

**Minutes of the meeting of East Dean Parish Council
17th July 2023 at 7.30pm
Held at East Dean Village Hall**

Present: Neil Georges-Chair, Sarah Peirson –Vice Chair, Sam Hook, Peter West and Josh Collins

Apologies: John Holt
Henry Potter-Chichester District Council

In attendance: Jeremy Hunt-West Sussex County Council
Alexia Ward - Parish Clerk
Eight Parishioners

Neil Georges confirmed that through the process of co-option and interviews, Beanie Allison had been invited to join East Dean Parish Council. Neil asked for a proposer and seconder from the council to complete the process.

Proposer – Sarah Peirson, Secunder- Josh Collins
Neil welcomed Beanie to join the Parish Council

Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting held on 17th April 2023 were reviewed and approved.

1. Matters arising from Minutes

- Alexia Ward said that she had not followed up with Richard Pailthorpe about the information boards but she would do some more investigating to see if any grants were available from the South Downs National Park
- Pete West has sent a quote to the church wardens regarding the replacement of the notice board at the pedestrian entrance to All Saints Church, East Dean.
- The Village Clear Up on 13th May was well attended and most of the tasks were completed. Josh will clear the grips soon. Neil thanked Jim and Julie at The Star and Garter for providing tea and coffee, John Holt for organising removal of the debris from the kerb side and all the parishioners who turned up to help.
- Neil Georges thanked Max Davies for his contribution of champagne for the celebration of the Kings Coronation at the Village Hall.

2. Update from District and County Councillors

Jeremy Hunt sent his report (see end of these Minutes) by email to Alexia who circulated it to the Parish Council. Jeremy had been updated by West Sussex Highways that they has straightened and replaced the missing signage at Pilley Green at the top of East Dean Hill.

Henry Potter sent his report by email which was circulated to the Parish Council before the meeting. His report is as follows

‘District Councillors Report. July ‘23

The Council has begun to take shape after the massive reshuffle of appointments since the May election and with so much training of new members there has been little else happening.

One important change is the Council’s new ability to levy a suitable level of contribution on all new developments in order to mitigate the impact of housing on the A27. This impact is highlighted in the

emerging Local Plan Review in Policy T1. This Levy will contribute towards the necessary improvements required to sustain cumulative additional traffic arising from new housing. Because of the above-mentioned statement, the Council's Planners will resume considering new medium sized applications, this practice was paused towards the end of last year due to the uncertainty of funding for these necessary improvements. Already there were two sizeable paused applications included in last Wednesdays planning agenda. However, a recent update by the Councils Chief Planning Officer announced that due to the late publication of the revised National Planning Policy Framework not coming to Parliament before this recess, and our dependence on this review, our Local Plan will not be ready to submit to the Planning Inspectorate probably until next year. Not good news at all!!

Finally, some pothole repairs have been carried out in Halnaker recently using the hot spraying technique which appears to be a great improvement on plugging holes with cold asphalt which simply does not work! I am monitoring these repairs to see if they are more durable, and if the use of this process becomes more widespread.'

3. Financial Report

Alexia Ward said that the balance of the Lloyds Current account was £4,256.18 and she had made payments of £80 for pest control, £30 for prizes for the Coronation celebrations and £64 for paint and repairs to the bus shelter which will be repaid from the Helen West Legacy Account. Alexia said that she had received the half yearly precept of £569.50 from Chichester District Council. The Helen West Legacy Account balance was £19,947.63 which included a payment of £37.55 interest. Alexia said that she had sent the Annual Governance and Accountability Return to the auditors and had displayed the required documents for the period on the notice board.

4. Correspondence

Alexia had received an email from a parishioner who had been concerned with the speed of traffic in the village especially to the west. Jeremy Hunt explained that to get the speeding loops which monitor speed over a period we would either have to pay or we could apply for a Community Traffic Regulation Order.

Neil had also been contacted with regard to the lack of signage marking the dangerous bends and the need for speed warnings on the A285 towards Petworth especially after the fatalities recently near Duncton. Neil agreed to write to West Sussex Highways with our concerns.

5. Update on flooding and sewerage

Neil noted that the large pieces of equipment had been removed from Pond Green, but he had been chasing Southern Water to remove the remaining items and make good the ground around the area where the pumps were. He was assured that they would be removed soon.

6. Update on Highways

Neil Georges said that he would continue to report potholes and asked people to report them on the West Sussex Highways web site.

7. Update from Parish Councillors

Josh Collins said that he would be able to dig the grips up East Hill soon as his digger had been repaired.

Sarah Peirson said she had no contentious planning applications.

Neil suggested that the Winter Management Plan should be reviewed with John Holt and he would arrange a time to update it.

Neil also suggested that The Village Plan will need updating and it was agreed to arrange a meeting of the Parish Council to discuss what is required.

Neil had received an update from the work carried out by the sub group and that they would like some help as the catchpit needed emptying. A date to be set when it is dry.

8. Any Other Business

- Sarah Peirson had been contacted by Bruno Peakes, the Kings Pageant Master about the events that will commemorate D-DAY80 on the 6th June 2024. The council agreed that the village should mark the occasion with a beacon if it was possible. Alexia said she would ask John Holt if he would be willing to allow the village to use the site on the top of Court Hill.
- A discussion was held as to whether the East Dean Essential WhatsApp group which was set up in Covid was still relevant and the council agreed that it still had a useful purpose for somethings but information for the village was also displayed on the notice board, in the Valley Diary or by letter drop to each house. East Dean SOS Emergency WhatsApp group was still there for more important things.
- A parishioner said she was concerned with the speeding in the village and was it possible to have a 20mph in the village especially as there was no pavement in some parts of the village and as a pedestrian you feel very vulnerable. After much discussion about speed and how to reduce it in the village Jeremy Hunt referred back to a Community Traffic Regulation Order. Sarah Peirson asked if the Parish Council could vote on applying for a 20mph speed limit in the village using a Community Traffic Regulation Order. The Parish Council were in agreement for applying for the TRO.

