East Sussex County Council report for Mountfield Parish Assembly

As usual I shall start with the money, as it has been another tough year for the County Council. This is especially true in Children's Services where much of the budget is demand led; for example if a child needs looking after that is what happens and they often have complex needs which means that the cost of support is high. The same is true for unaccompanied asylum seeking children – the number changes but is often around 70. The County Council is part of a national transfer scheme and these young people can be planned for but the number arriving via Newhaven etc are an unknown quantity. Children's Services is just an example as all the County's services are stretched. Council Tax will be going up by 4.99%. This is 2.99% of "normal" taxation plus 2% allowed for Adult Social Care.

From the next financial year the highways contractor will change to Balfour Beatty and hopefully they will adopt a more pragmatic approach to potholes and fill those around the one which actually meets the criteria. Thanks to the weather we are suffering from a great many more than usual but nearly 9,000 have been mended since the beginning of January. At the time of writing there are far too many in the system awaiting attention with 23 gangs busy repairing. When the weather makes this work impossible the gangs are redeployed gritting pavements, if required.

The County Council has been awarded £41m (half of the amount of the bid) to improve us services. I hope that this will be used to improve connectivity in the rural areas and not used where there are already adequate bus services or rail connections.

The County Council is working hard towards its target of being carbon neutral by 2050 and is planning to install Electric Vehicle Charging Points on street. Some Local Authorities use lamp columns for this but this is only possible where they are at the edge of the pavement, otherwise the County Council is expecting to place them outside houses which do not have drives. As neither the road nor any charging point will be specific to the house it is outside I can foresee problems!

Kathryn Field April 2023

ROTHER DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report to Mountfield Parish Assembly 18 April 2023

For the fifth year in a row the Council has achieved a balanced budget only by drawing in reserves built up before 2019/20. The intention when the policy was launched was to make up the shortfall between our net spend and income raised by increasing our income from property bought in the course of an energetically pursued programme of regeneration. Although hampered by the onset of the pandemic, that programme has made a worthwhile contribution to income, and some projects e.g. Barnhorn Road Surgery have yet to come into play. The £8+ million investments made in property funds more than four years ago have fluctuated in value but continue to generate worthwhile sums and inflation, while a major headache, has led to an increase in interest rates, meaning that the substantial sums that pass through the Council's hands can be put to beneficial use.

There were two other elements to the Council's Financial Stability Programme, the transfer of services to Parish and Town Councils, and a search for efficiency savings. Many of the services that were proposed to go to Bexhill Town Council were in large part financed by the Special Expenses tax charged to the residents of Bexhill, Battle and Rye, although there was an element of subsidy from the generality of Rother council tax payers. However, Bexhill Special Expenses has had to be reinstated this year as no transfer of services has as yet taken place to the Town Council. Burwash Parish Council, however, have taken over the Burwash car park. Every year so far the Financial Stability Programme has missed its target; while savings have been found, the level of savings has always fallen short of the figure projected..

In the meantime net expenditure has continued to rise and the reserves to fall. In 2022/23 Council has a net spend of £16 + million and useable reserves have fallen by over £3 million. The 'balanced' budget agreed for 2023/24 relies on £1 million largely unidentified savings (if and when Bexhill's public conveniences are transferred to the Town Council that will save £160 thousand) and £2 million drawn from reserves. That will bring the useable reserves to £5.3 million and the Chief Finance Office, backed by the Audit Committee, has made it clear that the minimum useable reserve kept intact should be £5 million. The newly elected Council will therefore face some difficult decisions.

Council tax has been set at the maximum permissible rate (any more would require the consent of the electorate by referendum) which in our case (because of the special expenses) is just 2.7%. The Council's capital programme has slipped badly in recent years, in part because of Covid, and given the recent rise in interest rates, is under review to ensure that it is still viable.

