

## **Councillor Reports**

### **D. Councillor Martin Lury**

I begin the report with the sad news that former councillor Jim Heaton has just passed away and would like to request a minute's silence in his honour.

I chaired a Planning Policy in late November where we discussed the reduction in fees income, given the current situation with the warning that CIL money may diminish somewhat. The most contentious item was the Arun Secondary School update where we were asked to identify the preferred location for a new secondary school with four different options - as there are several new members on this committee, I asked the committee to defer this item until next January to enable members to look at the four possible sites in order that they could make an informed decision. The Direction of Travel document was then discussed as a starting point to engage stakeholders and members were keen to be kept informed and a Members' briefing is planned for January 9th 2024. I have two consecutive planning meetings Wednesday and Thursday followed by a Members' briefing at Arun regarding the financial situation of the Council and possible savings to consider. I have also attended a Chief Executive Remuneration panel to consider salary to be offered and both Arun sessions at Bersted Community Centre which proved to be very useful. Keir and I were also participants in Arun's clean - up on The Trees Estate yesterday. Merry Christmas to one and all!

### **D. Cllr Gill Yeates**

This month's events:

Thurs 16 Nov. Chaired Constitution Working Party. I think we must have been filled with 'Christmas Spirit' because it was probably the most good natured meeting I've ever attended at Arun! I think we worked well as a cross-party group and that is how it should always be.

Mon 20th Nov. Attended Economy Committee at ADC as a substitute. I was on this committee for a couple of years so it was nice to be back, albeit as a one-off.

Thurs 23rd Nov. Attended Housing and Wellbeing Committee at ADC.

Fri 24th Nov. ADC flood resilience drop in session #1.

Sat 25th Nov. Helped with BPC tombola stand at Holy Cross Church. Thanks as always to Wendy for superb effort with the prizes! Switch on of Christmas lights in the town with snow! Very well attended event and a great Christmas atmosphere despite the biting cold.

Mon 27th Nov. Attended safeguarding training at ADC which was delivered by our very committed safeguarding officer, Cathryn. Always useful to have a knowledge 'top-up'.

Tues 28th Nov. Attended Planning Policy at ADC which Martin has already covered.

Wed 29th Nov. Ex Councillor, Paul English, from Felpham was invested as an honorary Alderman at ADC. Short and friendly meeting followed by a reception.

Fri 1st Dec. Attended the ADALC conference at Arundel Town Hall with our Chair. I was officially representing Bognor Regis Town Council (good result as my co-member was unable to attend due to illness) so that Alan could continue his association with ADALC, taking our second invitation. We heard from Andrew Griffith MP, largely about planning matters, and discussed ways forward for the District Association. I suggested that ADALC write to the various agencies who are involved with planning, roads and flooding, to deal with some of the issues raised - especially not responding to consultation requests.

Tues 5th Dec. This is an example of my 'double planning' days, with Bognor Town at 4pm and Bersted at 7pm. This turned into a 'planning sandwich' with a visit to the ADC Flood Resilience event at Bersted Park Community Centre. I did go to the previous one so was able to continue discussions with S. Water in particular.

A very Merry Christmas to you all

## **Monthly Report Cllr Alan Smith**

November-December 2023

14th November Council Meeting

16th November Meeting with Clerk

21st November Community Action

28th November Finance and GP

1st December ADALC Conference with Chairman and Deputy Chair

12th December Council Meeting

## **Cllr Van Koolbergen**

It's been a quieter month for me on the parish front however attended meetings as follows:-

Full council 14th November

Finance & GP 28th November

Planning 5th December

& updating residents following approval of WSCC/021/23

Happy Christmas to all.