Hosted Katy Bourne (PCC for Sussex), Nick Gibb MP and Police Officers/PCSOs at the Bognor Regis Train Station to hear views of retailers – 4th February

Katy and Nick heard first hand the issues relating to antisocial behaviour and other crimes on businesses and individuals. Sussex Police are committed to working closer with British Transport Police (BTP) and Nick is going to write to surrounding businesses asking them to pull together to support each other, including reporting instances of crime. I will be writing to Bognor Regis Town Council to see if we can get an event off the ground to bring communities closer together.

Tour of the Records Office in Chichester – 4th February

I was invited to a tour of the facility. Extremely interesting and resourceful service, on our doorstep! Any questions about the site, please let me know.

WSCC Budget briefing - 26th January

County Councillors were briefed on the proposed budget for WSCC. An increase of 2.99% is proposed to the precept. It is up for debate and will be decided on 18th February at the next full council meeting.

National Highways briefing on proposed A27 Arundel bypass – 26th January

I think a lot of Parish Councillors will know my views on the need for additional infrastructure given the vast number of additional houses forthcoming. I am however concerned about impact this bypass will have, in the proposals current form, on villages like Walberton. I won't go into detail here on this, but I am happy to discuss this with anyone interested. Where Bersted is concerned, I have asked for further detail on the impact on the A259 and A29, I will pass this information on when I have it. I would encourage Parish Councillors to engage with the consultation which closes on 8th March.

Youth Cabinet meeting on improving education for poverty-stricken families – 25th January

This discussion was right up my street. Having met with the schools in the area and asking them directly on this question, I felt I was able to contribute to this debate.

School uniform - the cost and the reason for existence came up.

The pressure of exams.

Period poverty

Subject choices.

It was very interesting and it was great to hear such well aired points put across by the Youth Cabinet members.

Infrastructure Meeting – 7th January

The minutes for these have been circled by the Parish Clerk and so will just add that the Operation Watershed funding is proposed for this year and the coming years, at least the next two. I would encourage the Parish Council to pursue an application if there is an area of need, like Shripney.

Electrical works on path of eastern side of A29.

I have had confirmation that the works to the path on the eastern side of the A29 connecting Lidl/Rolls Royce and the Southern Cross Trading Estate to due to commence on **21**st **March**. This is the electrical works, for the path construction to restart.

Expression of Interest – Pheonix Centre / Finditout Centre Bognor Regis – Closes today 8th February

The county council has been looking for organisations to take over the use of these buildings. Expressions of interest are due to be in by 8th February. Have been working closely with stakeholders and officers, specifically on the Pheonix Centre as this falls within the Bersted Division.

I'll leave it there for now. Any questions, please let me know.