

## Outside Bodies – Reports from Councillors

The following updates have been received from Councillors since the last meeting in relation to the outside bodies to which they have been appointed by Full Council.

	<b>Outside Body</b>	<b>Councillors</b>	<b>Update</b>
1	East Sussex Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Stephen Gauntlett	<p><u>Date of meeting:</u> 10 June 2021</p> <p><u>Business Discussed and Decisions:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) The redesign of inpatient mental health services was a major item as it represents a potential major improvement to existing provision. It is likely to be modern, purpose-built with ensuite rooms (rather than current dormitory style on a single site). HOSC resolved that as this was a major project, a sub-committee would be formed to work with the NHS. A public consultation period began on 14/6/2021 and runs until 6/9/2021.</li> <li>2) Full reports were received detailing the NHS response to Covid. The ESCC Director of Public Health warned of an imminent third wave of the virus but at this stage it was difficult to know “how fast or high the tide will be”.</li> <li>3) The future work programme for HOSC (meeting on 23/9/2021), will contain proposals for cardiology and ophthalmology services at East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust and whether they constitute a major variation to services requiring formal consultation with HOSC. NHS 111 Clinical Assessment Services will also be an agenda item.</li> </ol>
2	South Downs National Park Authority AGM	William Meyer	<p><u>Date of meeting:</u> 6 July</p> <p><u>Business discussed:</u> The meeting is broadcast and recorded and available for public view – at the time of writing this report I have not yet attended the meeting but the key issue – appointment of a Chair and Deputy will be marked by no change as no other Members of the authority put themselves forward for election on this occasion. This is because the current Chairman – Ian Philips and his Deputy – Vanessa Rowlands (who have been in post for just one year) are considered by all</p>

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			<p>Members of the Authority to have done an exemplary job during a most challenging year for the Authority.</p> <p>The meeting is the FIRST to be held in PERSON and in Midhurst for over one and a half years.</p> <p><u>Decisions made:</u> See <a href="#">SDNP public website</a> for full details and conduct of meeting.</p>
3	South Downs National Park Authority ref: transfer of Seven Sisters Country Park from ESCC to the wholly owned Company of the SDNPA – namely ‘South Downs Commercial Operations Ltd’	William Meyer	<p>Date of meeting: 30 April &amp; 9<sup>th</sup> May (shadow Board of Directors) and various informal meetings with the recently appointed Manager / CEO of the shadow South Downs Commercial Operations Ltd company.</p> <p>Business discussed: The process for transfer of the site.</p> <p>The transfer from ESCC is expected to be finalised imminently, and will enable the Park Authority to not only take over the running and management of this iconic site but on so doing to implement the plans it has drawn up to invest the necessary funds required into the assets of the site. These assets including the Visitor Centre are currently in a poor state of repair and remain closed to the public. Overall, the Park aims to ensure a community asset can be restored in a sensitive way to ensure it is remains open and available to the public all year round. Another key and equally important aim is to introduce to new land management schemes aimed at ensuring the County Park’s land is improved for wildlife, fauna and flora in what is a key location on the edge for our District but fully within the confines of the SDNPA.</p>
4	Impact Seaford	Christine Brett	<p><u>Date of meeting:</u> 17 March 2021</p> <p><u>Business discussed and decisions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A draft version of the Impact Seaford Economic Plan 2025 was shared in advance of the meeting.</li> <li>• Update on LDC Tourism’s promotional activity for Seaford. It was agreed to</li> </ul>

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			<p>discuss wider LDC tourism promotion with the LDC Tourism team and Cllr O’Keeffe (LDC Cabinet member for Tourism).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seaford Town Council (AC) Martello Tower Toilet Facilities and Entertainment Area – a lottery application was pending to provide part of the funding for the Changing Places facility. An entertainment area had been piloted for inclusion in the Martello Tower project but had not been taken forward. It was explained that the need for any revision of this aspect of the scheme should be led by the stakeholder group, including members of the town council.</li> <li>• Seaford Town Council (STC) Climate Change Policy – It was noted that STC had already carried out a number of actions to address climate change locally since the national Climate Change Motion was passed in 2019. An update of council policy was expected this year.</li> </ul> <p>Seaford Community Partnership – an update on the project was noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Use It or Lose It campaign – 87 out of 93 businesses had signed up. The Chamber would work with Youth Forum to discuss and develop options. Decision – It was agreed that the Keep It Local and Use It or Lose It campaigns were closely aligned enough to be merged into one project for the purposes of the plan. It was requested that this project be moved forward to Summer 2021.</li> <li>• Walking and Cycling Projects - – the partnership had submitted an application for £150k of funding to the UK Renewal Fund for a study designed to assess how</li> </ul>

