the busiest quarter-hour started at 15:45, Saturday it started at 10:15 and on Monday it started at 15:30.

Barrier downtime was also monitored. Thrice the gates were down for longer than ten minutes: at 10:03 on the Saturday and again at 18:36 on the Saturday, both times for just shy of eleven minutes, and at 06:02 on the Monday, just over ten minutes. The shortest downtime I have found so far is just 1:03 on Monday afternoon.

If any councillor would like to look at the data provided, please let me know.

3. Minute 010/25 – Financial Matters

The unknown payee was indeed for some Funday Sunday tickets paid for with cash. I have asked Adrian to update the report to reflect this but note that has not happened yet.

4. Minute 014/25 – Finance & General Purposes Committee – Lashmar skatepark

Ros Bryant, ADC Landscape Officer (Projects) delivering the skatepark renovations, emailed on 23rd January, “Just to let you know that the old ramps are due for removal next week (week commencing 27 Jan), weather permitting, and the tarmac contractor is due onsite the following week on 3 and 4 Feb. The installation of the new ramps will follow after – I will let you know once the installation date has been confirmed. Thanks very much for the parish council’s contribution it will make all the difference to the scheme for local skaters.”

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

27th January 2025

Agenda Item 9

Committees

Since the last Full Council meeting the following committees have met: Amenities, Community Engagement, Personnel and Planning & Licensing. By the time of this meeting, the draft Minutes from all of these meetings should have been circulated to all councillors.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

24th January 2025

Agenda Item 9a

Amenities Committee

Cllr Wilkinson is chairman of this committee.

The committee held an extraordinary meeting on 27th January solely for the top item below.

Village Green and Village Green car-park proposal – The committee received a presentation from EP Disabled Action Group (DAG), outlining a proposal for improvements to the Village Green and Village Green car-park access. DAG proposed creating a path along the western side of the Village Green to allow easier access to the green for the less able. The proposal

included removing a cycle hoop and levelling the ground surface next to the car-parks ticket machine. The committee will be considering the proposal in more detail at its February meeting.

Village Green Benches – Two new memorial benches have been installed at the Village Green, the Terry Golding memorial bench was installed on the western boundary and the John Phillip Maguire bench at the south-eastern corner. Both benches are the same design and made from composite material.

Council Office Shed – Men in Sheds (MIS) has installed the new shed in the Council Office back garden. The shed will be used to help alleviate storage issues within the Council Office. There have been a few snags which require addressing before the shed is ready for use.

Trees – The council's tree surgeon has completed the tree work as recommended in the 2024 annual tree inspection report. The white poplar group at the south-western corner of the Village Green has been removed and a silver birch tree with wood decay fungus was removed from Two Acres. The committee will consider planting replacement trees at the appropriate planting time.

The committee's next full meeting will be on 10th February 2025.

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

28th January 2025

Agenda Item 9b

Audit & Governance Committee

Cllr Mathias is the chairman of this committee.

The committee did not meet in January and there are no updates. The committee's next meeting is on 10th March.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

20th January 2025

Agenda Item 9c

Community Engagement Committee

Cllr Linton is chairman of this committee.

The committee met on 20th January and the draft Minutes were circulated to all councillors on 22nd January. One member of the public attended.

Here are some updates:

St Mary the Virgin Christmas Tree Festival – the committee was pleased with the council's contribution to the event, as decorated by Cllrs Chapman and Duff. Discussions has already started for the 2026 Festival.

Covid-19 Day of Reflection, 9th March – the National Association of Local Council has asked local councils to consider involvement in this event. The committee was very much in two minds about this, feeling for some reflecting upon the events which started five years ago might be just too painful. I have contacted Angmering and Rustington Parish Councils and neither had, at that point, considered this matter.

East Preston Festival, 6th to 15th June – the committee agreed to retain the Saturday morning format for *Come and Meet Your Local Councillors* and asks as many councillors as possible to be available between 09:30 and 12:30 on that date.

Similarly, please could as many councillors as possible make themselves available for the visit of Ems Friendly Farm (petting zoo) on Tuesday, 10th June between 16:30 and 19:15.

