



EAST PRESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Council Office, 122 Sea Road, East Preston, West Sussex. BN16 1NN

01903 770050

<http://eastpreston.arun.gov.uk/>

Email: epparishcouncil@btconnect.com

MINUTES: of the Proceedings of the Monthly Meeting of East Preston Parish Council held on Monday, 2nd July 2018 at the East Preston Infant School, Lashmar Road, East Preston

PRESENT: Councillors Christine Bowman (from 19:08), Andrea Chapman, Lisa Duff, Barbara Gale, Pat Gander, Elizabeth Linton, Rick McElroy, David Moore, Danny Shah, Steve Toney (Chairman) and Steve Wilkinson

ALSO: Clerk to the Council, Simon Cross

County Councillor Roger Elkins (until 19:40)

District Councillor Ricky Bower (until 19:48)

Five members of the public

ABSENT: Councillor Glyn Mathias

* * * * *

The meeting opened at 19:02.

457/18 INTRODUCTIONS

Cllr Toney welcomed those present, led a round of introductions and explained some items of meeting protocol.

458/18 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology and a reason for absence were accepted from Cllr Mathias (holiday).

An apology was also received from District Cllr Chapman.

459/18 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Cllr Shah declared a Personal Interest in Agenda Item 5, *To co-opt a maximum of two new councillors to the council*, as he is friends with one of the candidates. He advised the meeting he would only vote on the candidate he did not know.

Cllr McElroy declared a Personal Interest in Agenda Item 17, *To agree to write formally to the [East Preston & Kingston Village Hall] Foundation committee asking for the reinstatement of the Millennium Wall-hanging in the Village Hall complex*, as his wife is a member of the Foundation committee.

460/18 CO-OPTION PRELIMINARIES

The following paper had been circulated in advance of the meeting:

Co-option

As previously stated, Arun District Council's Democratic Services team confirmed on 27th April and 22nd May there had been no calls from East Preston electors for a by-election to fill either of the council's vacancies. A co-option exercise has been underway subsequently.

The vacancy was advertised on the council's website and Facebook page, in the council's noticeboards, Council Office window and in council emails to local residents.

Two local residents submitted a completed Expression of Interest form by the closing date of 21st June. Both received an email letter on the 21st June inviting them to attend this evening's meeting, and advising they would be permitted to speak for up to three minutes. I also advised them the council is not obliged to co-opt if no candidate is felt right for the role.

Four other residents asked for and received Expression of Interest forms to complete; two withdrew on 17th June and two on 20th June.

Current councillors and officers are welcome to see the Expression of Interest forms for the candidates upon request to me.

Council is asked to appoint one councillor to act as a teller alongside the Clerk. Cllr Shah said at the last council meeting he would like to be a teller next time there was such an opportunity.

(If necessary) **Council is also asked to agree to receive a written statement from any candidate who is unable to attend this evening's meeting**, should unforeseen circumstances make this necessary. At the time of writing, both candidates have confirmed they will attend the meeting.

Council is asked to co-opt up to two new councillors.

Please be aware (again) the council is not obliged to accept any of the candidates if it does not feel they are suitable.

After the opening of the meeting, the candidates will be asked to wait in a separate room. Each candidate will be given up to three minutes to address the council, in the order they returned their completed Expression of Interest forms; they can explain anything from why they want to be a councillor to what their background is. Candidates will return to the waiting area after they have addressed the council.

The first round of voting will be a simple Yes or No. Any candidate receiving six or more No votes will automatically be disqualified from the exercise.

The candidates will then be ranked by the number of Yes votes they receive.

As previously, the result is announced to the candidates in the waiting room first, then to the council.

Any successful candidates will be required to complete a Declaration of Acceptance of Office form before they can join the council tables. Completion of this form could take place whilst the meeting hears from our ADC and WSCC councillors.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

22nd June 2018

1219 The Council **RESOLVED** unanimously for Cllr Shah to act as a second teller alongside the Clerk.

461/18 CO-OPTION OF UP TO TWO NEW COUNCILLORS

(Cllr Bowman arrived just after the commencement of this item.)

There were two candidates – Andrea Chapman and Brian Comber. Both candidates took the opportunity to address the meeting for up to three minutes. Each was called from and returned to a waiting area, outside the meeting room, either side of their address.

Councillors then completed a paper slip voting Yes or No for both candidates. Cllr Shah and the Clerk collected the paper slips and withdrew to count the votes. All ten councillors present voted on Mrs Chapman, all councillors except Cllr Shah voted on Mr Comber.

Mrs Chapman received the necessary absolute majority of Yes votes; Mr Comber did not.

1220 The Council **RESOLVED** unanimously to co-opt Andrea Chapman to the council.

Cllr Chapman completed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office form and joined the council. Cllr Toney welcomed Cllr Chapman to the council.

This result left the council with a single vacancy still. This would initially be discussed by the Personnel Committee at its meeting scheduled for 9th July.

462/18 PUBLIC SESSION

(Items below marked **No Agenda Item** are raised at the discretion of the Chairman.)

Agenda Item 8a – West Sussex County Council (WSSC) – ██████████ commended those involved with the recent library clean-up event. This was a good job done but was the library not a West Sussex County Council responsibility? ██████████ questioned whether this was the beginning of some slippery slope by which work council tax payers believed they had already paid for was being carried out by volunteers. WSSC grass verge-cutting was appalling, some marked potholes in a particularly bad East Preston road for potholes had been filled whilst others marked had not been – why were they not all addressed at the same time? ██████████ said she believed it was time for the county council to lobby national government on behalf of its residents to say this is not a good enough situation. That said, if East Preston Parish Council was going to lead similar events in the future it needed to do so on a far more organised basis – was this the beginning of a Friends of East Preston Library group?

As there were no other comments from members of the public, Cllr Toney handed over to County Cllr Elkins.

463/18 WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL (WSSC)

County Cllr Elkins added his thanks again to those councillors, officers and members of the public who had attended the library clean-up which he himself had also taken part in. He was sure members of the public could appreciate just how many buildings WSSC had in its portfolio and it had to prioritise where to spend money on those buildings. He was unsure how the library clean-up event had come about but it had been a very good example of a community taken on a little more responsibility itself and making a big difference as a result.

Cllr Elkins reminded people of the ongoing WSSC *What Matters To You?* survey which would help shape the council's priorities in the coming years. Residents still had a couple of weeks in which to complete this. He was aware of concerns about grass-cutting and wondered himself whether the council contractors could balance the schedule better. He did point out the government recommended number of grass cuts per year was five and the county council aimed to carry out seven each year. In response to a question, Cllr Elkins said he believed the county council's contractors did prioritise grass cutting at road junctions. Safety was key.

██████████ said she had completed the paper version of the *What Matters To You?* survey, picked up from the library, but it had not been a very friendly form to complete. Cllr Elkins responded the form had been in use for a few years now and maybe it did need to be reviewed.

