

Sussex County Councillor Jeremy Birch Report November 2011

- 20 mph – The Old Town 20mph zone is now to be completed with the inclusion of West Street
- I presented the petition calling for a review of traffic safety in High Street. A public meeting with county council highways officers was held in October around these issues and a number of different suggestions came forward including making parts of High Street a shared space between pedestrians and vehicles as happens often in Holland and other parts of Europe.
- Plans for parking and traffic flow along Rock-a-Nore Road have been developed and will be shared with traders and residents before formally being put through the council processes.
- Frederick Road – The problem of the narrowness of the road and its unsuitability for heavy vehicles is being addressed. The suggestions are to visually reduce the carriageway with hatching and removal of some of the double yellows and the installation of an additional advisory sign indicating “unsuitable for heavy goods vehicles”.
- Parking Contract – the County Council’s Cabinet meets on 15th November and is being recommended to take back management of on-street parking in Hastings from the borough council and to hand it over to NSL, the on-street arm of National Car Parks. This is despite the opposition of local businesses and residents’ organisations in Hastings who fear a remote, private company running parking will only be interested in the management fee and not in showing sympathy to the particular needs of the locality. The borough council did make an offer to continue managing this service and providing a £180,000 saving to the county.
- Winter highways plans – the roads to be gritted by East Sussex County Council in the Old Hastings and Tressell division are: Harold Road, the A259 (seafront, The Bourne, Old London Road) Priory Road, Mount Pleasant Road and the bus routes along Fredrick Road and Clifton Road. The County Council’s policy on grit bins is pretty tightly circumscribed;

“New grit bins

We will provide new grit bins where:

the costs are met by residents' associations, businesses, or the local parish, town or district council

there is a suitable location for the new bin.

For a new grit bin please contact your local borough council in the first instance to find out whether they would be willing to provide one. If they agree to your request, they will contact us.

You can also request a grit bin through your local [Highways Contact Centre](#). We will review the request and, if approved, agree a suitable location. Bins can be located on the highway, private or Council owned land, with the landowner's permission.

Cost for installing a grit bin

Grit bin - £145

Installation and first fill - £130

Refill - £ 70

Filling an empty grit bin

New grit bins are not automatically refilled. The owner or responsible person must ask for a bin to be refilled by contacting our Highways Contact Centre and making an advance payment. We will then arrange for the new bin to be refilled when we refill our own grit bins.

When there is high demand for grit, this may be reserved for use on priority roads and this might prevent grit bins from being refilled.”

Cllr Jeremy Birch – 01424 425585