Community Engagement Committee (CE), 21st September 2026, Agenda Item 5

Beach Cleans

Committee is asked to consider any matters pertaining to the Beach Clean scheduled for Sunday, 27th September at 11:00.

At the last meeting, Cllrs Chapman, Linton and Toney all said they could be available to help KEPT with the event. Cllr Moore will not be available to attach bags to hoops – any other volunteers for that?

Committee is also asked to consider dates and times for Beach Cleans in 2027. Following our pattern of first Sunday in April, unless it's Easter, and last Sunday in September would give us 4th April and 26th September. I have asked Sue Hickey whether those dates sound good to our collaborators, KEPT. KEPT has also had the idea of starting beach cleans at low tide so more of the beach is accessible to volunteers. Does the committee have any thoughts on this?

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 14th September 2026

CE, 21st September 2026, Agenda Item 6a

2026 Playschemes

Committee is asked to consider any matters pertaining to the Wild Science event on 27th October.

Cllr Duff to lead on this event.

Cllr Duff has secured the services of Weird Science for a two-hour session on the morning of 27th October. Final details are still to be agreed but it has been agreed the session should run between 10:00 and 12:00 and be free to attendees.

An initial article has been included in the Summer 2026 Newsletter but we need to do more publicity.

We are currently in possession of some official Chestnut Tree House collection buckets, perhaps we could put one of those there for donations?

Which councillors will be in attendance on the day?

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 15th September 2026

CE, 21st September 2026, Agenda Item 7a

St Mary the Virgin Christmas Tree Festival, 11th to 13th December

Committee is asked to consider the council having a tree in this year's Christmas Tree Festival.

Cllrs Chapman and Duff are the lead councillors for this item.

The committee has agreed on the theme of featuring all the organisations which have benefitted from a council grant in the current council term, although this suggestion could be changed if someone has a better idea.

I submitted the application form and it has been acknowledged.

A letter in November will confirm our decoration time and some do and don'ts regarding decorating. It does not appear organisations are being given a choice of decorating time. That said, if Cllrs Chapman and Duff have some preferences I could pass those on to the organisers and see whether they can bear those in mind.

We shall be publishing a preview of the Festival in our Autumn 2026 newsletter.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 14th September 2026

CE, 21st September 2026, Agenda Item 8a

Major Events: catering

On behalf of the near-identical Major Events Committee, this committee is asked to agree a caterer for the end-of-term party and *Funday Sunday*, both events scheduled for next April.

Cllr Linton to lead on this item.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 15th September 2026

CE, 21st September 2026, Agenda Item 9

East Preston Festival, 5th to 14th June 2026

At the last meeting, the committee agreed to contact the woman offering to run a croquet taster session on the Village Green for the Tuesday teatime event, 8th June. I duly contacted her on 21st July suggesting we meet onsite to discuss the idea further. I received a reply on 30th July saying she was happy to chat more. I replied on the 31st July advising our availability for a meeting and have heard nothing since.

Since starting to write this supporting paper, I have emailed her again and she has arranged to visit the Village Green on 23rd September. No time known yet.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 14th September 2026

CE, 21st September 2026, Agenda Item 10a

Sussex 1550, 16th June 2027

Committee is asked to consider celebrating the 1550th Anniversary of Sussex!

On 11th August, the council received an email from Sussex 1550.