As he had reported previously, the county council had lobbied central government on potholes and had received £1.5m to spend on repairing potholes this year. Other figures had been reported to the council's Annual Meeting on 14th May. (Minute 315/18)

In response to a question, Cllr Elkins was unable to explain how a utilities company had been able to dig up the eastern end of The Street so soon after it had been surface dressed, although he did say utility company did have a right to do so.

Fourteen new on-call firefighters had recently successfully passed their training. One of these was from East Preston.

WSSC had issued Heatwave Watch information. Cllr Elkins asked all present to be very aware of not only their own hydration needs but also those of their vulnerable friends and neighbours. WSSC supported a scheme encouraging businesses to be open to people coming into their premises to refill their water bottles, not just during hot weather but throughout the year.

WSSC supported Armed Forces Day and Cllr Elkins, together with Cllr Toney, had attended the Armed Forces Day event at Littlehampton on 29th June. WSSC was also a signatory to the Military Covenant which sought to support ex-service personnel and their families transition back into civilian life.

Illegal importing of taxable goods was still a problem - £40k worth of cigarettes had recently been seized at a shop in Worthing.

Cllr Elkins reported he had met with the Clerk immediately before this meeting to discuss where in the village people have asked for Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) and how far those requests had progressed. Cllr Elkins was investigating whether there was a way to compile a comprehensive plan for these TROs. Cllr Elkins had seen the petitions associated with two of the proposals.

464/18 COUNCILLOR RESPONSES

Agenda Item 8a – West Sussex County Council (WSSC) – The Clerk said he was certain the council knew how lucky it was to live in a village where so many residents were willing to volunteer for different tasks. He explained the library clean had been an experimental event for the council. It had not widely advertised for volunteers as it had not wanted forty willing volunteers to turn up only to find there was nothing for them to do or no room for them to do whatever they wanted to do. Participants had been targeted for the skills they could bring. In the most recent newsletter, the council had published an article calling for people to declare their willingness to be community volunteers and some people had come forward. The Community Engagement Committee would review this at its meeting at the end of the month. Hopefully, future similar events would not feel quite so ad-hoc.

The Clerk advised the WSSC shows the next grass cut in East Preston is scheduled to take place on 23rd July.

Cllr Gander said many would feel it petty to mention grass cutting in the *What Matters To You?* survey but as Cllr Elkins had experienced first-hand at the recent Come and Meet Your Local Councillors event, it was at least a secondary concern for most residents that attended that event.

Cllr Moore added this year's grass-growing had been very unusual and he had had to mow his own lawn twice in one week, previously unheard-of!

Cllr McElroy reminded the council any community volunteers would need to be covered by the council's insurance and would need to be assessed for their suitability for any tasks they were willing to undertake. Cllr Elkins said he and all volunteers had been asked by the Clerk to sign a disclaimer before he took part in the library clean.

(Cllr Elkins gave his apologies and left the meeting at the conclusion of this item.)

465/18 WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL (WSSC) – 2018 STRATEGIC TRANSPORT INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

The following report had been circulated in advance of the meeting:

West Sussex County Council, Strategic Transport Investment Programme – Stakeholder Engagement, June 2018

Council is asked to consider the following email received on 20th June:

Dear Sir/Madam,

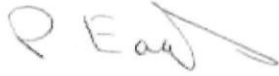
Strategic Transport Investment Programme – Stakeholder Engagement, June 2018

West Sussex County Council has established a Strategic Transport Investment Programme (STIP) to guide the identification and progression of strategic transport schemes. This is explained in more detail in the attached explanatory note.

You have been sent this email as we understand that you represent an organisation or group with an interest in transport. Accordingly, we invite you to complete the attached proforma, identifying any schemes you wish to be considered as part of the STIP prioritisation process, to produce a revised list of schemes, to be returned by Friday 20th July 2018. The (full) long list of schemes will be prioritised in summer 2018 to produce a short list of scheme priorities for development as resources permit. The short list will be approved by the Cabinet Member for Highways and Infrastructure in September 2018.

If you have any questions, or would like any further information, please contact the Planning and Transport Policy Team by email at lt@westsussex.gov.uk. If you have a query best dealt with by telephone, please add a contact number and request to call back.

With kind regards,



Paul Eagle
Principal Transport Planner

There is a five-page supporting document, available on request from the Council Office. This starts:

West Sussex County Council (WSCC) has established a Strategic Transport Infrastructure Programme (STIP) for the identification, assessment, prioritisation and progression of strategic transport schemes. A draft schedule of strategic schemes ('long list') is maintained and updated to reflect progress on current priorities and inclusion of newly identified schemes.

Later:

Strategic transport schemes are those which are either important at a county-wide/'larger than local' level or necessary to support the future development of an area, (it does not include infrastructure that is required to mitigate the site-specific impact of a development – this will be secured through the planning system – or structural maintenance schemes).

As a stakeholder, council is:

[...] invited to identify potential priorities for investment using the enclosed/attached proforma. You should submit your priorities no later than 20th July 2018 by email to lt@westsussex.gov.uk

I suggest interested councillors find a time to get together and look through the long list which has thirty-four entries, including, "A259 improvements (Littlehampton area)". This could be another route through which we could make the point about how vital a westbound slip-road into East Preston at the junction of the A259 and A280 is.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

20th June 2018

CLRs Toney and Linton agreed to meet to go through the programme on behalf of the council.

466/18 ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL (ADC)

District Cllr Bower started by saying he had proposed a Motion to the ADC Full Council meeting on 18th July asking the South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) to cease pursuing a judicial review over Highways England's decision to choose Option 5A for the Arundel by-pass. The request also asked the SDNPA to consider the environmental quality and traffic flow along the coastal area as well as within the park itself.

Cllr Bower and the Clerk agreed District Cllr Chapman planned to have a meeting with interested parties about the future of the South Strand toilet block towards the end of July, maybe early August. Cllr Chapman hoped to spend a Saturday afternoon visiting beach hut owners inviting them to participate in the future of the toilet block.

Cllr Bower ended by saying ADC had now received the inspector's response to the latest version of the Local Plan. Cllr Bower was confident the inspector would have found the Local Plan sound and therefore it could be adopted before the end

of the month. Following adoption it may be necessary for councils with made Neighbourhood Plans to revisit any housing numbers within. East Preston's Neighbourhood Plan does not contain a housing number.

In response to a question, Cllr Bower said he believed a meeting with County Cllr Bob Lanzer about the A259 westbound slip-road into the village had yet to take place. This was being led now by the Joint Eastern Arun Area Committee (JEAAC). Cllr Toney said at the JEAAC meeting in June it had been reported a meeting had been held with Cllr Lanzer but no output was yet available from that meeting; he expected to learn more at the next JEAAC meeting which is in November. Cllr Bower was uncertain there was any developer money left to pay for the slip-road but agreed local councils should continue to press for its inclusion.

Cllr Bower offered his apologies for an August meeting if this council held one.

