Once again East Preston’s fabulous Food & Drink Festival will be taking place on the Village Green on the Saturday of Bank Holiday weekend, 24th August between midday and 5pm. The event offers a “feastival” of food and drink delights as well as some children’s entertainment. We hope you will want to come again, and if you have not been before, please come along and find out what you have been missing.

As before, the council has selected a mix of stalls - some old favourites and some first-timers. The East Preston flag will be flown high by local favourites Ristorante Al Mare, The Clockhouse Bar, Classic Ices and Seaview Stores. Amongst the stalls returning will be: Hardy’s Fudge, Perfectly Preserved, DJ’s Spot (Slovakian food), Kung Fu Pan (Malaysian food), JJ’s Cider, Jojo’s Candy Cabin, Cheesology, Halloumillicious and Chocolate Gone Mad. New stalls will include the A Tribe Called Veg (plant-based Mexican), Chopperwhoppers (chopped and rolled ice-cream), Don Quijote (South American BBQ), MagPies Magnificent Pies and Sussex Lamb (burgers and salads, all day breakfasts). Please note these details are subject to change at short notice.

Dog owners are strongly 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 them with you please ensure that 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.

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 and entertainment for children throughout the event.

Facebook users can keep up to date with the latest 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, Glyn Jones, anyone who has helped to spread the word and all council staff. Special thanks to Halloumillicious and Chopperwhoppers for sponsoring the flyers this year.

Please read these boring but important bits… 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 9am 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, 24th 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 purchased 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 understanding and cooperation in all these matters during this time will be much appreciated.

We look forward to a wonderful day for the village – Cllrs Christine Bowman, Andrea Chapman, Lisa Duff, Pat Gander, John Gunston, Elizabeth Linton and Steve Toney – the Major Gunston Committee
Come and meet your local councillors - the feedback

On Thursday, 13th June, the council ran its fourth annual Festival event for local people to come along and meet their councillors and, over a hot drink and a cupcake, talk to the council about life in East Preston.

Once again threatened 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 on the comments recorded on that day. Although councillors were kept busy with members of the public throughout the whole event, there was a narrower range of topics this year than previously.

Thanks to East Preston & Kingston Bowls Club, Girlguiding East Preston and Angmering District, The Clockhouse and East Preston Festival Committee for their assistance with and support of this event.

Over £50 was raised from donations made towards the cupcakes offered in support of the Alzheimer’s Society’s Cupcake Day. Thank you to anyone who contributed.

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**Comment**

| What can be done about people parking on grass verges? |
| Can the tree growth currently obscuring signage along the A259 be cut back? |
| Could we implement a 20mph speed limit through the village? |
| Could some pinch points be implemented in certain locations around the village? |
| Several hedges in Vicarage Lane are overhanging the footpath making it difficult to walk along there. What can be done? |
| Unhappy with the condition of gutters and grass cutting, especially near the entrances to the village where the grass does not seem to have been cut. |
| Could the external lights on the Sea Road toilet block be checked (again) as they seem to be on all day, every day? |
| Could we have an ATM (automated teller machine) at the southern end of the village? |
| Could we have some signs in Sea Road reminding drivers of the speed limit? |

**Response**

| 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. |
| EPPC – referred to WSCC who have officers investigating this concern. |
| EPPC – we have commissioned two automated traffic surveys which will indicate the speed of all traffic in two locations chosen in conjunction with the village’s Community Speed Watch team. Information provided from the surveys could help the case for a 20mph speed limit through the village, but a 20mph speed limit is unenforceable and voluntary. We understand the police will only support a 20mph zone where it can be proven traffic is already averaging only 23mph, in which case dropping down to only 20mph is not too great an ask. |
| EPPC – we can give this some consideration. Please send in suggestions for where pinch points are needed. |
| WSCC – overgrown hedges and such like can be reported via the LoveWestSussex website love.westsussex.gov.uk and app. The local Highways steward will then visit and speak or write to the property owner. |
| WSCC – areas of concern should be reported to us via the LoveWestSussex website love.westsussex.gov.uk and app. The local Highways steward will then visit and initiate the appropriate action. |
| EPPC – under investigation by the council’s electrician. |
| EPPC – we have investigated this in the past and were required to guarantee a certain amount of usage before any bank would supply one. |
| EPPC – under consideration by the council’s Community Engagement Committee. |
Funday Sunday

We are pleased to announce the exciting news about our new event - ‘Funday Sunday’.

