Community Engagement Committee (CE), 16th November 2026, Agenda Item 5

Beach Cleans

Committee is asked to review any matters pertaining to the Beach Clean that took place on Sunday, 27th September at 11:00.

I was nearby but not actually part of the beach clean itself. From councillor comments, I got the feeling there were too many councillors trying to help with the admin which left some councillors twiddling their thumbs.

Committee is also asked to consider Beach Cleans in 2027. The last meeting agreed the dates of 4th April and 26th September but agreed not to set any times yet, mainly because of Sue Hickey's idea to schedule beach cleans in line with the tide timetable.

I have invited Sue to join the meeting so she can comment upon any of the above. Just because I suspect the meeting before this may overrun, I have invited Sue to join us at 19:30 and we can discuss this agenda item then.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 10th November 2026

CE, 16th November 2026, Agenda Item 6

2026 Playschemes

Committee is asked to review the Backyard Bug Experience event on 27th October.

Cllr Duff led this event.

Eight days before the event, which by that point had sold out, Wild Science let us know they could not longer attend and they would not charge us a cancellation fee! Alison contacted Backyard Bug Experience who happily offered to attend instead. Alison also contacted everyone who had booked only a handful of whom chose not to attend, one saying the event was not suitable for four-year-olds. I believe other four-year-olds who did attend would disagree.

We capped available tickets at 100 and learned EventBrite allows you to create a waiting list, which automatically kicks in once you have sold your 100 tickets and automatically moves people on to the main list which spaces become available.

Cllrs Duff, Linton and Toney attended the event, supported by Alison and her son Flynn. All feedback has been positive. Although marketed as a drop-in event, most families attended at or near the beginning and then needed to wait, but the council offered some badgemaking and colouring to fill the time.

Committee is also asked to start considering options for any playschemes in 2027, starting with Should we run any?

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 10th November 2026

CE, 16th November 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.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 10th November 2026

CE, 16th November 2026, Agenda Item 8a

East Preston Festival, 4th to 13th June 2027

At a previous 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 but by the time of the last meeting, although I had invited her to visit the Village Green almost two months previously that meeting had not taken place.

However, the lady did visit on 23rd September, a very positive meeting, but again I have heard nothing since. From having met her, I have no reason to believe the event will not go ahead. The main question for the lady to answer was to confirm the club's insurance covered such an event. I agreed the council would provide "some form of barrier to reduce the risk of spectators being hit by a mishit ball. Assuming not too much changes in the May 2027 local elections, there will be councillors around throughout the event and they will also be able to warn spectators appropriately. The council will also provide you with a standard gazebo." Any barrier mentioned above would need to be something other than or in addition to the council's new barriers as those will not protect ankles and feet from being hit by croquet balls.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 10th November 2026

CE, 16th November 2026, Agenda Item 9a

Sussex 1550, 16th June 2027

Committee is asked to consider further any participation in the 1550th Anniversary of Sussex!

At the last meeting, the committee was not sure it had the appetite to organise anything. To date I am not aware of neighbouring villages arranging anything either.

As the croquet is looking positive, possibly no opportunity for Morris dancing. As I am writing, I am just wondering whether there could be something related to stoolball, as some sources say it was first played in Sussex.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 10th November 2026

CE, 16th November 2026, Agenda Item 10

2027/28 budgets

Committee is asked to start consideration of its own 2027/28 and also that of the Major Events Committee on its behalf.

Cllr Linton and Adrian have sat down together and created an initial draft for the two committees' budgets.

Community Engagement – expenditure increase over the current year of approx. £1,300; income decrease of approx. £600; net approx. £42,000 income under expenditure

Major Events – expenditure increase over the current year of £50; income increase of approx. £150; net approx. £10,000 income under expenditure

Full budget sheets for both committees are circulated with these supporting papers.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 11th November 2026

CE, 16th November 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.

Last meeting, committee agreed it could not fund Christmas lighting in the top corner of the northern shops, outside the chip shop.