The Government has entered into a Levelling Up partnership with the Council, the first fruits of which are a grant of over £19 million, the bulk of which with regenerate the de la Warr pavilion, with a relatively small contribution going to the new community hub at Sidley Recreation ground – Sidley is amongst the ten per cent most deprived communities in England.

The backlog in dealing with planning applications is well on the way to being eliminated, largely thanks to new procedures inaugurated by the interim development planning manager, and the new local plan should be out for consultation in the near future. At the moment Rother still suffers from an imposed target for annual housebuilding that has no regard at all for the fact that ninety per cent of our district is designated AONB or otherwise protected as RAMSAR sits or SSSIs. Thanks to a quite arbitrary process which pays no attention at all to the steadily widening gap between house built and permissions given, Rother is deemed to have less than 3 years land supply. In general the Planning Committee does not allow itself to be swayed by this where the AONB is concerned, but

not all Appeal Inspectors are prepared to recognise the problem. Nevertheless Rother is winning the majority of appeals and the Government seems to be moving in the right direction with its proposed abandonment of top down housing targets.

The steps Rother has taken to address the housing problem have had mixed fortunes. Not a single house has yet been started on the Blackfriars site and the spine road (a Council project) essential to site development is running months late with a cost that has doubled. Optivo (now Southern Housing Association) has been encouraged to purchase sites and develop them with 100 per cent affordable housing, but only that at Banky Field at Ticehurst has yet come to fruition. Roughly 100 affordable homes will have been completed in 2023/24, slightly fewer than the 112 in 2022/23, but that figure should improve; and the completion of the first Community Land Trust housing at Icklesham is very welcome. Overall house building has picked up post pandemic, 238 new homes being added in 2021/22, a number that is almost certain to have been exceeded in 2022/23. But the demands on our housing services continue to swell, with something like 20 households a month swelling a housing list that in December stood at 2095 households. At that moment Rother had no fewer than 133 households living in temporary accommodation. The decision to devote £8 million to the purchase of properties to accommodate at least some of those requiring temporary accommodation is therefore not only necessary but actually saves the Council money.

About 30 projects have been completed as part of our environment strategy and £500.000 of CIL money has been awarded through the Climate Emergency Bonus Fund (sic) to the Village Halls Energy Project. Montfield is one of the halls being investigated. Progress is also being made with installing vehicle charging points in Council car parks, and a grant is being sought from the Energy Saving Trust. However, it looks as though only those urban areas will benefit. The possibility of using vegetable oil rather than diesel in our waste collection fleet at a cost of £250,000 a year is under consideration, but will have to be agreed by all three authorities involved. Regrettably some of our Waste recycling facilities have had to be closed as the waste had to be treated as contaminated, but kerbside collection rightly is the main vehicle for our ability to increase recycling levels.

Community Grants continue with the new Lottery launched a year ago making a relatively small but very useful contribution towards what remains a largely tax funded programme. 65% of the proceeds are available for that purpose.

EMERGENCY STATEMENT MOUNTFIELD VILLAGE HALL

Without action now,

Mountfield will lose

its Village Hall and

the Club will lose its

home in two years

To put it bluntly, without urgent action, Mountfield will lose its Village Hall and the Club will lose its home in approximately two years. The reasons for this are straightforward.

First, several groups who provided regular, bread-and-butter bookings did not survive Covid.

Secondly, it is clear that life will not be the same as before the Pandemic and business is not returning to pre-Covid levels — ask local shopkeepers

restaurants. And these social changes are affecting village halls

Finally, there is the rise in energy prices. Mountfield Village Hall was very lucky: our elec-

tricity renewal notice arrived about 10 days before the 'Energy Crisis' hit the headlines — and the renewal quote was for a cool 100% increase! Neil, our treasurer, managed to find a deal at only 70% increase but other halls have been faced with 200%, 300% or worse. Energy costs are the biggest single factor simply as a result of the scale of the rise and because they are beyond our control.

