

## **Agenda Item 10 – March Meeting**

### **Annual Village Meeting**

Preparation for the annual village meeting on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2026 will commence shortly.

I have attached the agenda from the 2025 meeting for guidance.

Items for inclusion in the presentations (in addition to the chair's report) should be decided.

Potential ideas are:

- Neighbourhood Plan
- Pavilion Project
- MUGA project
- Friston Pond
- Tri-partite Traffic Group

The assistance of a PR professional for the event would benefit both the council and residents. From the council's perspective, facts that are often fairly dull can be translated into a positive message. For residents, a professional presentation has a greater impact and stays in the memory longer.

Often the presentations can pre-empt awkward questions from the public at the end of the session.

PR advice tends to cost around £50 per hour and the time involved would be limited. It could be restricted to a check and re-write of the PowerPoint presentations.

There may be someone known to the council who would offer a favourable rate.

#### **Proposals:**

1. To agree the subjects for presentation.
2. To consider approaching a PR professional with a brief to refine PowerPoint presentations. A maximum budget should be set.

Phil Burgess

Clerk to East Dean and Friston