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			<p>best to encourage people to walk and cycle.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UK Renewal Fund – The County Council (ESCC) had now shortlisted applications. Members would be informed of progress when known.</li> <li>• Gateway and Signage Project - It was agreed this project be moved in the plan to Summer 2021, based on progress made. It was agreed discussions would take place around possible opportunities for signage via ESCC. Seaford Community Partnership would formally consult with the town council, which would be key to deciding on the project design.</li> <li>• Consideration of potential sites for Tourist Information Centre Enhancement - it was agreed who would follow up on this matter and agreed that the due date would be moved to 2025.</li> <li>• Encouraging More Walking and Cycling target – was moved to Medium Term and the due date moved to April 2025.</li> <li>• Tourism Development Document - it was agreed that this be revised to be more consistent and include SMART targets.</li> <li>• It was noted that Natural England had approached the town council and asked for permission to install an information panel for kittiwakes at the bottom of Seaford Head. General consensus was approval.</li> </ul>
5	Seaford Head Nature Reserve committee	Christine Brett	<p>Date of meeting: 23 March 2021</p> <p>Business discussed/ decisions:</p> <p>a) Actions from the previous meeting were discussed:</p>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ No further action had yet been made on beach access signs.</li> <li>○ Environment Agenda (EA) work on the Cuckmere – Information had not yet been received on planned works. The EA Catchment Co-ordinator (Cuckmere and Pevensey Levels), had declined to attend this meeting but would be invited again in October. This matter was discussed at length.</li> </ul> <p>b) Covid visitor survey has been circulated with papers for the meeting.</p> <p>c) Surveys of the foreshore had been circulated to committee members.</p> <p>d) SWT Site Ranger's Report – This emphasised the effects of Covid restrictions – no winter volunteer activity, incomplete planned habitat management, and high visitor impact on the Reserve. Key points involved the work programme, grazing, rubbish, gates and footpaths, and interpretation boards, some of which generated discussion.</p> <p>e) Some gates were to be replaced by SDNPA on new England Coast Path and some diversions related to coastal erosion.</p> <p>f) According to Seaford Town Council (STC) SWT's Interpretation board maps should only show rights of way.</p> <p>g) SDNPA Update - South Downs Volunteer Rangers would be available to the SWT Site Ranger. The 'Keep Britain Tidy' campaign in June. Noted that SDNPA due to take over the Seven Sisters Country Park from mid- May. Assistance has been provided on the</p>

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			<p>new landscape management plan including a short-term grazing plan.</p> <p>h) Sussex Heritage Coast Partnership update received.</p> <p>i) National Trust update received.</p> <p>j) Coastguard Cottages update received.</p> <p>k) Seaford Town Council update – noted the car parking stress at South Hill Barn and the question of parking fees. There was a conflict of interest between increased footfall and litter and the wish to encourage visitors.</p> <p>l) SWT Management Plan Objectives Review – Noted the planned timetable of objectives on page 64 of the SWT Management Plan were generally on course.</p> <p><u>Decisions made:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ An enquiry would be made about an alternative representative from STC staff.</li> <li>○ Info from EA would be sought concerning proposed Cuckmere activities. Members were invited to provide their comments / concerns to be raised with the EA.</li> <li>○ Copies of the 50 years' book be taken to the Barn coffee shop when available.</li> <li>○ Rubbish at Chyngton Rise had still not been removed – would request an update from STC. The SWT Site Ranger would provide information on the status of the dump area in relation to SSSI.</li> </ul>
6	Mental Health Champion	Sean Macleod	There has been a period of transition in this work over the last few months, with the departure of Phil Evans who had been the staff mental health champion, and the appointment in May of Becky Cooke (Assistant Director – HR and

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			<p>Transformation) to this role. We have now begun to work together and have further meetings arranged to discuss our aims. I am pleased to say the Samaritan Signs are now dotted throughout the District in areas agreed with Sussex Police and the Suicide prevention team at ESCC.</p> <p>The mental health champions from across the country will be meeting on 23 July to discuss plans for the post-covid 19 recovery, and the impacts covid-19 has had on mental health.</p>
7	3VA	Sean Macleod	This has not yet met since my appointment to this role.