

Sackville ward town councillors update: Wednesday 18 May 2022

Working with RDC and ESCC

We held our third joint surgery with Cllr Terry Byrne, Cllr Hazel Timpe and Cllr Ian Hollidge on Friday 29 April from 10.30am-12noon at the Bathing Station. There was a good turnout from residents who wanted to talk to us all about all kinds of topics, ranging from graffiti and potholes, through to how to support Ukrainian refugees coming to Bexhill. We also gave out 50 town council newsletters which were well received by residents.

The five of us remain in regular contact, and we are working together on issues including the scaffolding by the Northern Hotel at the lower end of Sea Road, and lobbying for traffic calming measures on the East Parade end of the De La Warr parade.

Bexhill Hub for Ukraine

Cllr Baldry and Cllr Gibson both attended the Bexhill Hub for Ukraine support meeting at Beulah Baptist Church on Thursday 21 April. Cllr Gibson supported Sackville residents who are hosting Ukrainian guests at a meeting at Beulah Church on Saturday 7 May. She will also be at the coffee afternoon for Ukrainians at the De La Warr Pavilion this Friday (20 May).

Residents, businesses and community

We continue to work with residents, businesses and the local community. Cllr Gibson met with Lindsay White from Community Supporters on Friday 22 April to find out more about the organisation's work and how the town council can support them.

Cllr Gibson continues to volunteer at the food bank and has undertaken additional training to be able to offer clients more support and signpost them to services. Cllr Baldry has been busy supporting arrangements for the Millifest project which will be donating to local mental health charities. Cllr Baldry was also a judge for the Rotary Club schools writing competition.



We continue to advise Sackville residents with problems like unsociable neighbours and parking. Some of the issues our residents raise are very similar to those in the Old Town and Worsham ward, so we are arranging a "Meet your town councillors" session together with Old Town town councillors Cllr Dan Barfoot and Cllr Stuart Wray at Manor Barn soon.

Annual town meeting and other events

We both attended the annual town meeting on Saturday (14 May) at St Augustine's Church, where the town council presented its first set of civic awards. These were given to local people and groups who have made a real difference to the lives of people in Bexhill. And Alexis Markwick received the council's first "Freeman of Bexhill" award.



Cllr Gibson will take a shift on the town council stand at the Anglo-Continental market at the weekend (21-22 May). Please come and say hello to your town councillors!

Deputy Mayor

In her role as deputy mayor, Cllr Baldry attended a concert at the DLWP of great choral classics performed by the Bexhill Choral Society and the Sussex Concert Orchestra.

Council business and committees

Cllr Baldry and Cllr Gibson have attended the regular council meetings. We were both at the finance and general purposes committee meeting on Wednesday 27 April. Cllr Gibson attended an afternoon of financial training with the town clerk, Cllr Lynn Brailsford and Cllr David Harding at the Pelham on Thursday 5 May.

Both councillors are on the community committee, which is drafting a five-year strategy on how to implement the results of the Big Survey 2021 and met last Wednesday (11 May). And we both attended an extraordinary full council meeting, also last Wednesday, to award Alexis Markwick with the Honorary Freeman of Bexhill-on-Sea for his services to the town.

Upcoming diary

- **20 May:** Coffee afternoon for Ukrainian refugees, 2.30-4.30pm at the DLWP.
- **9 June:** Millifest fundraising quiz at the Bexhill Senior Citizens Club.
- **June/July tbc:** Joint councillor surgery with Old Town town councillors, Manor Barn.

Thank you for all your support this year! Cllr Elly Gibson and Cllr Claire Baldry
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