East Dean & Friston Parish Council

Date: **1st March 2018**

Title: **Report Item 6 – Fireworks proposal 2018**

By: **Cllr I Haydock, Cllr P Hill and Cllr P Seeley**

Purpose: **To report on the deliberations of the working Group**

Recommendations: **a) To note the report**
b) To approve the proposed Fireworks event

Outline of Fireworks proposal for 2018

Following a detailed review of the issues surrounding a bonfire and fireworks event around the 5th November combined with the unfortunate experience of the last event in 2015, the working group investigated various options with the prime function of limiting numbers and ensuring that any event should be primarily focussed around the village allowing local residents, friends and families to benefit without disruption from outside sources.

The Working Group set up by the PC therefore recommends the following: to organise a Firework display combined with the lighting of a Village Christmas tree and carol singing on Saturday evening the 1st December 2018. It is proposed that the event would combine a torchlit procession to the recreation ground with a firework display followed by the lighting of a Village Christmas tree and the singing of carols outside the Village Hall.

Details of the proposed timetable being as follows:-

5.30pm Procession with lit torches to leave Village Hall car park going via the Village Green and Went Way to the Recreation Ground.

There will NOT be a bonfire.

6.30pm Fireworks [a specialist contractor would be used, and the firing site would be the field opposite the recreation ground as in previous years]

7.00pm parade back using the same route to the Village Hall.

7.30pm the switching on of the Christmas Tree lights and the singing of carols.

All timings are approximate. The numbers of stewards required is being worked on but smaller more manageable numbers will be required than those for the bonfire night event.

The Pavillion to be open for the use of facilities by the organisers [and for emergency use by members of the public] and for the sale of hot drinks\mince pies with a hog roast also available.

Being close to the Tiger anyone wishing to buy alcohol can do so there so we would not bring in an outside brewery.

We have had a very useful meeting with a former Captain of Eastbourne Bonfire Society who has promised help and support in all matters especially in respect of Health and Safety procedures and firework displays.

It is anticipated that the event would be self-financing based on past experience from the bonfire night events, allowing for sponsorship by local business, sales of torches, sale of food and also donation buckets.

Further discussion will be needed with the Village Hall trust over the positioning of the Christmas tree as well as power supplies for lights, but this can only reasonably take place after the PC decision and acceptance of this proposal.

Note by the Clerk: The parish council's current 3-year insurance agreement with Zurich Municipal ends on 31 May 2018 and quotes are being sought from a range of possible providers (including Zurich) for the next 3 years. They have been asked to quote separately for special event cover, and a copy of Zurich's Special Events Proposal form has been circulated to councillors.