> We'd like to invite you to partake and celebrate Sussex 1550 - marking the 1550th anniversary since our beloved Sussex was traditionally founded, in the year 477 - which we believe this is worthy of great rejoicing and festivities - together!
>
> Let's celebrate the wonderful County of Sussex and its cherished customs, traditions, and heritage. We have so much to be proud of, and our unique ways deserve to be observed in a large fashion and as an act of union and togetherness.
>
> The '*Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*', a set of annals compiled in the late 9th Century, states Sussex was established, as an independent Kingdom, in the year 477 by King Ælle and his three sons, Cymen, Wlencing and Cissa, who arrived on the coast in three ships at a place called 'Cymenshore'.
>
> These celebrations are to take place on the week of *Sussex Day*, Wednesday 16th June 2027, inclusive of the weekends either side - Saturday 12th until Sunday 20th June 2027.
>
> 🔥 Co-ordinated Beacon / Bonfire Lightings at 9pm on 16th June
>
> 🎈 Street Parties
>
> 🎪 Village Fetes
>
> 🐓 + Any other Sussex related events and activities
>
> Let's give existing Sussex Day celebrations a real boost in this special anniversary year!
>
> *We Wunt be Druv*
>
> Many thanks for your time,
>
> Brady Brooks-Ells
>
> **Sussex 1550**

In addition to the council considering participation in the celebration. I have let East Preston Festival Committee, East Preston Library and the East Preston & Kingston Preservation Society

know of this. Apparently, the Festival Committee was very excited but may not be able to find a way of making it the Festival's theme for the year.

I would suggest as a village we are not equipped to light beacons.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 15th September 2026

CE, 21st September 2026, Agenda Item 11a

Christmas Lighting

Committee is asked to receive any updates on the village's Christmas lighting.

Cllr Linton to lead on this item.

As reported to the last meeting, Rachel Brown of Event Power Engineering has confirmed the lighting should be installed by the end of September. We await confirmation of the actual date.

That leaves us the northern corner of the northern shops. Two quotations are being circulated with these supporting papers:

708473/C001 – Northern Shops Power Supplies - £8,382.48

708473/J001 – Northern Shops Power Supplies - £2,819.80

I will get Dawn's view on this before the meeting, but I think C001 is the physical infrastructure and J001 is the people costs. If I am right, the total costs will be £11,162.28, excluding VAT.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 15th September 2026

CE, 21st September 2026, Agenda Item 12a

Youth provision

Committee is asked to receive any update on work undertaken in conjunction with Angmering and Rustington Parish Councils.

Various groups across the three parishes have submitted details for inclusion on the website and launch has been put back to half-term to enable a few more groups to come forward. My thanks to Rosie and Nicky, both of Rustington Parish Council, for helping add East Preston entries to the website at a time when I had no time to do so.

No further action apart from publicising the website once it is live.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 14th September 2026

CE, 21st September 2026, Agenda Item 13a

Newsletter – Autumn 2026

Committee is asked to consider content for Newsletter No. 80, Autumn 2026.

The Autumn newsletter is usually delivered during the first half of November. Sign off needs to be Thursday, 15th October.

Cool Yule will be the front page. As mentioned at the last meeting, we need to include updates on 20mph zone, Community Highways Scheme application for the extended pavement in Sea Road, 2028 calendar, Warm Welcome Space 2027, North Lane bus shelter, hearing impairment group, cricket, community boardwalk and so on.

Bailey Hackett remains willing to write on behalf of the council and has submitted an article on a local artist and how the village influences her work. We did discuss the council's concerns about favouritism and Bailey felt an article on more than one artist would compromise the standard of the article. Between us we have come up with a closing line which will hopefully address concerns of favouritism.

What else might we include?

Christmas Tree Festival. An article on the wild garden of a lady called Felicity. Cricket. Warm Welcome Space.

For the record, next year the Baytree Community Lunch Club will celebrate its 40th anniversary, the only such club launched by Arun District Council to have run continuously.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 15th September 2026

CE, 21st September 2026, Agenda Item 14

Blue plaques

Committee is asked to continue consideration of the case for Miss Winifred Scott, a former resident of Sea Lane.

As far as we know, Cllr Moore is still awaiting the information he requested from the London Gazette. Whilst in hospital, it is probably not easy for him to chase this.

Full Council has agreed to cover expenditure on a new plaque up to the value of £700 (Minute 509/26, Resolution 2134).

