

Just a couple of comments.

Not a lot has changed in the last month. I am still constantly reporting Highways problems of which this past winter and Spring have been the most difficult on record.

I know you thought I had said there were only 3 people working on the pothole and patching work and I know I have sent you an explanation. There are several teams working all over the County on highways work and the 3 I mentioned were the big Patching machines which when used do a really good job not just around a pothole but up to about 7metres which usually incorporates potholes that didn't even reach the required depth which must be good. These Patchers which are large pieces of machinery are usually good in the Country areas but not always useful in urban areas as they are large machines.

Childrens Services is still on the upward trajectory . OFSTED have recently inspected our Childrens homes and they are all either good or outstanding so that's a good result. We are not out of the woods yet though with childrens Services still better but not at their best yet. We continue.

Adult Services along with Education still take the Lions share of the budget and with rising costs in Care homes etc more and more finance has to be employed to keep these Services as they should be. At the moment we are doing so but for the future well who knows.

The County Council has a new Chief Executive. His name is Leigh Whitehouse and he was deputy at Surrey County Council. He should be able to join us in about 3 months time and Becky Shaw will stay with us until he arrives.

The Southdowns National Park is in a similar position but not yet out to advert so as there is expected to be a large number of applicants it is unlikely that we will have a new Chief Executive in place before about August. In the meantime our Interim CEO Tim Slaney who many may know through Planning is doing a good job.

I am sorry not to be with you tonight but please let me know if there is anything that you need me to look into for you apart of course from Brewhurst.

For the record I should say I did go to Loxwood School and had a good look around with the Head who as you know is departing soon. The School is doing wonders with the facilities that they have and my goodness there are some improvements needed to the buildings to help everyone concerned. They are doing a good job and I am personally in touch with the Officer trying to help us. I will keep pushing for any source of money that can be found. The work required does not qualify under the CIL and S106 money but I think for the future we need to be aware of these funds especially as the School would like to be more of a community School and make say it's Hall available for community use.

Hopefully see you in May but as ever my email is janet.dunton@westsussex.gov.uk and mobile 07979152898.

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