

In Touch

News from Sovereign Ward Conservatives

2022 – Issue 1



**SOVEREIGN
COUNCILLOR
SURGERIES**

Third Saturday of the
month, 10.30am to
12.30pm at Simply
Italian,
Waterfront.

Conservative boost for Harbour businesses

A raft of Conservative-led grants has helped our new quay area in the marina to become a vibrant, multi-purpose zone combining a sustainable local fishing industry with a heritage visitor destination.



Conservatives – investing in a better town

Eastbourne's MP, Caroline Ansell, has long backed the fishermen's ambitions in the harbour and is pictured with Sovereign Ward councillors viewing progress. Our MP lobbied Government ministers to deliver this investment and brought them here to raise its profile. Working with Sovereign councillors, the fishermen's vision has been brought to reality; Caroline's aim to secure their future and develop our coastal heritage has been realised.

Local fishermen have formed a Community Interest Company to work from the land behind The Harvester at The Waterfront, creating a Fishermen's Quay, consisting of traditional net huts, wet fish sales, offices, workshops and a learning centre.

"It is tremendous to see this kind of local enterprise springing up", said Cllr Penny di Cara. "Grants have been awarded by several Conservative-led authorities to make this vision become a reality and it is a wonderful example of community partnership."

Do pop in and take a look, or buy some local fish.

Eastbourne revival



Waterfront – post-pandemic crowds return

OUR WONDERFUL Waterfront cafés, restaurants and other businesses are returning to normal as we emerge from the pandemic. The area is busy again and it is great to see so much life return to support these

outlets, day and night.

"Overall, the Conservative Government provided Eastbourne businesses with over £50 million in financial support through the pandemic", says Cllr Kshama Shore.

Among new attractions

are an artisan food market with some of the best local produce available. We are also excited to welcome a 12-hole space-themed glow-in-the-dark mini golf course.

"The arrival of new ventures, as well as existing ones reporting an increase in footfall, is great for the Waterfront", says Cllr Paul Metcalfe. "The area is ready and waiting to welcome residents and visitors alike ahead of this year's peak tourist season."

POLICE LIAISON

Your councillors have regular meetings with our police. One area that has given residents concern is the new open space on Pacific Drive. Councillor Penny di Cara commented on how the public had been pleased to see the officers and Sovereign Ward councillors showing great interest in residents' concerns around the area. Do dial 101 with any issues that you have.



EastbourneConservatives.org.uk

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**Eastbourne
Conservatives**

Shambles at Lib-Dem Town Hall

Mismanaged Eastbourne Borough Council has been told to sell assets of up to £40 million as the true state of its financial woes became public.

This was a recommendation from the Chartered Institute of Public Finance in response to the Council's request for so-called 'capitalisation', to plug the enormous hole in its finances.

Your Conservative councillors have been asking for more resources to be put into the issues residents demand, such as investment in our dilapidated seafront.



Fences broken

Yes, we want answers but we also want some sustained change in managing these issues so that the town is a better place to live, work and visit – and the books balanced.

COUNCIL FAILURES

- Poorly-managed landscaping and parks maintenance contracts
- Public spaces cordoned off
- Customer contact waiting times increasing and answers poor
- Inadequate cleaning regime for roads and verges
- Fences collapsing, overgrown brambles and weeds
- Broken steps not mended, despite repeated reminders
- Lack of enforcement of cycling on footways and dogs not on leads
- Town centre amenities inadequately maintained
- Promenade lights broken/missing



Areas cordoned off



Litter blowing around

HELP US PROTECT SOVEREIGN PARK



With our Borough Council sadly neglecting this area of nature conservation, your Sovereign Ward councillors believe the

best way forward is to get the community involved. "We could then take pride in the area where we live and ensure that this wonderful community asset, with its shingle beach habitat, is properly maintained for the sake of the indigenous plant life", says Cllr Shore. Local

residents have suggested forming Friends of Sovereign Park. If you would like to be involved please get in touch.



CONSERVATIVES PROVIDING LOCAL HELP

Compared with dubious spending at the Town Hall, Sovereign councillors have committed their reduced, devolved budget to benefit the community. Among grateful recipients, Kingsmere Community

received funds to help stage an Easter event. SHRA purchased much-needed benches which have been favourably received: "A big 'thank you' for the support we received," say residents. Eastbourne Sea Cadet Corps replaced dinghy

sails for training sessions, and Defiant Sports bought arena space heaters presented by Cllr Paul Metcalfe.



Cllr Metcalfe (right)

Cleaning-up Eastbourne

Our failing council is neglecting to undertake basic services. Too often, litter bins along the seafront and in other public areas are overflowing. So it's more vital that we have sufficient bins, in strategic places, to try and keep rubbish off our streets and open spaces.

After the success of putting additional bins around the Sovereign Harbour, your Conservative councillors are constantly on the lookout for areas that will benefit from bins. They have had requests from residents of Langney Point to have better signage and bigger bins, and requests for extra collections. Please help us by putting your rubbish in the bins.



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