

AN UPDATE FROM MARK - MY FIRST YEAR IN THE JOB

In the last eleven months there have been a couple of notable events in Old Town and Worsham ward. The first exciting one is the start of construction by Kier of the new mental health facility in Mount View Street. With one in four East Sussex residents needing treatment for mental health issues, this modern inpatient facility is to be welcomed.

On the other side of the road, I've had discussions with residents and the developers over tree health, build quality and site cleanliness. A new phase to the north is now in and above ground with many more houses to be available there.

Many of you will be overjoyed that East Sussex CC have resurfaced Holliers Hill and, with district councillors starting on a systematic recording and reporting of highway faults in Old Town, Pebsham and Central Wards, maybe we can look forward to a future of road surfaces fit for business and private vehicles.

I'd very much like to take the opportunity to congratulate all at The Pelham for its new basement Youth Club, its High Sheriff of East Sussex award "in recognition of great and valuable services to the community" and its community recognition with a grant from the Levelling Up Partnership Fund.

Speeding on London Road continues to be a concern and we're actively looking at ways to address this - if anyone can offer help, please contact me through my Facebook page.

Residents' concerns on large scale graffiti have been addressed and removed, mainly at King Offa's Way but in other locations too.

Finally, I am pleased to have been able to work with fellow councillors to be able to offer Rother DC staff an acceptable pay rise for the current year and an agreement for easier negotiations in the future. As you can read on the front page of this newsletter, we now have a plan in place for staff to rejoin the National Joint Pay Claim, fulfilling our 2023 manifesto commitment.



with Mark

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Monthly advice surgeries on the third Saturday of the month, 10.30am to 11.30am At Jimmi's, The Bell, Old Town.