(Cllr Bower gave his apologies and left the meeting at the conclusion of this item.)

467/18 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 4TH JUNE 2018

The draft Minutes had been circulated on 6th June asking for comments by 13th June. No amendments were suggested.

1221 The Council **RESOLVED** the Chairman could sign the Minutes as a true record of the meeting that took place on 4th June.

This action was completed.

468/18 UPDATE ON MATTERS IN THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Council NOTED the following report, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting, without comment:

Monthly Update Report

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Minute 96/18 – Community Engagement Committee – East Preston Festival**
- 3. Minute 261/18 – Public Session – East Preston Library**
- 4. Minute 419/18 – Annual Return for year-ending 31st March 2018**

1. Introduction

This is the report covering items discussed during Full Council meetings up to and including the meeting held on 4th June 2018.

2. Minute 96/18 – Community Engagement Committee – East Preston Festival

Together with the council's Receptionist / Admin Assistant, Alison Roberts and her family, the following councillors formed the council's team in the Festival Carnival Procession on 9th June: Cllrs Duff, Gale, Gander, Linton, Mathias and Toney. Despite being at the very back of the procession, so we could include Cllr Toney's yellow fire engine, the team still collected £18.53 for charity.

3. Minute 261/18 – Public Session – East Preston Library

On 8th June, Mrs Vicki Davey emailed the council as follows, "I thought you would like to know we had a footfall of 70 this morning for our cake and coffee."

4. Minute 419/18 – Annual Return for year-ending 31st March 2018

The completed Annual Return and all associated documentation was sent to the external auditors on 22nd June ahead of the 10th July deadline.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

25th June 2018

Also the following report, which was circulated electronically ahead of the meeting:

Updates from previous meetings

Minute 423/18 – Clerk’s Report, Item 6, East Preston Library Clean, 20th May

The following article was published in the July/August 2018 edition of *All About East Preston, All About Kingston*:

Community Spring Clean for EP Library

On Sunday 20th May, some East Preston parish councillors, community volunteers and West Sussex County Councillor Roger Elkins spent four hot and sweaty hours giving the outside of the village’s library a much-needed clean and paint.

Simon Cross, Clerk to the Council, explained, “This council was approached late last year by a couple of local residents who were keen to help smarten up the library. As a council, we agreed to help and contacted the West Sussex County Council library service. Local Cluster Manager, Vicki Davey, was very supportive. We then gathered together a small number of regular community volunteers. Work undertaken included painting the entrance railings and some window frames, washing cladding, emptying blocked guttering, washing windows, mowing the grass and edging the lawn. The results looked great in the Sunday afternoon sunshine and the council thanks everyone who took part. Similar community projects may now be on the cards.”

Mrs Davey added, “I would like to thank Simon and the Parish Volunteers for all the time and effort they have given to the clean-up of East Preston Library. Simon approached me last year with the project and it has been a complete success and the Library has



never looked so good, the results are fantastic! A great example of partnership working between the local Parish and County Council. A big thank you to everyone who was involved.”

East Preston library is open six days a week, Monday to Wednesday afternoons and Thursday to Saturday mornings.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

27th June 2017

Nothing was added.

469/18 FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Accounts for June 2018 had been distributed to Members in advance of the meeting.

- 1222** The council **RESOLVED** to approve the outstanding Purchase Orders report for 2018/19, value £25,166.46 (excl. VAT).
- 1223** The council **RESOLVED** to approve the Supplier Non BACS Invoices Paid report for June 2018, totalling £1,209.80 (incl. VAT).
- 1224** The council **RESOLVED** to approve the Supplier BACS Invoices Paid report for June 2018 totalling £16,891.22 (incl. VAT).
- 1225** The council **RESOLVED** to approve the List of Sales Receipts & Bank Receipts by Bank report, showing £135,330.55 net for the financial year ending 31st March 2019.

As this was her first meeting, Cllr Chapman abstained from the above voting.

The council NOTED the paper Bank Reconciliation to 14th June 2018.

The council NOTED the to-date Income & Expenditure Summary for 2018/19.

The Chairman thanked the council's Assistant Clerk, Mrs Khoo, for her work on the above reports.

470/18 REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCIL COMMITTEES

The council NOTED the following reports which had been circulated in advance of the meeting:

Committees

Since the last meeting, the following committee meetings have taken place: Planning & Licensing and Audit & Governance on 25th June. Draft Minutes from both of those meetings may have been circulated by the time of this meeting.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

22nd June 2018

Audit & Governance Committee

The committee held its first meeting of the new council year on 25th June. Cllr Mathias and Cllr Shah were again appointed Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the committee respectively.

The committee reviewed its Terms of Reference and made a few minor changes for the current year, more accurately reflecting its composition and workload. The committee reviewed the Internal Audit report for the year-ending 31st March and thanked the council's officers for their efforts in keeping the council running smoothly. The Leases Working Party sub-set of the committee agreed to meet soon to pick up its review of the lease to the East Preston & Kingston Village Hall Foundation. The committee gave further consideration to the purchase of personal technology for the use of councillors but felt it needed further information before making any decision.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

26th June 2018

Community Engagement Committee

As it did last year, the committee worked with Angmering-on-Sea Lawn Tennis Club to put on some free-of-charge tennis coaching sessions on the Warren Recreation Ground. These sessions are open to anyone except members of the club.

For some reason, take up is not good for these sessions. Only one member of the public attended the first session, but her feedback was: "My lesson on Wednesday was brilliant and has inspired me to take [my husband] back onto the tennis courts in the park where I'm sure I dazzled him with my new found skills! I'm really sorry but I can't make the next two Wednesdays so could you please pass on my grateful thanks to Andrew and tell him it was inspiring and I've been practising serving correctly!"

Similarly, a different member of the public attended alone on 20th June. Again, her response was very positive.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

21st June 2018

Finance & General Purposes Committee – East Preston Festival

The council has received the following letter:



East Preston Festival 2018
Friday 1st June – Sunday 10th June

Email: eastprestonfestival@hotmail.co.uk



RECEIVED

14 JUN 2018

44, Golden Avenue
East Preston
BN16 1QX

14th June 2018

Dear Councillor Toney,

Once again, I am writing on behalf of the Festival Committee to say a huge thank you to you and the rest of the Parish Council for their support for this year's Festival.

The fact that our insurance costs are covered each year is such a help in our quest to raise funds to donate to local charities and good causes, and this year it looks as though we have raised a record amount of money.

We are hoping that the disabled beach access scheme is now progressing as we are anticipating donating a reasonable amount to the scheme.

Many thanks also for sponsoring our Children's Extravaganza again this year. We had about 190 children plus their parents all thoroughly enjoying the CircusSeen circus skills, Punch and Judy and Robbie the Magician.

The noise level was extremely high, and a lot of excited, pink faced and happy young children left the building at the end of the event, leaving the Festival team working that afternoon reeling, but then preparing the Hall for the evening entertainment.

