



Roundstone Level Crossing update

After our article in the previous Newsletter we received over 120 comments. All responses were well thought out and many people had gone to great effort to think through how the crossing could be improved. Although we were only looking at the short-term, we also received plenty of useful comments for the medium- and long-term.

The majority of responses were supportive with only a few totally opposed; the greatest concerns came from Downsway and Old Worthing Road residents. Some respondents were frustrated by the lack of North Lane / Worthing Road improvements and suggested a mini-roundabout, which we have been advised is not possible.

Based on your input our main omission was in not considering cyclists' needs sufficiently, particularly around Roundstone Lane / Old Worthing Road.

It was also suggested that the level crossing 'Stop' lines be moved as close as possible to the crossing; firstly so that vehicles can start crossing as soon as the gates open, secondly it may help reinforce Worthing Road's priority over North Lane. This is something we have been asking WSCC and Network Rail to do since the crossing was widened, but which requires central government approval.

Our next step will be to submit a report to West Sussex County Council for its consideration, whilst refining the scope of the consultants' report.

News Snippets!

Christmas 2015: Planning for our Christmas Celebrations 2015 event is underway. Broadly we will follow the same format as our successful event last year but with a few extra attractions for you. More helpers, particularly on-the-day, are always welcome. Put 21st November in your diary now!

World War 2 Commemoration: To mark the end of the Second World War the Parish Council will be underwriting a book by Richard Standing who produced last year's First World War book. Look out for further details.

Beach Clean: Another successful Beach Clean was held in April. Over 40 bags of rubbish were collected. Many thanks to the 70+ volunteers who helped us. The next Beach Clean will be on Sunday, 27th September.

Neighbourhood Plan: Our plan has been "made" which legally means it must be considered in any East Preston planning decision.

Councillors needed

East Preston Parish Council should have thirteen councillors, but at the time you read this, the council will only have seven councillors in post.

If you have a desire to work with our community to develop it and make it an even better place to live, work and visit, now is a great time to think about becoming a parish councillor. The minimum requirement is attendance at the monthly council meeting and reading the background papers for those meetings. The maximum requirement is to some extent up to you within the legal and moral boundaries of what the council can and should do. For an informal chat, please contact the Council Office (details on the back cover) or come along to a council meeting, usually on the first working Monday of the month.

The council thanks the following former councillors for their individual contributions to the last four year term: Judith Akhurst, Victor Bowthorpe, Pete Dallimore, Carol Ellis, Anne Harberson, Mervyn Howdle, Petrina Kingham, Clive Maltby, John Melser, David Quick, Nick Stevens, Michael Taggart, Peter Vincent and the late Patrick Radbourne. The council could not have achieved all it did in the term without their help.

East Preston Parish Councillors 2015-2016

Following the election on 7th May, the following have been elected to serve on East Preston Parish Council:

Joop Duijf	Normandy Drive
Rob Ellis.....	Sea Road
Paul Kelly.....	Hazelmead Drive
Elizabeth Linton	Madehurst Close
Glyn Mathias.....	Tamarisk Way
Rick McElroy.....	North Lane
Hazel Tester.....	Orchard Road

Members of the public are asked to direct enquiries for individual councillors through the Council Office. All named correspondence will be passed on to the appropriate councillor(s).

Chairman's Annual Report for 2014-2015



**Chairman of the Council,
Councillor Joop Duijf**

The following report was presented by Cllr Duijf at the village's Annual Parish Meeting on 27th April:

The parish year 2014-15 gave birth to several major undertakings by the Council.

Our Neighbourhood Plan passed a number of hurdles with flying colours and in March was 'made'

by Arun District Council and so became law. Hopefully all concerned will take notice of this and the village will see the benefit of a long route of hard work by the volunteers involved.

The Christmas event at the end of last year was a great success despite the weather and shortly after it was decided to organise the next one for which preparations are already underway.

Roundstone Level Crossing is an issue which will never disappear. Driver behaviour certainly does not help the situation so maybe something everyone could improve upon. We undertook an external independent survey how to improve the crossing. The results are being discussed and will be presented to West Sussex County Council for consideration.

The hard work of the Flooding Working Party has resulted in major works in Two Acres and Sea Lane. Also much clarity has been achieved in locating our ancient drainage system.

With your help we have cleaned the beach twice and will continue to do so and thanks to those who have participated.

We participated in a trial by Arun District Council to introduce an additional dog warden and hopefully to reduce the poo left by those who forget to pick it up. To assist in this we supply poo bags for those who have forgotten to do so. Sadly, some people think they are only for them and take them all.

We held a Civic Service in St Mary's church to thank many people for their work and contribution to the village.

Discussions with our tenants - East Preston Cricket Club, Angmering-on-Sea Lawn Tennis Club, East Preston & Kingston Bowls Club and the East Preston & Kingston Village Hall Foundation - have been taking place on an (ir) regular basis.

Did you know we support the Festival Committee by paying its insurance premium?

On a monthly basis there is a Business Breakfast meeting which is successful and appreciated by our local businesses.

Sadly not everything undertaken goes smoothly.

So far efforts to improve beach access for everybody have taken longer than we would have hoped.

