Neighbourhood Plan Update

A big THANK YOU to everyone who completed the survey sent out in October 2013. 930 forms were returned from just over 3,000 distributed – this was a good return compared with similar survey in other parishes.

The survey has enabled the Steering Group to complete a State of the Parish Report. Hard copies are available in the library and the Council Office, and the report can also be viewed on the Neighbourhood Plan page of the council’s website.

The State of the Parish Report begins with a parish profile including statistics drawn from the 2011 Census and other published statistics. The focus group reports that follow have been based upon the returns from the survey and reflect your preferences.

Next, the Steering Group will be meeting Stakeholders and discussing the policies to be put forward to the Neighbourhood Plan. Your views are still required. If you are able to look through the published State of the Parish Report please feel free to contact us with your views. This can be done through the Council Office.

We still require additional members for the Focus Groups who are formulating the Policies and we require a new Chairman for the Steering Group. Please contact us via the Council Office if you feel you have time and can contribute to our discussions.

Our policies will complement the Arun District Council Local Plan and will set out our views on the future of the parish from 2014-2029

Richard Akhurst, East Preston Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Roundstone Level Crossing

Back in 2009 we published this diagram obtained from the West Sussex County Council (WSCC) Highways Department. Many of you have asked for us to republish this as you found it so useful. The diagram is no longer 100% accurate following the widening works in September 2013; however, the basic rules have not changed and still apply.

At the same time, we also published some advice from Sussex Police, and republish it here too:

- Vehicles waiting to exit North Lane, intending to turn left onto Worthing Road, are required to give way to traffic on the main carriageway, i.e. vehicles travelling south over the crossing.

- Vehicles waiting to exit North Lane and intending to turn right to go over the crossing, are required to give way to traffic travelling south over the crossing AND to traffic travelling east along the Worthing Road.

- Should a vehicle turning out of North Lane, fail to give way to traffic on the Worthing Road or to traffic travelling south over the crossing and subsequently cause a collision, then the driver of this vehicle should expect action to be taken against them for careless driving.

- Any driver forcing their way across the junction in contravention of the Give Way signs and road markings, may find themselves liable to a fixed penalty offence.

- The stop lines on the approach to the crossing on the Worthing Road and the Old Worthing Road are stop lines for the level crossing control and come into force when the traffic control signals are illuminated.

Lane 1: has priority over ALL other road traffic
Lane 2: has priority over ALL traffic in lane 4 but MUST give way to ALL traffic in lane 5 continuing westbound on the B2140
Lane 3: ALL vehicles MUST give way to ALL vehicles in lane 5 continuing westbound on the B2140
Lane 4: ALL vehicles MUST give way to ALL traffic in lane 5 continuing westbound on the B2140 and ALL traffic in lanes 1 and 2
Lane 5: has priority over ALL other traffic

If the gates are down then the same rules apply.
Once the gates have risen then lane 4 has to give way to ALL vehicular movement from lane 5, 2 and 1 before safely driving over the crossing.
Police update

East Preston’s Police Community Support Officer, PCSO Hannah Pearson writes:

“We need the community to work together to help us help you.

“An incident occurred recently in East Preston that has highlighted how important it is for people to call the Police.

“A resident witnessed an unknown male stealing a hanging basket from his property. As the male ran off, the resident gave chase and caught him. An assault then took place when the resident was pushed over.

“There were other members of the community who were witnesses to this incident and were asked by the resident to call Police as he gave chase. However, the residents of this road did not call the Police stating there was no point as Police do not do anything.

“If the Police do not know when and where crimes are happening we cannot take any action to prevent further incidents, catch the person responsible and protect others from becoming victims”.

There are various ways you can contact Police:

In an emergency
In an emergency dial 999
Typetalk Emergency Line: For deaf people and speech impaired people dial 18000Emergency Emergency
Text: For deaf people and speech impaired people text 65999

For non-emergency
Non emergency dial 101
Local call 01273 470 101
Online contact.centre@sussex.pnn.police.uk
Textphone: If you are deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired, you can call 101 using textphone number 18001 101
If you wish to speak to your local officer you can contact them via 101 or online via the Sussex Police website www.sussex.police.uk

Follow Arun District Police on our Facebook and Twitter pages:

Twitter
Littlehampton Neighbourhood Policing - http://twitter.com/#!/Lhampton_police
Bognor Neighbourhood Policing - http://twitter.com/#!/BognorPolice

Facebook

Damaged grass verge

Across the village, complaints about the state of grass verges are on the increase. Recent surveys have shown how much you value the grass verges, and we know some of the damage is from large vehicles not resident in the village, and yet these photographs show the sad state of some of East Preston’s grass verges.

Perhaps if we all just showed our grass verges a little more love, we could make a big difference.