We are already thinking about Festival 2019 and are considering pushing it on to the 7th-16th June as we keep slipping back into May which is a little early. One extra week would help considerably as the main bulk of the work can't be done until after the New Year.

Yours sincerely

Jackie Pilcher
Festival Chairman.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

27th June 2018

Planning & Licensing Committee

The committee met on 25th June (~). The draft Minutes from the meeting have been circulated. Unfortunately, the meeting scheduled for 11th June (†) had not taken place as the committee was not quorate on that evening. The two Applications on that meeting's Agenda which had to be responded upon before the meeting on the 25th June were exceptionally considered electronically.

Planning Applications considered were:

EP/61/18/HH †	Single storey rear extension 41 Roundstone Crescent	Committee agreed not to object
EP/65/18/HH †	Cover existing rendering with cladding... Samlin, 14 Tamarisk Way	Committee agreed not to object
EP/70/18/HH ~	Erection of 1.82m brick wall to replace existing hedge along norther boundary, with vehicular and pedestrian access points Preston House, Seafield Road	Committee agreed to object
EP/83/18/HH ~	Replacement side extension 61 Roundstone Crescent	Committee agreed to object

Further information on the reasons for objections can be found in the Minutes from the relevant meeting.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

27th June 2018

As Chairman of the Community Engagement Committee, Cllr Linton offered a vote of thanks to Andrew Cook, head coach at Angmering-on-Sea Lawn Tennis Club for his participation in the three, free-of-charge coaching sessions the council had run in June. Attendance had been low again despite publicity through a number of standard council publicity channels. Cllr Linton hoped the council would agree to run the sessions again in the future and would look at some additional routes for publicity, for example a schools letter to parents of East Preston schoolchildren. Cllr McElroy suggested SENCAT parents were another target audience perhaps. Cllr Gander suggested the council could publicise the tennis sessions and other appropriate events under some sort of health and wellbeing umbrella. Cllr McElroy said he had been approached to offer self-defence classes to local parents.

471/18 AMENITIES COMMITTEE – REPAIRS TO SOUTH STRAND TOILETS

The council NOTED the following report which had been circulated in advance of the meeting:

Amenities Committee – South Strand toilet block

Cllr McElroy to introduce this item.

Council is asked to release approximately £5,000 from the contingency budget line for the current financial year to replace the external doors and the doorframes at the South Strand toilet block.

It has become clear the external (wooden) doors and wooden doorframes at the South Strand toilet block have deteriorated and need to be replaced. The photographs below show the extent of the disrepair:



The Amenities Committee did not budget for this expenditure hence asking council for money from this year's contingency budget line.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

21st June 2018

Cllr McElroy gave the background to the request, explaining the committee had already carried out some remedial work on the toilet block, for example repairing and resealing the roof, in preparation for handing the toilet block back to ADC after

31st March, 2019. The council had a full-repairing lease with ADC. At least one of the external doors was now proving very challenging to close and this was a security risk.

As Chairman of the Finance & General Purposes Committee, Cllr Shah said he felt £5,000 was far too much to be spent on replacing wooden doors and doorframes. He urged the council to get three quotes before deciding to make this money available to the Amenities Committee.

Whilst there was some agreement £5,000 was a lot of money for replacing wooden doors and doorframes, there was also concern delaying the work increased the risk of further damage inside especially if the building cannot be properly secured in the near future.

1226 The Council **RESOLVED** to release approximately £5,000 from the contingency budget line for the current financial year to replace the external doors and the doorframes at the South Strand toilet block.

472/18 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE – BLUE PLAQUES POLICY

The council NOTED the following report which had been circulated in advance of the meeting:

Community Engagement Committee – blue plaques policy

Cllr Linton to introduce this item.

Council is asked to adopt a Blue Plaques policy for the council.

AS 2018 marks the 100th anniversary of some women getting the vote, the council has been approached, mainly but not only by the East Preston & Kingston Preservation Society, to commission a blue plaque in the village to honour Edith Ayrton and her husband Israel Zangwill, both leading players in the movement for women's suffrage. The couple lived in Sea Lane and the owners of the relevant property have been approached and have said they would be delighted to host the blue plaque. The owners have seen the following draft of a blue plaque policy and seem to be happy with it. Likewise, members of the Community Engagement Committee have raised no concerns with the policy which is loosely based on that in place in Chichester.

The draft policy can be found at Appendix A below.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

12th June 2018

In response to a question, Cllr Linton explained if a householder did not want a Blue Plaque on their property that was the end of the matter.

1227 The Council **RESOLVED** unanimously to adopt the proposed Blue Plaques Policy. (see Appendix A below)

473/18 REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCIL WORKING PARTIES

The council NOTED the following report which had been circulated in advance of the meeting:

Working Parties

All four of the council's working parties continue to work on already-known projects.

The Website Working Party has seen a live draft of the new website and has passed some comments back to the designer. All the background work is carrying on.

There are no major updates from the other three working parties.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

25th June 2018

Cllr Linton said the next meetings of the Christmas Celebrations and Food & Drink Festival Working Parties were scheduled for 24th July and 8th August respectively.

Cllr Wilkinson said the Website Working Party had drawn up a list of changes to be made from the work-in-progress website and this had been passed on to the designer. There was some information needed to be compiled for inclusion on the website and the Working Party was meeting with the Clerk soon to allocate those tasks. The council was onsite for cutting over to the new website by the end of the month.

474/18 EAST PRESTON & KINGSTON VILLAGE HALL FOUNDATION

The following report had been circulated in advance of the meeting:

East Preston & Kingston Village Hall Foundation

Council is asked to agree to write formally to the Foundation committee asking for the reinstatement of the Millennium Wall-hanging in the Village Hall complex.

On Thursday, 21st June, Cllr Toney met informally with John Melser, Chairman of the East Preston & Kingston Village Hall Foundation. This was their first meeting and was mainly just to get to know each other.

During the meeting, Mr Melser said the council had never formally asked in writing for the Village Hall Foundation committee to reinstate the Millennium Wall-hanging in the Village Hall although he agreed the matter had been discussed at a number of meetings between the two organisations. Mr Melser asked if the council could consider sending a formal request for reinstatement to the Village Hall Foundation so he could discuss this with his committee.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

25th June 2018

1228 The Council **RESOLVED** the council should write formally to the East Preston & Kingston Village Hall Foundation committee asking for the reinstatement of the Millennium Wall-hanging in the Village Hall complex.

Cllr McElroy abstained from the above vote.