Meanwhile, **committee is asked to receive and update on the Stanley Holloway plaque located in Tamarisk Way.**

Last meeting, committee members were asked to see if they could find alternative plaque suppliers. The only one I have found is https://thehogarthworkshop.com/collections/blue-plaque which charges £30 for a plastic plaque.

Committee is asked to begin consideration of a blue plaque to commemorate the coastguard station formerly located in South Strand. More information on the coastguard

station can be found in Richard Standing's publication, *East Preston and Kingston – An Illustrated History*, on pages 77 to 80. This would be a project for the 2027-28 financial year. I have asked Richard for his views on this proposal and hope to bring them to the meeting.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 15th September 2026

CE, 21st September 2026, Agenda Item 15a

Centre for Ageing Better – Age-friendly Town and Parish Guide

Committee is asked to consider any matters arising from the Age-friendly Town and Parish Guide.

A questionnaire was included in the Summer 2026 Newsletter. We also published a link to the online version of the questionnaire in the e-newsletter. I think we also offered to complete it with people if they wished.

45 residents replied, about 75% online. As you will see from the results document circulated with these supporting papers, the paper copies received have been added online.

What should we do next?

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 15th September 2026

CE, 21st September 2026, Agenda Item 16a

Hearing impairment

Committee is asked to continue consideration of supporting the setting up of a support group in the village for those with hearing impairment and their allies.

Cllr Hill is the lead on this project.

As reported to the last meeting, Cllr Hill is hopeful of holding a further meeting in September.

Lancing Parish Council did provide us with details of the person leading the lip-reading class. I have contacted her but received no reply.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 15th September 2026

CE, 21st September 2026, Agenda Item 17

Community Speed Watch

The 20MPH Working Party was disbanded by council on 1st June following a lack of councillors willing to be part of the working party (Minute 401/26).

Committee is asked to receive an update on the decision to purchase Speed Indication Devices.

At the last meeting, I was asked to find out more information on the Speed Indication Device which has been installed in Downs Way, Angmering. Here is some information from Katie and Tracy at Angmering Parish Council:

> I liaised Gary Jannaway at WSCC and he was most helpful with providing the speed data for the roads (which is needed to prove there is a need for it), location for siting them etc.
>
> They are all attached to Enerveo lamp posts – a licence is required for this and there is a weight limit – I say this as this stopped us adding solar panels to extend battery life – you would need to install your own posts in order to attach solar panels.
>
> The device moves around to three different locations so not just in Downs Way
>
> We have a company that moves them around for us plus does the required maintenance, batteries etc.
>
> This was a parish council initiative
>
> Regarding the posts we had to get a licence to be able to put the devices on them
>
> I think Highways supported our request but don't know how difficult it was or how long it took

Back to us to agree how to progress this.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 15th September 2026

CE, 21st September 2026, Agenda Item 18a

Defibrillators

Committee is asked to continue consideration of the provision of another defibrillator in the village.

I am not aware of any updates since the last meeting.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 15th September 2026

CE, 21st September 2026, Agenda Item 19

East Preston sports clubs

The committee is asked to consider any matters relating to the meeting scheduled for 28th September at 19:00.

Cllr Linton to lead on this item.

I sent out an invitation on 17th July. At the time of writing, only the tennis club representative has replied, confirming his attendance. What to do?

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 15th September 2026

CE, 21st September 2026, Agenda Item 20a

Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Clock

Committee is asked to consider whether we should attempt to have the clock structurally tested.

The clock was installed on 21st September 2022. At the time, we asked the manufacturer, who was also the installer, whether it needed any form of annual structural testing as we have to undertake for streetlights. The manufacturer said no. However, I still feel if we need to test streetlights annually surely we should be testing the clock sometimes.

Dawn contacted the company we use to test streetlights and it replied it was unable to help.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 15th September 2026

CE, 21st September 2026, Agenda Item 21

Warm Welcome Space 2027

Committee is asked to consider any Warm Welcome Space offering it wishes to make in 2027.

