



East Preston Food & Drink Festival

It's back - East Preston's fantastic Food & Drink Festival. A host of food and drink delights will be available on the Village Green on Saturday, 25th August between midday and 5pm. Please come along and support this event again.

The council has created a mix of stalls made up of old favourites and first-timers. The East Preston flag will be flown high by local favourites Ristorante Al Mare, The Clockhouse Bar & Soirée Bistro and Seaview Stores. Amongst the stalls returning will be: Perfectly Preserved, DJ's Spot (Slovakian food), Riverford Organics, Pinch Seasonings, Kung Fu Pan (Malaysian food), Jojo's Candy Cabin, Cheeseology, Fish Story and Chocolate Gone Mad. New stalls will include the Pop Up Food Company (sweet and savoury crepes), Halloumilicious (halloumi fries and burgers), Hardy's Fudge, Joie de Vin (artisan wine by the glass, bottle and case), Top Deck (double decker bus selling gourmet cheese toasties), and Cee Cees (Spanish and Argentinian foods). Please note these details are subject to change at short notice.

Whatever your taste in food there is bound to be something here to appeal and who knows, you might discover something new for

your taste buds. Stop on the Village Green to eat what you have bought or take it down to the beach for the afternoon and pick up something else for tea on your way back home!

There will be food- and drink-related demonstrations during the event and Punch and Judy entertainment for children between 2pm and 4pm. Throughout the event BeGlazzled will be offering glitter designs for nails, eyes, face, lips and hair braiding.

Inevitably there are some boring but important bits, so please read on carefully. We have tried to keep them to a minimum but for everyone's safety there will be some road closures. With the exception of event vehicles, Willowhayne Crescent will be closed between 10am and 6pm. Additionally, Sea Road from the southern side of the entrance to Crown Place down to the junction with Seaview Road and South Strand will also be closed for the same period of time.

Please could you not leave any vehicles alongside the Village Green or in the car-park after 8am on Saturday, 25th August.

There will be alcohol available to drink at the event and there will be alcohol available to take home. Sussex Police has asked us to let everyone know that if any alcohol purchase for take home purposes is opened in public it may be seized and poured away. No opened containers of alcohol should be taken beyond the area of the event, basically the area of the road closures. Your patience and understanding in all these matters during this time will be much appreciated.

Dog owners are politely advised to leave their pets at home as this event has been particularly well-attended in the past. In addition to chocolate, which most dog owners know is poisonous to dogs, other foodstuffs which may be dropped on the ground during the day and which are dangerous to dogs are raw and cooked onions and various cooked meats. If you do bring your dogs with you please ensure they are kept on a lead at all times and bring some water for them. It would be a good idea to bring some poo bags too.

Facebook users can keep up to date with the latest Food & Drink Festival news at www.facebook.com/epfdf.

This event will be the culmination of a lot of hard work from a very small number of people. We would like to take this opportunity to thank them here: Tanya Fooks, Colin and Karen Bradshaw, Jonathan Nulty, Andy Billups, Julia Robinson, Glyn-Jones, anyone who has helped to spread the word and all council staff. Special thanks to Kaleidoscope Creations and The Clockhouse Bar & Soirée Bistro for sponsoring the flyers this year.

We look forward to a wonderful day for the village –
CLlrs Christine Bowman, Lisa Duff, Pat Gander, Elizabeth Linton and Steve Toney

DIVERSE DELICIOUS FOOD & DRINK STALLS

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Come and meet your local councillors - the feedback

On Thursday, 7th June, the council ran its third annual Festival event for local people to come along and meet their councillors and, over a hot drink and a piece of cake, talk to the council about life in East Preston.

Although it was raining first-thing that morning, luckily the rain held off during the event. As before, with the exception of one or two very site-specific comments we thought it best to report back here on the comments recorded on that day.

EPPC – East Preston Parish Council; ADC – Arun District Council; WSCC – West Sussex