475/18 CLERK'S REPORT

The council NOTED the following report which had been circulated in advance of the meeting:

Clerk's Report

1. **Introduction**
2. **Police matters**
3. **Freedom of Information / Data Protection requests**
4. **Correspondence with a Rustington resident**
5. **Correspondence with an East Preston resident**
6. **Angmering station level crossing**
7. **East Preston Business Community Business Breakfast, 5th June**
8. **East Preston Festival – Owls About Town on the Village Green, 5th June**
9. **East Preston Festival - Come and Meet Your Local Councillors, 7th June**
10. **Meeting with the Chairman of the East Preston & Kingston Village Hall Foundation, 21st June**
11. **Sussex Community Rail Partnership, Coastway West Stakeholders' meeting, 22nd June**
12. **Social Media**
13. **MailChimp stats**
14. **A selection of things we have been asked since the last meeting**
15. **Recent bouquets and complaints**

16. Leave

17. July meetings and events

1. Introduction

This is the report mainly covering May 2018 and matters which may not arise elsewhere on the agenda.

2. Police matters

On 9th May, we were approached by a resident asking if Sussex Police could step up its patrols around the Village Green as sizeable (15+) groups of young people have been congregating and making threats towards local residents trying to enjoy the Village Green peacefully. Sussex Police agreed to step up its presence around the Village Green.

Police were called to an incident in Normandy Lane on Sunday, 27th May. This incident closed Normandy Lane and also involved the Air Ambulance landing on the Warren Recreation Ground during the Blauuw Cup championship. The Air Ambulance left empty-handed after twenty minutes. When asked for information by a local resident, Sussex Police said the matter was a personal one and they could provide nothing further.

3. Freedom of Information / Data Protection requests

No new requests received this month.

4. Correspondence with a Rustington resident

A new Rustington resident, but subscriber to our e-newsletter, got in touch on 3rd May:

“I must say East Preston near the sea front is becoming very tatty and is looking very run down with "poor looking " shops. Why is this happening. I was going to move to East Preston but settled on moving to Rustington which I am so glad I did. Hope East Preston becomes nice again and not become run down as it would be such a shame.”

I replied asking for more information as the council worked closely with local businesses and if there were steps which would be taken we would talk to local businesses. I also gave details of improvements which have been made to businesses in the southern end over the past year, for example, new frontage at The Sea Horse and the opening of *Grub & gumption*.

The correspondent replied:

“I just wanted to express my thoughts on what I saw last Sunday when I re visited that particular area of East Preston, the very pretty Bungalow area near the sea front near the pub had been bulldozed down and I heard they are building flats?? which is such a shame. Regarding the Tudor Tavern, I walked in there for a drink but walked straight out as it stunk of stale tobacco smoke and yes it is very run down. I hope it does improve in that little bit of that area but I wont be visiting there. I am glad I made the decision to move to Rustington and not East Preston. I made the move last year from London as it was getting so over crowded with building works, filth, litter. Hope East Preston can keep its prettiness as it was.”

I explained this council and Arun District Council had both objected to the Planning Application for the Tudor Lodge site and Planning Permission had only been granted after appeal to the Planning Inspectorate. As for The Tudor Tavern at the time of the correspondent’s visit, it had only been re-opened for a couple of days after about three weeks of being closed. I also pushed for more details on the phrase in the original email, “poor looking " shops”.

The correspondent replied:

“It was just the whole of that little bit of East Preston that I can only describe as Tatty and the other pub across the rd from the Tudor Tavern which I completely by- passed as I thought it looked "rough", This is only my thoughts but I can see the pubs like that (so much like what they had in

London) just bringing East Preston down, it will eventually be just like London becoming rough in the area as these types of pubs attract the wrong kind where they just become watering holes for young people that are bored or want to cause trouble. East Preston needs to make it a village feel where so many residents there appreciate nice things. I also hope being here does not go the same way as London when Property developers do not stop when to stop building to make a fortune by building flats after flats after flats for a quick profit”

At this point, I answered the matters raised and drew the conversation to a close, saying it had been useful and thanking the correspondent for taking the time to write.

Then, imagine my surprise to receive the following email from the same correspondent just one month later, again in response to an e-newsletter:

“Just to say I love your news and its lovely to be in this community, I hope to meet you one day as I would love to get involved more in this beautiful area”

5. Correspondence with an East Preston resident

Another resident emailed on 31st May,

“As a resident of East Preston for the last four and a half years I would like to air my views on your 'so called ' festival.

“To start with there are not enough new events or 'happenings' and the most popular events are sold out before the majority get the chance to buy a ticket - these events could either be held more than one night or the venue needs to be bigger. With these points in mind many people just won't bother to even try and get involved.

“As for the general 'look' of the village at the moment I am appalled to hear that the lawns and verges are not going to be cut. Although having said that when it was done last year the 'mess' left afterwards was dreadful and I would be embarrassed to ask my friends and family into what should be a beautiful village.

“I apologise if this offends but whoever is responsible for keeping this village looking nice and the running of the festival should think very hard about making some changes. It's such a shame as it is a lovely place to live.

“How is it that Rustington (so close to us) is always so beautifully kept and planted out?”

I replied, explaining the Festival was a wholly separate entity run by volunteers and asking for agreement I could forward the relevant parts of the above email to the Festival Committee. I explained about the financial contribution made by Rustington's big commercial landlord and how that is not replicated in EP, and also the difference in the number of chain shops in each village.

The correspondent replied,

“Thank you for your reply and explanation and I would be more than happy for my email to be passed on to those concerned. As for the grass verges and communal green areas I believe the local residents deserve more of an explanation why The West Sussex County Council cannot give us this service especially just before such an important event for the village. Surely this is something that comes out of the Council Tax we all pay and I beg to differ regarding your comment on general consensus as I know many villagers that also think the look of the village is a bit of a disgrace and want to know why this is but haven't got courage or can't be bothered to complain.....probably because they know nothing will be done. I rest my case.”

To this I challenged the “I rest my case” comment as that is not what we hear from the majority of residents we are in touch with. I suggested the correspondent attend the Come and Meet Your Local Councillors event if able but received no reply to that suggestion. The resident did not attend.

6. Angmering station level crossing

I recently noticed eastbound, 8-carriage trains had suddenly started to overhang Angmering

level crossing, preventing the crossing gates from opening thus lengthening the amount of time local residents were waiting at the level crossing. As they never used to, I queried this with Network Rail. No reply from my first query so next time it happened, I took a photograph and sent that to a different Network Rail contact (Andy Harrowell, see item 9 below). He picked this up straight away, though was unsure what to do with it; however, within a few hours he had responded, “our team have checked this out and the reason for the change of unit position is due to a recent movement of the stop car marker at the station. Our Head of Operations is asking our Safety team if this sign can be moved back to its original position to remove the situation you have outlined.”



The 07:53 Class 377 eight-carriage service to London Victoria stopped at Angmering station and overhanging the level crossing.

7. East Preston Business Community Business Breakfast, 5th June

Members of the East Preston Business Community gathered outside Mrs Beeton’s at 8am on 5th June. Mrs Beeton’s had been closed the week before and having lined up The Seahorse as an alternative venue, Mrs Beeton’s replied to my enquiry and confirmed they would be there for the Business Breakfast on 5th June. They were not, and the business has not been open subsequently.

