

## **Report from Cllr. Katrina Blench for a meeting of Brightling Parish Council 10.1.24.**

### **Environment policy and biodiversity-**

The following two events planned by the Brightling Environmental Group are examples of awareness of the Climate and Ecological emergency we face.

*Dark Skies Festival* - High Weald have secured the grant for the three year programme with the first festival in October next year. We will start planning events for probably October half term week.

Energy Event - *Warmer homes in Brightling and beyond: how to heat local homes for less - and reduce carbon emissions* on Thursday 29 February 7pm Village Hall. Energise Sussex Coast is partially funding the event. Speakers - Energise Sussex Coast Retrofit architect - focusing on older properties, and local people on their own energy supplies - Air Source and Ground Source Heat pumps, solar and battery storage and a Thermal imaging camera demo. Event for Brightling residents but promoted in surrounding villages too.

**Footpaths and bridleways** - I would like to introduce a monthly parish walk – Walk Brightling’s Byways - along a different byway each time. It will be open for anyone to attend with the aim of looking at the conditions of the footpaths and bridleways but also a sociable walk. The times would vary in the winter and summer; further details to follow.

**Welcome Pack** - being updated. Cllr. Oxenbury has kindly said she will proof read it.