East Dean & Friston Parish Council

Date:	**5th May 2022**
Title:	**Report Item 12 - Update on planned events for the Platinum Jubilee**
By:	**Cllr. M. Keller**
Purpose of Report:	**To inform councillors of current progress and request assistance with the events.**
Recommendations:	**Councillors to note the contents of the report and agree to provide assistance with implementing the programme of events as planned.**

With less than one month to go before the Bank Holiday weekend, celebrating Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee, the following progress can be reported:

A programme of events, covering not only the four-day Bank Holiday but also the preceding school half term days, has been drawn up by a co-ordinating committee consisting of representatives of the Residents Association, Village Hall Trust, Cricket Club and Parish Church. Meetings of the committee have been chaired by myself with Cllrs. Fowler and Thorogood also participating and Debbie Picknell providing secretarial and admin support. Details of the programme have now been published and a flyer was distributed with the May edition of the Parish Magazine to every household.

In summary, the events planned are as follows:

- Art exhibition by children from St John's School, Meads in the parish church throughout the week. This to be augmented by further artwork from village children and a ceramic sculpture crown by local artist, Sheila Hay.
- Pond dipping for children at Friston Pond on Wednesday 1st June.
- Family Fun Day on Bank Holiday Thursday 2nd June at the Recreation Ground.
- Beacon Lighting event on the evening of 2nd June.
- Live streaming of the Jubilee Thanksgiving Service from St Paul's Cathedral in the Village Hall on Friday 3rd June.
- Village Fete on the Greensward on Saturday 4th June.
- Live streaming of the Platinum Party at the Palace in the Village Hall in the evening of 4th June.
- Service of thanksgiving in the Parish Church on Sunday 5th June.
- Street parties organised locally on 5th June.

Following a successful application by Karen Wintle on behalf of the Residents Association, a grant of £3519 was received from the Arts Council towards some of the above events and projects. This was a great achievement as only 18 awards were made out of 80 applications. As a taxpayer funded local

authority, the PC cannot benefit directly from this grant. However, it does mean that some of the funding requested by the RA will not now be needed and can be re-allocated.

Of all the Jubilee village events, the Parish Council are organising the Beacon lighting on 2nd June. This will form part of a nationally organised celebration with over 1500 beacons being lit around the UK and in some Commonwealth countries. For reasons of visibility and safety, it has been decided to place the village beacon on Went Hill, but to have the gathering of spectators on the Recreation Ground at the foot of the hill. The Cricket Club Family Fun Day will finish about 4:00 pm and it is expected that residents will start to arrive between 5:00 and 6:00 pm.

The evening's programme will be as follows:

6:00pm – 7:10 pm	"Seventy Years in Seventy Minutes" Hit music from seven decades of record charts.
7:00 pm	Proclamation read by Village Crier (John Dann) at the Village Green.
7:05pm – 7:20pm	Village Crier proceeds from Village Green, accompanied by Eastbourne Scottish Pipe Band, via The Grange and Lower Street to Recreation Ground. Proclamation repeated on arrival.
7:30 pm – 8:15pm	First session by "Highway 24" (Country & Western/Pop music duo).
8:20pm – 8:40pm	Eastbourne Scottish Pipe Band.
8:45pm – 9:30pm	Second session by "Highway 24".
9:30pm	Intro. to Beacon lighting.
9:35pm	Pipe Band perform "Diu Regnare".
9:40pm	Trumpet fanfare "Majesty" and countdown to Beacon lighting.
9:45pm	Beacon lit. National Anthem (Brian May arr.)
9:46pm – 10:00	Handel firework music while Beacon burns.
10:00pm	Beacon extinguished. Event closes.

Progress so far is as follows:

- Beacon basket construction by Alan Godwin is complete, awaiting inspection and delivery.
- Installation sponsorship in kind has been offered by Bishop and Levett, builders. The cost of a support post and other materials will have to be paid for.
- Application for a licence to install the beacon on Went Hill is now with National Trust awaiting formal approval. Contact with the farmer is awaiting information from NT.
- Risk assessments for both the Beacon lighting and the gathering on the Rec. have been drawn up and submitted to both the NT and the council's insurers.
- Musicians have been booked at a cost of 2 x £250 as agreed by council. PRS/PPL have confirmed that performing rights licence fees are waived for community events during the jubilee. Cllr. Hill has agreed that the Church's PA amplifier can be used.
- St John's Ambulance have agreed to supply two qualified first-aiders for a fee of £96 + VAT.
- John Dann has agreed to play the part of "Village Crier" and is arranging to borrow a costume from the Seaford Town Crier. A donation of £50 will be paid to charity for this.
- Alan Charles, a trumpeter with the Seaford Silver Band, has agreed to come along and play the trumpet fanfare prior to the beacon lighting. He will not charge any fee for this.
- Mandy Mulford from Sheppard's ~~Cafe~~Café and Restaurant has agreed to run a licensed bar from the pavilion during the evening. No profit sharing will be required but she has agreed to make a donation to the PC charity of the year. As she has an alcohol licence, the PC do not need to apply for one.
- Two members of the Parish Church have agreed to provide a hog roast and barbeque for the evening and Cllr. Hill has kindly agreed to co-ordinate and manage this. A float to allow purchase of food will be required.
- A quotation for a single ignition quiet firework display has been obtained this will cost £120.79 +VAT. This cost can be offset as the council will not now have to pay for the printing of the magazine flyer (paid for by the Arts Council grant to the Residents Association). The display

would last for about two minutes following the lighting of the beacon. (https://dynamicfireworks.co.uk/product/spirit-in-the-sky-new/)

Despite this progress there is still a lot to do in the increasingly short time before 2nd June and I am appealing to all councillors to volunteer their assistance and that of any friends and family who would be willing to help. In particular, the following tasks will need to be covered:

- Up to eight volunteers will be needed to put up a marquee on either Wednesday 1st June or in the morning of 2nd June. The same number will be needed to take down the marquee on Friday 3rd June so that it can be transported to the Greensward for the fete.
- If inclement weather is forecast it may be necessary to find and erect some gazebo type shelters on the Rec.
- Went Hill will need to have two or three Marshalls in place before, during and after the beacon lighting. Chair of the Council to perform the ceremonial lighting?
- Marshalls will also be needed to control car parking on the periphery of the Rec. and to limit car access when full.
- Assistance may be needed with serving the barbeque food. (Cllr. Hill to advise).
- Volunteers to take round buckets collecting donations for the charity of the year will need to be organised.
- Portable outside lighting will be needed for the barbeque and marquee. Battery powered lighting will be needed for the Beacon area.
- Two-way radios will be needed to communicate between the Rec. and the Beacon site.
- PCSO and/or Marshalls will be needed to control traffic during the procession from the Village Green, down Lower Street and along Gilberts Drive to the Rec.
- Assistance will be needed on Friday 3rd June to clear rubbish from the Rec. and Pavilion to allow cricket to resume as normal on the Saturday.

The above list is probably not exhaustive and no doubt other tasks will come to mind. However, if enough volunteers can be found for all the above roles, we should be well on the way to hosting a successful event.

In conclusion I should like to thank Debbie Picknell for all the hard work she has put in, not only for the organising committee, but also to me personally during all the planning over the past months. Thanks also to Cllr. Fowler and Cllr. Thorogood for their support.

Mike Keller.