

## **Motion to July 2021 Full Council - Disability access**

**Proposer: Cllr Macleod, Seconder: Cllr Denis**

### **Preamble:**

This Council notes that there are some problems in Lewes District relating to accessibility. The 2010 Equality Act does not ensure that shops, pubs and restaurants are fully accessible. There is much more that can be done to make our District more accessible to everyone.

Some disabled residents have reported experiencing reduced or no access to local amenities, shopping areas, and public services due to lack of accessibility. This Council believes that accessibility for disabled residents is a high priority and that the Council must do more to support them.

Local councils can play a major role in a number of areas from gritting footpaths in wintry periods, to more dropped kerbs, and accessible play equipment in parks.

### **Proposed Motion:**

This Council resolves:

- To offer information to businesses about the 2010 Equality Act, and how they can adapt their business to be more disability friendly.
- To investigate how it can work with Town and Parish Councils and the County Council to better grit town and village footpaths on key routes so that everyone can safely access their local amenities.
- To investigate how it can work with travel companies to provide better access to public transport especially in rural areas where often buses are not frequent and often finish early.
- To include accessible play equipment in all new play areas and as part of play area refurbishments, wherever possible.
- To be mindful of disability access in the design of any new public space.
- To ask the Cabinet Member for Communities and Customers to write to East Sussex County Council:
  - To request that it works with councillors and officers from all councils on how they can make their villages and towns more disability friendly including by providing more dropped kerbs and tactile crossings.
  - To request that it does not allow any new A-boards permissions, to help reduce and restrict pavement clutter.
  - To ask that it use powers granted by Central Government to tackle pavement parking as Civil Parking Enforcement.
- To ask the Cabinet Member for Communities and Customers to write to Network Rail and our rail network partners to bring forward plans to make our stations fully accessible.