



KINGSTON PARISH MEETING

Thursday 17 May 2018 at 7 p.m.

at

**Our Lady Star of the Sea Hall,
Vermont Drive, East Preston, BN16 1JU**

To ALL Electors of the Parish and Councillors

You are invited to attend the **Annual Assembly of the Parish of Kingston.**

This meeting is quite distinct from a meeting of the Parish Council. It is a meeting for all electors to come along to and discuss parish issues. Meetings of Kingston Parish Council which you are also welcome to attend will follow immediately after the Annual Assembly.

Here is the Agenda:

1. To receive apologies.
2. Minutes of the 2017 Annual Parish Meeting
3. To receive the Annual Report of Kingston Parish Council 2017/18 (attached)
4. Observations of the District and County Councillors for Kingston.
5. Resolutions of which written notice has been given (none to date)
6. Public Question Time

8 May 2018

***Councillor G Walker
Chairman of Kingston Parish Council***

For more information please contact: Mrs Val Knight, Clerk of the Council, 33 The Ridings, East Preston, West Sussex BN16 2TW Tel: 01903 771922, e-mail : kingstonpc@tesco.net

KINGSTON PARISH COUNCIL

Annual Report April 2017 - March 2018

PRESENTED BY THE CHAIRMAN

I am pleased to present the Annual Report of Kingston Parish Council which tells you about the work of the Council and the issues addressed over the previous year.

I would like to thank Cllr Roger Wetherell, the Vice-Chairman of Council, Cllr David Joyce, Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee, Cllr Valerie Masson, Chairman of the Planning Committee, Cllr Karen Kenning, Cllr Peter Jolly, Cllr Michael Hodge and Valerie Knight, Clerk of the Council for their support and hard work during the year.

My thanks also to our two new volunteers who during the recent severe winter weather came forward to help spread salt at the Peak Lane bend along Kingston Lane. The work of volunteers is very much appreciated.

Finally, I would like to thank District Cllrs Bower, Chapman and Clayden and County Cllr Elkins for their attendance at our Council meetings and for their support on local issues.

Geraldine Walker

Chairman, Kingston Parish Council

KINGSTON EMERGENCY PLAN

As reported before, the Emergency Plan is complete and can be viewed on our website. Whilst we all hope an event never occurs – such as fire, flooding or even a drought - it is best to be prepared!

The purpose of the plan is to provide guidance and local resilience in the event of an emergency.

There are two things you could help with:

Firstly, we need to keep the list of vulnerable residents updated regularly. So, if you, or someone you know, in the parish may need additional help or be vulnerable in an emergency please let us know.

Secondly, we do need **volunteers** to make the Emergency Plan workable. Some of our volunteers have moved from the parish so we would really like to hear from you. Being a volunteer may sound daunting but it could be just to keep an eye on what is happening around you. Ideally we need people spread across the Parish to report back on situations as they might evolve.

Let us know if you would like more information: Please contact me or the Clerk – contact details on the back page.

Cllr Roger Wetherell

Co-ordinator, Kingston Parish Emergency Plan

Look out for

Council will be setting up a new website from 1st August, because District Council are withdrawing our current website facility. We were fortunate to get a grant from the Governments 'Transparency Fund' to cover the initial cost but there will be ongoing annual costs and a new email address. We do hope the transition will be smooth for you.

HIGHWAYS

Kingston Lane is the only public highway in Kingston. During the year we have continued to press for potholes to be filled and overhanging vegetation to be cut back, but you can help by reporting problems direct at love.westsussex.gov.uk.

If you are responsible for hedges and trees along the Lane, please do keep them cut back as they could cause an accident by obscuring visibility or forcing cars into the centre of the road.

Council has a Winter Management Plan in place and the salt bins were of great use during the severe cold and snowy weather. They will be refilled by County in the Autumn. Our thanks to two new volunteers who came forward to spread salt at the Peak Lane bend. Cllr Wetherell looks after the bends south of Elm Avenue. Due to the Winter Management Plan we have a contractor ready to clear snow or grit the road. We called him out on one occasion only to grit the Lane when snow was settling and freezing temperatures were on their way – he was there within an hour!

County's verge grass cutting is still unpredictable and we will be monitoring this. We also hope a 'gateway' sign just south of the junction with Elm Avenue will be installed in 2018-19.

COASTAL DEFENCES and FLOODING

Council is concerned that the local sea defences should be well maintained and asks Arun District for a copy of their annual inspection report so that we can monitor what works are being carried out. County still have funding for Operation Watershed projects and we are working with District on a scheme for the Peak Lane area.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Parish Precept is collected from residents with their Council Tax, and for 2017/18 was set at £7,870. We also received a grant of £2,104.28 from the Government's Transparency Fund for a Computer and a new website (including staff costs to set up the site). It is considered prudent to hold reserves so costs can be spread over several years. Balances at 31 March 2018 include reserves for: Environmental projects £1979, Community involvement/newsletters £920, Parish elections £2480, 20 years celebration of the Parish Council £650, Winter Management Plan £170, Neighbourhood Plan Review £4788, and General Fund £16330 which includes £1520 grant for a new website. The Precept for 2018/19 has been set at £8066. A set of accounts will form part of the Agenda papers for the May meeting of Committee.

POLICING

Local Policing is to be Strengthened - News from Sussex Police is that the increase in their precept for this year means the Force is able to recruit an additional 200 officers. Chief Constable Giles York has revealed how funding will be used to strengthen local policing and improve ways for the public to make contact and be better informed when incidents occur.

These are two areas which Kingston Parish Council has been campaigning for in recent times. We are also pleased to hear there will be a constant review of Police Community Support Officer recruitment in addition to an increase in officers. More officers will be joining local prevention Teams to increase visibility and accessibility.