Neil recently spelt out the economics of the situation:

"Despite reducing maintenance, suspending capital investment and increasing prices, my current forecast for March year end is a deficit of -£4,400. Our total reserves then will be about £,9,500. This works out to around two years left (i.e. mid-2025). However, the contract only freezes our electricity costs until December 2024 when they are likely to rise. And, of course, in the meantime, suppliers' prices will continue to rise as energy costs rise.

"We have little or no room for further costcutting so we need to increase income but even matching our best ever hire figure of £8,444 (2019-20) would still only produce approximately £3.3k of extra income against the forecast annual deficit of £.4.4k. To make up the forecast deficit would require an extra 24 hours hire per month at £,15 per hour."

That's a tall order but not impossible. We know what needs to be done but WE JUST DON'T HAVE ENOUGH

> HELPERS TO DO WHAT'S REQUIRED. To make things happen, we need more trustees and more for the Management Committee. But also need volunteers who have any specific

skills to offer such as graphic design, social media, marketing, painting, building maintenance, sponsorship deals, etc. And we also need helpers can always use ideas. So...

who can let a tradesman in, or show someone round; research local caterers or bouncy castle hirers; source grants for any particular projects; whatever — or to pour teas. And we

... there will be a special meeting, in Mountfield Village Hall to discuss the problem on:

Tuesday April 25th at 7.30.

Please come along with ideas, offers to help, or just moral support. See you there.

> Peter, Neil, Nick, Steve, Trish (Trustees)



3 MONTHS WALKS PROGRAMME

(April to June 2023)

For more information, see <www.battleramblers.org> and use the "Contact Us" page
Walkers should ensure they are fit enough for the

Walkers should ensure they are fit enough for the distance and have suitable off-road clothing & footwear

To attend	d any of the walks	, non-members must please conta	act the Walk Coord	dinator (on 01424 77270	9 to register
May 14	MEDIUM & LONG	"Sandhurst to Bodiam	Distance: 6.	.5 / 8 miles		
Sunday	MODERATE	Beautiful views and countryside, 2 miles and possibly 8 depe Stopping at Bodiam Castle	Start:	TQ 805 281		
Start Locati	ion: Sandhurst f	Playing Fields, Marsh Quarter	Walk Start time	10:00	Post Code:	TN18 5JH
Leaders:	Alaina	Tel:	Battle to Start		10 Miles	25 Mins.
Additional Info.: https://w3w.co/slanting.dynamics.gallons						Fuel £2.00
May 21	MEDIUM	"John's Cross (•	Distance:	5.5 miles
Sunday	MODERATE	A gentle walk through Barnes wo Mountfield court. Stiles and a co woods and fi	Start:	TQ 744 210		
Start Locati	ion: Car park nea	ar School at John' Cross	Walk Start time	10:00	Post Code:	TN32 5JJ
Leaders:	Mark & Bhabhind	a Tel:	Battle to Start	7	Miles	7 Mins.
Additional I	Info.: https://w3	w.co/marketing.polo.tingled			DRINK STOP	Fuel £1.40
Property of					T	
May 28	MEDIUM	""Bexhill to Crowhurst""			Distance:	5.5 miles
Sunday	MODERATE	The walk takes you past a lovely	lake in a wood. No	stiles	Start:	TQ 753 084
Start Locati	ion: Hastings Ro School.	ad Bexhill near Battle Abbey Prep.	Walk Start time	10:00	Post Code:	TN40 2NH
Leaders:	Cloti	Tel:	Battle to Start	8	Miles	20 Mins.
Additional I	Info.: https://w3	w.co/onions.care.tuck			DRINK STOP	Fuel £1.60
A to Second to the second to the	·					
Jun 04	MEDIUM	"Bodiam to Salehu	ırst circular"		Distance:	6 miles
		A great walk. Views, the river Roth				
Sunday						TQ 784 254
		the castle or the Castle Ini	n for Sunday lunch	h!		
Start Location: Bodiam Castle car park. £4 or free for NT members. Also free lay by on road. Walk Start time 10:00					Post Code:	TN32 5UA
Leaders:	John D	Tel:	Battle to Start	7.5	Miles	15 Mins.
Additional I	Info.: https://w3	w.co/fatherly.grouping.bagels			DRINK STOP	Fuel £1.50
					.,	
Jun 11	MEDIUM	"Blackboys, Top of th	ne Weald Ma!"		Distance:	5.5 miles
Sunday	MODERATE	A few stiles, big skies and	wide open spaces.		Start:	TQ 522 208
Start Locati		illage Hall, Gun Road, Blackboys	Walk Start time	10:15	Post Code:	TN22 5JY
Leaders:	Brenda & Terry	Tel:	Battle to Start	16	Miles	32 Mins.
Additional I	Info.: https://w3	w.co/seasick.unlucky.waged £1	donation for parki	ng	DRINK STOP	Fuel £3.20
Jun 18	LONG	"Burwash Cii	rcular"		Distance:	7 miles
Sunday	MODERATE	A delightful walk from Burwash vi Dudwell valley. 2 hills. <i>Pub</i>			Start:	TQ 673 246
Start Location: Burwash Car Park next to the Bear Inn pub off high street Walk Start time 1					Post Code:	TN19 7ET
Leaders:	Kelly	Tel:	Battle to Start	*** ***	10 Miles	19 Mins.
Additional Info.: https://w3w.co/oxidation.flood.pixel						Fuel £2.00
						
