

Maria Caulfield's Update for Ringmer Parish Council July 2022

Sorry I am unable to join you at your meeting tonight. I just wanted to update you on a number of issues since your last meeting.

1) Sussex wine has received a Protected Designation of Origin (PDO) designation

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) has now finally recognised Sussex wine as a Protected Designation of Origin (PDO). It will enter the register on 5 July, 2022, giving Sussex wine the same legal status as Jersey Royal potatoes, Cornish clotted cream and Stilton cheese.

Still and sparkling wines can only be called 'Sussex' if they are grown in the region – which encompasses the counties of West Sussex and East Sussex – and meet a strict set of conditions, including: being made in the traditional method, predominantly from classic sparkling wine grape varieties grown within the region. It must also have a minimum abv of 11%, a minimum of 6 grams per litre expressed as tartaric acid, a maximum of 0.5 grams per litre expressed as acetic acid and a maximum of 150mg per litre of sulphur dioxide.

2) Developing a tourist accommodation registration scheme in England

The government is issuing a call for evidence on the benefits and challenges presented by the rise in short-term and holiday letting seen in England over the last 10 to 15 years. This will inform the development of appropriate policy options, which the government intends to consult on later in 2022. The consultation can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/developing-a-tourist-accommodation-registration-scheme-in-england>

3) Changes to Health and Care Provision in Sussex from 1st July 2022

From the 1st July 2022 42 Integrated Care Systems go live across the country. This replaces the previous model of Clinical Commissioning Groups and locally we are now under Sussex Health and Care. This model of health and social care delivery is intended to bring together health and social care providers and commissioners of NHS services with local authorities and other partners to collectively plan health and care services across specific geographical areas across the country and tackle health and wellbeing inequalities.

More information about Sussex Health and Care can be found here: <https://www.sussex.ics.nhs.uk/>

4) Planning Reform

I recently met with the Minister regarding the forthcoming changes in Planning that will be part of the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill. I heard some very positive things and the Minister signalled quite a few of the changes that we have all been pushing for. I will write to you separately when I have more information on this that I can share. I'm hopeful that the changes will make a positive difference and increase our chances of seeing off developments such as the Eton College site.

5) Support for Raystede Centre for Animal Welfare

I recently attended the Raystede Summer Fair Dog Show. It was a successful event which featured magic shows, dog parade, parkour, a pony parade and the dog show. I know that they are in need of support currently to deal with the number of animals that are being brought in. Any support you are able to give them would be greatly appreciated. Information can be found at: <https://www.raystede.org/support-us/>

6) Future of the A27 between Lewes and Polegate.

I have spoken to National Highways regarding the long term plans for the A27 between Lewes and Polegate. They have informed me that they will be consulting on their plans and involving key stakeholders such as parish councils. I will keep you updated as this develops.