The last meeting agreed Cllr Linton should approach the British Legion which she has done and upon which she will report to this meeting.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 15th September 2026

CE, 21st September 2026, Agenda Item 22

Community Emergency Hubs (WSCC)

Committee is asked to consider again West Sussex County Council correspondence on the subject of Community Emergency Hubs.

On 7th July, the council received the following email:

> Good afternoon Mr Cross,
>
> I am writing to you from West Sussex County Council, Resilience and Emergencies Team. We are rolling out a programme across West Sussex where local communities are supported to establish Emergency Community Hubs (CHub). I believe your parish council is a perfect candidate to join this programme.
>
> A CHub is a place where the community comes together during times of crisis to support each other, link in with other local communities and agencies, and coordinate local help. A Community Emergency Hub is a place for a community to coordinate its own efforts to help each other during and after a disruption such as a flood or loss of power. It is run by the community, for the community so it is formed and operated by local people who turn up. It may open spontaneously or with encouragement from emergency responders/councils.
>
> WSCC will support with the initial training, CHub equipment box, and ongoing links between you, us and other CHubs in the area. It is entirely free to you, and will complement the training already received under 'What If' by giving your community another asset to use to support each other.
>
> You may find this YouTube video of the same programme from Swindon and Wiltshire Council helpful in understanding what a CHub is for: Emergency Contact Hub Scheme - YouTube
>
> I would love to set up a time to speak further about this, and look forward to hearing back from you soon.
>
> All the best,
>
> Hope Blandamer
> Resilience & Emergency Team Adviser

Hope attended the Full Council meeting on 7th September and presented on the above subject. It was agreed this committee would continue its consideration.

Perhaps one way of gauging interest in the village would be to host some What If? training. More information on that is available here - https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/fire-emergencies-and-crime/preparing-for-emergencies/preparing-your-community/

Hope has confirmed she would be willing to offer the training to East Preston and has asked us to suggest dates if we would like to accept her offer.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 15th September 2026

CE, 21st September 2026, Agenda Item 23

Minutes of meeting held on 20th July

Committee is asked to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 20th July. These were circulated to all councillors on 28th July asking for suggested amendments to be submitted by 4th August. None were received.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 14th September 2026

CE, 21st September 2026, Agenda Item 24

Matters Arising from previous meetings

Minute 571/26 – East Preston Environmental Group – this meeting duly took place on 24th August and Cllrs Linton and Gunston provided a written report to the September Full Council meeting. Feedback sems positive. Cllr Linton took the opportunity to say the council could not take on any more work on behalf of other organisations at this time.

Minute 576/26 – Roundstone Level Crossing – nothing further from County Cllr Elkins at this time.

Minute 577/26 – East Preston Christmas Celebrations fireworks – the Football Club representative collected the fireworks on 25th August. We have subsequently temporarily acquired some Chestnut Tree House collecting buckets for use on the night the club sets off the fireworks.

Minute 583/26 – New items for the next meeting (21st September 2026) – Cllr Toney duly flew the appropriate flags on Merchant Navy Day and Emergency Services Day.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 15th September 2026

CE, 21st September 2026, Agenda Item 25

Terms of Reference

Committee is asked to review and agree the committee's Terms of Reference for the coming year.

The current Terms of Reference, v7, were last updated and adopted on 9th June 2025.

Draft v8 was circulated with the supporting papers for this meeting. The Personnel Committee has resolved the discrepancy mentioned at the last meeting. In clause 3.1 the reference to Standing Order 13(a)(vii) has been updated to Standing Order 4g.

No other alterations are proposed at this time.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 15th September 2026

CE, 21st September 2026, Agenda Item 26

Parked projects

Committee is asked to note the committee's currently parked projects such as any wellbeing projects, St John Ambulance First Aid training, village bus service, Give Your Stuff Away Day, 2028 calendar and Blue Billboard.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 15th September 2026

CE, 21st September 2026, Agenda Item 27

Next meeting (16th November)

Committee is asked to suggest any news items to be referred to the next meeting.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 15th September 2026