The Village's Youth Club more or less lost its home and funding; however, we are hopeful to have more success in the coming year.

The Amenities committee has decided to start a three year renovation plan for the Warren Recreation Ground starting with the northern boundary. The playground will also benefit from some improvements. In discussion is how to improve our toilets and make them more accessible.

A new initiative "Keeping Your Child Safe Online" was very successful and will be held again. Hopefully parents and grandparents will want to participate in future presentations.

Our Planning Committee is probably the most visited by you. In the past week we have been successful in persuading Arun District Council to serve a so-called Article 4 notice on 3 The Street; this will, for the time being, prevent the owner of this valued heritage property from demolishing it without full Planning Permission.

Financially, the council is secure. However, to ensure we had the money necessary to undertake projects during the new financial year, it was necessary to increase the precept, our portion of your Council Tax. Money will be taken from reserves too to undertake projects.

We would like to see more of you at our monthly Full Council meetings to support or criticize us what we are doing.

I am sure I have forgotten many activities we organise, look after etc.

It is always a pleasure to see many people using the facilities the village has to offer.

I would like to thank all our councillors, the Office Crew, who are always there to assist you and the councillors for a year's hard work.

I also would like to see more of you during the next year just being at our meetings and giving some help when we need. We are always looking for you with special in-depth knowledge which could benefit our rural village life that so many of you love.

To keep it that way we need your help. Just a few councillors and staff cannot achieve that on their own. Please contact the Council Office if you would like to get more involved. Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joop Duijf', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Joop Duijf - Chairman of the Council

Did you know there are at least seven different outdoor sports regularly organised throughout the year in East Preston?

We asked those local clubs to write a few words to introduce themselves to you. We hope you find this interesting and maybe even inspiring.

Boule on the Green

In the south west corner of East Preston's Village Green you may in the summer months see a little bit of France.

About five years ago a purpose built terrain was built for the game of Boule which many of you will have played on the beach or seen while on holiday in France.

The game, also known as Petanque, is easy to learn to play although like everything, more difficult to master.

The terrain is free to use and anyone is welcome to play, just turn up with some boules. Several different groups use it on a regular basis including U3A who have recently started playing twice a week and organisations such as the Twinning Association, Party on the Green and the Clockhouse Bar hold annual competitions. For more information or to find out when the terrain is in use see the notice board on the Green next to the ground or ring **Chris on (01903) 771582.**

East Preston Stoolball Club

We are a ladies' stoolball team who play in two leagues on a Monday and a Wednesday evening throughout the summer. Our home games are played at The Warren Recreation Ground. For those of you who don't know, stoolball is widely believed to be the forerunner of cricket. Stoolball has been played in East Preston for nearly 100 years! Come down and see us sometime.

For more information please contact Kathi on (01903) 724317 or at klock54@hotmail.co.uk.

East Preston & Kingston Bowls Club

By the time this edition is printed the club will have enjoyed its first few games of the season starting with a friendly inter-club game on St. George's Day. We already have new members who will be getting the benefit of free coaching. New members who are already bowlers will, of course, be able to join in our matches straight away. Our club is situated in Sea Lane and anyone reading this article who thinks they would like to play bowls is very welcome to come along to the club or telephone our **Membership Secretary, Mr Ron Taylor - (01903) 242718**; he will be happy to put your name on the list for FREE coaching.

During the summer months we have teams in the local leagues and friendly games amongst local clubs. We also enjoy club leagues and competitions which culminate in our Finals Days in September.

East Preston Football Club

East Preston Football Club has been an integral part of the East Preston community since 1966. It is situated on Lashmar Road in the north of the village.

Our first team plays in Sussex County League Division One and this coming season we are introducing an under 15 team, as well as an under 18 team, to run alongside our under 16s and first team. We are currently looking for players for all teams.

We host a wide variety of charity events at the club, including football matches, and are always happy to consider hosting more.

Our social club is open 7 days a week, 5.30 to 11.00 Monday to Thursday, 3.00 to 12.00 Friday, 12.00 to 12.00 Saturday and 12.00 to 11.00 on Sundays.

Please contact us on Facebook via East Preston Sports and Social Club group or by telephone on **(01903) 776026.**

East Preston Cricket Club

East Preston Cricket club's home is the Warren Recreation Ground in Sea Road.

The club currently has two senior teams competing in the West Sussex Invitation Leagues. The 1st XI, under captain Gary Weedon, play in Division 1 and are hoping to build on their excellent 3rd place finish in 2014. The 2nd XI are looking to bounce back immediately from last year's relegation to Division 7. The club also has a Sunday XI playing friendly fixtures.

The junior section (ages 10-16) is considered to be vital for the future of the club. Colts training is undertaken by specialist volunteer coaches on Thursday and Friday evenings; under 16's practise with the seniors on Tuesday evenings. This year, under 13, 14 and 15 teams will represent the club in West Sussex leagues; also, several teams will be entered into the excellent Sussex Junior Cricket Festival, played in August. East Preston colts have a proud record of success in both league and Sussex Festival competitions. New for 2015 is an under 19 twenty-twenty competition.