The committee agreed not to take part in the Carnival Parade this year. The council's officers and allies were already working on a window display for the Festival.

Beach Clean, 6th April – the next Beach Clean will take place on Sunday, 6th April, 11:00 – 12:00, with councillor support needed between 10:30 and 12:30.

Defibrillators – Cllr Toney reported the Fire & Rescue Service had agreed to the installation of a publicly-available defibrillator on the outside wall of East Preston Fire Station. Details to be confirmed in due course.

Warm Welcome Space – the council has now run the first four sessions of this season, and attendance has settled at about 22 to 24. Attendees are generally appreciative.

Village Crier – the committee considered Cllr Hill's suggestion of appointing a Village Crier, but did not feel this was appropriate at this time.

Village Sports Clubs – the committee agreed I should contact the chairs of local sports clubs to see if they would attend a meeting where they could each share information with each other.

East Preston Christmas Celebrations 2025 – on behalf of the Major Events Committee, the committee considered a suggestion 22nd November was too early and the event should move back to 29th November. Armed with additional information supplied by Alison, the committee agreed to stick to 22nd November. I have informed Our Lady, Star of the Sea, which was briefly holding both dates for us, and I have submitted a booking form to East Preston & Kingston Village Hall Foundation.

The committee's next meeting is scheduled for 24th March.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

27th January 2025

Agenda Item 9d

Finance & General Purposes Committee

Cllr McElroy is the chairman of this committee.

The committee did not meet in January and there are no updates. The committee's next meeting is on 17th February.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

27th January 2025

Agenda Item 9e

Major Events Committee

Cllr Linton is Chairman of the committee.

The committee did not meet in January, and the only update is the decision, made by the Community Engagement Committee, to hold East Preston Christmas Celebrations 2025 on 22nd November as originally proposed.

The committee's next meeting is scheduled for 17th February.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

27th January 2025

Agenda Item 9f

Personnel Committee

The committee met on 13th January.

At our meeting in January the committee talked again about the mental health training offered free from MIND available online for all. A few councillors have taken up this course and it can be completed within a couple of hours, you can always go back in as necessary. The course is available here. Please let Simon know if you have taken this course as we are recording those attended. www.conversationsinthecommunity.org.uk

As we enter a new year, a few reminders about councillor behaviour. We are in the very enviable position of having very good relationships both inside the council and in and around the village; this relies on councillors and officers being mindful of their position and always being polite and measured when we speak to people and meet people at our many events and arranged projects. We should all do what we can to maintain good relationships with the public even in tricky situations; the above training may support this.

Following some of the discussions at the last Full Council meeting, the committee also agreed to remind everyone the council is non-political, and to ask that councillors refrain from political statements at council meetings. This extends to all present so that our council meetings are concentrated on the business of East Preston and our reasons for attending.

The health and safety audit of the office is currently being undertaken by Cllr Toney and me.

Later this year we will be asking councillors to complete the biennial DBS checks, but no action needed until May and details will follow as required.

The committee's next meeting will be in April.

Cllr Lisa Duff – **Chairman of the Personnel Committee**

27th January 2025

Agenda Item 9g

Planning & Licensing Committee

The committee only met on 7th January.

The committee raised no objections to the three Planning Applications put before them, although it did comment upon one in West Ridings.

ADC Licensing had responded to the committee's concern about a lack of parity between two local establishment's licences and had justified this by saying every licensing application was considered on its own merits. The committee did not feel this response was satisfactory.

The committee's next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 10th February.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

27th January 2025

Agenda Item 10

Working Parties

Only the Environmental Initiatives Working Party met in January.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

28th January 2025

Agenda Item 10a

20mph Working Party

Cllr Wilkinson is the chairman of this committee.

I have now met with Keith Harris, outgoing coordinator of the village's Community Speedwatch group. He has given me pointers for how he believes the council should move this

forward, and I now need to discuss these with Cllr Wilkinson, which may well result in a resolution to the March Full Council meeting.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

28th January 2025

Agenda Item 10b

Environmental Initiatives Working Party (EIWP)

Cllr Gunston is the chairman of this working party.

The working party met on 27th January.