Most businesspeople who had turned up to Mrs Beeton’s did convene at *Grub & gumption* on Friday, 8th June instead. Cllr Linton also attended as a fellow council representative. The meeting was led by Tim Bigger who led a discussion upon whether or not there should be a paper version of the Business Community Directory in future. Those present believed there was a place for a paper Directory but also understood it is expensive to be part of. Tim was willing to continue managing the East Preston Business Community website with a monthly subscription for businesses wishing to be part of that. As the monthly subscription would be kept low this should be a more attractive option for some businesses. Getting residents to visit the East Preston Business Community website before, for example, Checktrade was the next problem.

The next Business Breakfast is scheduled for 5th July but Tim is currently trying to change that date.

8. East Preston Festival – Owls About Town on the Village Green, 5th June

At the third attempt, Owls About Town were finally able to come and visit the Village Green with some of, what they call, their troops. The team brought along a mix of about eight owls and birds of prey.

The event was nicely attended, not too busy for people to feel left out. Members of the public were able to touch and hold the troops. Public attendees were appreciative.

Some councillors will remember Owls About Town was initially based in East Preston until they ran out of space. Unable to find a suitable and affordable larger property in East Preston, they had to move to Selsey.

Owls About Town posted the following on Facebook the day after the event, “It was lovely to be “home” again. Great to see so many turn up and say hello. Can we please thank everyone for the kind donations, as you’re aware, every single penny received in spent in the troops and not humans. Thank you to each and everyone of you. 🍷🐙”

Feedback from residents has been good too, “Lovely to see all ages enjoying the owls. Thank you.”



Members of the public and councillors meeting an owl on the Village Green on a sunny summer's evening.

9. **East Preston Festival - Come and Meet Your Local Councillors, 7th June**

This was the council's third year of running this event and it proved more possible than ever before. Eight parish councillors were in attendance: Cllrs Toney, Linton, Duff, Gale, Gander, Mathias, McElroy and Moore. Cllrs Bowman, Shah and Wilkinson had all given their apologies well in advance of the event. All three office-based council staff were on-hand too. With four tables and eight councillors it was easy for councillors generally to pair up. Soon after the start of the event, County Cllr Elkins joined in and only finished talking to members of the public at about 13:30.

Officially the event started at 10:30 but the first members of the public arrived at about 10:15 and from then until gone 12:30, there were members of the public keeping councillors constantly busy. As previously, most questions recorded will form the basis of an article in the Summer 2018 Newsletter. Very site-specific answers will be provided direct to the questioner. Some members of the public came along to talk about being a councillor.

Most attendees were already subscribers to the council's e-mailing service but six new subscriptions were received during the event. I emailed those six immediately after the event to give a bit of background to the e-mailing service and one of those new subscribers asked to be removed again, which I duly did. That's a first.

Some public feedback from or about the event:

"It was also good to have an "open forum" with the parish council, I think from my point of view that's a great idea and hopefully one which will continue....even if its hard work for the councillors, I hope they find it enjoyable and informative....and not every thing is a "complaint". Its very much appreciated that they take time out to have the " meet the councillors"...."

"Like Christmas decorations; like the Roundstone level crossing diagram in the newsletter."

"Loves the Food Festival, Christmas Celebrations"

"Thanks to the Parish Council for everything – a good job under the circumstances"

"Please can you pass on my thanks to Cllr McElroy for our chat today, which I really enjoyed and found very useful."

Thanks to The Clockhouse Bar & Deli for the loan of tables and chairs, *Grub & gumption* for the cakes, and East Preston & Kingston Bowls Club for the loan of the urn.



Seven councillors discussing life in the village with various residents.

10. Meeting with the Chairman of the East Preston & Kingston Village Hall Foundation, 21st June

Following the election of Cllr Toney to the Chairmanship of the council and the re-election of Mr John Melser to the Chairmanship of the Village Hall Foundation at that organisation's Annual General Meeting on 16th June, the two had an informal meeting in the Council Office. Mainly just to introduce themselves to each other, naturally some high-level discussion was held on other matters affecting the two organisations.

The Foundation committee is short of members still. Following the AGM there are six members (Mr Melser, Mrs McElroy, Mrs Moody, Mr Milnes, Mr Merrington and Mrs Coote). Mrs Coote, aside from being proof your surname does not need to begin with an M to be a committee member, has again stated her intention to stand down from the committee. Mrs Coote is currently Treasurer of the Foundation and is an invaluable member of the team. If a volunteer replacement cannot be found, the Foundation will have to buy in financial support which will have a knock-on effect on hire charges. The council will publicise there are vacancies on the committee.

Mr Melser agreed approved Minutes of Foundation committee meetings would automatically be sent to the council in future.

Mr Melser asked for a formal request from the council to the Foundation asking for the Millennium Wall-hanging to be reinstated in the Village Hall. This request will be considered at the same Full Council meeting as this report.

Mr Melser has provided me with a Minute from a Foundation meeting held on 9th November 1987 at which it was reported, "The Parish Council has agreed to re-adopt the "Fives Court" and be responsible for its maintenance." I am going to the West Sussex Record Office on 29th June to see if I can find a corresponding Parish Council Minute. (I'm not sure I hold out much hope, to be honest.)

11. Sussex Community Rail Partnership (SCRП), Coastway West Stakeholders' meeting, 22nd June

Cllr Moore and I attended this event at Nautilus House, a Shoreham Port building on the border between Southwick and Shoreham-by-Sea. The meeting was the initial meeting of the Coastway West Line group which will cover stations from Hove to Angmering. Angmering is one of two stations on the line which already has a *Friends of* group, although that was news to us – Durrington-on-Sea is the other. Residents local to Aldrington and Lancing were present looking to set up something similar for their stations too.

There were four presentations:

Tim Barkley, Chairman of the Partnership introduced the partnership and the thinking behind setting up this Coastway West Line group.

Andy Harrowell, Govia Thameslink Railway (GTR) Limited's Corporate Social Responsibility Manager.

Katie, Shoreham Port Authority's marketing manager.

Deirdre Carolin, Friends of Angmering Station.

Tim explained the background to the Partnership and talked about some of its work in promoting sustainable travel across the county and education programmes to encourage younger and/or less able people to think of using the rail network more often than perhaps they would otherwise. SCRП is a not-for-profit company; its major funders include both Sussex County Councils, Kent County Council, GTR, Great Western Railway and Gatwick Airport.

Andy opened his presentation by apologising for the disruption residents have experienced since the introduction of the Railplan 2020 timetable in the middle of May. This disruption had been unforeseen. Line groups are not so much about the services that run on the line as about uplifting the stations and improving the passenger experience in that way. That said, nationally rail journeys have doubled in the past twenty years; in the Southern area that doubling has only in just the last twelve years. Nationally, rail infrastructure is ageing and suffering as a result of historic underinvestment.

GTR has some money available to help groups set up and see the benefits as encouragement of community involvement in local stations, development of confidence with sustainable transport, support of youth education and programmes and encouragement of travel and tourism. Existing Line groups in the county have produced line guides – the Arun Valley one is available in the office – and the production of a similar guide for Coastway West is likely to be an early project for the new Line group. The full set of line guide is available from the SCRIP website.