It will be held on Sunday, 6th October in the East Preston & Kingston Village Hall, between 2pm and 5pm.

On this date there is a special day 'Silver Sunday' in the national calendar when everyone can come together to celebrate older people. But we would like to broaden this out to include adults of any age.

If you think it would be lovely to get out of the house, away from the TV or box sets, and meet up with other members of the East Preston community - ‘Funday Sunday’ is definitely the event for you.

We will offer a delicious tea, live music and entertainment with the opportunity to connect with others and make new friends. The afternoon is sure to get you chatting, dancing or singing along.

You may have recently moved to the village, been recently bereaved, or just want an excuse to have some fun, either on your own or with a friend/partner. If this sounds like ‘you’ come and join us and let us entertain you for a few hours.

Tickets will be £10 each, on sale shortly, available from the East Preston Parish Council office.

Village Life

September

2nd Full Council (7pm)
4th Business Breakfast (8am)
9th Planning & Licensing Committee (6pm)
Amenities Committee (7pm)
13th East Preston Youth Club Annual General Meeting (venue tbc, 11am)
16th Audit & Governance Committee (tbc)
20th Fire & Rescue Service in Village Green car-park (tbc)
23rd Planning & Licensing Committee (6pm)
Community Engagement Committee (7pm)
29th East Preston Beach Clean No. 14 (11am – 1pm, bottom of Sea Road)

October

1st Business Breakfast (8am)
6th Funday Sunday (2pm see above)
7th Full Council (7pm)
14th Planning & Licensing Committee (6pm)
Personnel Committee (7pm)
20th Fire & Rescue Service in Village Green car-park (tbc)
23rd Planning & Licensing Committee (6pm)
Community Engagement Committee (7pm)
28th Planning & Licensing Committee (6pm)
Major Events Committee (7pm)

November

4th Full Council (7pm)
5th Business Breakfast (8am)
11th Planning & Licensing Committee (6pm)
Amenities Committee (7pm)
18th Finance & General Purposes Committee (10am)
23rd East Preston Christmas Celebrations (midday onwards)
25th Planning & Licensing Committee (6pm)
Community Engagement Committee (7pm)

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.

FITNESS and FUN 3

Tuesday, 6th August - 10am to 1pm

The council is again inviting parents, grandparents and carers to join their children in a fun morning playscheme led by Bee-Fit.

Feedback from recent playschemes has included comments such as: “There was a good variety of different activities”, “Tina and David were very engaging”, “Very good value” and “Happy to come to each one that is put on”.

Tickets are just £4 per child and the event runs from 10am to 1pm, children’s refreshments provided.

Booking is essential. Please download a booking form from the News section of the council’s website and return it to the Council Office.

Where have all the (wild) flowers gone?

As many of you will already have noticed, the council’s wild-flower meadows have been overtaken by a particularly aggressive weed this year. This is disappointing as the meadows have looked so good for the past few years and have been appreciated by many. We have taken our contractor’s advice and have let him start a programme of weedkilling in those beds. We are looking at alternatives for the beds, particularly those on the Village Green.
A constant concern of East Preston residents is inconsiderate parking across most of the village. Please can dropped kerbs and driveways be kept clear and notice taken of yellow lines and parking signage as pedestrian, cyclist and driver visibility is reduced where it is most needed. Parking on grass verges causes unsightly damage. All these factors impede and complicate journeys for those with reduced mobility and pushchairs and could place them in a dangerous situation. Be more mindful as one day it could be you. There is more traffic in the village than ever before but if everyone took a minute longer to park considerately it could make a difference to all of us. And don’t forget it is only 50p an hour to park in the Village Green car-park, and if you are just popping into a couple of the shops, you can park for free for fifteen minutes.

Beach Clean 14

The next of the council’s popular Beach Cleans will take place on Sunday, 29th 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 very helpful – contact Alison on epparishcouncil3@btconnect.com or (01903) 770050.

Thanks to....

The East Preston Festival Committee for another very enjoyable Festival and for everyone who contributed to this success in any way.

Mrs Rickard and East Preston Infant School for its successful Beach Clean on Saturday, 29th June.

Andrew Cook and Angmering-on-Sea Lawn Tennis Club for support of the council’s free tennis-coaching sessions during July.

Find us on Facebook

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Telephone: (01903) 770050  E-mail: epparishcouncil@btconnect.com
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