

Frant & Wadhurst Matters

News from Frant & Wadhurst Conservatives

WORKING HARD FOR A BETTER WEALDEN

Promoted by Bob Standley on behalf of Wealden Conservatives, all at Woodclyffe, Buxted TN22 4JT. Printed by SoloPress, Unit 4, 11 Stock Road, Southend-on-Sea SS2 5QF

INCLUDING
Bells Yew Green
and
surrounding villages

Wealden Conservatives' Lobbying Success

2023
NEW YEAR
SPECIAL
ISSUE

For many months, Conservative-led Wealden District Council have been lobbying central Government that the centrally-imposed housing targets on the district were too high.

Both the current Leader, Ann Newton, and previous Leader Bob Standley, have met with successive Secretaries of State to put their case, and the recent announcement from Michael Gove has vindicated that lobbying on behalf of residents.



Cllrs Johanna Howell and Gill Weavers

It was welcome news that:

- Centrally-produced housing numbers will no longer be mandatory
- With over 60% of Wealden being protected land, including the AONB, we can reduce the housing numbers required
- Brownfield sites will be a priority
- Planning inspectors will no longer be able to override sensible local decisions
- More homes in the North and Midlands to ease pressure on the South-East
- Local Neighbourhood Plans are to be strengthened
- Developers to pay higher fees so council planning departments not subsidised by Council Tax payers

“The proposals are welcomed and set to protect our very special environment here in Wealden”, said Conservative councillor Bob Standley.

Tackling Climate Change

Wealden Conservatives are committed to net carbon zero by 2050 at the latest.

An action plan is in place and being implemented to achieve this.

Electric vehicle charging points are being installed in many of our off-street car parks in Wealden.

Proposals that the waste vehicles are being converted to run on hydrogenated vegetable oil. This investment will drastically reduce the amount of diesel being used by the council.

Wealden were ahead of the game

with council offices achieving BREEAM excellence back in 2011.

“We have a sound Climate Action Plan in place and, through prudent management of the council’s finances, the resources necessary to deliver change at the scale required as a council, and to help enable our communities to follow our lead”, says Wealden council leader, Ann Newton.

“We are focused on the things we can do locally to conserve the environment while ensuring Wealden remains a good place to live and work”, she added.



**Conservative-run Wealden
INVESTING IN
INFRASTRUCTURE**

- New employment park
- Upgraded swimming pool in Crowborough
- Community sports park
- Increased spending on road maintenance
- Improving major road network
- Increased funding on cycling tracks and recreational space.

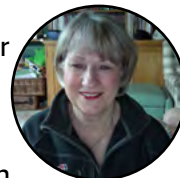
**An introduction from
Gill Weavers**



I am looking forward to the opportunity of standing as a local candidate in the forthcoming district council elections, and working hard on behalf of local residents.

My top priority will be to continue the strong record of service in this ward and I hope to meet as many local residents as I can during the election campaign; hearing your views on how we can make Frant and Wadhurst ward an even better places to live work and visit.

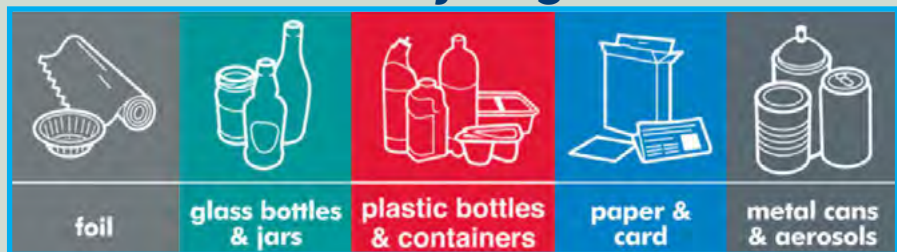
Cllr Johanna Howell



I'm an active member of my community, having sat on Frant Parish Council for many years and been a District Councillor for 18 years. I have lobbied our MPs with regards housing, protecting our Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and many other issues.

I am an ardent believer in protecting our environment. Wealden is a well-run and efficient authority (unlike our neighbouring authorities) and I am proud to represent my community on it.

Wealden – best-recycling in East Sussex



Thanks to your efforts, Wealden has consistently had the highest recycling rates of any area in East Sussex.

Items which cannot be recycled go to the East

Sussex County Council Power-from-Waste facility at Newhaven.

They are used as fuel to generate electricity – enough to power 20,000 homes.

Free-parking pledge



Conservative-run Wealden District Council has kept its promise and maintained free parking in off-street car parks to help protect our high streets.

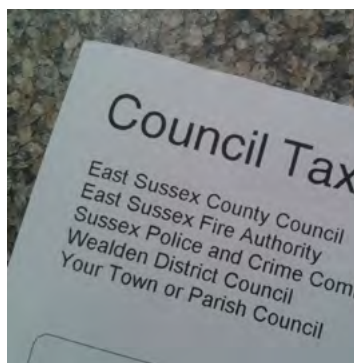
During the pandemic Wealden District Council were quick to get financial help, funded by central government, to local businesses.

“It is vital that we do all we can to support our vulnerable high streets”, says candidate Cllr Gill Weavers who will be standing in May’s district council elections.

WEALDEN’S SOUND FINANCES

Conservative-run Wealden District Council and East Sussex County Council have both kept Council Tax increases as low as possible while providing high-quality services to our residents.

“It is imperative that we continue to limit any Council Tax increase to the lowest possible, and promise that to residents”, says Frant & Wadhurst Councillor Johanna Howell.



HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS

An extra £8.9-million has been allocated to the highways network, including additional patching which gives a longer-lasting repair than filling potholes. Resources are limited but the County Council is continuing to deliver its programme to improve our roads.

YOUR LOCAL CONSERVATIVE TEAM



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