

What exactly does Ebernoe parish Council actually do?

I was asked by a parishioner recently. I thought the answer would be to refer them to a web site . However when I checked web sites with the relevant information there was such vast range of possible things that the Council could be doing that I thought perhaps it would be more helpful to discuss what Ebernoe Parish Council actually does rather than possible actions for a massive village.

All web sites make it clear that the Parish council which is elected every four years is the lowest of all bodies concerned with government. Ebernoe Parish Council held their first meeting in 1988. The hamlets of Ebernoe, Balls Cross and Colhook agreed to become a new entity and have their own Council instead of being part of neighbouring councils.

Things we have done recently	Where we cannot help
Planning ; we are consulted on planning applications. We give our views based on local planning issues.	We do not decide on planning applications.
Keeping Ebernoe clean and tidy. We carry out regular litter picking. Either we remove dumped litter or contact Chichester District Council.	
Installed defibrillators at Cricket ground and the Stag	
Reported issues with drainage and road surfaces	We do not carry out repairs unless delegated by West Sussex county council
Organised celebration for the Queens 90 th birthday	
Maintain supply of salt for treatment of local roads and work with local farmer to organise spreading in event of snow	We are not responsible for main A road clearing or for the road past the Stag at Balls Cross
Access grants for local projects eg. Repair of cricket club mower, Queens party	Our only funding is from our Parish precept which is one of the lowest in West Sussex. We are very careful with the money collected from parishioners but pleased to help apply for funds .
Provision and maintenance of bus shelters	
Provision and maintenance of seats at Balls Cross, Cricket ground, Colhook	
Assist community events through insurance and risk assessment arrangements	Responsible member of Parish Council must be present throughout.
Try to get faster broadband connections Work with all other agencies up to Secretary of State	Keep up pressure on WSCC, BT etc but also get very frustrated by lack of action
Work with WSCC on maintaining Public rights of way and reporting issues . also sign posting Put successful case for retaining our two telephone boxes	
Grants to local Charities. Eg Petworth Cottage Hospital.	Limited funds available
Ensure rigorous audited procedures are adhered to .	
Maintain web site and enable access to agendas	We put paper copies of agendas and minutes on

and minutes of meetings	the three Parish notice boards
Invite members of public to attend meetings and give opportunity for parishioners to speak on matters which concern them	County Council and District Council representatives attend meeting and give reports. Liaise with above on regular basis

Ebernoe Parish Annual meeting will be held on _____ at _____

At this meeting we hope to hear from West Sussex County Council Project manager for a community resilience project called “ what if”. We can never foretell exactly what issues might affect our community. For example how the community might respond to a emergency.

Every one is most welcome to our meeting