Comment	Response
Is EPPC monitoring the WSCC grass-verge cutting?	EPPC - yes. See article on the next page.
What can be done about noise pollution from garages rented out by ADC?	ADC – anyone concerned about noise pollution from an ADC garage can contact Neighbourhood Services (Housing) by email at garages@arun.gov.uk or by telephone (01903) 737530 or in writing to the Civic Centre in Littlehampton.
Why is food waste not recycled in the county?	EPPC – awaiting answer from ADC and WSCC
Could we organise a village hedge trim to free up more space on pavements and footpaths?	EPPC – possibly. The council's Community Engagement Committee will consider this.
Why does WSCC's contractor not clear up its detritus after it has repaired a pothole?	WSCC – the contract between WSCC and its highway repairs contractor is currently being reviewed.
Could a wash-down area be provided for washing shoes and dogs etc. when coming off the beach?	EPPC – there is an outdoor tap at the South Strand toilet block. Further provision can be looked into.
Could a footpath be provided on the eastern side of Sea Road between the last of the shops and South Strand?	WSCC – currently no plans to provide additional pavements in the village. In the location mentioned, there is pavement on the western side of Sea Road. Provision of pavement on the eastern side would restrict traffic flow in that area.
Could East Preston have a village crest?	EPPC – possibly. The council's Community Engagement Committee will consider this.
What can be done about the unevenness of pavements because of tree roots?	EPPC – short of removing the trees, not much
What can be done about cars parking on grass verges?	EPPC – if the vehicles are causing an obstruction they should be reported to Sussex Police by calling 101 or online. WSCC Highways may allow you to place bollards outside your property – call (01243) 642105 to find out more. Beyond that, the only option we have is to ask residents and their visitors to respect our grass verges and we have asked this in newsletters before.
Can we get a bus to the southern end of the village?	EPPC – WSCC is aware of the public's wish to have a bus service to the southern end again. Alternatively, the village could look at setting up its own community bus service.
Could we have a pedestrian crossing in Sea Road as it is increasingly difficult to get to the northern shops from Fairlands, for example?	EPPC – we have previously asked WSCC to provide a pedestrian crossing somewhere near the northern shops when it has money available.
Could the council run some more Memories of East Preston events such as was held during this year's East Preston Festival?	EPPC – possibly. The council's Community Engagement Committee will consider this.

Community Help requested with Highway Grass Verges

In recent months the council has received more complaints about the state of the roadside grass verges than any other matter, not surprising as these have such a visual impact on the village. The verges are the responsibility of West Sussex County Council which appoints a contractor to carry out a Grass Cutting Programme, committing to providing seven cuts per year. Due to the cost, the grass clippings are not collected. There is always a point during Spring when the grass grows rapidly and is not cut as much as residents would like. However, due to the rain and heat earlier in the year, the grass grew particularly long between cuts which caused the team to struggle to keep on top of the cutting.

The Parish Council has considered ways in which to help keep the grass verges looking better. Back in 2014, it briefly managed the grass verge cutting to try and improve the standard of cutting. However, it quickly became apparent it was too much for a smaller contractor to manage.

One of the simplest solutions to address the problem is for able residents to cut the grass verge outside their property and possibly neighbouring properties, if those residents are unable. Thank you to a number of residents who do this – it makes a big difference to the area. Others feel, justifiably, why should they have to cut the grass verges when they pay for this service through their Council Tax. The reality is, all Councils are facing tighter and tighter cutbacks and can no longer offer a standard of service which most residents would like to see. This in turn means responsibility is falling back on the local community to help bridge the gap.

The Parish Council is presently considering options to help improve the highway verge cutting but if you are able to assist us by cutting some verge, then please help us to keep our lovely village looking lovely throughout the Summer months.



Organised Sports and Exercise on Parish Land

Several exercise groups have recently approached the council, both from within the village and outside, about holding exercise classes on the Village Green.

The council's Amenities Committee, which is responsible for the upkeep of the Village Green and Warren Recreation Ground, has considered individual requests for exercising on the Village Green and has agreed that Lashmar Recreation Ground is more suitable for organised group activities. Arun District Council owns the land at Lashmar Road and has already scheduled in some groups which have approached them.

The council has also been made aware unofficially of groups using the Village Green and Warren Recreation Ground to carry out organised activities/classes. With the exception of cricket, stoolball and boule, the council does not permit organised sports or classes on these areas as such activities restrict the general enjoyment of the area by other people and often appear intimidating to those not taking part.

At the Amenities Committee in May, members agreed to ban the playing of ball games on the Village Green, except boule, due to recent large gatherings playing football there and being disruptive and rude to local residents. This decision was not made lightly by the council, but it was felt this was the only way to begin to address this ongoing problem.

There is limited greenspace for residents to enjoy in East Preston and so it is important to make this space available to all. Please respect the council's stance on this.