Good news, our festive lighting supplier has confirmed additional lighting will be in place at the eastern end of Sea Road. To date, we have not had a chance to let households near there know this.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 11th November 2026

CE, 16th November 2026, Agenda Item 12a

Youth provision

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

As already reported to Full Council, the three councils have agreed to a launch date of 16th November for the What's On BN16 website. This will provide information on clubs and activities for local people aged 18 and under. Banners have been ordered and we have agreement from both East Preston schools one can be displayed there, and we can display one at the Warren Recreation Ground. A fourth has been ordered as a spare. The costs of the banners is covered by the £500 the council, on behalf of the Youth Club, has already handed over to Rustington PC. At the time of writing, I do not know whether the Youth Club has yet reimbursed the council for that £500.

No further action at this time except to publicise the website wherever we can.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 11th November 2026

CE, 16th November 2026, Agenda Item 13a

Newsletter – Winter 2027

Committee is asked to consider content for Newsletter No. 81, Winter 2027.

The Winter newsletter is usually delivered during the second half of February. I would suggest sign off needs to be Monday, 8th February.

Ahead of the May 2027 local elections, does the council want to re-run the *Looking back over the past term* article again? This was included in both the Winter 2019 and Winter 2023 Newsletters and allows existing councillors a change to reflect upon the past term and, where appropriate, a chance to have their name and photograph in front of the village ahead of standing in the election. Four years ago, this article took up over 3½ pages. The article asked the following five questions:

When did you join the council?

What is the best part of being a councillors?

What is the council's best achievement over the past four years?

How have you contributed as a councillor?

What do you do or did you do for a living?

We might want to vary the final question if indeed this is the article we wish to write.

Other potential articles: Andrea on 2028 calendar; Bailey Hackett on Warm Welcome Space; an update on staffing changes; 2027/28 precept; update on 118 and 120 Sea Road; update on hearing group. The Amenities Committee has asked for an article to raise awareness of the location of the cycle repair station.

I would like to update on cricket and particularly any proposed design for increased safety measures, but that will not have been seen by the Amenities Committee by then.

What ideas do you have for articles?

I have contacted Carol Feasey saying we would like to run a newsletter article next year about the 40th anniversary of the Baytree Community Lunch Club and asking her what time of year she thinks that would be best.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 11th November 2026

CE, 16th November 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.

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

As far as we know, Cllr Moore is still awaiting the information he requested from the London Gazette.

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

Last at the July 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. Has anyone found any other suppliers?

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. Does the committee want to pursue this in the 2027-28 financial year. This would be another approximately £700.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 11th November 2026

CE, 16th November 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.

Does anyone have any thoughts on how we progress this from here?

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 11th November 2026

CE, 16th November 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.

On 11th November, Cllr Hill led a meeting with four local, interested residents; a further two had given their apologies. Cllr Hill will provide a verbal update at the committee's meeting.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 11th November 2026

CE, 16th November 2026, Agenda Item 17

Community Speed Watch

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

At the last meeting, I was asked to establish what Angmering PC does about annually stress testing the columns upon which it places its mobile Speed Indication Devices. My counterpart Katie kindly replied, "We had stress tests done as part of the licence condition – but the agreement doesn't state to have them done annually. The agreement is for a 10-year period (01/09/2025 to 31/08/2035) and contains no clause requiring yearly structural testing."

I suggest councillors draw up a list of potential sites which we can then pass to Gary Jannaway at WSCC for his consideration and hopefully his progression, although it does involve Enerveo too. Remember what Katie said last meeting about Enerveo not permitting solar panels on the SIDs on their lampposts.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 11th November 2026

CE, 16th November 2026, Agenda Item 18a

Defibrillators

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

I have spoken to Dawn and the Amenities Committee has not had a definitive conversation about attaching a defibrillator to the new North Lane bus shelter. Dawn is going to talk to her WSCC contact about whether that would be feasible.

