

June Councillor Update - Cllr Emily O'Brien

Cllr Johnny Denis and I were delighted to be re-elected as your District Councillors at the recent local elections, and along with our fabulous new colleague, Cllr Lucy Agace, we look forward to working hard for you over the next four years. Thanks to everyone in the community who has supported us. As well as our roles as your local representative, we all have roles in the new Alliance administration. I am cabinet member for nature, climate and food systems, Cllr Johnny Denis is cabinet member for Arts, Culture, Tourism & Leisure and Councillor Lucy Agace is the new Chair of the Planning Committee. We are all busy getting on top of our new roles.

Not too busy however to, as ever, find ourselves spending time following up potholes and dodgy pavements. Please do report these if you can, as the more times these get reported the more likely there will be action. You can do this on the county council's website or using the free 'FixMyStreet' app. We'd also encourage you to report issues like rubbish or overgrown hedges to the District Council using the website or the free 'LoveCleanStreets' app. If you aren't satisfied with the response, as councillors we can chase these up for you so get in touch.

We have continued to support residents on planning issues including the influx of speculative major developments and will be attending a raft of appeal hearings coming up soon, alas.

The new 'Flexibus' service has been launched by the county council – do get in touch with your experiences so we can help to share information about what is and isn't working well. You can book a bus pick up (a bit like a taxi) to go anywhere with the local 'zone' and currently fares are capped at £2. <https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/roads-transport/public/flexibus> and you can also book by phone on 01273 078203 - 6.30am to 7.30pm, Monday to Saturday. We'd be keen to hear feedback from residents so we can share it with the county council. It seems like it will be very useful for many people who want to do local journeys that aren't served by buses and want to or have to use public transport. Let us know how you get on.

Emily O'Brien

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