Date of Next Meetings

16th October 2023 at 7.30pm

15th January 2024 at 7.30pm

At East Dean Village Hall

Report from Jeremy Hunt – West Sussex County Council Member for Chichester North

As we head into the summer holidays I thought I would cover a few items which were published as part of our recent Summer newsletter. I'm not sure how many of you receive this publication, but I thought that it covered a number of items which would be of interest to the PC and of course to your parishioners, particularly for families, so I felt it was worth repeating in my report.

Discover budget-friendly days out in West Sussex

The summer holidays are on their way and we've got a bumper bunch of ideas for you to make the most of the sunny weather right here at home – without forking out a fortune!

Find some great budget-friendly local activities on Experience West Sussex via the link below.

Revel in the natural world: whether it's a walk round one of the nature trails or parks, or a visit to the 170 acres that make up Buchan Park just outside Crawley, Experience West Sussex has lots of [ideas for enjoying the great outdoors – free of charge!](#)

Get cycling: take a look at our [free Cycle Journey Planner](#) where you can get turn-by-turn directions and maps. Choose from fast, quiet or balanced routes, see journey times, distances and how many calories you'll burn.

Beach life: who needs the Med when we have sparkling seas right on our doorstep? There [are 50 miles of coastline in West Sussex](#) – make a beeline for the beach where you can try rock pooling, take a dip or make your very own castle in the sand!

Watery fun in the sun!

Attention all parents, carers and grandparents! As the holidays approach are you hot on water safety?

Spending time with the kids around water at the beach, pool or at home is a great way to cool off and have fun but remember to always supervise children in and around water and [teach them the Water Safety Code](#).

Find more tips and advice on the link below about how to stay healthy and safe this summer.

Get up to date with your child's jabs

The school summer holidays are an ideal time for parents to make sure their child is up to date with their childhood vaccinations. Vaccination gives children the best protection against unpleasant and often serious diseases. It's never too late to catch up on any vaccinations they've missed. They are safe, free of charge in the UK and available from GP practices.

Children become superstars at the library this summer!

Do you know a child aged four to 11 years? Encourage them to take part in this year's Summer Reading Challenge at their local library from Saturday (8 July).

They'll receive a booklet and the more they read, the more scratch and sniff smelly stickers they'll collect.

There are fun activities in the library too, including a Character Hunt with a prize draw.

They just need a library card to join in the fun - [it's free to join the library](#) and free to take part!

Help us have a wildfire-free summer

Whether you're heading to the countryside or the coast this summer, our West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service has safety advice for you.

This includes how you can help prevent wildfires as pictured above, which happened in Walberton last year.

Add a fire station visit to your summer plans

You can find out how our firefighters keep us safe and deal with emergencies at one of the free fire station open days taking place during the summer holidays:

July 22 [Worthing](#) (combined with Broadwater Carnival) 10am to 4pm.

July 29 [Bognor Regis](#) 10am to 4pm.

July 29 [Crawley](#) 10am to 5pm.

August 26 [Haywards Heath](#) 9am to 5pm.

August 28 [Shoreham](#) 10am to 4pm.

August 30 [Burgess Hill](#) 10am to 2pm.

Have a plastic-free summer

This year we're supporting Plastic Free July and asking residents to join us.

It's all about asking people to 'choose to refuse' and make sustainable swaps leading to a reduction in plastic waste.

Plastic waste can easily be avoided by using things like reusable shopping bags, water bottles and coffee cups.

Find out how you can reduce your plastic waste on our blog 'Easy swaps for a plastic free July' via the link below.

More investment on our roads this summer

Investment in maintaining the [county's highways has received a total boost of £14.5million this year](#).

This follows a sharp increase in the number of potholes reported by those who use our 4,000km road network.

The agreed funding will be used to provide resources to repair potholes, including additional gangs working on the road network and procurement of an additional road patching machine, bringing our total to three operating within the county this year.

We will also be carrying out drainage works and refreshing signs and lines across West Sussex to improve visibility and safety.

Help us by reporting any defects you see on your summer travels using the link below.

Other News

Head to our [Newsroom](#) to find all the latest news. Below are some highlights:

- West Sussex residents can continue to [access free independent support](#) after the county's community advice service was recommissioned.
- West Sussex's [brand new Training Centre and Fire Station for Horsham took centre stage](#) as county council cabinet members were given an advance tour of the site. It became fully operational last week.
- We want to hear from you if you currently provide unpaid care for a family member or friend, if you have previously cared for a loved one or if you expect to in the future. [Take part in our Carer Support Service Review here](#). Closing date: 27 July.
- The [A286 at Midhurst has reopened](#) after work to shore up fire-damaged buildings.
- A [multi-million-pound programme of investment in refurbishing children's homes](#) in West Sussex is progressing well.

Finally, please don't forget to keep an eye on our website, especially our news and campaigns page where you can keep up to date with all our latest news. <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/about-the-council/news-and-campaigns/>

Also, a reminder that all our public meetings are webcast live and are also archived, so you can always view them later. <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/about-the-council/how-the-council-works/watch-county-council-and-committee-meetings-online/>

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