Village Life

September

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|------|---|
| 3rd | Merchant Navy Day (10am, East Preston Library)
Full Council (7pm) |
| 6th | Business Breakfast (8am) |
| 10th | Planning & Licensing Committee (6pm)
Audit & Governance Committee (tbc) |
| 17th | Amenities Committee (7pm) |
| 24th | Planning & Licensing Committee (6pm)
Community Engagement Committee (7pm) |
| 30th | East Preston Classic Car Show (10am to 5pm, Village Green)
East Preston Beach Clean No. 12 (11am to 1pm) |

October

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| 1st | Full Council (7pm) |
| 3rd | Business Breakfast (8am) |
| 8th | Planning & Licensing Committee (6pm)
Personnel Committee (tbc) |
| 22nd | Planning & Licensing Committee (6pm) |

November

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| 5th | Full Council (7pm) |
| 7th | Business Breakfast (8am) |
| 12th | Planning & Licensing Committee (6pm) |
| 19th | Finance & General Purposes Committee (10am, Council Office)
Amenities Committee (7pm) |
| 24th | East Preston Christmas Celebrations (midday to 5pm) |
| 26th | Planning & Licensing Committee (10am, Council Office) |

Most council meetings are held at East Preston Infant School, Lashmar Road. However, for all meetings, please consult the Noticeboards and website a few days before the meeting for the Agenda and venue.

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

Potholes

Closely behind the number of complaints about the state of grass verges in the village, residents complain about the number of potholes in the village and the way in which some are filled whilst others mere feet away are left untouched.

The Local Highways Authority is West Sussex County Council (WSCC). Earlier this year, WSCC negotiated a grant of £1.4m from central government to tackle the pothole problem across the county. Our County Councillor, Roger Elkins, has recently reported 14,000 potholes were fixed by WSCC's contractor in 2017; in the first four months of 2018, 8,500 potholes had already been fixed.

Cllr Elkins urged local residents to continue to report potholes, preferably via the LoveWestSussex app or by calling (01243) 642105. The sooner your favourite pothole is reported the greater the chance it will be fixed before the money runs out.

Lest we forget

Parishioners will have noticed our Silent Soldiers around the village, purchased by the parish council, the local Royal British Legion, local businesses and villagers. These are to commemorate nearly 1.1 million British and Empire service men and women killed during the First World War before the guns finally fell silent on Armistice Day 11th November 1918.

The figure is "silent" in remembrance of those who lost their lives, and "silent" as respect for those who returned to their home having suffered life changing physical and emotional injuries.

The Royal British Legion is keen to ensure respects are paid to those who gave so much. It is marking the centenary of the First World War in various ways with a focus on Remembrance, education and legacy.



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



Find us on
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Contact point: Parish Clerk - Simon Cross, Assistant Clerk - Tracy Khoo
Council Office, 122 Sea Road, East Preston BN16 1NN
Telephone: (01903) 770050 E-mail: eparishcouncil@btconnect.com
Website: <http://eastpreston-pc.gov.uk/>

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

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

Thanks to....

Thanks to everyone who has been cutting the grass verges in front of their properties, especially the A-Team of Vic, Linda and Heather. Thanks also to Cloud 9 for lending us some bags in which we could dispose of the cuttings.

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Thanks to Owls About Town for a great and informative visit on 5th June.

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Thanks to Piers and Lottie at Grub & gumption, Colin, Karen and Kit at The Clockhouse Bar and Soirée Bistro, and the East Preston & Kingston Bowls Club for their help with Come and Meet Your Local Councillors on 7th June. Thanks to the residents who supported the event.

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Thanks to Jackie, Melanie, Matt, Milly and Flynn for their help with the council's entry in the Festival Carnival Procession.

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Thanks to East Preston Festival Committee for another great Festival.

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Thanks to the Women's Fellowship at St Mary the Virgin Church for the contribution towards bag hoops for use in village Beach Cleans and other cleaning events.

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Thanks to Andrew Cook and Angmering-on-Sea Lawn Tennis Club for providing free-of-charge tennis coaching on behalf of the council.

Beach clean 12

The next of the council's popular Beach Cleans will take place on Sunday, 30th September. Please register with council reps at the bottom of Sea Road between 11am and midday and bring any suitable tools you have. The council can supply some tools but every little helps.



These twice-yearly events together with other initiatives such as the large bins at the bottom of Sea Road and Sea Lane during the summer and the regular U3A beach cleans have a very positive impact on the amount of rubbish left on our beaches.

Participants are very friendly so if you have never been before, please come along and be assured of a warm welcome. Biscuits provided!

Pre-registration is not essential but is helpful – contact Alison on eparishcouncil3@btconnect.com or (01903) 770050.