The Amenities Committee has previously had a conversation about extending the current base of the bus shelter south to meet the base of the bench there. The committee agreed it was not worthwhile. However, I have today approached my WSCC contact about whether he thinks that strip might be suitable for a freestanding defib cabinet as seen on the Willowhayne estate.



Committee is also asked to purchase a replacement defibrillator for the Council Office. Although happily chugging along still, its eight-year warranty has now run out. I have asked our supplier for his latest special offers and he has replied "I believe the best deal is on the CR2usb (d below) which is currently £945.00 + VAT - only £95 more than you paid for a CR2 9 years ago." He has recommended a replacement prep kit be purchased too, currently £15 + VAT.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 11th November 2026

CE, 16th November 2026, Agenda Item 19

East Preston sports clubs

The committee is asked to consider a date for a meeting in 2027.

Cllr Linton to lead on this item.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 11th November 2026

CE, 16th November 2026, Agenda Item 20

Warm Welcome Space 2027

Committee is asked to consider its 2027 Warm Welcome Space.

Committee agreed to run sessions on Mondays in January, February and March.

On 7th October, ADC invited town and parish councils to apply for a grant to support Warm Welcome Spaces over this winter. The maximum grant available has been halved to £500. I

submitted our application covering the period agreed by the committee only to be told by the recipient at ADC grants were only being awarded for offerings covering December too. I amended our form but did say we had not agreed to cover December and would need to discuss it. On that understanding, we were granted the full £500.

Meanwhile, I received written confirmation from the Legion we could proceed with January, February and March. At the time of writing, the Legion has asked to meet with us to discuss arrangements and it knows that conversation will cover talking about December too. The Legion has not yet offered any dates for such a meeting but knows the meeting is needed soon.

Should the Legion or the council agree it cannot include December sessions too, we would report this back to ADC and hope it looks kindly upon us rather than removing the whole grant.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 11th November 2026

CE, 16th November 2026, Agenda Item 21

Bleed Control Kits

Committee is asked to consider again a public suggestion to provide at least one bleed control kit in the village.

The committee last considered provision of bleed control kits in the village in September 2024, at which point it felt a First Aid kit, probably on site at all businesses in the village, was more useful to members of the public in need. In an e-newsletter published on 10th November 2023, the Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner mentioned that even then bleed kits were only available in Worthing, Bexhill, Hastings and Crawley, locations the committee had not felt were analogous with the village.

I have contacted South East Coastal Ambulance service for any advice it has on the provision of bleed control kits.

For more background, perhaps have a look at the website for The Daniel Baird Foundation, a charity set up following the fatal stabbing of Daniel. Through the charity, presumably not the cheapest option but the council would be supporting the charity too, a locked cabinet currently costs £425 with a kit, an extra £10 to have our logo on the kit itself.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 11th November 2026

CE, 16th November 2026, Agenda Item 22

Minutes of meeting held on 21st September

Committee is asked to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 21st September.
These were circulated to all councillors on 23rd September asking for suggested amendments to be submitted by 30th September. None were received.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 2nd October 2026

CE, 16th November 2026, Agenda Item 23

Matters Arising from previous meetings

Minute 577/26 – East Preston Christmas Celebrations fireworks – no update from the football club as to when it might set off the fireworks. I have had confirmation from Chestnut Tree House we can keep hold of its collecting buckets until the fireworks have been used.

Minute 760/26 – West Sussex County Council – Emergency Community Hubs – I have asked Hope Blandamer, WSCC Resilience & Emergency Team Adviser, to provide a What If? training session for councillors. Hope has agreed although she herself will be on secondment at the time. We have not yet received a choice of dates.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 11th November 2026

CE, 16th November 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, Give Your Stuff Away Day, 2028 calendar and Blue Billboard.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 10th November 2026

CE, 16th November 2026, Agenda Item 26

Next meeting (18th January)

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

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council** 10th November 2026