

County Councillor report Stedham Parish Council 12th September 2019

Schools update

West Sussex County Council had published a plan to consult on the future of 5 of its small schools including the possibility of closure, the schools include Compton and Stedham locally. They have taken views from the community over the Summer and have said they will take the decision as to whether to enter formal consultation in September.

CYPSC 11th Sept – decision discussed - concerns about the process so far and the selection of the 5 schools and the criteria used were raised. Decision was not scrutinized yet but there will be an urgent TFG to discuss the process so far. This meeting will occur prior to the decision to consult on the future of the 5 schools. Depending on the result of that meeting and the decision the cabinet member makes we still have the option of calling in the decision. My view consultation potentially undermines confidence in the any school and should be last resort.

Electric Vehicles

I have had an interesting time on a member group at WSCC looking at an Electric Vehicle (EV) strategy for the county. WSCC will be consulting on this further in the Autumn. Current issues include whether to allow leads across pavements, as they are doing in Brighton, to enable residents without off street parking to charge. Chichester District have put in a bid for a government grant for EV charging points – 18 new charging points will be introduced across the Chi District – small steps but it is a start.

Bus Update

Good news about the new bus stop signs – they have arrived! They look smart and send a message to everyone that our buses are here to stay. Our local bus group met at the end of June, there was a good discussion between SDNPA and Stagecoach. Joint promotion of these services is a great way forward. I now have loads of paper timetables which I am distributing around the area – so no excuses for not knowing the times!

Our next meeting is on 24th Sept. Future of the 54 , 0734 service under discussion.

Midhurst Vision update

A series of workshops have started I have attended the first 3 – you will be able to follow progress on the Midhurst Vision website - <https://midhurstvision.org/>

Cycling The [West Sussex Cycling Design Guide \(PDF, 1MB\)](#) is now available on the County Council's website. The guide provides advice to developers about current best practice in relation to cycling infrastructure provision and signposts to other best practice guidance and case studies. Good news – I have been working on this with officers – cycling summit in November.

Kate's Drop Ins continue

Harting – The White Hart – 3rd October – 10.30-12.30