The main discussion was about our proposed Green Day event planned for September. We are hoping to invite village groups and societies who are involved with recycling to set up stalls as well as outside agencies such as WSCC and Southern Water. We plan to conduct a survey on bin disposal and also hold the Repair Café at the same event. We may invite speakers to give short talks on green issues. We will suggest to Community Engagement that we purchase some hedgehog warning signs for the village and take part in the National In Bloom competition.

Allotment discussions are ongoing.

The working party's next meeting is on Monday 24th February at 19:00.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

28th January 2025

Agenda Item 10c

Flat and Frontage Working Party (FFWP)

Cllr Wilkinson is chairman-elect of this working party.

The working party has not yet set a date for an initial meeting.

For very personal reasons, the tenant who moved in at the beginning of December has had to give notice, and will likely leave at the end of February. All fees for re-advertising and reletting the property will be covered by the existing tenant as per the rental agreement. Hopefully a new and suitable tenant will be found soon.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

27th January 2025

Agenda Item 10d

Leases Working Party (LWP)

Cllr Wilkinson is the chairman of this working party.

Slow progress. Please see Agenda Item 11a below.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

28th January 2025

Agenda Item 11a

Leases Working Party – East Preston & Kingston Bowls Club

Council is asked to agree to the commissioning of a valuation survey at the cost of approximately £750 (excl. VAT).

Council will be aware the current lease to the Bowls Club expires this year, and the council has yet to agree the financial terms of a new lease.

The council's solicitor has suggested a valuation be sought which could give the council some more in the way of bargaining power. The solicitor has contacted various surveyors he has worked with previously, and only one has offered to do this work.

I have canvassed members of the Leases Working Party electronically, and the majority recommend this survey is commissioned.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

27th January 2025

Agenda Item 12a

Stagecoach South

Council is asked to consider whether the council should comment upon proposed changes to bus services in Littlehampton and Worthing.

On 21st January, Stagecoach South announced proposed changes to bus routes in the Littlehampton and Worthing areas. These changes have been expected since we have understood the impact of the Southern Rail timetable changes made last June which have seen level crossing downtime increase. For Stagecoach, this has meant a reduction in reliability and punctuality of its 700 service which is scheduled to run through the village every 12 minutes.

After a lot of deliberating, Stagecoach has put a proposal out for public consultation. This has been circulated to recipients of the council's e-newsletter and also linked to from the council's Facebook page.

Does the council want to contribute its own comments and, if so, which councillors would like to get together to draft these comments. Such comments need to be submitted by 7th February (so 6th February in council terms).

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

27th January 2025

Agenda Item 15

Sussex Police

Council is asked to note any report from Sussex Police should one be received.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

27th January 2025

Agenda Item 16

Clerk's Report

1. **Introduction**
2. **Police matters**
3. **Anti-social behaviour matters**
4. **Freedom of Information / Data Protection requests**
5. **Tree scam**
6. **East Preston Repair Café, 11th January**
7. **Meeting with East Preston Cricket Club, 13th January**
8. **Meeting with Angmering-on-Sea Lawn Tennis Club, 14th January**
9. **Meeting at Rustington Parish Council, 20th January – Zachary Merton Hospital**
10. **Littlehampton RNLI Lifeboat Station visit, 23rd January**
11. **Social media**
12. **MailChimp stats**
13. **A selection of things we have been asked since the last meeting**
14. **Recent bouquets and complaints**
15. **Leave**

16. February meetings and events

1. Introduction

This is the report mainly covering November 2024 and matters which may not arise elsewhere on the agenda.

2. Police matters

After some persuasion, the company which manages the Village Green car-park on behalf of the council was able to provide the registration details of the perpetrator's car. That information has been passed to our insurer. Sussex Police has requested the CCTV footage today although, at the time of writing, I am having trouble uploading it.

3. Anti-social behaviour (ASB) matters

No developments in anti-social behaviour matters in the village.

4. Freedom of Information / Data Protection requests

No Freedom of Information requests received since the last report.

No Data Protection requests received since the last report.

