

Sackville ward update: Full council Wednesday 6 September 2023

Sackville residents

We hope you've all enjoyed a great summer. It's been busy one in Sackville ward. We had a joint Sackville and Old Town Ward councillor surgery on Saturday 15 July at Manor Barn. RDC and ESCC councillors were also in attendance.

We've assisted residents with a range of enquiries, including lost road signs, missed rubbish collections, noise and verge cutting. Please do give us a shout with any concerns.

Our next Sackville ward councillor surgery will be on Monday 2 October from 10.30am-12noon at Bexhill train station, where a Bexhill Maritime trustee will be available to answer any questions about the new charity.



Community

- Both councillors supported the Bexhill town council health and well-being market in Devonshire Square (Cllr Gibson) and Sidley Green (Cllr Baldry) on Saturday 8 July.
- Both councillors went to Bay House care home's summer barbecue on Friday 14 July.
- Cllr Baldry attended the British Legion Korean war ceasefire commemoration service at St Mark's Church on Sunday 23 July.
- Cllr Baldry supported events throughout carnival week including helping at the town council stall on Saturday 29 July.
- Cllr Baldry attended the summer fete at Mais House on Saturday 5 August.
- Cllr Baldry supported the Young Pollinators work on the Age UK Garden Space with a donation of tomato plants from her garden.
- Cllr Baldry supported Bexhill Day on Sunday 20 August, and in her personal capacity read poetry at the Bexhill Heritage Bandstand, which was also supporting Bexhill Day.
- Both councillors supported the car show organised by Bexhill 100 on Monday 28 August. Many thanks to all who worked hard to give the town such a splendid day.

Cllr Gibson continues to volunteer at the Bexhill foodbank and Cllr Baldry has a donations box outside her house. The foodbank needs bags for life, egg boxes and food donations. And a reminder that food bank sessions are: Tuesdays 1-3pm, Thursdays 10am-12noon and Fridays 3-5pm. If you need a referral, please get in touch.



Sackville businesses

We continue to work with local businesses to set up a Sackville Traders' Association – in our personal capacities – to help them try to secure extra funding as they continue to contend with the challenging economic environment.

And we are continuing our new series of "Sackville Shout Outs" on our social media to highlight the independent businesses in the ward.

Committees

We both attended the Climate, Nature and Environment (CNE) committee meeting on Wednesday 12 July. Cllr Baldry is the new Chair, with Cllr Gibson in the Vice-Chair role.

The committee has an exciting programme of work ahead for the coming year – including a "Grot-Busting" programme to clean up the town, developing the Neighbourhood Plan, the Bexhill Domesday Project and engagement with Southern Water – as well as working to monitor and improve the standard of verge cutting throughout Bexhill and the oversight of the council's only statutory responsibility, Bexhill's allotments.

Both councillors are members of the accessibility working group, that also comes under the CNE committee. The working group met on Thursday 17 August and is putting together an accessibility map of Bexhill that will contain information on everything from bereavement support and mental health groups, through to foodbank details and accessible transport. The free map will be available shortly.

Representation on external bodies

Cllr Gibson organised a visit to Little Gate Farm on Tuesday 8 August, accompanied by Cllrs Wilson and Jacklin. Little Gate is a farm based in Beckley (with a satellite office in Hastings), which supports adults with learning disabilities and autism into paid employment. We look forward to working with Little Gate more closely in future.

Cllr Gibson has had several meetings with new charity Bexhill Maritime including one with reps from Sutton Place (Monday 21 August) and another with RDC (Monday 4 September).

The charity had its public launch on Friday 25 August. Great news that thanks to the hard work of the trustees and the generosity of Trinity House – the organisation which runs the lighthouses in England and Wales – Bexhill Maritime has secured the Sovereign Light Lantern Tower, an important piece of local maritime history.

They hope – subject to planning permission – to build a maritime centre at the end of East Parade, at the bottom of Galley Hill, encompassing new premises for the Sea Angling Club. The lighthouse will be the focal point of the centre.

Cllr Gibson is the Citizens Advice 1066 town council rep and attended the most recent meeting of the community group forum chaired by CA1066 yesterday (5 September).

Upcoming diary

- **Wednesday 13 September: Asset** Transfer Committee.
- **Wednesday 13 September:** Community Committee.
- **Thursday 14 September:** Accessibility Working Group/Advisory Sub-Committee.
- **Friday 15 September:** Meeting with David Dennis for update on Domesday Project.
- **Thursday 21 September:** CNE site visit to allotments.
- **Monday 25 September:** Town councillors training session.
- **Wednesday 27 September:** Finance and General Purposes committee.
- **Monday 2 October:** 10.30am-12noon, Sackville ward councillor surgery at Bexhill train station, with a representative of Bexhill Maritime in attendance.
- **Wednesday 4 October:** October full council meeting.

Thank You,

Cllr Claire Baldry and Cllr Elly Gibson

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