Deirdre confirmed GTR had financially supported the Friends of Angmering Station whenever necessary over the past four years. It was interesting to see the 170th Birthday event at Angmering Station hailed as a success by the Friends when I think anyone from here who attended might not agree. (Full Council, 4th July 2016, Minute 495/16)

Following the presentations, Cllr Moore and I took the opportunity to talk to Andy Harrowell and Rowena Tyler, currently Interim Community Development Officer for the Coastway West Line group. Some councillors will remember Rowena worked with the council on its production of a Neighbourhood Plan.

The next meeting of the Coastway West Line group is likely to be at the end of September or beginning of October.

12. Social media

These are the Facebook posts published since the last supporting papers which reached more than 500 people:

- Advice to residents about a company in the area advertising to buy people's collectables but having no web presence or genuine address on the flyer – 993 people
- Poster for East Preston Classic Car Show – 969
- Poster advertising Owls About Town on the Village Green – 937
- Call for witnesses to a road traffic accident on 27th May - 925
- Photograph reminding residents of the temporary road closures for the Festival Carnival Procession – 898
- Three photographs from Owls About Town on the Village Green – 791
- Mid-1960s postcard of the bottom of Sea Road - 720
- Photographs of the East Preston Infant School no-litter-on-beaches posters, also being displayed around the village – 580
- † Link to World Gin Day website - 539
- MailChimp post for East Preston Parish Council news, 31st May - 516

† Food & Drink Festival page

▲ East Preston Business Community page

* East Preston Christmas Celebrations page

(posts up to and including 25th June)

The number of people currently following the council on Facebook is 1,099, an increase of three over last report.

No posts placed on Nextdoor.

13. MailChimp stats

Since the last papers were issued, the council has sent out the following emails to local residents on the council's main e-mailing list:

Parish Council news – 31st May – sent to 747, opened by 484 to date (64.8%)

Parish Council news – 6th June – sent to 749, opened by 486 to date (64.9%)

Parish Council news – 21st June – sent to 756, opened by 483 to date (64%)

14. **Things we have been asked since the last meeting**

“You’re building some houses and flats by the beach in East Preston, can you tell me how much they will be?” (No, but we can tell you the name of the developer.)

“What are you doing about the junction?”

“How do I get to East Preston church?”

“Please could you get these flowers to the lady who was on the door of the talk about Kingston last week [7th June]? She may have been called Shirley.” (We can try.)

“Can you help us with power for the end-of-Festival Songs of Praise, as we have an electric piano?” (We can point you in the right direction.)

15. **Recent bouquets and complaints**

(In addition to anything reported above)

Thanks from a resident of Nursery Close for getting hold of the wife of the now-retired man who used to service her mobility scooter for her so he could call.

Thanks from a resident of North Lane for information on garden waste collection.

Thanks from Rev Perry regarding the Songs of Praise question above, “thank you for your suggestions and for pointing us in the right direction - much appreciated!”

Thanks from residents of Sea Lane for reporting to WSCC some newly-planted trees on the bend by the entrance to The Ridings. These trees had been planted at the side of the road by a resident and were likely to grow quickly and lead to the narrowing of the road. WSCC got involved, reminding the resident permission was needed and the trees were removed at the beginning of June.

Thanks from a resident of Sea Road for interaction had with the East Preston Youth Club after some anti-social behaviour on the evening of Tuesday, 5th June.

After we had made some judicious telephone calls, thanks for the lady wanting to give flowers to Shirley on the door, see above, “Shirley has just called. Thank you so much to you and Alison for the detective work. And well done for another fantastic festival!”

Thanks to Alison from a resident who had been photographed at the Rose Show but did not know how to get hold of a copy of the photograph. Alison contacted the Festival Committee, got hold of an electronic copy of the photograph, printed it and gave the resident the copy. On receipt, the resident said she had given up hope of ever seeing the photograph.

Thanks from a resident of Homelands Avenue for sending him a drawing of the then West Sussex Tennis Club clubhouse, “I cannot thank you enough for this. I am bowled over with the drawing. I do not know much about art but there was a Sussex artist called Eric Ravilious Who painted Sussex landscapes during the 1930s and somehow this design seems in the same vein and encapsulates the period.”

A Rustington resident wrote under one of our posts on Facebook, “What an amazing, active, community based Parish Council you are. I take my hat off to you. Well done and well run.”

From a resident of Station Road, “Thanks for all you do for EP; you definitely go the extra mile.”

Following on from criticism of Arun District Council, another Facebook correspondent wrote, “Ep Council do a fantastic job and I cannot praise them highly enough. Having lived away for 15 odd years it is just so good to be back and see how much an active role the council play in this village. I commend you for everything you do for us.”

16. Leave

I shall be on leave on 11th to 13th July.

17. July Meetings and Events

This list may be incomplete and is subject to change.

2 nd	Full Council (19:00, East Preston Infant School)
5 th	Business Breakfast (08:00, <i>Kerry's Community Tea Room</i>) SSALC Meeting & HR Procedures Briefing and Awareness Training (09:45, Haslemere) (EL only) SLCC Sussex branch quarterly meeting (10:30, Pulborough) (SC only) Photocall with WSCCllr Debbie Kennard at East Preston Library (10:30, East Preston Library) (ST and PG only)
6 th	Friends of Zachary Merton Hospital AGM (14:30, Zachary Merton Hospital) (tbc only)
9 th	Personnel Committee (17:00, East Preston Infant School) Planning & Licensing Committee (18:00, East Preston Infant School) Amenities Committee (19:00, East Preston Infant School)
18 th	Voluntary Action Arun and Chichester AGM & Networking Lunch (12:30, Yapton) (LD only)
23 rd	Planning & Licensing Committee (18:00, East Preston Infant School)
24 th	Christmas Celebrations Working Party (10:00, Council Office)
26 th	NHS Littlehampton Health Services Advisory Group (15:00, NHS Durrington) (PG only)
30 th	Community Engagement Committee (19:00, East Preston Infant School)

N.B. where committee meetings fall on the same day, the timings of these meetings may be subject to change.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

25th June 2018

Clerk's Report, item 10 – Meeting with the Chairman of the East Preston & Kingston Village Hall Foundation, 21st June - update

I visited the West Sussex Record Office on Friday, 29th June. I looked at council Minutes from 1987 and into early 1988. This was to see whether there was a council Minute corresponding to the Village Hall Committee's 1987 Minute stating the council had agreed to "re-adopt" the Fives Court.

I found a Minute referring to the Village Hall Committee meeting which had taken place on 9th November at which the above was said, but there was no council Minute either leading up to that meeting or after that meeting suggesting the council was even considering re-adoption of the Fives Court.

I have today let our Chairman and the Chairman of the Village Hall Foundation, John Melser, know my findings.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

2nd July 2018

The Chairman thanked the Clerk for his reports.

