

Stedham with Iping Annual Parish Meeting 23rd November 2021

District Councillor's Report

The pandemic has had a significant impact on the local economy. A number of businesses have moved out, although there are several new ventures in the offing. The Midhurst shop vacancy rate is 8.3%. The town still needs some rather obvious premises back in use. Locals need to use their local shops or lose them.

Chichester city continues to suffer more, given the loss of high street names, but there have been 122 start-up businesses in the last quarter.

It seems though that all the activity and all the money is currently focussed around Chichester leaving the northern areas rather underprovided. Councillors are questioning the allocation of funds and hopefully this situation will be resolved.