

ALFRISTON PARISH COUNCIL

Eastbourne Borough Council

Events Team

Sent via email: beachyheadmarathon@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk

Monday 28th November 2022

Dear Sirs,

Beachy Head Marathon held on Saturday 22nd October 2022

I write to inform you that Alfriston Parish Council [APC] have received several complaints from both parishioners and visitors to the village about the way in which the Beachy Head marathon this year was managed. Regrettably the marathon had a significant negative impact on the village.

APC were not consulted with about this event, despite requests being sent by the Clerk to the Council after last year's problems.

No road closure for Alfriston High Street was applied for by you. Despite this, your marshals closed Alfriston High Street for nearly 2 hours. Vehicles were unable to move. When parishioners and drivers spoke to your marshals about this they were met with verbal abuse and, in some instances were threatened with physical assault. The Police were called and had to attend. This is unacceptable.

Your marshals told parishioners who spoke with them that they, the marshals, had the full support of APC. This is simply not true. As you know, APC were not consulted with at all during the planning of this event. Had you done so, maybe some of these issues could have been avoided.

APC would like to know what plans are being put in place to prevent any of the same issues from happening at your next event in October 2023 and ask to be included in the consultation process.

We sincerely hope that there will not be a repeat of the negative impact your marathon had on the village in future.

Please can we also remind you next year and thereafter to remove all your roadside signs in a timely manner after the event.

Yours Sincerely



Victoria Rutt
Clerk and RFO