



Forest Row Parish Council Traders & Entrepreneurs Forum

Notes of meeting 22.10.18

- Welcome to the first meeting
- Introductions from all attending
- Points for discussion raised by chair of meeting Cllr Jenny Josephson (JJ):
ROAD WORKS
TIP
COMMUNITY WARDEN
CHRISTMAS
- ROADWORKS: Claims for compensation have been submitted by a local group.
Was there negligence on the part of ESCC?
Community Warden has documented the whole process and will write this up to be made available for businesses to use if wish to go for compensation themselves.
FRPC to raise this at next SLR (Strengthening Local Relations) meetings.
- PARKING: The discussion led onto the issues of parking within the village and how this could be addressed. Business owners very concerned by the future of the village if parking is not a priority.
Lengthy discussion on: who is using the spaces?
Decided definitely not enough spaces in the week.
How to create more parking spaces.
Discussed brown field sites that may be brought or leased for car park.
Better signage needed from ES Highways.
Change 23-hour bays to 6 or 3 to stop workers using them during the day.
- TIP: Update given by JJ.
Costs to use facility by businesses discussed.
Pilot project commencing to see how it works.
- COMMUNITY WARDEN: JJ explained that they are looking to try to increase the Warden's powers.
Need powers to move on cars from double yellow lines, disabled bays and spaces.
Community Warden to carry FR maps to give to tourists.

- **CHRISTMAS:** agreed maybe too late to do big Christmas celebration within the village this year but could open later on Christmas Market day Saturday 1st December. Rydon's approached about car park to be kept open on this day. Was said this could be looked at. Shops to choose to open late. Horse & Carriage to stay longer and pick up at more points.
- **OTHER POINTS RAISED:** Promotion of the village as a shopping destination. Yearly events to raise profile of all businesses, ie; Christmas, Food Festival etc. Use empty shop windows to advertise other businesses and keep the Lewes Road and Hartfield Road looking vibrant. Set up a networking group-Simon Robinson and Juliet Townsend to look to start this. A survey of parking use in the village was suggested as a possibility. Businesses to have input into PC initiatives.
- **ACTION PLAN:**
 PC to look at options for land for a car park.
 New business maps to be looked to be created-funding to publish will be needed.
 A Village website to be created.
 A closed Facebook group created for FR businesses to communicate between themselves. Could look to create a Facebook group for the village that promotes events and the businesses at a later time.
 Juliet Townsend (Ashdown Gallery) to research other villages.
 3-minute video to be created by CRTC Studios (Cymon & Vicky Skinner) to promote the village to use on Facebook.
 Contact 'Visit East Grinstead' to ask for advice on a website.
- **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** Thursday 15th November 6-7pm in the Community Centre.