

#### **East Preston Parish Council**

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# Chairman's message: Arun Local Plan

#### Just a little update on the Arun District Council Local Plan (LP)

The Local Plan is Arun District Council's vision until 2028 and beyond. It describes the way forward on more or less every subject one can think of.

A few of these, from a much longer list, are: employment and enterprise, retail, tourism, horticulture, health and wellbeing, transport, infrastructure, environment, water supply, flooding and drainage and not forgetting the hot topic, housing. These are formulated as policies that can be applied to Planning Applications.

On a project of this magnitude, one can imagine that many councillors, consultants, individuals, organisations, meetings, discussions, reports, accusations and misunderstandings were involved in the review, and that it has taken years to produce. Trying to keep this all up-todate is nearly impossible over such a timeframe.

Unavoidably, politics has played a major role in achieving this. I think the job to achieve all this has gone remarkably well and despite all the various views, initial disagreements etc., the vision has been put on paper. The only problem is housing and its location.

As long as the new LP is not adopted, some of the policies from the 2003 Local Plan remain in force.

After completion and public consultation, a LP goes for examination to determine whether the contents are sound and meet Central Government requirements.

#### Where are we now?

- The LP was submitted to the Inspectorate in January 2015
- February 2015, the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) published updated household projections that form the basis for calculating the housing needs of an area.
- Arun District Council (ADC) commissioned consultants to update the housing needs study for the District which has resulted in an increase of 758 homes per annum as opposed to the previous projection of 558.
- This was followed by three days of examination by an inspector in June 2015.
- This resulted in a 6-months postponement and a change to 641 houses per annum which triggered a 'procedural meeting' by the Inspector with a recommendation to suspend the progress for 12 - 18 months.

• ADC now has to find just over 3,000 further homes over the Plan period.

Unavoidably, the situation keeps changing and it will not come as a surprise if the LP has to go for re-examination and the housing figure has to change again.

Looking at the housing figures, of about 1,000 new homes on a yearly basis, some questions could be raised:

- is the industry able and willing to build so many (thus far developers have never achieved this quantity within
- will the infrastructure needed to cope with this quantity be deliverable without making the housing sites unviable.

ADC has created a consultation period from 24th September until 5pm on 5th November to assess objectively the needs for market and affordable housing.

Several ways to get involved:

- //arun.objective.co.uk/portal
- //www.arun.gov.uk/local-plan-examination
- ► Arun Civic Centre, Littlehampton, 01903 737500
- **▶** Local Libraries
- ► localplan@arun.gov.uk

Cllr Joop Duijf - Chairman of the Council

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We were sad to learn of the death in September of former Chairman of the Council, Nicholas Myer. Nicholas served the village as a Parish Councillor for many years including three years as Chairman, 1988 -1991. Long after he had retired from the council he remained interested in village matters and a staunch supporter of the council. Nicholas will be missed by many villagers and our thoughts are with Felicity and their three children.

#### **Anti-social behaviour**

The Parish Council has limited powers to tackle anti-social behaviour - be it speeding, inconsiderate parking, late-night noise, petty vandalism, drug use and so on – about all of which we receive complaints. Where possible, the council does report such complaints to the relevant authorities, most of whom are already hard-pushed to tackle these problems as effectively and as quickly as we would like.

However, if many of us get involved and individually report this directly to the authorities, this might result in adequate actions. For instance, if Sussex Police receives several complaints about the same vehicle, it will take action. The only way to get any result is to be active and report the incident.

One of the options is to use Operation Crackdown, an online initiative for reporting anti-social driving, abandoned cars and general parking issues. The website is

www.operationcrackdown.org and a confidential report can be completed in about five minutes. Anti-social driving is defined as careless, deliberately aggressive or dangerous. This website also provide links for general parking issues and to check the tax status of any vehicle. Those without online access can report directly to Sussex Police via 101.

Attempts to liaise with Sussex Police in setting-up volunteer traffic-speed monitors have met with limited success, and it has now been put back on to the council to arrange and lead.

Alcohol and Entertainment Licensing (serving alcohol, music, etc.) is the responsibility of Arun District Council (ADC). ADC and the police will deal with anti-social behaviour which may result from overindulging. Urgent matters should be reported to the Police straight away. They can deal with this immediately. General discontent could even be discussed, as a first port of call, with the License holder/Landlord who might not be aware of your irritation.

Contact details for the Licensing Authority:

tel.: 01903 737755 licensing@arun.gov.uk www.arun.gov.uk/licensing

My main message is 'Do something about it'.

Cllr Joop Duijf - Chairman of the Council

# **Rustington Neighbourhood Watch**



Rustington and District Neighbourhood Watch Association (RADNWA) was formed just over four years ago, aimed at making Rustington and the surrounding areas safer and more secure for the residents.

Administered and run by volunteers, its members are all registered with, and work closely with, the Sussex Police, the Parish Council and other local partners to build safe and friendly communities. The Association's vision is that of a caring Society that is focused on trust and respect, in which people are safe from crime and enjoy a good quality of life. Neighbourhood Watch is about making sure that no one has to feel afraid, vulnerable or isolated in the place where they live. It's about people looking out for each other, crossing barriers of age, race and class to create real communities that benefit everyone. Through the Association's membership it aims to give like-minded local people the resources they need to contact each other, share information and increase safety and social cohesion. In short, it helps neighbours help each other.