5. Tree scam

On 23rd December, I noticed some tree works taking place on a verge in the village. The contractors were not wearing hi-vis, had not coned off the road next to where they were working and generally did not look like official WSCC Highways contractors. The following morning, I photographed the results of the works and sent that to my tree contact at WSCC asking if he knew about the works, which I believed had been carried out on WSCC verge.

The tree contact replied he was not aware of the works but was also not sure the land in question was Highways land.

Early in the new year, the owner of the house adjacent to where the works had been carried out called me and told me how he had been approached on the 23rd by someone who has done tree works for him before. The man showed the householder how one of the trees had fallen into the road and needed to be removed. He showed the householder some credentials from WSCC, and the householder agreed to the removal of the tree and some maintenance works on adjacent trees. The householder believed the man was asking on behalf of WSCC Highways for permission to work on these trees, but at the end of the works, he was presented with a bill for just under £2,000. Having had this man work for him before, he thought it best to pay up and that's what he did.

A family member was concerned about this but by the time they contacted the man's bank, the bank was unable to retrieve the money and started to talk about a scam. WSCC Highways has subsequently come back saying the land in question was sold sometime in the past but, because of a records fire or flood, there are no details of to whom the land was sold. WSCC Highways is interested in finding out who the man was and whether he is genuinely a recommended contractor. This matter is ongoing, but could be a warning to us all.

6. East Preston Repair Café, 11th January

Cllr Gunston and I ran this session.

After the event, Cllr Gunston provided the following report to the volunteers: "Another great Repair Cafe, 25 items were looked at 19 repaired, 2 taken home and 1 person was given advice. We took £123.85 in donations. Feedback as always was very positive - "brilliant, excellent service, absolutely delighted"."

Special thanks to Cllr Chapman's husband, Scott, who stepped in at very short notice to be a Portable Appliance Tester for the session. Additionally, he turned his hand to repairing a heated seat-pad, two electric heaters, a vacuum cleaner charger and more.

The session wound up at 12.45.

The next session will be on Saturday, 8th February. I will not be able to attend that session.

This will probably be the last regular report from Repair Café sessions as the council's direct involvement may be winding down.

7. Meeting with East Preston Cricket Club, 13th January

Cllrs Toney, Gunston and Wilkinson and I met with representatives of the cricket club for the first of this year's meetings. The club was represented by Pete Dallimore (Chairman), Andy Reeves (Treasurer) and Colin Smith (Secretary).

During the 2024 season, the club had played about twenty matches. The council had received two complaints of balls landing in neighbouring properties, one each on the western and eastern boundaries.

The club's current mower is coming to the end of its life and the club may need some assistance with the purchase of a new one. Mowing in 2024 had carried on as late as November. Members of the public regularly praise the club for how tidy it keeps the Warren Recreation Ground.

Although the club appreciated the cutting-back of trees on the eastern boundary, it was concerned about how far back some of the trees had been cut. It planned on seeking advice on what measures could be put in place and, at the council's request, will seek similar advice on increasing the height of the safety netting on the western boundary.

The 2025 season is likely to run from the first week of May until the first week of September.

The club thanked East Preston in Bloom for its improvement works in the south-eastern corner of the Rec.

8. Meeting with Angmering-on-Sea Lawn Tennis Club, 14th January

Cllr Toney and Gunston and I met with representatives of the tennis club for its annual meeting. The club was represented by Alastair McCubbin (Chairman), Andrew Cook (Head Coach and Premises Manager) and Sarah Fisher (Administrator). A member of the council's Environmental Initiatives Working Party, Michał Zarzecki, also attended.

The refurbishments to the clubhouse were now complete, the latest works being improvements to the men's changing room and the provision of an accessible toilet and shower room as a non-binary space. The club now needed to maintain the standards of the clubhouse, the courts, fencing, external areas and so on.

A decision needed to be made about the future of Court No. 1, currently an acrylic court not playable during the winter or in wet weather. The club had met with a local Padel provider which wanted to convert this court into two Padel courts but the club had decided now was not the right time for such a project.

Current membership was about 450, of whom 120 were juniors. Membership fees were about to be increased.

The newly lighting, partly sponsored by a grant from the council, had received all good feedback and was much better to play under. Electricity bills were likely lower too, but this could not yet be confirmed.