Jun 25	MEDIUM	"Little Tottingworth	Farm Circular"		Distance:	4.6 miles
Sunday	MODERATE	A walk across fields of ANOB with quite a few up and downs. Great views. A superb afternoon tea at the end if you want!!			Start:	TQ 603 219
Start Locati	ion: Tottingworth	Farm car park off Halley Road	Walk Start time	10.00	Post Codo:	TNO4 OTO
Leaders:	John F	Tel·	Rattle to Start	10:00	Post Code:	TN21 8TG

NOTES: All people taking part in club activities do so at their own risk and are responsible for their own safety. No responsibility can be accepted by any other club member or officer. Walkers under 14 must be accompanied by an adult. Walkers are advised to bring their own drink and food. All times shown on this programme are departure times;

Battle to Start

6

DRINK STOP

Miles

11

Fuel £1.20

Mins.

New walkers are most welcome and can attend two walks before deciding to join Battle Ramblers

Tel:

Additional Info.: https://w3w.co/unrated.path.seemingly

Leaders:

John F



3 MONTH WALK PROGRAMME (April to June 2023)

For more information, see www.battleramblers.org and use the "Contact Us" page Walkers should ensure they are fit enough for the

Walkers should ensure they are fit enough for the distance and have suitable off-road clothing & Boots.

To attend a walk as a non-member you must please contact the Walk Coordinator on 01424 772709 to register.

