

East Preston Parish Council

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Come and meet your Councillors

The council has decided to repeat this event during the East Preston Festival. Between 10:30am and 12:30pm on Thursday, 8th June, please come along to the Council Office to meet your Parish Councillors. Find out more about what we do and let us know what more we could do for you and the village as a whole. Tea and a slice of cake will be provided, courtesy of The Cake Artist, Melanie Marley. We look forward to meeting you.

...and some owls and birds of prey!

The council has invited Owls About Town to set up on the Village Green on Tuesday, 6th June between 6pm and 8pm. Come along to meet the owls and birds of prey that are part of the Owls About Town family. This great opportunity to meet these magnificent birds is free-of-charge although donations to the work of Owls About Town would be much appreciated.



Food & Drink Festival – 26th August

Preparations for the return of East Preston's successful Food & Drink Festival continue. Please see the flyer below but most imortantly please come along on the day.



Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) -Lashmar Road

The council is pleased to announce the MUGA project is finally moving forward again with Arun District Council (ADC) and an Invitation to Tender will shortly be available for interested contractors. Once ADC has appointed its preferred contractor, the Parish Council and local groups will be able to apply for grant funding.

It is hoped by the end of the summer a new MUGA should be in place on Lashmar Recreation Ground, providing an all-weather hard-court fenced area for ball games. This will be a free-to-use, long-awaited facility for the village.

Thanks

Thanks to the forty-five or so volunteers who took part in Beach Clean No. 9 on 2nd April. These seasonal events together with the fortnightly U3A beach cleans really do make a big difference to our beaches. Thanks also to Arun District Council and the Friends of Langmeads for their support of our seasonal Beach Cleans.

Belated thanks to Mary and her mum for their unique contribution to the Parish Council tree in the Christmas Tree Festival at St Mary the Virgin Church.

Thanks to everyone who has completed and returned a Sea Road Beach Access form. We hope to provide an update on this in the next issue.

Chairman's Annual Report for 2016-2017



Cllr Duijf meeting with the Chairman of Kingston Parish Council, Cllr Geraldine Walker on East Preston Village Green

Cllr Duijf presented his annual report to the village's Annual Parish Meeting on 24th April. Below is an abridged version:

'An Annual Report should reflect the highlights and lowlights of the past annual council year.

For about half of the councillors this was only their second year. The Council is fully operational but also still gaining knowledge and

experience in the complexity of ever-changing legislations and, most importantly, your wishes.

"I start by picking up on the one resolution passed at last year's meeting which was "unanimously to support the attempts of the East Preston Open Dinghy Club in identifying a new base in or very close to East Preston." The council and local residents have supported the Open Dinghy Club but without success to date. After a residency of over forty years, the Club left its home at the bottom of Sea Road at the end of 2016. We have no further information on the future of the club.

"The council continues to be very busy. Some activities are very visible such as the Food and Drink Festival and Christmas Celebrations event whilst many others are carried out in the background. My personal feeling is that because of all the work and sometimes reduced availability of councillors, the council should discuss reducing its workload for the coming year. Although there is a lot of enthusiasm, there is also a lot of pressure on a few of us which also filters down to the council's members of staff.

"So, what was successful and enjoyable for many? Just to mention a few such as the first-ever East Preston Food and Drink Festival, the third East Preston Christmas Celebrations in its current format and another two seasonal Beach Cleans. I think a thank you especially to the community volunteers on these events should be made here: thank you and hope you will be available and join for 2017 and beyond. During East Preston Festival Week we ran a Come and Meet Your Local Councillors event which was successful and appreciated by those that attended. We shall be running this event again. [see page 1]

"The presence and input to our monthly Full Council meeting by Arun District and West Sussex County councillors responsible for East Preston is much appreciated and a thank-you to them all. County Cllr Peter Evans is not standing for re-election so I thank him for his work for the village over the past 12 years. With support from Arun District Council, the MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) at Lashmar road finally will materialise. Council was surprised by an announcement about the proposed extension of the junior and infant school. Council and many others were unaware but the West Sussex County Council project manager has taken on board our concerns and said she will include town and parish councils more explicitly in future projects.

"Our committees and working parties come together on a regular basis and try to make East Preston the best place to live. Some highlights: the rotating improvement plans for the Warren Recreation Ground are still going strong with help from the East Preston & Kingston Preservation and Horticultural Societies, the Infant and Junior Schools and the Friends of Langmeads.

"A Planning Application has been submitted for refurbishing the Sea Road toilet block to make it more accessible for all. Advice has been received from the Disability Action Group and the Special Educational Needs Child Action Team. I also thank the Disability Action Group for its fundraising activities towards this project which we hope will be completed before the end of this calendar year. Improved beach access for all is still on the cards but is a slow process due to all kind of complications.

"At the library, we have managed to find a temporary location for the Millennium Wall-hanging donated to the Council in 2000. A lot of council time has been taken up with discussions on this and we are aware not everybody is happy with this temporary solution.

"Having tried to get Arun District Council to take the South Strand toilet block back early, we have decided to keep it open till the end of our lease in 2019. Its fate beyond 1st April 2019 lies with Arun District Council.

"The council's orderlies keep the Village Green, Warren Recreation Ground, Two Acres and bus shelters in good order. When the weather is good this can take quite some time as the grounds are not always left clean by users. Although there are still some irresponsible dog owners, it should be noted dog fouling has reduced.

