

Agenda Item 11 Aug Meeting – Pavilion Rat Problem

A rat infestation was reported a month ago and contractors were engaged to lay bait and remove the rodents.

Bait stations were laid internally (the kitchen – which is the source of the current infestation) and externally.

I attended the third visit of the pest controllers on 16th July. During the second visit almost all internal bait stations had been cleared of poisoned food. On this occasion, consumption was still evident but greatly reduced. Some bait stations internally were re-loaded.

The effect of the poison is to dehydrate the unfortunate rodent so that they seek water outside rather than dying within the fabric of the building. There is certainly no smell of decomposition within the pavilion although the infestation seems to have occurred beneath the floor of the pavilion.

I will re-check the bait stations in 2-3 weeks and call the pest controllers back if consumption is still occurring.

External bait stations showed very little consumption and rats will never be exterminated completely outside.

The contractor offered a monthly check for a reduced visit fee but this is unlikely to be necessary if the internal issue is resolved.

Proposals: Clerk to re-check bait stations and contact pest controller again if required.

Phil Burgess

Clerk to East Dean and Friston