

**Local Update.**

The focus of this month’s update is to outline a number of Wealden activities which come under my Portfolio.

For a change, it is about business as usual.

**Waste Management.**

**I will be recommending to Full Council in November the renewal of the Public Spaces Protection Order which aims to control dog fouling.**

 Performance by Biffa (our waste Contractor) remains strong with missed bin figures recently below 100 per week.

All waste targets are being met including litter and detritus clearance.

Officers continue to monitor the increase in Fly tipping .

With the Waste Contract working well at present (Don’t tell anyone; it could go wrong!), the Wealden team will be focussing on more communication and education on recycling.

Christmas Calendar Changes will be communicated digitally this year.

The Street Scene Team who look after fly tipping, abandoned vehicles and street cleaning are now embedded in my the Waste Management Team.

The September Spring Clean was very successful with 20 groups out picking over 1.5 tonnes of waste

**Economic Development.**

Three Future Fit events aiming to help businesses meet current challenges will be held in October and November.

We are working with Sussex Chambers of Commerce in promoting the Government’s Kickstart Scheme which is trying to help young people into jobs.

Longterm work on High Streets, Industrial Estates, Tourism and a number of other initiatives including SELEP ( South East Local Enterprise Partnership) schemes is ongoing.

**Climate Change**

On September 3rd we held a virtual Town and Parish Council Climate Emergency Action Day. The day was designed to assist local councils with developing their own climate emergency declarations and to provide practical next steps, including the development of communication plans, fundraising and action planning. This was well attended and well received.

We have joined other Sussex authorities in a new group-buying scheme ‘Solar Together Sussex’. The scheme brings households together to secure solar PV systems at competitive prices. The auction has taken place and we are awaiting details of the outcomes.

A report outlining the delivery model options that are available for installing electric vehicle infrastructure in Council-owned car parks will be presented soon.This is suggesting we seek a partnership with private sector providers rather than own and operate charging points ourselves.

Roy Galley

October 9th 2020.

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| **Your local Councillors.****Roy Galley.** **cllr.roy.galley@eastsussex.gov.uk****cllr.roy.galley@wealden.gov.uk** **01825 713018****Peter Roundell.** **cllr.peter.roundell@wealden.gov.uk** **01825 722030****Toby Illingworth cllr.toby.illingworth @wealden.gov.uk** **01823 732115** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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