

## **Sackville ward town councillors update: Wednesday 8 March 2023**

### **Sackville ward**

Cllrs Baldry and Gibson held a town councillor surgery with Central ward town councillors Paul Plim and Viv Taylor-Gee at Bexhill train station on Tuesday 14 February.

And we had another councillor surgery on the seafront on Saturday 4 March. Thanks to all the residents who stopped by to share their views with us on the future of the public toilets – and on many other issues affecting Bexhill.



We both continue to help residents in Sackville ward with problems they experience. We are in regular contact with our Rother and East Sussex colleagues and are working well together.

In the last week or so we have been supporting residents with responses to the Rother parking consultation being run by East Sussex County Council – you can add your feedback to the proposals at: <https://consultation.eastsussex.gov.uk/economy-transport-environment/rother-formal-2021-23/> The closing date is **Friday 17 March**.

### **Deputy Mayor**

Cllr Baldry has had a busy month in her role as Deputy Mayor. She gave a talk at Beulah Baptist Church on Tuesday 21 February.

Cllr Baldry supported the Fairtrade Fortnight, going out and about in Bexhill town centre on Monday 27 February to meet people and promote local businesses supporting Fairtrade. And she also attended the Fairtrade breakfast at St Martha's Church on Sunday (5 March).

Cllr Baldry supported Bexhill Heritage's information morning on Friday 24 February at the station, where volunteers gave out information on the Bandstand launch weekend this April. And Kevin Terrell was on hand to talk about his nationwide Macmillan Busker project, which will launch at Bexhill Bandstand on Saturday 1 July. Cllr Gibson also attended.

Cllr Baldry opened the book launch for local writer Pat Strickson's new book 'Anglo Saxon Magic' (with beautiful illustrations by Bexhill artist Mark Bergin) at the Bexhill Museum on Thursday 2 March. Cllr Gibson also attended the event – good luck with the book Pat!



### **Council work**

Cllr Gibson continues to represent the town council on the re-development of the Sea Angling Club and is also the town council link with Bexhill Citizens Advice. Cllr Gibson attends fortnightly online meetings with Citizens Advice (most recently yesterday, Tuesday 7 March) and local advocacy groups to share information about issues affecting residents.

Please remember, if you're struggling with the cost-of-living crisis and need a voucher for Bexhill food bank, you can leave a message on Citizens Advice on their call back service on **01424 869 352** and someone will get back to you. Citizens Advice also have a member of staff posted at the food bank who can offer you advice and support.

Cllr Gibson also met with Dee Flower from Little Gate Farm on Tuesday 14 February to hear about the vital work they do helping people with learning difficulties and autism into work.



## **Community**

Cllr Gibson supported the Trees for Cities community tree planting day at Sidley Rec on Wednesday 15 February. It was a great day – thanks to all who attended, and to Shiplu for the amazing (and welcome!) food afterwards.

Both councillors will be supporting the Covid Remembrance Day at the Tree of Hope – organised by Cllrs Lynn Langlands, Chris Madely and Jimmy Stanger – on the Promenade, at 11am on Sunday 19 March.

And both councillors continue their volunteer activities outside of their formal councillor roles. This provides a broader insight into the local Bexhill community.

Claire took part in judging children's poetry for the Rotary Club and has written a poem called 'My Dear Covid Friends' for the Covid Remembrance Day. While Elly continues to volunteer regularly at the Bexhill food bank, and has recently become a parent governor at a local primary school.



## **King's coronation**

If you are part of a Bexhill Community Group planning a street party for the King's Coronation, the town council has extended our grants deadline to **this Sunday (12 March)** to allow local groups to apply for a funds to support their street party activities.

Please visit the town council website for application details:

<https://www.bexhilltowncouncil.gov.uk/community/bexhill-on-sea-19921/grants-and-donations/?fbclid=IwAR1ehtmNaeTupWh9RLSFIVELI3018-3b1v4iwljAlmyN03pKLTJlfnQujw8>

**We'd like to finish this month's round-up by congratulating all this year's town council civic award winners – thank you so much for all you do for Bexhill!**

**Upcoming diary**

- **Thursday 9 March:** 3.30-8pm, Mount View Street mental health hospital plans available at the Pelham.
- **Sunday 12 March:** Closing date for the next round of town council grants.
- **Saturday 18 March:** From 4pm, Annual Town Meeting, St Augustine's Church Hall.
- **Sunday 19 March:** 11am, Covid Remembrance Day at the Tree of Hope on the Promenade.
- **Saturday 1-Sunday 2 April:** Bexhill Heritage bandstand opening weekend.
- **Wednesday 5 April:** April full town council meeting.

**Thank You**

**Cllr Claire Baldry and Cllr Elly Gibson**

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