

WORKING HARD FOR PEBSHAM AND ST MICHAELS

Since being elected last May my incoming casework has varied from issues with the roads, potholes and East Sussex Highways, parking, planning and development issues, flooding, Southern Water and the Environment Agency, issues with Southern Housing properties and estate, to litter, and even dangerous dogs and more. What issues I can address, are varied but either way, it has been a privilege to be in a unique position to assist residents in so many ways. Taking the issue of roads, I share your frustration and understand the impact that deteriorating road conditions can have on motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians. I have been organising monthly sessions to assess the roads and footpaths in our ward and press East Sussex County Council to make good on the promises to repair and resurface them. I have also taken up Cllr Bayliss's call for residents to share their repair bills with us to evidence the level of vehicle damage and the associated costs. This will undoubtedly need to continue to be a focus of my work.

Speeding is frequently cited as a significant issue locally for residents. To help tackle this, I discussed this with our local neighbourhood policing team and set up two speed checking sessions in March of this year. These sessions will be happening on a rolling basis two or three times per year going forward, with the aim to encourage all drivers to use our roads responsibly.

On a brighter note, Pebsham Community Hub is set to benefit from a grant through RDC's Village Halls Energy Project. The proposed refurbishment of the old club bar into a community café is also an exciting development at the Community Centre, thanks to funding secured through the support of Rother Voluntary Action (RVA). The 'Third Avenue' bus shelter on Hastings Road is a modest but classic example of 1930's modernist architecture. I have discussed the possibility of restoring it to its former glory, as well as adding some artwork to brighten it all up. Bexhill Heritage are keen on incorporating this into their programme for later this year. I look forward to taking all of these projects forward over the coming year and will be putting requests out for help with some aspects of the projects, so keep an eye out for how you might be able to get involved!

My current priorities are pressuring East Sussex County Council to repair and improve our roads and footpaths, helping deliver the necessary upgrades and improvements to the Community Centre, advocating on behalf of residents to ensure the new housing developments across the top of Pebsham meet the needs of the local community and consider their environmental impact.



with Gareth

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Monthly advice surgeries on the first Saturday of the month, 10.30am to 11.30am Alternating between Pebsham Community Hub and St Michaels. Upcoming: 4th May (St Michaels) and 1st June (Community Centre).