Michał introduced the idea of rain gardens and rain-harvesting and the club said it was happy for Michał to talk to it more on this, perhaps including a volunteer gardener in the conversation.

In response to a Cllr Gunston suggestion the village sports clubs could pool resources, Alastair said he would happily attend a meeting of the village's sports clubs if set up by the parish council. Community Engagement considered this idea and is going to gauge interest.

Andrew confirmed he would be willing to run a few free tennis-coaching sessions on behalf of the council this summer. Cllr Linton will liaise on details.

9. Meeting at Rustington Parish Council, 20th January – Zachary Merton Hospital

Together with Cllrs Toney and Linton, I attended this meeting to discuss the future of community medical services in the area now the NHS has said it will cost £8m just to bring Zachary Merton Hospital up to a standard at which it could be reopened.

Rustington Parish Council led the meeting and was represented by Cllrs Jamie Bennett, Alison Cooper, Don Rogers and officers Carole Ward and Rosie Costan. Angmering Parish Council was represented by Cllr Nikki Hamilton-Street (great initials for this meeting) and officers Katie Herr and Tracy Lees. Kingston Parish Council was represented by Cllrs Roger Wetherall and David Marr. Shaun Gunner (Rustington) and Andy Cooper (Angmering) were also there as Arun district councillors; Alison Cooper is also an Arun district councillor (Rustington) and a West Sussex county councillor (Rustington).

Cllr Gunner provided the background to the meeting. Rustington Parish Council was already in contact with the NHS Trust which owns and has closed Zachary Merton but wanted the support of other parish councils for a combined campaign to restore, in some format, community medical services to the building or, at the very least, to the site in a new building if the current building is too decrepit to be recommissioned. The fear was the site would be left to deteriorate further, promises to recommission the building would disappear and, as with Littlehampton Hospital, nothing good would come from it.

Cllr Alison Cooper explained RPC was looking to gather local requirements through a survey they hoped neighbouring councils would also run. The councils present were supportive of that idea. With information gathered from the survey, there may then follow a petition. Reportedly, there is a fair amount of developer money sitting at ADC which could be used towards recommissioning or rebuilding a community facility in Rustington.

The NHS Trust is of the opinion a lot of the public support for Zachary Merton hospital is sentimental from people born there. However, nobody has been born there since the 1970s, and how many thousands of local residents have moved to the area since then? A survey could find out their feelings about the facility.

The meeting agreed a survey should be designed by RPC councillors and then run past all clerks for their comments on the design and practicality of the survey. Each council would then distribute the survey to their residents as they saw fit.

Cllrs Toney and Linton may well have additional comments to make about this meeting.

10. **Littlehampton RNLI Lifeboat Station visit, 23rd January**

Together with Cllrs Toney and Linton, I visited the Littlehampton Lifeboat Station to conclude the Chairman's Charity for the year 2024 with a final donation of £65.50 to the station. This brought the sum donated by councillors and their activities to about £197.91 for the year.

Thursday night is training night, and we were privileged to see both lifeboats launch. We were also able to chat to various crew members, and one of us (no prize for guessing which) also tried on several items of crew kit.



Cllrs Toney and Linton with four crew members
(photograph courtesy of Beth Brooks, Voluntary Lifeboat Press Officer,
Littlehampton RNLI Lifeboat Station)

We also met Beth Brooks, the Voluntary Lifeboat Press Officer. In sending us the photograph above, Beth wrote, "Thank you so much for visiting yesterday, and for your generous donation. Your support is very much appreciated by everyone at Littlehampton RNLI."

11. **Social media**

Here are the council's only Facebook post in in January to reach more than 500 people.

- A post announcing Stagecoach South's proposed changes to local bus routes – 846 people

(posts up to and including 27th January)

The number of Followers is currently 1,903, a decrease of one on the last report.

12. **MailChimp stats**

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

Parish Council news – 31st December – sent to 946 subscribers, opened by 700 (74.1%)

Parish Council news – 3rd January – sent to 947 subscribers, opened by 694 (73.3%)

Parish Council news – 23rd January – sent to 945 subscribers, opened by 669 (70.9%)

13. Things we have been asked since the last meeting

“Do you know the date of the next garage sale and how I can take part?” (10th May and contact the East Preston Festival Committee for more details.)

