

## **Reports from Cllr Standley and Cllr Dixon for Hadlow Down PC meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021**

### **1. Update from Cllr Standley to Hadlow Down Parish Council November 2021**

#### Budget

Given my portfolio at County is education Inclusion, special educational needs and disabilities there was welcome news in the budget of increased funding for schools and in particular special education needs. We are still waiting for the details which will follow in due course

I was also pleased to open a new special school in Hailsham children a couple of weeks ago. The school operated by the Beckmead Trust will take 80 children when fully occupied.

The budget included authority for councils delivering social care to add an extra 1% to council tax. This is over and above the 3% levy which could be spread over 2 years -2021-22 and 2022-23. ESCC levied 1.5 of the 3% last year.

#### County Clean

There was a further site visit with an ESCC enforcement officer last week and the final specification of those trees that need trimming agreed. Just waiting on the date for the work.

County Clean have confirmed they will go back to the proscribed route once this work is complete.

#### Loneliness

ESCC together with the NHS have launched an online survey to gather extra information on how residents can be more connected and help alleviate the loneliness some residents experience. The last 18 months of the pandemic has had a detrimental affect on many residents and as, hopefully, we come out of the pandemic we need to ensure residents stay connected and the survey results will assist how loneliness can be avoided.

### **2. Update from Cllr Dixon to Hadlow Down Parish Council November 2021**

Local Plan work continuing with regular meetings with the officers as they work on the Development Management policies. There is a further Parish Cluster meeting scheduled for Thursday 7th December at 2pm. Work has to continue on basis of the current planning regime until new government legislation is in place. It appears that there is a rethink in government on the future planning policy but there is no doubt that development in Wealden will require greenfield sites to be built out.

I have been chairing a working party on our Health and Wellbeing Strategy over the past couple of months. The working party felt that we should consider social wellbeing as a priority, supporting local groups and volunteering. Wealden does not have the resources to tackle the major health issues but could support those bodies responsible and help with signposting services.