Children and dogs

Please respect the wishes of local parents and do not let your dog into the children’s play area at the Warren Recreation Ground. The health and safety issues of allowing your dog into the children’s play area should be obvious. Thank you.
EAST PRESTON & KINGSTON BOWLS CLUB has been associated with East Preston village for 90 years and can be found to the west of the Warren Recreation Ground. Originally the Club had three rinks, then later Mrs Helen Gordon made a generous offer of land to the Parish Council for the provision of a bowling green. In 1936, this was the first piece of land to be owned by the Council. During the war the land was requisitioned by the Ministry of Health and made into allotments. Eventually in 1965 the lease for the present ground was granted and the club was opened by Lavinia, Duchess of Norfolk on 27th April 1967.

Since then, the Club has gone from strength to strength and thanks to many volunteers has become the club it is today with six rinks, increasing to seven when necessary. Last year being our 90th anniversary we enjoyed several celebrations during the season and every year we start our season with a club match on St. George’s Day, 23rd April.

During the season from April to September we enjoy inter-club events, including club competitions, culminating in our Finals weekend in September. Members can enter the local league and also join in the Sussex County league. We play friendly matches held with local clubs both home and away. In this way members meet up with fellow bowlers and many a friendship has been built up over the years.

We pride ourselves on keeping our green in good order and although we have a professional greenkeeper we also have a number of volunteers who take on numerous tasks to ensure the bowling green and facilities are in tip top condition.

Every year we choose a different charity to support and this year we have chosen the RNLI. All committees are run on a yearly basis with the exception of the President who holds this post for 2 years. We are pleased to have as our Patron Mr Keith Diggins of Rustington Windows who has supported the Bowls Club for many years.

At the time of writing this article we have approximately 187 members with about 160 of these being full playing members. We have roll ups every morning during the summer season so if anyone does not want to play in matches they can always find bowlers to have a game with. Anyone interested who has not bowled before is invited to free coaching sessions to see if they would like to join. We are a friendly Club and ensure anyone coming along gets a warm welcome. We endeavour to provide a bowls tour each year where club members can stay for a week, usually at another seaside town and play bowls up to five times during the week.

In the winter we also have a Short Mat Section with two mats and this keeps many bowlers together during the long winter days.

If you are interested in learning more we have a Membership Secretary, Ron Taylor, who can be contacted on 01903 242718 or at the Club which is at 5 Sea Lane, East Preston, BN16 1NG and, of course, we have a web site, which is www.epkb.com. However you get in touch, we will be very pleased to get you started on what we hope will be a very happy time in your life, making new friends and getting exercise on the green with your face towards the sun and breathing in our good Sussex sea air.

Marion Brown, General Secretary
Finance and General Purposes Committee

The Finance & General Purposes Committee is one of the key committees within the Council.

We are primarily responsible for ensuring your money is looked after and spent wisely as well as maintaining the various land and building assets owned by parish.

One of the major decisions each year is to review the budget and to make a recommendation as to what the precept should be each year. There was a small increase this year following feedback from Villagers who wanted the grass verges and parks better maintained and we hope you will be able to see a difference this year.

We also consider longer term projects and the financing of them. The Fives Court renovation was something we have kept an eye on over the last few years and we were also looking at the possible purchase of the Martlets site.

Ultimately, we felt this was perhaps an expense too far for us all with a lack of agreement to a use and also the ultimate financial cost to the Village.

We are constantly reviewing the financial implication of opportunities to invest in the Village facilities that we are responsible for.

We always welcome input from members of the public who are more than welcome to our meetings or to visit the office.

Peter Dallimore, Chairman of the Finance & General Purposes Committee

Are you fed up with motorists apparently speeding in and around the village?
Want to do something about it?
Can you spare between two and four hours a month?

Then join our Community Speedwatch Scheme volunteers. In partnership with Sussex Police/ West Sussex County Council, our aim is to monitor speeding traffic and highlight the problem areas for future action.

To find out more, see contact details below.

Anonymity

Every now and then we receive anonymous letters and telephone messages asking us to help with some situation somewhere in the village.

Whilst we fully respect your right to remain anonymous, often we have already taken some action that we could tell you about if we knew who you were. You may think the council has taken no action or ignored you, when the truth may well be very different but not obvious.

Correspondence into the council is handled with the appropriate level of confidentiality.

Newsletter

Every quarter we publish and deliver you this Newsletter about issues and events we believe are relevant to East Preston residents. Are we missing anything from these newsletters? Articles written by you, of interest to us all, could make a better Newsletter to which we could all look forward. Comments or suggestions to the Parish Office.

Please contact the office if you would like a large print version of this newsletter.

Contact point: Parish Clerk - Simon Cross, Assistant Clerk - Tracy Khoo
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