The club needs and welcomes new playing members at both junior and senior levels. Volunteer helpers are also required to coach juniors, umpire, score or help in other ways. Specialist coaching and officiating courses are available.

Please contact: **Colin Smith (Secretary) 07854 652206, colin.smith757@btinternet.com or Jane MacDonald (Colts Manager) 07905 611883, mac.thatch@hotmail.co.uk.**

Open Dinghy Club - Come Sail With Us!

Follow Sea Road down towards the beach, past the Seaview Hotel, and you'll find us - the Open Dinghy Club (ODC).

The ODC is a sailing club for those who enjoy sailing their boats from the shore. We pride ourselves on a relaxed, friendly atmosphere. We organise a busy racing schedule and an annual regatta weekend, but the most important thing for all of us is to have fun sailing. They range from Mirror dinghies and Toppers to 20 foot performance catamarans. This year we are continuing our "Family Sailing" programme with weekends and events focussed on learning to sail and enjoying being on the water with junior sailors and family members.

If you would like to learn more, try the website, email us or just walk down and introduce yourself. **www.opendinghy.co.uk**
Membership Secretary - Ian Finlayson (ian@fastcastle.co.uk)
Commodore - George Schlich (george.schlich@me.com)

Angmering-on-Sea Lawn Tennis Club

If you would like to play tennis in a friendly environment at a club recently voted Sussex Tennis Club of the Year, please come along and see what we have to offer. We pride ourselves on providing a welcoming atmosphere for all.

With seven floodlit courts of three different surfaces and a small court for younger members we can cater for all ages and all abilities. There is a comprehensive programme for younger players from tiny tots through to 18 years.

We run five Men's teams and five Ladies' teams together with Veteran's and Junior teams. There are social tournaments for fun tennis and club tournaments for both adults and juniors.

Twice a week we have coffee morning sessions for those who like to socialise after playing. We even cater for those whose skills have become a little rusty.

For further information about the Club, please visit our club website **www.angmeringtennis.co.uk**

The Big Lunch - a community project



You may have heard of the UK's annual get together for neighbours called The Big Lunch led by the Eden Project and made possible by the Big Lottery Fund. The Big Lunch aims to strengthen communities by encouraging neighbours to sit down and have lunch together, usually on the first Sunday in June however they can be held at any time and can be linked into other community activities.

The Big Lunch is a simple recipe to have fun with your neighbours and encourage friendlier, safer neighbourhoods, which will feed community spirit! As well as sharing a meal you'll be meeting new people, making new friends and strengthening ties in your community.

For further information you can find details on the national website (<http://www.thebiglunch.com/>) or contact Alison at the Council office (epparishcouncil3@btconnect.com).

Village Life

June

- Until 7th East Preston Festival
- 1st Full Council
- 2nd Business Breakfast (8am)
- 8th Planning Committee (6pm)
- 15th Finance & General Purposes Committee
- 22nd Planning Committee (6pm)

July

- 2nd Business Breakfast (8am)
- 6th Full Council
- 13th Planning Committee (6pm)
- Personnel Committee
- 15th Amenities Committee
- 27th Planning Committee (6pm)
- Community Engagement Committee

August

- 3rd Full Council (tbc)
- 6th Business Breakfast (8am)
- 10th Planning Committee (6pm)
- 25th Planning Committee (6pm)

All council meetings begin at 7pm at East Preston Infant School, Lashmar Road unless otherwise noted. For all meetings, please consult the Noticeboards and website a few days before the meeting for the Agenda.

*** Please note the above list may be subject to change ***

Dog News!

Over the past few years there has been a marked increase in the number of complaints about the amount of dog mess that is seen in the area. Like most town and parish councils across the country, this council is trying to address the situation.

Several of your councillors recently walked around the Village Green, Warren Recreation Ground and neighbouring roads and grassy areas to identify the extent of the problem. They used coloured spray to highlight dog mess that has not been cleared up in the hope that owners will act more responsibly.

Although the amount of visible mess was lower than expected, one piece of uncleared mess is one piece too many. By far the worst area was the Warren Recreation Ground and we urge dog owners to ensure that they watch their pets and clear up after them.

Dog fouling is **illegal**, unsightly, unpleasant and can lead to toxocariasis in humans. Toxocariasis causes serious illness and even blindness. Cases of toxocariasis have been reported in people of all ages although young children are most at risk because they are more likely to put things into their mouths and less likely to wash their hands properly.

Symptoms of toxocariasis can include seizures, breathing difficulties, a very red and painful eye, and clouded vision, usually only in one eye. Left untreated, toxocariasis can cause permanent loss of vision in the affected eye.

The council has again agreed to buy into Arun District Council's Dog Warden scheme this summer, which will see a dog warden in the village during the summer.



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
Council Office, 122 Sea Road, East Preston BN16 1NN
Telephone: (01903) 770050 E-mail: epparishcouncil@btconnect.com
Website: <http://eastpreston.arun.gov.uk>

Arun District Council (01903) 737500 West Sussex County Council (01243) 777100

Designed by Arun District Council, Civic Centre, Maltravers Road, Littlehampton BN17 5LF