"The Planning & Licensing Committee meets most frequently, usually once every fortnight. Several objections the committee has made over the year referring to our Neighbourhood Plan have been recognised by Arun District. One could conclude that all the efforts put in the Plan was certainly worth doing it.

"The just published 2017 Business Community Directory will hopefully prove to be a useful publication for local residents looking for a range of local businesses and services.

"The Film Society regularly donates to East Preston's community so please keep attending their regular film events!

"Throughout the year, the council meets with neighbouring councils at a variety of fora.

"Nearly everyone here has chosen to live in East Preston because it is a lovely place to live. Please support this council in keeping it lovely and in making it an even better place to live. Thank you."

Joop Duijf – Chairman

East Preston Festival

This year's Festival runs from Friday 2nd June to Sunday 11th June. Programmes are available from East Preston shops and businesses, the library, the Council Office or it can be viewed on the village website: www.eastprestonvillage.co.uk

www.eastprestonvinage.co.uk

The following information from the Festival Committee relates to the Festival Carnival Procession on Saturday 10th June:

Vicarage Lane will be closed to all but residents' traffic in both

directions between 11am and 1:30pm and other road closures will apply during the procession.

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Supporting Village Life	Appro
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Approximate timings for road closures are:

The Street	from 1:10pm to 1:40pm
Sea Lane	from 1:15pm to 1:45pm
Seaview Road	from 1:30pm to 1:50pm
Sea Road/ North Lane	from 1:40pm to 2:15pm
Lashmar Road/ Roundstone Drive	from 2:00pm to 2:30pm

If you have tickets for the Open Gardens and Art Trail, taking place on Saturday 3rd and Monday 5th June, please note that there are parking restrictions on Angmering-on-Sea Estate so it is better to park in the village and walk to these gardens.

Meadow Planting

After a very successful first year Meadow Planting around the village last Summer, the Parish Council has agreed to continue these plantings once again. Guided by Meadow Planting specialists from ISS Facility Services Landscaping, beds have been prepared once again on the Village Green, along Two Acres and the large Sea Lane verge at the junction with The Street.

Local children's group SENCAT has been busy helping us to sow the meadow seeds on the Village Green beds, which have kindly been funded this year by East Preston Film Society. The weather was good to us with the sun coming out for the planting and the rain following to order, which made ideal growing conditions for the seeds.



East Preston Festival Committee has also once again kindly agreed to sponsor the Meadow Planting on Two Acres and Festival Committee volunteers helped scatter the seeds on a somewhat cooler morning!

The village now awaits the wonderful blooms which were experienced last year. The council asks in advance for people to respect these plantings when walking dogs or walking/playing near the beds so that the whole village can enjoy the flowers at their best throughout the Summer months.

Village Life

June

June	
2nd - 11th	East Preston Festival
2nd - 5th	Brou Twinning Association visit
5th	Full Council
6th	Owls About Town, Village Green (6pm)
7th	Business Breakfast (details tbc)
8th	Come and Meet Your Local Councillors,
	Council Office (10:30am to 12:30pm)
12th	Audit and Governance Committee (tbc)
	Planning & Licensing Committee (6pm)
26th	Planning & Licensing Committee (6pm)
July	
3rd	Full Council
4th	Business Breakfast (details tbc)
10th	Planning & Licensing Committee (6pm)
	Personnel Committee
17th	Amenities Committee
24th	Planning & Licensing Committee (6pm)
31st	Community Engagement Committee
August	
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1st 7th	Business Breakfast (details tbc) Full Council
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14th	Planning & Licensing Committee (10am)
21st	Finance & General Purposes (10am) (tbc)
26th	Food & Drink Festival, Village Green
	(midday to 5pm)

29th Planning & Licensing Committee (10am)

All council meetings begin at 7pm unless otherwise noted, usually at East Preston Infant School, Lashmar Road. 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.

Warren Recreation Ground – Hedge Planting

If you use the Warren Recreation Ground regularly, you will have noticed the Parish Council's efforts to improve the boundaries around the ground. Last year, part of the northern boundary was re-fenced and landscaped and this year the old southern boundary fence has been replaced and replanted. Generally feedback has been very positive on the improvements made so far.

The Parish Council has worked closely this year with the East Preston & Kingston Preservation Society in re-designing the southern boundary and the Society successfully applied for free hedging whips from the Woodland Trust. Several local groups and residents from the village helped in the planting of the whips along with a very eager group of children from the Junior School donned with sturdy shoes, gloves

Free Tennis Coaching

The council is working with Angmering-on-Sea Lawn Tennis Club to offer some free tennis coaching during June.

Head coach at the club, Andrew Cook, will be offering to teach tennis to non-members at the Warren Recreation Ground court on 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th June. Each session will start at 2pm and last for approximately one and a half hours and tennis racquets and balls will be provided if necessary. All standards of player are welcome whether you are a beginner or just a bit rusty and want to improve your skills.

There are 8 places available for each session and priority will be given to anyone who has not attended a previous class.

If you would like to take part please contact Alison on epparishcouncil3@btconnect.com or 01903 770050 to reserve your place. A £5 deposit will be required, refundable on attendance.



and spades who dug and planted many of the 300 whips along the new boundary fenceline.

The Parish Council would like to thank all the groups for their hard work and support with the southern boundary work. Look out for the next phase of boundary work to be carried out this coming year.



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





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