

## ESCC Report for Parish Councils August 2020

Overall, East Sussex has experienced lower levels of confirmed cases of Covid/19 than the national average, and this is the case for each of the five district and borough councils. Eastbourne and Lewes have seen the highest rates within the county, with Rother and Hastings the lowest. East Sussex has had 1505 confirmed cases and at the moment (end July) there seem to be 5-10 cases per day. In East Sussex, the number of deaths up to beginning July (with Covid mentioned on the death certificate) is 351 (ONS figures). **The Local Outbreak Control Plan** has now been published to help manage and control a further local outbreak in the county.

Five libraries have reopened at Battle, Hastings, Eastbourne, Newhaven and Crowborough – a full service is not possible due to social distancing rules.

From Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July Government guidance for those who have shielded has changed. Shielded people can meet outdoors with a group of up to 6 people, they no longer have to socially distance from those they live with, they can form a support “bubble “ with another household, for children who are shielded they must obtain a clinical discussion with a paediatric specialist or GP before being removed from the shielded patient list.

The East Sussex Hearing Resource Centre is offering a free NHS hearing aid battery service to any person living in East Sussex who holds a Hearing Aid and Battery Issuing Record Book.

Tel: 01323 722505 email: [mail@eshrc.org](mailto:mail@eshrc.org) [www.eshrc.org](http://www.eshrc.org)

A new regional adoption agency has been launched. Families across the south east able to offer adoptive children a loving home will now be supported by this new agency. **Adoption South East** brings together services from Brighton & Hove City Council and East Sussex, West Sussex and Surrey county councils to form a regional hub. With 120 children in the south east needing adoptive families at any one time, the agency intends to broaden the range and increase the number of people considering adoption. Adoptive parents play such an important role and Adoption South East aims to support them.

Weddings and civil partnership ceremonies resumed on 21<sup>st</sup> July. Latest government guidance allows ceremonies to take place at register offices, licensed venues, and places of worship where a registrar is required. [www.ceremoniesineastsussex.co.uk](http://www.ceremoniesineastsussex.co.uk)

Highways have continued work on the county's roads during the summer. 31 roads are undergoing surface dressing work while 19 are included in the micro asphalt programme.

This is aiming to protect roads from water damage and frost, which can lead to potholes. Our Highways Steward, James Kelly, is still working hard on eliminating potholes. Please inform the Highways department or me of any damage.

The construction of a new 420-place school in Hailsham has been named “project of the year” at a national awards ceremony. Development of Hailsham Community College Primary Academy, a collaboration between ESCC and Morgan Sindall Construction, won the category “Building Project of the Year under £10m”. The academy was finished 11 weeks ahead of schedule allowing the first cohort of reception children to move into the new school, part of Hailsham Community College Academy Trust , in September 2019. The project gained praise for its “ excellent levels of collaboration and teamwork” at every stage.

East Sussex CCG has recommenced the Eastbourne Station Health Centre public consultation which runs from 3<sup>rd</sup> August to 14<sup>th</sup> September. Please take part:

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