						3		
Apr 02	MEDIUM	"Highwoo	ds Circular"		D: 4			
Sunday	MODERATE	A delightful walk through wo	Distance	- umes				
Start Loc	ation: Highwood	Is car park off Peartree Lane 300	ea! 14 stiles.		Start:	TQ 715 096		
Leaders:	Alison	n Whydown Lane.	Walk Start t		:00 Post Co	ode: N/A		
Additiona		Tel: w3w.co/seat.molars.crumple	Battle to Sta	rt 7		liles 18 Mins.		
	114693111	w3w.co/seat.motars.crumpte			DRINK ST	OP Fuel £1.40		
Apr 09	MEDIUM	"Robertsbridge Circular"						
		To the north west of Robertsbridge, Lovely Western Land			Distanc	e: 6 miles		
Sunday	MODERATE	scapes, views over valleys and gentle wooded hills.			Start:	TQ 733 235		
Start Loca	ation: Pohortohri				Start.	14 733 235		
Leaders:	Gina & Brenda	dge Station car park. £1 parking f		me 10:	00 Post Co	de: TN32 5DG		
Additiona		v3w.co/slug.alpha.notebook	Battle to Sta	rt 5.5		liles 10 Mins		
					DRINK ST	OP Fuel £1.10		
Apr 16	MEDIUM	"Peasmarsh to the T	illingham and h	ock"	Dist			
Sunday	MODERATE	A new walk down to the Tillingh	am valley and ac	uck	Distan	ce: 6.5 miles		
Carracy		then back. One steenish i	ncline Fields vious	ss the riv	er Start:	TQ 883 231		
Start Loca	OII A268	entrance to Jempsons supermarke	Walk Start t		0:00 Post C			
Leaders:	Peter & Julie	Tel:	Battle to Sta	rt				
Additional	Info.: https://w	/3w.co/menswear.proposals.sar	ndpaper		13 N	files 27 Mins.		
A 00	DESCRIPTION OF THE RESERVE				DIVINICO	TOP Fuel £2.60		
Apr 23	23 "Hole Park Circular "					4.5 miles		
		A short walk with views, woods and across fields. Some stiles			tance:	4.5 miles		
		and fairly gentle inclines. All can use the rectaurant offer						
Sunday	MODERATE	ior tea, corree and light lunch	. You can visit the	can visit the glorique Starte To access				
		Start.	Start: TQ 831 324					
Hole Park spring gardens after for £11 each. https://www.holepark.com								
Start Locat	ion: trance off	Gardens car park. Main en- B2086 Benenden road. Parking	107 11 6		Post			
	Free.	beneficial road. Parking	Walk Start time	10:15	Code:	TN17 4JB		
Leaders:	Simon & John F	Tel:	Battle to Start	40				
Additional	Info.: <u>https://w</u> 3	w.co/talents.surging.crunching	Dattie to Start	16	Miles	35 Mins.		
	LONG &			וטו	RINK STOP	Fuel £3.20		
Apr 30	SHORT	"Peasmarsh (Circular"		Diotor	7 8/4)		
	3.1.3.1.1				Distance:	7.5(4) miles		
Sunday	MODERATE	A lovely walk through woods an galore!! A couple of stiles A sh	a across fields. Blu	ebells				
21		dvallable talk to lung to got data:			Start:	TQ 883 231		
Start Loca-	Lay by at ent	trance to Jempsons supermar-	Walk Start					
tion: Leaders:	Ket off A268		time	10:00	Post Code:	TN31 6YD		
Additional I	June	Tel:	Battle to Start		13 Miles	27 Mins.		
ional II	111UN 111US://W3	w.co/menswear.proposals.sand	paper		RINK STOP	Fuel £2.60		
		!!D				,		
May 07	MED/LONG	"Brownbread Street Circular via Ashburnham						
Sunday		Forge"		Distance:	6.25 miles			
Sunday	MODERATE	Great views with several in	clines. Pub at end	es. Pub at end!!		TO 670 440		
Start Location	on: Ash Tree In	n car park or along road	Walk Start		Start:	TQ 676 149		
Leaders:	Rowly	T-1	time	10:00	Post Code:	TN33 9NX		
Additional In		Tel:	Battle to Start		6 Miles	11 Mins.		
		v.co/electrode.pats.port			RINK STOP	Fuel £1.20		
IOTES: Walk k	eaders must nomine	ite a "back-marker" for their well						

NOTES: Walk leaders must nominate a "back-marker" for their walk, who knows the route and can ensure slower walkers complete the walk and road crossings should be supervised. High Viz jackets will be worn by leaders and back markers. First aid kit to be available. "Walks Length": SHORT is up to 4 miles (6.4 km); MEDIUM is up to 6 miles (9.6 km); LONG is about 8/9 miles (13/14 km), maximum. "Walks difficulty": DIFFICULT includes stiles, gates, substantial inclines and surface maybe slippery; MODERATE includes a few stiles and a few inclines, surface not all solid; EASY includes one or two stiles only, very few inclines – essentially flat. In winter most walks are muddy and walking poles are recommended.