2. Police matters – Cllr Linton noted this section had not been updated from the previous month's report. The Clerk apologised. He was able to report there had been a major police presence in the village on Saturday, 23rd June. He had contacted Sussex Police for more information and been informed, "There was a serious assault in Station Road, East Preston. I am unable to go into any more detail I am afraid." (PC Morgan, email dated 28th June) Members of the public had reported police attendance that evening, in some force, at both Langmeads Field and Lashmar Recreation Ground. There were also reports of a number of arrests.

6. Angmering station level crossing – Cllr Linton thanked the Clerk for getting up early in order to spot the problem at Angmering station. The Clerk responded 07:53 was not especially early!

12. Social Media – Cllr Linton asked whether it would be possible to see the mid-1960s photograph of the bottom of Sea Road which had been posted onto the council's Facebook page. The Clerk replied he would circulate to councillors.

The council NOTED the following reports which had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

Other meetings and events – Part 1

Council is asked to note the following reports:

East Preston Festival Carnival Procession, 9th June

The Parish Council took part in the East Preston Festival parade and with the theme of Countries of the World Cup decided to go as Australia. Taking part in the parade were Alison and her entire family plus an enthusiastic neighbour. They were dressed as a menagerie of animals, a shark, kangaroo, koala bear and a life guard who handed out sweets to the spectators!

The Parish Councillors Gander, Duff and myself were dressed as a cricketer, footballer and can of beer respectively and were supported by Cllr Mathias as a typical Aussie. This team were ably supported by the Yellow Peril fire engine, thanks to Cllr Toney and the supporting co-driver Cllr Gale.

Our one and only collecting bucket raised £18.53 so thanks to the enthusiastic crowd.

A fun time was had by all.

Cllr Elizabeth Linton – **Chairman of the Community
Engagement Committee**

26th June 2018

East Preston & Kingston Village Hall Foundation Annual General Meeting, 16th June

I attended the meeting, although I was late for personal reasons.

However, I did get an opportunity to speak in any other business, where I asked “had the village hall committee considered hanging the collage in another part of the hall complex”. The chair replied, “that they would allow a photograph 4 by 2ft to be placed in the entrance hall with an explanation stating that the collage was in the library”.

Cllr David Moore

16th June 2018

West Sussex County Council Joint Eastern Arun Area Committee, 19th June

On Tuesday 19th June I attended the JEAAC meeting at Littlehampton Town Council Millennium Chamber. The idea of these meetings is to discuss issues concerning the local areas.

The new Chairman was appointed as Cllr Jamie Bennett from Rustington Parish Council, various other positions were also elected.

We had a talk from Police Sgt Price ref drug dealing going on in the Arun Area which consists of dealers coming down from London, using teenagers as carriers. They have had significant drugs busts this month resulting in over £½ Million pounds worth being seized. He also reported that the Sussex Force is hopefully gaining another 74 new officers in November.

We had a talk from the Sussex Community Housing Hub about the work they are doing around the Sussex County. They are going to build 12 new affordable homes in Mayflower Way, Angmering. There is also talk of 500 extra homes in Ford.

Cllr Chapman and Sally Manning gave a brief outline as to the good work of the Armed Force Covenant and how it is supported by the Royal British Legion and W.S.C.C. If anyone would like to know more please email Sally.Manning@westsussex.gov.uk. We were reminded about the Armed Forces Day on Sat 30th June at Littlehampton.

JEAAC supports Option 5A for the route of the Arundel Bypass.

We are awaiting the outcome of the meeting between County and District Councillors about the East Preston sliproad.

The date of the next meeting will be: Tuesday 6th November. The venue to be decided.

Simon has more information on both the Sussex Community Housing Hub and the A27 Arundel Bypass.

Cllr Steve Toney – **Chairman of the Council**

24th June 2018

Cllr Linton thanked everyone who had been involved in the council's participation in the Carnival Procession.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Moore for attending the Village Hall Foundation Annual General Meeting. As per his report, Cllr Moore reiterated he had asked the Foundation committee whether it would consider reinstating the Millennium Wall-hanging in another part of the complex. The response he had received had been the committee would be willing to display a large-format photograph of the wall-hanging.

477/18 RESPONSE TO EXTERNAL MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Nothing.

478/18 AUGUST 2018 MEETING

The following paper was distributed to members in advance of the meeting:

August meeting

Council is asked to agree whether or not to hold an August meeting.

Many councils do not hold a meeting in August. This council sometimes holds an August meeting, sometimes it does not – for example, no meeting was held in 2011, 2013, 2014, 2016 or 2017.

Even if council decides this evening a meeting is not required, there is always the ability to call a meeting should an urgent matter arise.

Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**

28th June 2018

1229 The council **RESOLVED** unanimously not to hold a meeting in August on the understanding the Chairman and the Clerk could agree to call a meeting in August if deemed necessary.

479/18 NEW ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING (6TH AUGUST OR 3RD SEPTEMBER)

Cllr McElroy said this was already in hand with the Amenities Committee, but he wanted the council to be aware there was a group advertising fitness classes on the Village Green starting on 3rd July. This was contrary to council policy.

The meeting concluded at 20:18

Chairman: *Cllr Steve Toney*
Councillor Steve Toney

Date: **3rd September 2018**

END

Community Engagement Committee – blue plaques policy

Council is asked to adopt a Blue Plaques policy for the council.

Background

Some properties in the village have had famous residents in the past and may merit a blue plaque to commemorate such residents.

Council's intention

East Preston Parish Council is committed to promoting the economic strength and historic value of the village. Blue Plaques are one way in which the historic value of the village can be promoted whilst encouraging tourism to the village.

Blue Plaques

Any recommendation for a Blue Plaque to be installed on a property in the village will ordinarily need to be agreed with the East Preston & Kingston Preservation Society or any appropriate replacement organisation should it disband.

Blue Plaques will only be installed with the written agreement of the property owners.
(agreement to be drafted)

Blue Plaques will be purchased by East Preston Parish Council and initially will be aluminium not ceramic. This is negotiable should the property owner be prepared to fund the difference in the cost for a ceramic plaque.

The size of the plaque will be agreed with the property owner but every effort should be made for the plaques to be of a uniform size.

The council will ensure everything possible during the manufacture of the plaque to prolong its life is carried out.

The installation and maintenance of the plaque will be the responsibility of the property owner, although the council may be able to help in these tasks.

Should a replacement plaque be needed, the council will purchase this provided the property owner can show all maintenance has been carried out previously in a timely and effective manner.

The council will have a light touch approach to publicising any plaques within the village, i.e. council website, other relevant websites, initial hardcopy publicity when the plaque is installed.

COUNCIL'S COMMITMENT

This policy is fully supported by all Members of the Council. This policy will be maintained by the Community Engagement Committee on behalf of the council.

Policy adopted at the Full Council meeting held on [date], and recorded in Minute [no], resolution [no].