RADNWA will be taking part in the East Preston Christmas Event on Saturday 21st November so why not come along to meet us and let us know what safety and security concerns you might have.

Correspondence: C/O The Police Station, East Street, Littlehampton, BN17 6AR. Email us at: rustingtonanddistrictnw@gmx.co.uk or, leave a voicemail message on 0844 4876827

#### **Beach Clean 6**

Another successful Beach Clean was held on 27th September with fifty volunteers collecting about thirty bags of rubbish from our beach. Next year's Beach Cleans will be on 3rd April and 25th September. Thanks to the Friends of Langmeads, Arun District Council, Seaview Stores, The Sea Horse Café and the Beach Shack for their support of and help with this event.

Cllrs Linton and Duijf prepare to do battle with beach litter.



#### **10,000 Thanks**

On Tuesday, 20th October, the East Preston Festival **Committee held its Annual General Meeting. This is** when the committee gives donations to a number of organisations working in and around the village to make life better for East Preston residents. This year the committee gave donations totally about £10,000 to over forty different groups catering for the needs of new-born babies and their parents through to groups addressing the needs of the very elderly. New volunteers are always welcome; if you would like to know more, please email the committee at eastprestonfestival@hotmail.co.uk. Next year's Festival will run from Friday 3rd to Sunday 12th June. A very big thank you from the Parish Council to everyone involved in making East Preston's Festival such a success.

The Parish Council is currently back up to full strength following the co-option on 5th October of Danny Shah, who many of you will know from Seaview Stores in East Preston. Danny has run the business with his wife Twinkle for several years now, and Danny also brings with him financial knowledge gained from previous businesses. Members of the public are welcome to attend Full Council meetings which take place on the first working Monday of the month at the East Preston Infant School in Lashmar Road, starting at 7pm. For more information, please contact the office (details on the back page).

## Wheelie-bin stickers: is yours a well-dressed wheelie-bin?

The council has recently purchased a number of wheelie-bin

stickers which contain speed-awareness messages. A local resident who works for West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service has said, "I think the speed awareness wheelie bin stickers are great. I've seen them used in Horsham and they definitely work."

We are giving East Preston households up to two stickers each - if you would like a couple, please contact the Council Office.



#### **New memorial bench**

Sharp-eyed residents will notice a number of new memorial benches have been installed around the village recently, none more poignant perhaps than one located just to the south of the Roundstone Level Crossing in North Lane. The bench is dedicated to anyone who was affected by the tragic accident involving a bus and a train on 22nd September 1965. Three women sadly lost their lives that day and a number of East Preston residents have been in touch with this council with their memories of that day.

# Angmering-on-Sea Lawn Tennis Club

The club has just been awarded Sport England's Tennismark+ accreditation, confirming that it is recognised as providing a safe, welcoming and inclusive environment, combined with an excellent, all year round programme of activity.

www.angmeringtennis.co.uk/

#### Village Life

#### **December**

2nd Business Breakfast (5pm)

7th Full Council

14th Planning Committee (6pm)

Finance & General Purposes Committee

29th Planning Committee (6pm)

#### January 2016

4th Full Council

7th Business Breakfast (8am)
11th Planning Committee (6pm)
25th Planning Committee (6pm)

Community Engagement Committee

#### **February**

1st Full Council

2nd Business Breakfast (8am) 8th Planning Committee (6pm) 22nd Planning Committee (6pm)

**N.B.** The full schedule of committee meetings has not yet been set.

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 \*

#### **Correspondence Corner**

Last issue we introduced Correspondence Corner where residents with a particular gripe can write to us and have their gripe published. If you would like something considered for publication please write in or email us, marking your envelope or email, Correspondence Corner.

Our second entry in Correspondence Corner is:

PARKING ON OUR GRASS VERGES IS SPOILING THE APPEARANCE OF EAST PRESTON AND IS AN UNNECESSARY, REGULAR OCCURRENCE IN MANY ROADS IN THE VILLAGE

People parking their vehicles on our grass verges are really having a negative affect on the appearance of our village. Why is it that people feel it is okay for them park their van or car with two or more wheels up on the grass? In most cases the road is amply wide enough for them to park in the road without the vehicle causing a hazard or inconvenience to other road users.

Those guilty of parking on the grassed areas are causing ruts in the grass which during wet periods turn into mud patches and look terrible, seeing a car or van parked on the verge gives the impression that the residents of East Preston do not respect our village environment.

CARS ARE SUPPOSED TO PARK IN ROADS, NOT ON THE GRASS.

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### Local Authority Recycling

#### **Recycling news**

Re-cycling - do you do as much as you

dvisory Committee We know we can recycle things like paper, jars and bottles. Did you know you can also

now re-cycle plastic food trays and pots, yoghurt pots (at last), plastic lids and butter tubs.

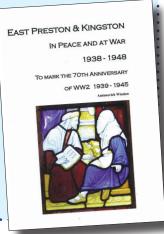
Tin foil is also recyclable but only the type you can scrunch up. Remember to rinse everything first.

As new things are listed on a regular basis you can keep up to date by visiting Arun District Council's web page and following the recycle tabs.

We are doing well in West Sussex but we can do better.

#### East Preston & Kingston 1938 -1948

Sales of Mr Standing's latest local history book are steady but there are still some left if you would like to buy a copy for £7. Feedback has been positive, so make sure you do not miss out. If you would like a copy please contact the Council Office, details below.



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

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