

**Date:** 06 April 2023

**Title:** Report Item 15 – Correspondence

**By:** K Larkin (Parish Clerk)

**Purpose:** To report on correspondence received since the council meeting on 02 March 2023

**Recommendations:** To note the report and consider any further actions in response to the correspondence

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**Note:** more items may be added to this schedule prior to the council meeting on 6 April 2023; a copy of the final version can be obtained by emailing the Clerk: [clerk@edfparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@edfparishcouncil.org.uk)

The following items of correspondence have been received:

- **Damaged swing seats at the play area** – a resident has supplied photos of the swing sets at the play area which have been badly chewed, apparently by foxes. The seats have been replaced. It's not clear what if anything can be done to prevent a recurrence.
- **New rubber brushes for the play area roller equipment** – the same resident requests that an order be placed for new brushes, as without them the equipment creates a lot of noise.
- **Electronic bus signs** - the council has received a fresh request lobby Brighton and Hove buses to get such signs provided locally. This has been considered before (and raised with Brighton and Hove buses who did not respond) but the proposal attracted criticism from some residents who thought it would be out of keeping with the rural surroundings, and it was also pointed out that buses can now be tracked using mobile phone apps.
- **Buses failing to stop at East Dean bus stop (north side)** - an elderly resident who, like many, depends on the bus services a great deal, has complained that buses have recently been failing to stop for her at the East Dean bus stop on the eastbound carriageway of the A259. It appears that this happened whilst the bus stop was temporarily suspended to enable urgent utility work to be carried out. Brighton and Hove buses have responded saying unfortunately they are not always allowed to use temporary bus stops, as these would have to be risk assessed well in advance of the suspension. The recent suspension of the East Dean bus stop was done as an emergency, and there was no opportunity to follow the procedure for marking a temporary stop.

- **King Charles III Coronation bench** – a resident has enquired whether the council would consider buying such a bench as a memento of this fairly rare occasion
- **Obstructed passing place in Downs View Lane** – a resident of the lane has appealed to the council not to let this matter drop, as it is a cause of practical frustration to residents and other users of the Lane. The matter is on the agenda for meetings of the Downsview Estate management group including the Roads Company
- **Nature Recovery Project** – a member of the climate Friends group writes: ‘As you are aware, Climate Friends (Residents for a Climate-Friendly Parish) have been working closely with the SDNPA and Wild Business to take forward a parish-wide Nature Recovery Project for East Dean & Friston to:
  - map and assess the current network of green and blue spaces in the parish of East Dean & Friston
  - identify nature recovery opportunities and assess their potential benefits
  - create materials to engage the wider community in nature recovery.

As a result SDNPA has recently allocated a £3,000 grant towards this project. A proposal and quote for this work has now been provided by Wild Business. I'm sure you will agree that this is a significant achievement for our community. I am writing to the Parish Council to ask it to decide to allocate the balance of £4,500.00 required to fund the Nature Recovery in the East Dean & Friston Parish Project at the 6 April meeting (rather than delay it to, at least, June, following the parish council elections on 4 May). Whilst, it will take some time for the positive impacts of this project to become established, there's no time for delay. Action is required urgently both here and across the world to tackle climate change and biodiversity loss and given the buy-in from the SDNPA it is important to maintain the momentum for this piece of work.’ This letter is supported by two other residents who have written to the council, and the project is on the agenda for this council meeting, Item 9 (b).