Community volunteering



HEALTH WALK LEADERS

All of our health walks are led by trained community volunteers. Without these amazing teams of leaders, we would not be able to offer all of these free group walks.

If you love walking, want to help people in your community and could spare an hour and a bit once or twice a month, maybe you'd like to join the team near you?

No previous experience is needed, a friendly and supportive nature is the most important thing. Free training is provided and we supply all the maps and equipment.

Our volunteers say it is a very rewarding role meeting lots of people, seeing their fitness and confidence improve, and being part of something really valuable in their community.

Just pop along for a chat or get in touch.









TCV is a national charity helping people to improve physical and mental health by being outdoors, active and connecting with their community and nature.

> Group walks: tcv.org.uk/southeast Self-led walks: 123walks.org

Scheme Coordinator: Lorna Neville 01424 444675 / 07740 899559 / lorna.neville@tcv.org.uk







& BEYOND



Get into walking!

Walking is one of the easiest ways to build your fitness and boost your mental health. We have two free walking resources to help you to find something suits you - one hour group walks or one, two and three mile self-led walks. Not too long, not too far.

Whether you want the company and regularity of a Health Walk, or the inspiration and confidence to explore new short (ish) nature walks, we can help...

East Sussex Health Walks

Free weekly one hour group walks.

Health walks are free group walks to help you to build a regular walking habit. They are only about an hour and fairly gentle - the idea is that if you join in every week, you'll soon begin to feel the health benefits.

What's more, because the groups are so friendly and supportive, you will enjoy the chatting and company as well as the exercise. Lots of the groups go for a cup of tea or coffee afterwards too!

All the walks are free and there is no need to book, just pop along shortly before the start time.



ROTHER/HASTINGS HEALTH WALKS

Battle: Fridays 10am Abbey Green
Bexhill Ravenside: Wednesdays
11am swim centre, Glyne Gap
Bexhill Seafront: Fridays 11am
behind De La Warr Pavilion
Hastings Alexandra Park: Weds
10.30am Ranger's office/toilets
Hastings Old Town: Mon 2pm Stade
Ninfield: 1st & 3rd Thursday of month
11am Sparke Pavilion
Rye: Mon 10am Gibbet Marsh car pk

Rye: Mon 10am Gibbet Marsh car pk Sidley: Mondays 11am The New Inn St. Leonards Church Wood: Fridays 10.30 Church Wood car park St. Leonards Seafront: Tuesdays 11am under the clock on the Prom

> www.tcv.org.uk/southeast scroll down to Health Walks or find us on Facebook



Details correct June 2022; bank holidays by local arrangement.

1-2-3 walks

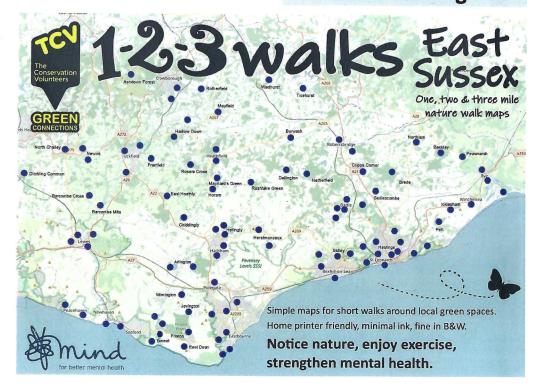
Maps for short self-led walks - one, two and three miles.

If you want to find easy walks to do yourself on other days, here are over 100 routes around local parks, woods, nature reserves and rural footpaths. Helping you to connect with nature on a walk that is right

for you - a distance you can manage in a time that suits you.

Everything has been checked and measured and there are photos and notes about what to expect. The maps are easy-print or you can follow on an app, or you might just be inspired and find your own route.

