East Dean & Friston Parish Council

Date: **01 February 2024**

Title: **Report Item 19 – Business In Progress**

By: **S Adeniji (Clerk)**

Purpose: **To consider and note an update from the parish office**

Recommendations: **a) To consider an application from the East Dean & Friston Bowling Club for a grant of £700.**
b) Save the date: Saturday 20th July 2024 for the East Dean & Friston Village Fete 2024.
c) To note a report by the Clerk on progress made since the January meeting.

The following are matters for decision:

- **To consider an application from the East Dean & Friston Bowling Club for a grant of £700.** – A grant application has been received from the East Dean & Friston Bowling Club. Details of the application can be found in ANNEX ONE. The sum of £700 is required for the replacement of the Electric Fence; the replacement of the water filter, buying protection mats for the green, and the replacement of playing mats and several benches.

- Members should note that the grants budget for 2023/24 is £2,200 out of which the sum of £1,150 has been awarded to the Cricket Club leaving a balance of £1,050. It is customary for the Parish Council to donate to its charity of the year. In July the council selected the Beachy Head Chaplaincy and the RNLI as its charities of the year.

- Members may wish to set aside a sum from the grant budget for a donation to the council's charities of the year.

The following are matters for report:

- **Save the date: Saturday 20th July 2024 for the East Dean & Friston –** After the huge success of last year's weather-affected and re-arranged event, This year's annual village fete will be held on Saturday 20th July. The fete will feature all the usual aspects and more - brass band, large veteran / vintage classic car show, dog show, children's and family events, beer tent, and tea tent.

Outstanding Items from the meeting on the 4th of January

- **Grant Application Submitted to Sports England** – The parish council has submitted a grant application to Sports England under its small grant scheme for £5,750 towards the Tennis Court re-surfacing.

- **Update on Vodaphone and O2** – Liaising with our MP Maria Caulfield MP on this.

- **Play Ground Repairs**– Still in dialogue with Wicksteed regarding a quote to carry out the remedial works highlighted in their inspection report

- **ESCC Grass Cutting 2024/25** – The council agreed to continue the self-delivery i.e. take on responsibility to deliver urban grass cutting within the parish. Now that the Contractor has been appointed, currently working with the Contractor to gather and furnish ESCC with the required evidence to enable ESCC to issue a new agreement.

- **Michel Dene** Road – Climpsons have carried out the hedge removal at Michel Dene Road as instructed. The invoice has been submitted and is included in this month's payment for authorisation. The Road Company have paid us their contribution of £270.00

- **VAT For Q3 Submitted** – The VAT for Q3 i.e. October to December 2023 has been submitted to HMRC.

EAST DEAN & FRISTON BOWLING CLUB

Little Lane
Friston
Eastbourne
BN20 0BX

Clerk to the Parish Council
East Dean & Friston

15 Jan 2024

Dear Sirs,

I understand that you may still have funds available for local Sports clubs. Could I ask you to consider the bowling club please?

You have in the past generously provided funds to help the club. This year we are seeking £700.

With inflation biting everywhere, even small items seem to be eating into our limited funds more and more.

- We need to replace the Electric Fence which we need to prevent small animals like cats, dogs, foxes, etc, from digging holes in the green. The wiring and generator unit is around £100

- We have a water filter that should be replaced annually. It prevents limescale build-up in our tea boiler that makes 24 cups of tea on match days. They are £44

- Along the wall facing the green there are a number of benches installed some years ago. Although we paint them annually, water has got in and started to rot the wood. These are custom-made and can be replaced for around £150

- We need protection mats for the green just in front of where players release the bowl and it hits the ground. These are £45 each, so £360 for each end of four rinks.

- We need to replace our playing mats. These are the rubber mats a player must stand on when bowling. In a competition there is one at each end of four rinks, so 8 mats at £16 each is £128.

This all comes to around £782 and we would really appreciate any help you could provide with this.

I feel it is worth pointing out that the club is a cornerstone of village sporting life, especially for the retired or near-retired, and that in our six month summer season we put on formal bowling events typically three of four times a week, half of which are open to members and non-members alike.

We organise many local social activities, such as Whist Drives, often using the village hall.

We help put East Dean and Friston on the map as we play many other clubs in the local Eastbourne area: from Seaford and Peacehaven to Herstmonceux, Hailsham and Bexhill. As we usually play both home and away matches, this brings visitors to the village on a regular basis during the summer.

Finally I should also mention that the club tries to be as self-sufficient as we can. With fixed costs of around £10,000 a year, we usually manage to raise 80% of that ourselves with membership fees and social events. Nevertheless, any money you could find to supplement our own fund-raising efforts would be gratefully accepted.

Your Sincerely,
Chris Ray
Hon Sec.