

PRESS RELEASE

13 June 2017

HASSOCKS LIBERAL DEMOCRATS DO THE DOUBLE

The Liberal Democrats are now representing Hassocks on both West Sussex County Council and Mid Sussex District Council after a spectacular double win at the polls.

On 4 May, Kirsty Lord was elected to be County Councillor for Hassocks & Burgess Hill South. On 8 June, Susan Hatton took a seat from the Conservatives at a by-election that was caused by the resignation of two of Hassocks' three Conservative district councillors.

Hassocks and Burgess Hill is now the only part of Mid Sussex with elected representatives who are not Conservatives. Until the by-election, Mid Sussex was the only council in the country where a single party held every seat.

Speaking after her victory, Sue Hatton said, "I feel very privileged to have been elected to Mid Sussex District Council, and would like to thank everyone who voted for me. I am really looking forward to speaking up for everyone who lives in Hassocks at a time when the future expansion of the village is so unclear."

Kirsty Lord added, "It was shocking that our community used to be represented by a single party, and I'm delighted that Liberal Democrats are now able to bring challenge and balance to discussions about the future of the area. Sue and I are committed to working together to represent the residents of Hassocks & Burgess Hill South across all areas of local government – I can't wait to get started."

ENDS

NOTES TO EDITORS:

- Sue Hatton has lived in Hassocks for forty years. In that time she has served the village as a school governor, parish councillor and for eight years as district councillor. Sue has been a member of the Parish Council's Neighbourhood Plan Working Group since its inception and has extensive knowledge and experience of the planning issues facing Hassocks.
- Kirsty Lord lives in Hassocks with her family where her young children go to village schools and preschools. Kirsty works in business strategy and has many years' experience allocating multi million pound budgets. Kirsty is a former governor of Hassocks Infant School, and one of her priorities as county councillor is to ensure that robust plans are drawn up to provide additional school places as new housing creates further demand.
- Sue and Kirsty will be holding joint monthly surgeries where residents can discuss their concerns. The next surgery will be in Hassocks on 11 July, venue TBC.
- For more information, contact Alison Bennett, Hassocks & Hurstpierpoint Liberal Democrats on 07740 648956.