All maps on new website: 123walks.org



MOUNTFIELD FOOTBALL CLUB

This season Mountfield Football Club are competing in Division 3 of the East Sussex Football League. We also have competed in 3 different cup competitions.

In Division 3, so far we have played 15 game's with the following results :- Won 3, Drawn 1, and Lost 13.

We have 7 games left to play. To-date we are 10th out of 12 teams in the division.

The highest winning score for Mountfield was 8 - 2 against Sovereign Saints reserves and the biggest defeat was against Orpington First team.

In the Sussex Bluefin Junior Challenge Cup, Mountfield F.C. travelled to the Steyning Town community Football ground and played against a team called The View Saturday First and lost 6 - 0, on a very wet and windy day, along way to travel for a game of football.

In the ESFL Challenge Cup Divisions 3/4 we were drawn against Southcoast Athletic Reserves in the first round but for some reason they could not play so we were awarded the win. In the second round we drawn against Sedlescombe Rangers development team and won 1 - 0 . In the quarter final we were drawn against Sovereign Saints Reserves and lost 2 -0 at their pitch over in Eastbourne.

In the Robertsbridge Charity Junior Cup , in the first round we were drawn away to Tackleway Reserves and won 5 - 2 and in the quarter final lost away to Catsfield 2 - 0.

This season we have had 30 players registered to play for Mountfield Football Club but only a few can play regularly others be out due to injury and work/ family commitments. But in most games we have had a full team out with a couple of subs available.

Win or losing we have a good atmosphere in the club amongst the players and often after a game we enjoy a pint in a local pub and discuss what went right or more often what went

I hope something can be done about the drainage on the A2100 as on one occasion the football changing room building was flooded out due to the road drainage pipes and ditches

We hope to be able to continue to have a team next season but to early to know what division we will play in. Nigel MCDONAGH

Mountfield football club

unsung heroes The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service 2008

BATTLE AREA COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

Unit 3 Vinehall Business Centre
Vinehall Road
Mountfield
East Sussex
TN32 5JW

Tel: 01424 870955

e-mail: bactoffice@bact-online.co.uk <u>www.bact-online.co.uk</u>

Report from B.A.C.T. - March 2023

- Buses etc. We continue running our three Treka-built Sprinter minibuses, the oldest now being 18 years old. Sadly, two accidents in 2022 resulted in insurance claims, with bodywork damage to both our vehicle and to another party. This resulted in an increase to our insurance premiums.
- 2. Passenger numbers. Our Hail & Ride (B67-B79) services have recently been affected by local roadworks/closures in Battle, Netherfield & Sedlescombe. This alongside extreme weather conditions (snow/flooding) led to some stops/services being suspended at short notice. Some of our Flexible bus services (B80-B90) are almost back to pre-Covid levels, but our services into Kent are still struggling.
- Drivers & recruitment. We recruited one new volunteer driver in 2022. However, we also lost two of our regulars due to health issues etc. Also, during the summer months, many of our drivers will have family commitments, such as having holidays planned.
- 4. Roadworks/closures. We have encountered serious issues with unannounced roadworks/road closures impacting our services. We have discussed this with ESCC, but they are beholden to East Sussex Highways. An example is an e-mail notice being received more than two hours after Marley Lane had already been closed. Also, the East Sussex Highways website is not reflecting what the on-site contractors are telling residents.
- 5. Office & Administration. We have incurred more expense, to replace our 12-year-old printer, which required parts that are no longer available. Also, the loss of the Bexhill branch of Barclays, back in June 2022, means we are now required to travel into Hastings to bank cash, as the Post Office will not accepts coins.

Battle Area Community Transport

Meeting 7.30

Martfield V Mage Hall

tonight.

Registered Charity No: 1071961 VAT Number: 702 6651 55 BACT registered in England & Wales as a Company Limited by Guarantee