Crime Statistics - Kingston Parish has been fortunate over the past year in not having any serious crimes reported and Police statistics show that the main concerns have been restricted to anti-social behaviour and public order offences.

Contact details for Sussex Police are:

E-mail: 101@sussex.pnn.police.uk

Telephone: call 101 or if an emergency call 999.

Neighbourhood Watch - We encourage all residents to sign up to the NHW email Alert Scheme administered by Richard Richards, email: ramblers22oro@gmail.com.

If you report something to Sussex Police, please let your NHW Co-ordinator or Richard know so that other residents may be sent an email Alert, if appropriate.

Watch out for our 19 July Council meeting when we hope that the District Commander will be present to answer our questions about local policing.

REPRESENTATION

Council was represented on the Joint Eastern Arun Area Committee, the Highways and Transport Sub-Group, and the Arun District Association of Local Councils. We also attended Arun District Council liaison meetings regarding the Local Plan.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Planning Committee considered eighteen planning applications during the year and we continue to refer to our Neighbourhood Plan.

Council objected to 5 applications outside of the parish (1 in Angmering and 4 in Ferring) as they impacted on the countryside and infrastructure. One for lighting at ASDA was part approved by Arun District Council and 4 remain undecided including one for a petrol filling station at ASDA.

For applications within Kingston, Council made: **No objection** to 10 applications although this was often subject to conditions being imposed e.g. obscure glazed windows. **Objection** to 3 applications for reasons such as out of character to the surrounding area/intrusive to neighbours. Arun granted planning permission for all 13 applications often with conditions reflecting the comments made by Council.

Arun Local Plan - The Arun Local Plan went forward for examination and hearings took place in September on issues such as infrastructure, strategic housing and gaps between settlements. We attended two hearings and defended our strategic gap which is also Grade 1 agricultural land. At the moment our strategic gap (gap between settlements) is still in place although the Planning Inspectors final report is expected in July. To find out more go to the Arun webpage www.arun.gov.uk/local-plan-examination

RIFE AND FOOTPATHS

Cllr Joyce has regularly walked the Rife to ensure that any problems with the water flow can be reported to the Environment Agency promptly.

We wrote to the Rambler's Association about the hazard for walkers (particularly large groups) along Kingston Lane due to the sharp unsighted bends, abutting ditches and the speed of vehicles. The Ramblers Association replied referring to the guidance on their website and offered to pass on our concerns to local groups.

Did you know..... As part of the East Preston Festival there is a talk on 'Old Kingston' on Thursday 7 June at 2.30 pm in East Preston and Kingston Village Hall. Tickets £3 available from Seaview Stores or Just Because, Sea Road, East Preston.

MEETINGS AND COUNCILLORS April 2017 - March 2018

MEETINGS: During the year there were 7 Full Council meetings, 6 Finance and General Purposes Committee meetings and 9 Planning Committee meetings, as well as the Annual Assembly of the Parish.

COUNCILLORS: There has been no change since the parish elections in May 2015. Here are the contact details for your Councillors:

Cllr Geraldine Walker	Rife Manor, Brookside Road BN161SE	01903 772043
Cllr Michael Hodge	23 Coastal Road, BN16 1SJ	01903 784611
Cllr Karen Kenning	The Saltings, Downsview Road, BN16 1SD	01903 774931
Cllr Peter Jolly	Thatched Corners, Coastal Road, BN16 1SW	01903 786825
Cllr Valerie Masson	Windy Corner, Gorse Avenue BN16 1SQ	01903 786139
Cllr Roger Wetherell	Newcote Farm, Kingston Lane BN16 1RP	01903 787205
Cllr David Joyce	Orchard Cottage, Kingston Lane BN16 1RS	01903 779374

FORTHCOMING MEETING DATES

All residents are welcome to attend meetings of the Council when there will be an opportunity to make representations and ask questions on matters relating to Council business.

The usual meeting pattern is for Council and Committees to meet on the third Thursday in the odd months of the year with additional meetings as required. Here are the main meeting dates for this year:

17	May	2018	Annual Parish Meeting, Planning and Finance & General Purposes Committee, Full Council
19	July	2018	Planning and Finance & General Purposes Committee, Full Council
20	September	2018	Planning and Finance & General Purposes Committee, Full Council
15	November	2018	Planning and Finance & General Purposes Committee, Full Council
17	January	2019	Planning and Finance & General Purposes Committee, Full Council
21	March	2019	Planning and Finance & General Purposes Committee, Full Council

VENUE and TIME:

Usually the hall of Our Lady Star of the Sea, Vermont Drive, East Preston, BN16 1JU at 7 pm – but please do check agenda to confirm the venue, dates, and times.

CONTACT the COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: Mrs Val Knight, 33 The Ridings, East Preston, West Sussex BN16 2TW
e-mail: kingstonpc@tesco.net Tel: 01903 771922 www.arun.gov.uk/kingston

WAYS to KEEP in TOUCH

E-mail: Sign up to receive our information e-mails by e-mailing Val Knight: kingstonpc@tesco.net

Online: Visit <http://kingston.arun.gov.uk>. Look out for our new website available from 1 August.

Library: Agenda can be viewed at East Preston Library 3 days prior to the meetings.

Noticeboards: See our noticeboards located in Gorse Avenue and Coastal Road - but sorry information is limited due to the display space available.

Did you know.....

East Preston Parish Council have sent us the following information re Parking charges they introduced for the car park in Sea Road (next to the East Preston Village Green) in October 2017: For people just wishing to pop to a shop or business, there is now a 15-minutes grace period before any ticket will be issued.