

Reports from Cllr Standley and Cllr Dixon for Hadlow Down PC meeting 2nd August 2022

1. Update from Cllr Standley to Hadlow Down Parish Council August 2022

Modern Slavery

Cabinet approved the Council Modern Slavery policy. For those who saw the recent programme on Mo Farah will recognise the serious issue that modern slavery has on the lives of young people and adults.

Climate Change

The Council is committed to net zero by 2050 at the latest and as part of that drive County Hall now has 123 panels- Sackville House has 172 and 69 panels are on Hookstead Centre in Crowborough. Another 203 will be fitted on Lansdowne Centre in Hailsham.

East Sussex Book Award

A HISTORICAL fantasy set in a magical mash-up of Georgian and Elizabethan Britain has been announced as the winner of this year's East Sussex Children's Book Award. The Hatmakers by Tamzin Merchant claimed top prize at a celebration event attended by nearly 200 school children. Local children's author Ed Boxall hosted the event which was held at The Royal Hippodrome Theatre in Eastbourne last month.

Since December, children aged 8 to 11 from across the county have been reading six shortlisted books before voting for their favourite in May.

Reading Friends

EAST Sussex Libraries are calling for more volunteers to help expand the Reading Friends programme across the county. Delivered in partnership with the Reading Agency, the reading befriending programme brings people together to read, share stories, meet new friends and have fun.

The library service is seeking volunteers who enjoy reading and would like to help tackle loneliness in their community to set up more Reading Friends groups.

2. Update from Cllr Dixon to Hadlow Down Parish Council August 2022

New Directors

Chris Bending has taken up his new position as Director of Planning, Policy and Environmental Services. Wealden have now appointed two new directors, both being internal promotions, Director of Legal, Governance and Strategic Projects, Kristina Shaw-Hamilton and Director of Customer and Community Services, David Plank. David will be replacing Averil Price when she retires in September. Kristina's position is a new post.

Local Plan

The policy team are still working on the evidence base and site assessments but are delaying publishing a local plan until the national policy position is clearer regarding housing numbers. With the current situation in government, it is possible there might be a big change as Liz Truss is opposing top down

'soviet style housing targets' and suggesting that the numbers should be determined locally. In the light of this it isn't really sensible to continue with the current numbers as any change should bring about a reduction to the numbers depending on the methodology used.

There is a cluster meeting on 13th September.

Waste

The waste collections should be back on track now, so all bins should be put out on the normal day by 6.30am. If there are any missed bins then they will be collected the following day.

Council Motion

At the last full council meeting a motion was passed expressing our concern at the performance of Southern Water and the problems of sewage in our rivers and sea. It also said that planning should give greater consideration to this when giving planning approval. This was an all-party motion adopted unanimously by the council.

As always please email me with any issues you wish to raise.