

HADLOW DOWN PC – COUNCILLOR UPDATES FOR MTG 2nd NOVEMBER 2021

Rachel Lewis

Hadlow Down Community Centre

The New Village Hall Committee has regrettably postponed it's Race Night until a future date is decided in the New Year.

David Munday

OLD TWO-WAY RADIO

I have not had a direct response from Wealden about our former emergency radio as yet, but have found the following in The Wealden emergency plan. This plan is required [for Wealden] under The Civil Contingencies Act 2004 (and associated regulations and guidance).

"4.7 Radio Communications

RAYNET is a voluntary organisation which can provide radio communications for an Emergency Incident if the situation requires it. Contact details in the SRF Contacts Directory. Wealden DC has a Town/Parish Emergency Radio Network operated by a small number of volunteers across the District."

"4.9 Satellite Telephone

A satellite telephone is available if telephone communications are a problem e.g. at the scene. Additional phones may be available through mutual aid.

This phone is in the Emergency Planning cupboard – Hailsham Ground Floor."

My recommendation is, since we are clearly not part of RAYNET (if we were we would have been contacted and know of the appropriate volunteer(s)), that we no longer maintain outdated equipment. The annual review of our own voluntary Parish Emergency Plan should be sufficient to keep these communication needs under review.

WATER COMPANY SURVEY

South East Water has invited our comments on their draft Climate Change Adaptation Report, which outlines the 12 key headline risks they foresee as a business, mitigation they've already undertaken and further work they plan to do in the future to reduce these risk areas further.

See: https://corporate.southeastwater.co.uk/ccadaptation?utm_source=Stakeholder+email&utm_medium=Email&utm_id=Climate+Change+Adaptation+comms

The consultation is very general and it is therefore difficult to give the yes/no answers requested, but I suggest the following responses, subject to comments received.

Do you agree with our assessment of climate change risks? - YES

Have we identified the correct climate change risks or are there any missing that you feel we should consider? - YES, NONE MISSING

Are we focussing on the right risk areas? - YES

Do you support our prioritised approach and direction of travel? - MORE MONEY AND RESOURCES SHOULD BE ALLOCATED TO REDUCING LEAKS. Our own observation indicates that leak repair is in fact low priority, with some repairs of major leaks in the parish taking months rather than days. An overall target of 15% reduction per year seems unambitious.

Is your business/organisation working on your climate change adaption approaches? - THESE ARE KEPT UNDER REVIEW

What areas are you working on and would you be interested in collaborating with us on these areas? - NIL RETURN

Would you like to be kept up-to-date with the progress of our climate change adaption in the future and if so, would an annual update be appropriate? - YES

Peter Weston

Attended various meetings re Gatwick Airport: Much concern that Gatwick is continuing with its plan to bring what was called the 'emergency runway' into regular use for take-offs. A move that would, when coupled to improved flight management, increase the capacity of Gatwick by at least 35%.

The 'Gatwick Northern Project Team' recently sent around details of their consultation programme, the main details of which are: "On 9th September, Gatwick Airport launched a 12-week public consultation on proposals to bring the existing Northern Runway into routine use alongside our Main Runway.... we have now reached the halfway point of the consultation: the deadline for submission of responses is 11.59pm on 1st December..... our website Northern Runway and our Future Plans | Gatwick Airport LGW hosts a comprehensive virtual exhibition, as well as all the key consultation documents and a questionnaire. It also contains details of the 18 deposit points and the MPO visit schedule...."

The Northern Runway Project Team can be contacted by emailing info@gatwickfutureplans.com. They are also offering a virtual briefing for Councils which can be requested through the same email address.

Hadlow Down residents may wish to take the opportunity to comment. There is also an open meeting of 'Gatwick's Big Enough' on 9th November at 8.00 p.m. at Penshurst Church which I will unfortunately will be unable to attend.

Gatwick's consultation documents are here:

<https://www.gatwickairport.com/business-community/future-plans/northern-runway/documents/>

And the response questionnaire is here:

<https://magpielanding.traverse.org.uk/surveys/gatwicknorthernrunwayconsultation>

The Gatwick Area Conservation Campaign has a draft consultation response on its website here:

<https://www.gacc.org.uk/gatwick-expansion.php> (scroll down to 'how to submit a response to the consultation' and you can download a pdf or Word document there).

You can also just send an email to: feedback@gatwickfutureplans.com

The consultation closes on 1st December.

SID: Emails, phone calls etc. – poles now in place and SID has been ordered.