“Do you know anything about the 700 no longer coming into East Preston?” (Yes. Details provided.)

“I have heard food waste collection is beginning in February, is that right?” (Kind of, kerbside food waste collection is scheduled to start in February 2026.)

“I need to pick your brains, how do I apply for one of them yellow needle bins??” (A GP should provide an initial yellow sharps box, after which the client should contact a company called Medisort.)

“We haven't seen out neighbour for a while. We have knocked, we have looked through the windows, but we cannot see into the bedroom. What can we do?” (Call Sussex Police, non-emergency, and they should send someone out in due course.)

14. Recent bouquets and complaints

(In addition to anything reported above)

Thanks from Jane at dizzy for arranging for Cllr Chapman's interview with her to be included in the January edition of All About East Preston & Kingston, “I just wanted to say Thank you very much for the interview and organising for it to be published in the All About magazine. I have received some positive feedback, people have enjoyed reading it and found it interesting. Thank you.”

Thanks from East Preston Library for remembering its 64th birthday on 18th January!

A correspondent from elsewhere in the country who had been seeking information related to his family history; I directed him to eBay for a copy of Richard Standing's *East Preston & Kingston – An Illustrated History* and also confirmed the location of Coronation Cottages for him. “Our family met today at our house it was prearranged for something completely different and all my aunt and uncles plus cousins were over the moon with the book which arrived this morning and the pictures you sent The book is now going around the family so goodness knows when I will eventually be able to read it cover to cover. I can only say thank you.”

From a member of the public who suggested asking Stagecoach to erect a bus shelter at the stop immediately to the east of the A280/A259 roundabout, “Thank you for your reply. As you say it could have been worse.”

15. Leave

Alison and Adrian are both off for the week beginning 17th February.

16. February Meetings and Events

This list may be incomplete and is subject to change.

- 3rd Full Council (19:00, East Preston Infant School)
- 8th East Preston Repair Café (10:00, Vicarage Lane)
- 10th Planning & Licensing Committee (18:00, East Preston Infant School) (tbc)
Amenities Committee (19:00, East Preston Infant School)
- 13th Home-Start Arun, Worthing and Adur *Meet the Charity* (13:00, Arundel) (AC only)
- 17th Finance & General Purposes Committee (18:00, East Preston Infant School)
Major Events Committee (19:00, East Preston Infant School)
- 18th Visit to Ford Materials Recycling Facility (09:30 and 13:00, depending upon your booking)
- 24th Planning & Licensing Committee (18:00, East Preston Infant School)
Environmental Initiatives Working Party (19:00, East Preston Infant School)
- 27th ADC Clerks' Meeting (10:00, Civic Centre) (SC only)

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**

31st December 2024

Agenda Item 17

Other meetings and events – Part 1

Council is asked to note any reports.

WSSC Waste Prevention Webinar, 21st January

online

WSSC has £50,000 (maximum £5,000 per project) to award to local initiatives that have a demonstrable impact on waste prevention. These must be new or expanded projects run by voluntary or community groups, charities or parish and town councils. Food, furniture, plastics, textiles and electrical and electronic equipment are the key target areas. Grant requests need to be submitted by 3rd March and the projects delivered in the financial year 2025/26.

More information wasteprevention.fund@westsussex.gov.uk EIWP members will contact me if they can think of any projects.

Cllr John Gunston –
Chairman of the Environmental Initiatives Working Party

28th January 2025

ADC Climate Change Seminar, 28th January 2025

online

A short presentation on Arun District Council's focus on solar panels and heat decarbonisation plans was followed by a talk on the challenges associated with climate change messages. Avoiding technical details and acronyms, making information simple and accessible, pooling resources with other local councils and signposting people to other organisations were some of the suggestions.

In the open forum I talked about our Repair Café and asked what ADC may be able to do to help us with unwanted rubbish bins and our plan for a Green Day in September. It was great to feel part of a proactive parish council and to share some of our experiences and ideas.

Cllr John Gunston –

Chairman of the Environmental Initiatives Working Party

28th January 2025