The launch event for the phase two public engagement of the Folkestone – a Brighter Future project will be open to the public on Friday 17 November (1pm – 7pm) and Saturday 18 November (11am-4pm). The event will be hosted at Bouverie House Business Centre, immediately beside the bus station. The events have been planned to coincide with the launch of the Folkestone Book Festival and the Folkestone Xmas lights switch-on.

Kent Police’s annual Crime and Community survey has been launched. They want to hear your views on crime, community, and your experience of Neighbourhood Watch. The survey is open to everyone regardless of whether you are a Neighbourhood Watch member. The survey only takes a few minutes to complete and everyone who completes it can choose to opt-in to the prize draw to win one of three £25 Amazon vouchers. The survey can be completed here: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/surveyCC2023>

From the 1st of November the new Parliamentary boundary lines, that have been drawn up by the Boundary Commission, will be implemented for the next General Election. This means that North Downs East and North Downs West wards of the F&HDC area will now form part of the Ashford Constituency at Parliamentary elections. The District Wards and the County Council Divisions will remain the same.

A review of the polling districts, polling places and stations is being conducted and runs from 2nd October 2023 to 17th November. The review, as well as the current electorate for each polling district and the current list of polling stations can be found on the F&HDC website under Elections - <https://www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk/elections/polling-review-2023>

F&HDC are now looking for a strategic partner for Otterpool Park to inject funding into the development. They are only looking to enter into agreements with those partners who have a track record of facilitating development at scale, and a commitment to delivering the Council’s vision for Otterpool Park.

Details of the Rural England Prosperity Fund grant have now been published. All the information regarding this fund can be found on the Folkestone Works website (<https://folkestone.works/>).

Finally, a reminder, all District Councillors have a £3,000 Ward grant available to help fund local community projects. Please contact me or Jenny if you have any projects you would like help funding.

Contact: **Elaine.Martin@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk**