

Rudgwick Parish Council

Weekly Clerk's Update: 14th – 20th December 2024 (Agenda January 2025)

To: Parish Councillors

c.c: Christian Mitchell (West Sussex County Councillor)
Richard Landeryou (Horsham District Councillor)

From: Anna Clayton

The weekly update provides information regarding:

- Announcements/delegated decisions by the Clerk
- Planning information
- Correspondence/communications from parishioners
- Correspondence/communications from outside organisations

List of organisations that communicate with the Council on a regular basis.

- AIRS (Action in Rural Sussex)
 - APCAG (Association of Parish Councils Aviation Group)
 - CAGNE (Communities Against Gatwick Noise Emission)
 - CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England)
 - HALC (Horsham Association of Local Councils)
 - HDC (Horsham District Council)
 - NALC (National Association of Local Councils)
 - WSALC (West Sussex Association of Local Councils)
 - WSCC (West Sussex District Council)
-

Clerk's announcements/delegated decisions:

- Precept request submitted to HDC

GENERAL REMINDER: If you wish to speak face to face to a member of staff, please contact the Clerk on 07927 702321 during her office working hours (Monday – Wednesday 9.30 – 15.30).

Delegated Applications

Delegated Applications for noting at Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 13 th January 2025	
Application No: DC/24/1900 09.12.2024	Response/Comments:

Applicant: 11 Bridge Road, Rudgwick	
Reason for Application: New roof over existing single storey extension with installation of 3no. rooflights. (Retrospective).	
Official Response Date: 09.01.2025 / Determination 03.02.2024	
Application No: DC/24/1866 03.12.2024	Response:
Applicant: Hornshill Farm, Chestnuts, Guildford Road, Rudgwick	
Reason for Application: Siting of a caravan for ancillary residential use. (Lawful Development Certificate - Proposed).	
Official Response Date: 09.01.2025 / Determination 05.02.2024	

Applications for consideration at Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting

Applications for consideration at Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 13 th January 2025	
Application No:	Response:
Applicant:	
Reason for Application:	
Official Response Date:	

Decisions

HDC Council Decisions – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 13 th January 2025	
Application No:	Response:

<u>DC/24/1539</u>	Permitted / RPC Response - No objection
Applicant: 18 Summerfold, Rudgwick	
Reason for Application: Surgery to 1X Ash	
Official Response Date:	

Applications going to Committee

Applications going to Committee – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 13th January 2025	
Application No:	Response/Comments:
Applicant:	
Reason for Application:	
Official Response Date:	

Appeals Lodged / Appeals Determined

New Appeals Lodged / Determined – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 13th January 2025	
Application No:	Response/Comments:
Applicant:	
Reason for Application:	
Official Response Date:	

New Planning Compliance Issues

New Planning Compliance Issues – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 13th January 2025	
Application No:	Response/Comments:
Address:	

Nature of Complaint:	
Official Response Date:	

Parish Councils Website

Rudgwick Parish Council's New Website is now live!
Thank you for your ongoing patience while this was under construction.

<https://rudgwick-pc.gov.uk>

Correspondence

Email dated 20.12.2024 from WSCC

West Sussex County Council to increase awareness of breast cancer



NEWS RELEASE

West Sussex County Council to increase awareness of breast cancer

A recent debate at a meeting of West Sussex County Council led to unanimous support for a proposal that the council should increase public awareness of breast cancer, including through the promotion of self-examination and screening.

Breast cancer is the most common cancer in women, in the UK, with 1 in 7 women in the UK developing breast cancer during their lifetime.

The debate at [Full Council on Friday 13 December](#) heard how breast cancer is a significant issue in the county and that, while screening is above the national average, the rate of early deaths is worse.

The motion states: 'All people should be supported to ensure breast cancer is detected as early as possible to enable timely diagnosis and treatment. This means ensuring people are aware of how to notice changes in their breasts and that people who are eligible have information to make an informed choice about taking up the offer of breast cancer screening. People faced with a diagnosis of breast cancer should receive the care, support, and dignity they deserve.'

While breast screening services are commissioned by NHS England, the county council's Director of Public Health and her team, provide a local leadership role in health protection, with a focus on reducing health inequalities and improving access for underserved groups. This includes working closely with NHS partners to increase uptake in the NHS Breast Screening Programme for those eligible.

Councillors unanimously agreed to use the council's communications channels to help raise awareness of breast cancer, including self-examination and to encourage informed uptake of breast cancer screening, and for the Cabinet Member for Public Health and Wellbeing, Councillor Bob Lanzer, to make representations to NHS England to ensure access to diagnosis, treatment and support pathways is timely, high quality and personalised.

Cllr Lanzer said: "I am delighted to see cross-party support for the motion and was happy to back it. We will be taking forward the actions to raise awareness and engage with NHS England. Increasing breast awareness through self-examination and breast screening, are crucial in helping people across West Sussex to stay alert to breast cancer, identifying it as early as possible and getting access to the support they need. This work is part of our ongoing commitment to helping people live full and healthy lives and fulfil their potential in line with the priorities in Our Council Plan."

The notice of motion on breast cancer awareness was proposed by Councillor Henna Chowdhury. Cllr Chowdhury said: "Thank you to my fellow councillors for supporting this important motion. The motion is about empowering individuals and ensuring everyone in West Sussex has access to the right information and support. Together, we can create a community where no-one faces breast cancer alone."

Individuals are encouraged to check their breasts/chest by regular self-examination (around once a month), to get to know what is normal for them, and to take up the offer of breast cancer screening when invited.

The NHS provides a ['How to check your breast or chest guide'](#), which includes a helpful video showing how to do so.



Sussex
Police & Crime
Commissioner

KATY BOURNE OBE



SEASON'S GREETINGS

FROM KATY BOURNE,
POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER
AND HER TEAM

As we look forward to celebrating the holidays with friends and loved ones and winding down for some well-deserved time off, I wanted to pay tribute to our emergency services, especially our Sussex police officers and staff, who will be hard at work over the festive period keeping us all safe.

Crime doesn't stop at Christmas and neither does policing. From incidents on the roads, domestic abuse, anti-social behaviour, theft and drug offences, people will still need the help and support of the police. In fact, Sussex Police have a number of operations specifically dedicated to tackling crime during the winter months.

Residents and visitors of Sussex should be able to enjoy the festivities, safe in the knowledge that our police force is there if you need them. We can all play our part too from pre-booking taxis to get home after a boozy night out, reporting drink-drivers to police, keeping Christmas presents out of sight from opportunist burglars and staying vigilant in public spaces.

The festive period should be one of happiness but, for many people, Christmas can be an extremely isolating or even a frightening time.

In particular, domestic abuse incidents often rise over the holiday season with victims of abuse more vulnerable to coercive and controlling behaviour.

To counter this, Sussex Police run Operation Hope, with officers carrying out discreet visits to high-risk victims and robustly managing offenders to reduce potential harm.

Reassuringly, our highest-harm perpetrators are managed through Sussex Police's Complex Domestic Abuse and Stalking Unit, which works to limit their ability to re-offend while collaborating with specialist partner agencies to encourage positive behaviour change.

Both 999 and the non-emergency number 101 are available 24/7, 365 days of the year. If you are a victim of crime, my [Safe Space Sussex website](#) features a directory of support services you can access freely and Victim Support's confidential Supportline is also available every day.

Safe Space Sussex provides information about different types of crime and what happens at each stage of the criminal justice system, helping to de-mystify the process for people when they may be at their most vulnerable. It also has an online chat feature, run by Victim Support, which is open all year round.

It just leaves me to say a heartfelt thanks to all our police officers, staff and volunteers, as well as other emergency service workers, who won't be there in the morning to open presents on the big day or joining their families later for dinner.

For me, they are the real heroes of the festive period as they swap the Christmas lights for 'blues and twos' and don their radios and uniforms.

Have a safe and joyful festive period and a very happy New Year. The next edition of my newsletter will be issued on 10 January 2025.

Stay safe this season



Katy Bourne OBE
Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner

A message from Baroness Newlove:

Each year, the Victims' Commissioner for England and Wales, Baroness Newlove, carries out an annual Victim Survey – a unique opportunity for victims of crime to share their experiences and perceptions of the criminal justice system.

"This year's survey comes at a pivotal moment, with record-breaking backlogs in Crown Courts and a prison population crisis underscoring the urgent need for a system that truly listens to victims and responds to their needs.

"Therefore, if you have been a victim of a crime, please do consider taking the time to complete the survey and help to provide a vital insight in driving meaningful change."

You can complete the survey by clicking on the below link. It closes on 31 December 2024.

www.eu.research.net/r/OVC24

Email dated 19.12.2024 from WSCC

Merry Christmas from West Sussex County Council - how to contact us over the holidays, and more!



Welcome to our special edition Residents' eNewsletter. However you are planning to spend the period over Christmas and the New Year, we wish you a safe, peaceful and enjoyable time.



Merry Christmas from West Sussex County Council

A message from the county council's Chairman and Leader.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas.

During this busy season, county council staff will be working to provide services as usual, ranging from libraries and highways to social care and the Fire and Rescue Service.

2024 has been a very successful year for the county council, with more investment in social care and extra investment in highways across the county, including our gritters which stand ready to tackle challenging winter weather.

The county council will continue to work for you in 2025.

Cllr Pieter Montyn

Cllr Paul Marshall

Chairman (pictured right)

Leader.



We're here for you

If you need us over the Christmas and New Year holidays, we are here for you.

The link below has details of opening hours over the festive period, including our community hub, family hubs, and customer service centre.

You can also find all the out of hours contact numbers you may need, and what problems you can report online.

[How to contact us over the holidays](#)



Christmas at our children's homes

Children and young people cared for by the county council have been getting into the Christmas spirit, with special festive events throughout December.

Parties have been taking place across the council's children's homes to bring the magic of the season to the young people, who have often faced significant trauma and challenges in their lives.

One child described an event at High Trees home in Crawley as the 'best party ever', while a parent said: "I cannot thank the team at the home enough for all they do for my child and our family."

Festive fun



A wartime Christmas in West Sussex

Take a step back into festive times past and read about two wartime evacuees who produced a magazine called The Petworth Stars.

Amy and Nellie Scaddan were living with the Parvin family in Petworth and their hand-written and illustrated magazine highlighted the happy times they had in the West Sussex village, despite the hardships of wartime Britain.

The magazine's 1943 [Christmas issue is featured in one of our Record Office blogs](#) where you'll discover what the family ate for Christmas dinner and their full list of gifts – which included slippers, a pink scarf, a doll's bed, and a toothbrush.

Visit our Record Office on the link below to discover a wealth of local history dating from 780AD to the present day.

You can trace your family history, view historic photos, research a military ancestor, use maps to explore your local area and house history, find out more about times gone by – and much more!

[Discover our Record Office](#)



Help us help you

The NHS is asking everyone living in Sussex to [Help Us Help You](#) as demand on health services increases through the winter months.

If you have loved ones in hospital, help them to leave hospital when they are clinically safe to do so. Every day spent in hospital when they don't need to be there makes their recovery longer - it's ok for them to ask 'when am I going home?'

If you're eligible, today (19 December) is the last day you can [book your flu and Covid-19 vaccination](#) online using the NHS National Booking System. From tomorrow (20 December) you can arrange an appointment directly with a local service or [attend a walk-in session](#).

Find out how you can make the right choices on which health services to contact over the Christmas break on the [NHS Sussex website](#).

You can also visit our [Keeping Safe this Winter](#) webpage for tips on staying safe, well and warm this winter.



Get ready to reduce waste this Christmas

We're encouraging residents to reduce waste wherever possible during the festive season.

Wrapping gifts in reusable materials like ribbon and scarves, using crockery when hosting parties rather than paper plates and plastic cutlery, and making your own crackers are just some of the ideas that can reduce Christmas waste.

We understand that some waste is unavoidable, but there are lots of Christmas items that can be recycled, including:

- Christmas cards
- Wrapping paper (if it scrunches up in your hand and stays scrunched)
- Paper bags
- Glass bottles and jars
- Plastic bottles (with lids on)
- Plastic pots, tubs and trays (including sweet and chocolate tubs)
- Flexible toothpaste tubes
- Tins and cans
- Foil
- Pringles tubes

Finally, it's easy for food waste to build up over the festive period. Instead of letting leftovers go to waste, why not turn them into something delicious or make a conscious effort to only buy what you need.

[Discover more tips for reducing Christmas waste](#)



Stay safe from fire

The festive season should be filled with joy, not disaster. Stay safe by following our West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service's essential dos and don'ts for fire hazards in your home:

- Never place candles near your Christmas tree or materials that can catch light easily.
- Keep candles, lighters and matches out of children's reach. Never leave burning candles unattended.
- Never overload electrical sockets. Always switch Christmas lights off and unplug them before you go to bed.
- Decorations can burn easily – don't attach them to lights or heaters.

[More festive fire safety advice](#)

More news



Check out [our Newsroom to read more West Sussex stories.](#)

- Do you or someone you care for receive respite care? We're looking at how respite care services can better support adults with lifelong disabilities and mental health conditions, as well as their unpaid carers. Respite might mean

support at home, day activities or residential stays, and we want to make sure these services meet everyone's needs. [Please complete our survey and give your views on how respite services could work better.](#) This will help us shape future plans and improvements.

- Our West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service [has welcomed two new on-call firefighters.](#)
- We have announced a [major expansion to stop smoking services](#) in the county to help people quit.
- We're asking for [your feedback to help shape the West Sussex Road Safety Strategy.](#) which outlines how we intend to improve road safety across the county and reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured in traffic collisions.

Did you receive this eNewsletter from a friend? [Sign up here.](#)

A graphic with a teal background. On the left, the text "Confused about recycling?" is written in white. To the right, there are eight circular icons arranged in a 2x4 grid. The top row shows a battery (with a question mark), a bottle of oil (with a checkmark), a plastic bag (with a question mark), and a pile of crumpled paper (with a checkmark). The bottom row shows a green recycling symbol (with a checkmark), a bag of food waste (with a checkmark), a blue recycling symbol (with a checkmark), and a box of food waste (with a checkmark). At the bottom left, the text "Click here to find out the answers" is written in white. At the bottom right, the text "@WSRecycles" is written in white, followed by icons for Facebook, X, Instagram, and YouTube.

Confused about recycling?

Click here to find out the answers

@WSRecycles

Facebook X Instagram YouTube

Water industry regulator Ofwat has today published its [Final Determination](#) on all companies' investment plans for 2025-30. Ofwat's publication sets out how much water companies can invest in their networks over the next five years – and how they should set customer bills to support that activity.

Our response

Our teams are now reviewing Ofwat's decision carefully to make sure it meets the needs of our communities and environment. Responding to the Final Determination for Southern Water, our CEO Lawrence Gosden said:

“We note Ofwat's publication of its Final Determination for 2025-2030. It's important that we take time now to review all the detail carefully, as we seek to understand the level of support the regulator has shown for our ambitious investment plan. We're very conscious that a rise in bills isn't easy for our customers, essential though it is to delivering the improved performance and infrastructure that's required. So we're significantly expanding the wide range of support available for those customers who are most in need.

“Our plan was driven by the views of thousands of Southern Water customers. That's why we need to be sure that what's been set out in Ofwat's Final Determination meets the expectations of our communities -- in protecting the environment and building a truly resilient network for future generations.”

Find out more about [how our bills are set, why they are rising, and what support is on offer](#) as well as summaries of our £8bn plan for 2025-2030 split by county.

Investment in your area

We'll be able say more about Ofwat's Final Determination in due course, once we have carefully reviewed the detail. We will follow-up with you directly in the coming months with specific details of the investment you can expect in your local area. Please do let me know if you have any questions.

Mike Russell

Stakeholder Engagement Manager - Sussex

M. 07707 853781

southernwater.co.uk



Email dated 19.12.2024 from WSALC
The Eden Project: The Big Lunch 2025



Don't miss The Big Lunch webinar for councils and housing associations

Join the Eden Project, the organisation behind The Big Lunch campaign, for a lunchtime webinar on **Thursday 30 January at 12pm** to explore how The Big Lunch can help councils and housing associations support safer, healthier and more cohesive communities.

Over 10 million people participated in 2024, with 76% reporting a positive impact on their community, and 71% saying it helped reduce loneliness (7.1m people).

The Big Lunch 2025 will take place on 7 – 8 June and can also complement VE Day 80 activities in May. As always, the key is communities coming together.

Hosted by Tracey Robbins, Head of Communities, and including examples of best practice from guest speakers, the webinar will share impact insights, practical tips, and free resources to support your work – at a time when we're all tasked with doing more with less.

Sign up now: <https://events.more-human.co.uk/event/the-big-lunch-building-stronger-communities-together--with-eden-project-communities-events>

Many thanks,

**eden
project**

Email dated 19.12.2024 from WSALC
Draft Transport Strategy Consultation & the TfSE Podcast



Draft Transport Strategy Consultation

Last week we published our new draft Transport Strategy for consultation.

The strategy sets out our vision for the South East, detailing our plans to improve the transport system to grow the economy, better connect our communities and reach net zero in the decades to come.

We are asking residents, businesses and interest groups in the region to take part in the [public consultation](#) to give us their views on our proposals.

Find out more about the vision, goals and missions outlined in the draft strategy and complete the [consultation survey](#), which is open until 7th March 2025

Complete the [Survey now](#).



The TfSE Podcast

The latest episode of The TfSE Podcast is now available!

In this episode, our podcast host, Tia Shelley, speaks with Director of Healthy Streets, Lucy Saunders, about different approaches that can be taken to create fairer, sustainable and attractive urban spaces.

Listen to the episode here: [The TfSE Podcast – Transport for the South East](#)



James Boyes – Communications and Public Affairs Manager

James joined Transport for the South East in November 2024 and oversees the day-to-day development and implementation of our communications and public engagement strategy, working closely with Jaimie and Tia.

James has worked in marketing and communications for almost 25 years, including twenty years of public sector experience in roles with East Sussex County Council, the Home Office and Sussex Police.

Email dated 19.12.2024 from NALC Chief Executives Bulletin

NALC calls for stronger neighbourhood governance in response to English Devolution White Paper

We welcomed the government's [English Devolution White Paper](#) published on 16 December 2024, and our [immediate response](#) emphasised the importance of nurturing neighbourhood governance to ensure its success. Parish and town councils have already demonstrated their ability to deliver on government priorities at the local level. With the devolution framework and local government reorganisation, there is an opportunity for them to achieve even more. During ongoing discussions about the white paper and its implications, we will advocate for several critical measures to enhance neighbourhood governance, including investment in neighbourhood governance, simplifying processes to set up parish and town councils, promoting civility and respect, allowing hybrid council meetings where local communities see fit, fairer access to funding and a tailored audit framework. It was good to see the role of parish and town councils in devolution featured in the [debate in parliament](#) following the statement by the minister for local government and English devolution, Jim McMahon MP. Responding to questions from MPs, he said, "At a neighbourhood level, we see parish and town councils playing a critical role in devolution, and we look forward to further discussions with the sector". Yesterday, we received the government's [consultation on strengthening the standards](#) regime as set out in the white paper and will brief more fully in the new year.

Join the devolution revolution at Power Shift 2025 as we mark our return to in-person events

Are you ready to seize the moment and redefine the role of parish and town councils in England's democracy? [Power Shift 2025](#) is here to put you at the centre of the conversation.

Please mark your calendars for 23 June 2025 and join us at the America Square Conference Centre near the iconic Tower of London. With a new government promising transformative devolution through the English Devolution White Paper, the spotlight shifts to how real power can be handed to communities. While metro mayors and combined authorities dominate headlines, the true champions of grassroots change, parish and town councils, must rise to the occasion. At Power Shift 2025, we'll explore how parish and town councils can lead the charge in shaping a bold, inclusive future for devolution.

Latest study tour to discover Braunstone Town Council's award-winning innovations

I'm thrilled to announce the launch of an [exclusive study tour to Braunstone Town Council](#), crowned [Star Council Awards Council of the Year 2023](#), between 20 and 21 May 2025. Attendees will step behind the scenes of one of England's most forward-thinking councils to explore the programs, partnerships, and principles that have propelled Braunstone Town Council to the top. The study tour is an unmissable opportunity to learn from a true trailblazer in modern local governance. It offers a deep dive into the council's key achievements and the strategies that have made them possible. Spaces are limited, so secure your spot today. Your ticket includes an overnight stay, an evening meal, and an unforgettable journey into the heart of local innovation.

A new suite of online events for 2025/26

This week, we unveiled our highly anticipated [online events programme](#) for 2025/26. It marks the fifth consecutive year of delivering engaging and affordable events to parish and town councils. Our events series addresses parish and town councils' unique needs, fostering collaboration, innovation, and effective governance. The diverse lineup will feature expert-led events covering a range of topics such as community engagement, managing parks and open spaces, alternative income sources, the new planning and housing landscape, the art of communication, clean energy initiatives and driving community growth, asset management, and attracting young talent to parish and town councils. Please note our online events starting in April 2025 will use the new booking system via the NALC website and not Eventbrite.

NALC backs the government's remote meeting proposals

Also, this week, we supported the government's [recent proposals to reintroduce remote meetings](#) for parish and town councils, one of the policy objectives we have lobbied for. Responding to a consultation by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), we emphasised that parish and town councils should be free to decide how and when to hold their meetings. This flexibility will empower parish and town councils to respond quicker and effectively to their communities' needs through in-person, remote, or hybrid formats. However, we strongly opposed the government's proposal to introduce proxy voting at council meetings. Echoing concerns raised by other stakeholders, we warned proxy voting could undermine democratic accountability, weaken deliberative

decision making and create procedural and ethical challenges, particularly for larger councils with party-political dynamics.

NALC event champions youth engagement in local governance

On 13 December 2024, [we hosted our final online event of the year](#), focusing on cultivating young people's interest in becoming local councillors. The panel featured the head of quality and standards Andy Lloyd and young reviewer Charlie McCarthy of the National Youth Agency (NYA), the social media lead for My Life My Say Remi Olukun, and Billericay Town Council clerk Deborah Tonkiss. Andy emphasised the need for youth councils to be more inclusive and representative and advocated for localised youth work led by youth workers to empower and engage the diverse young leaders of tomorrow. Charlie shared his experience with the NYA peer review program, explaining how it has enabled him to amplify young people's voices, ensure their feedback shapes decision-making, and engage the often hard-to-reach 15 to 17 age group in shaping their communities. Remi discussed the importance of engaging young people in democracy through creative and accessible methods, such as Democracy Cafes and social media campaigns like Give an X, which registered nearly 500,000 young voters. These efforts involved meeting young people where they are, leveraging influencers, and incorporating their input to make parish and town councils and politics more relatable and engaging. Deborah shared her experiences as a clerk, highlighting how their Youth Town Council involves young people in local democracy through volunteering, events, and initiatives like the Billericay Youth Safety Booklet. [Find out more about our upcoming events in 2025](#) on our website.

The government publishes the revised National Planning Policy Framework

On 12 December 2024, following its significant consultation earlier in the summer, the [government announced major changes to the National Planning Policy Framework](#) (NPPF). These updates aim to support the prime minister's recent Plan for Change, which targets delivering 1.5 million new homes over five years. To achieve this, principal authorities have been tasked with an ambitious combined target of building 370,000 homes a year. Key changes to the NPPF include introducing mandatory housing targets for principal authorities to accelerate housebuilding, focusing on areas with the highest housing unaffordability and greatest growth potential. Principal authorities must also review greenbelt boundaries while adhering to a brownfield-first approach. Any development on greenbelt land must meet strict requirements through the new Golden Rules, which require developers to provide the necessary infrastructure for local communities, such as nurseries, GP surgeries and transport, and a premium level of social and affordable housing. Additionally, there will be a greater emphasis on social rent, with principal authorities and developers required to prioritise this in new developments. At the same time, local leaders will have increased powers to deliver affordable housing. We continue to examine the implications for parish and town councils, particularly neighbourhood planning. We will publish further information in due course.

Joint Panel on Accountability and Governance

The [Joint Panel on Accountability and Governance](#) (JPAG) met last week to begin reviewing proper practices for smaller authorities annually. The panel discussed the purpose of proper practices, potential changes to the reporting of financial information by smaller authorities, and the Annual Governance and Accountability Return form. JPAG also agreed on the panel's rebranding, which will be officially launched in the new year. The panel will meet again in the New Year to continue the review process.

On the blog: RECOUP

[This week's blog](#), by RECOUP, highlights the importance of managing natural resources to ensure a sustainable future. Overconsumption depletes these resources and drives climate change and habitat loss, impacting biodiversity and humanity's well-being. The blog emphasises that adopting a "buy less" mindset and extending the life of our purchases can make a significant difference in combating these challenges. For instance, reusing, repairing, and sharing items like clothing can reduce greenhouse gas emissions and conserve resources. RECOUP, a charity specialising in plastic resource efficiency and recycling, supports communities with actionable environmental projects. One such initiative is their coat exchange with East Hunsbury Parish Council, which promotes sustainable clothing practices. They invite town and parish councils to collaborate on projects like community orchards, toy libraries, and clothing exchanges, offering toolkits and funding support to make these initiatives a reality.

And finally...

As we approach the end of 2024, I extend my heartfelt wishes to you and your loved ones for a joyful festive season. A sincere thank you to everyone involved in and with parish and town councils and county associations for your dedication and hard work in serving your communities throughout the year. I also deeply appreciate the many [organisations and partners](#) who have supported us, including Blachere Illumination, CCLA and Clear Councils. May this holiday season bring happiness to you all, and may 2025 be filled with success and prosperity. Our offices will close on 24 December 2024 and reopen on 2 January 2025 – Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Email dated 19.12.2024 from Carers Support west Sussex
Latest news from Carers Support West Sussex

Making caring visible, valued and supported



As the year comes to a close, we would like to take a moment to thank you for your support. Whether it is through referrals, event participation or carer awareness, you have played a crucial role in enabling us to make sure carers of West Sussex are seen, heard and included.

Here at Carers Support, we are registering on average 365 carers a month, which shows the demand from carers remains strong.

In the first six months of our new contract, we:

- Directly supported 5,522 individual carers
- Completed 665 Statutory Carer Assessments, within 1 week of referral
- Secured £685,283 in additional annual income for carers through the welfare benefits service

[You can read more about our impact here](#)

From all at Carers Support, we would like to wish you a joyful holiday season and a successful New Year. May it be filled with health, happiness, and new opportunities for us all.

[Click here to see available services](#)

[Click here to use our new carers smart search function. Helping you to find information relevant to you](#)



Referring carers to Carers Support

As a professional, you will meet, work with, or recognise unpaid Carers as part of your everyday activity. Family and friend Carers do not always recognise themselves in a caring role. Quite often, it takes someone like you to spot the signs and highlight to them that the help and support they provide to someone else may mean that they are a Carer.

Once you have identified someone as a Carer, you have two quick and easy options to help the Carer:

1. Signpost the Carer to us
2. Refer the Carer to us using the linked form [here](#)

[Find out more here](#)



Jobs at carers support

Looking for a job, or know someone who is? We have Wellbeing Worker role on offer at Carers Support. You could join a great and friendly team to support carers. One in six of existing staff are carers themselves, so come and join the ranks. Keep your eye on our social media for future roles.

[Read about the role on offer here](#)



Have you checked out our library of carer guides and toolkits?

With so much information scattered across different sources, we wanted to make it easier for carers to find what they need. That's why we've grouped key topics into user-friendly toolkits and guides. These resources cover important subjects like bereavement, cost of living, and dementia. They're a valuable source of information to support carers.

[You can find them here](#)



Carer events

Did you know we host monthly carer groups? Whether the carer is seeking a friendly conversation, a helpful workshop, or a relaxing outing, our wide variety of carers groups and events offers something special for every carer.

The groups are a great resource to signpost carers to as they are crafted to offer both practical insights and well-deserved moments of respite.

[Find out more here](#)



Have you considered using your experience to support carers?

We offer several fantastic volunteering roles that allow you to share your experience and help carers. Opportunities include roles such as Check-in and Chat, Community Shop Volunteer, or Carer Group Facilitator.

We welcome volunteers from all areas of the community, regardless of expertise or background. The key qualities we seek are the ability to listen and show empathy. Every volunteer receives a thorough induction, covering our vision, values, and how we support carers.

Interested in joining our team? [Find out more here](#)





Carers Support West Sussex
for family and friend carers

Festive Opening Hours .

Tuesday 24 Dec	9AM-2PM
Wednesday 25 Dec	CLOSED
Thursday 26 Dec	CLOSED
Friday 27 Dec	10AM - 2PM
Saturday 28 Dec	CLOSED
Sunday 29 Dec	CLOSED
Monday 30 Dec	10AM-2PM
Tuesday 31 Jan	10AM-2PM
Wednesday 1 Jan	CLOSED

Thank you for taking the time to read our news. Please do pass onto to anyone who would benefit from keeping informed. And remember to follow our social media channels for up to the minute news.

Kind regards

Caroline Pope, Chief Executive

[Find out more in our specialist service newsletters](#)



[Autistic Adults](#) / [Dementia & Memory Loss](#) / [Drug & Alcohol](#)

[Learning Disability](#) / [Mental Health](#)

Email dated 17.12.2024 from Community Team at Gatwick Airport

Gatwick In Touch - December 2024



Gatwick In Touch

Airport news for local residents



London Gatwick unveils new restaurant featuring Sussex's finest produce

London Gatwick continues its support for the local economy through the Sussex Six initiative with the opening of Sussex House Kitchen and Bar. This new restaurant in the North Terminal highlights our Sussex Six campaign promise to expand the range of local products available at our airport.

Sussex House Kitchen and Bar features 15 Sussex products. The restaurant offers a variety of local delights, including Silly Moo Cider, Sussex Bakes' sticky toffee pudding, and Bush Barn Farm's elderflower and rhubarb cordial. Passengers can also enjoy Sussex Garden London Dry Gin, distilled on-site at the world's first airport gin distillery. 27 products from across Sussex are now available throughout the airport, alongside further products from Surrey and Kent.

This initiative is part of London Gatwick's broader efforts to drive regional growth, contributing over £4bn to the local economy in 2023.

[**READ MORE HERE >**](#)



London Gatwick contributes £14,000 to Support Crawley families

London Gatwick has contributed £13,990 to support families in financial hardship through a partnership with FreeShop Crawley. This includes £8,990 from the London Gatwick Foundation Fund and £5,000 from the VINCI UK Foundation.

FreeShop, a charity assisting more than 600 people weekly, offers essential services like food, mental health support, and community engagement. This funding helps FreeShop cover vital costs and expand its offerings.

In October, London Gatwick welcomed 13 FreeShop families to its STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Maths) Centre for educational activities. London Gatwick staff led STEM activities for children and discussed career opportunities with their parents at the airport.

[**READ MORE HERE >**](#)



Security team's charity uniform sale

Our Security team recently launched a successful charity uniform sale, rehoming a significant amount of unbranded and unused old uniforms. This initiative raised more than £300 for our charity partners and donated the remaining clothing to various organisations that assist individuals in returning to work and finding employment. The initiative is a creative approach to reducing waste while also creating a positive social and environmental impact.

[HOW WE HELP THE COMMUNITY >](#)



London Gatwick Economic Summit

More than 200 regional business leaders and local authority representatives gathered at London Gatwick's annual Economic Summit in November. CEO Stewart Wingate announced the formation of a new taskforce dedicated to progressing the Gatwick Region Airport Economic Zone (AEZ) concept. This new taskforce, which includes senior economic development and business leaders, as well as representatives from the UK's Department for Business and Trade, will shape and develop the AEZ concept that aims to boost growth and attract new investment to help our region thrive.

The AEZ will leverage London Gatwick's position as a regional economic anchor to foster long-term, sustainable economic growth and inward investment. Key initiatives include promoting the region as a prime location for business, collaboration across legislative boundaries, advocating for regional and foreign direct investment, and unifying the region's voice to national government. This effort builds on the 76,500 jobs and £5.5 billion the airport already contributes to the UK economy annually.

[LEARN MORE HERE >](#)



London Gatwick Route 4 redesign update

One of London Gatwick's aircraft departure routes – Route 4 – is being redesigned, and preparations are underway for a public consultation in 2025. London Gatwick are currently finalising the noise and environmental impact assessments and preparing the consultation documents, which will be submitted to the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) for review in March 2025. Once the review from the CAA is complete, we will be planning to start a public consultation on the proposal from mid-2025.

[LEARN MORE HERE >](#)

Email dated 16.12.2024 from HALC
HALC matters & Local Plan

Dear Councilors, Clerks & EO's

In my last email, I promised advice on the HDC Local Plan, and the new NPPF, due out shortly, the advice received to date is as follows:

The consultation on the NPPF set out the proposed transitional arrangements for emerging plans in preparation. This could change when the updated NPPF is published but the latest information is as follows:

Transitional arrangements will apply differently depending on what stage of preparation the plan has reached and the extent to which it is meeting the Government's housing growth aspirations.

1. *Those **plans at examination** will continue to be examined under the version of the NPPF they were submitted under. However, if the revised LHN figure is more than 200 dwellings per annum higher than the annual housing requirement set out in the adopted version of the plan, upon introduction of the new plan-making system, the local planning authority will be required to begin preparation of a plan under the new system as soon as possible, or in line with any subsequent arrangements set out to manage the roll-out of the new system.*
2. *Those **plans that have reached Regulation 19** publication stage but not yet been submitted for examination one month after the revised framework is published, with a gap of no more than 200 dwellings per annum between the local planning authority's revised LHN figure and its proposed housing requirement (as set out in the Publication version of the plan), should also progress to examination under the version of the NPPF it has used when preparing the plan thus far. However, those with a more significant gap of over 200 dwellings per annum between the local planning authority's revised LHN figure and the emerging housing requirement will need to revise its plan in line with the revised NPPF before submitting the plan for examination no more than 18 months after the publication of the revised NPPF.*
3. ***All plans at earlier stages of preparation** - (i.e. plans that have not yet reached Regulation 19 stage one month after the revised NPPF is published) - should be prepared against the revised version of the NPPF and progressed as quickly as possible.*

I understand that Horsham's Local Plan would fall under (1) above.

This in effect will mean that some form of amendment should be required to the HDC Local plan.

Since starting this email, the Local Plan has been suspended please see below:

Cancellation of scheduled hearings – Examination of Horsham Local Plan

Representor:

Dear Representor and/or Participant,

I am writing to provide an important update regarding the examination hearing sessions for the Horsham Local Plan.

All scheduled hearings have been cancelled. Further updates will be shared through the [Latest News](#) section of the [examination webpages](#) as soon as they become available.

This means that all scheduled hearings will no longer take place on the following weeks:

- Week 2 - Week commencing 16th December 2024 (Matters 4 to 7)
- Week 3 - Week commencing 13th January 2025 (Matters 8 to 9 Issue 1)
- Week 4 - Week commencing 20th January 2025 (Matters 9 Issue 2 to 10)

At this time, I do not have any additional information and kindly ask for your patience over the coming days.

Kind regards,

Kerry

My reading of the situation is that the Inspector could not have been content with all the information provided by HDC, time will tell.

Lastly you will have received a notification of the next HALC meeting:

Thursday 16 January, 7.00pm

Online via Zoom

Zoom link to be circulated with the agenda one week prior to the meeting

Kind Regards, Graham Watkins

Chairman HALC



GRAHAM WATKINS

Councillor Chairman of Planning | Chairman of Neighbourhood Plan Consultation Group

graham.watkins@cllr.southwater-pc.gov.uk

Beeson House, 26 Lintot Square, Fairbank Road, Southwater, RH13 9LA

Email dated 15.12.2024 from HDC Local Plan

Cancellation of scheduled hearings – Examination of Horsham Local Plan

Representor: Rudgwick Parish Council

Dear Representor and/or Participant,

I am writing to provide an important update regarding the examination hearing sessions for the Horsham Local Plan.

All scheduled hearings have been cancelled. Further updates will be shared through the [Latest News](#) section of the [examination webpages](#) as soon as they become available.

This means that all scheduled hearings will no longer take place on the following weeks:

- Week 2 - Week commencing 16th December 2024 (Matters 4 to 7)
- Week 3 - Week commencing 13th January 2025 (Matters 8 to 9 Issue 1)
- Week 4 - Week commencing 20th January 2025 (Matters 9 Issue 2 to 10)

At this time, I do not have any additional information and kindly ask for your patience over the coming days.

Kind regards, Kerry

Kerry Trueman

Programme Officer

Email: programmeofficer@horsham.gov.uk

Address: Pendragon House, 1 Bertram Drive, Wirral, CH47 0LG

Phone: 07582 310364

Examination Website: <https://www.horsham.gov.uk/planning/local-plan/local-plan-examination>

Latest News: <https://www.horsham.gov.uk/planning/local-plan/local-plan-examination/Latest-News-from-Local-Plan-Examination>

I am contracted by Horsham District Council for the purposes of this examination only. I am impartial and work under the Inspector's direction but use a Council email address to securely exchange information.

Kerry Trueman

Programme Officer

Telephone:

Email: Kerry.Trueman@horsham.gov.uk



Email dated 13.10.2024 from WSCC

West Sussex County Council leader to write to Secretary of State on inheritance tax on farms



NEWS RELEASE

West Sussex County Council leader to write to Secretary of State on inheritance tax on farms

Following a debate at a meeting of the County Council, leader Councillor Paul Marshall is to write to the Government to express dismay at its decision regarding planned changes to inheritance tax on farms.

During the debate on Friday 13 December, councillors highlighted their concerns about the impact in West Sussex on family farms and on the environment.

The letter will call on the Secretary of State for the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs not to proceed with the tax changes, setting out the Council's concerns that the changes proposed in the recent 2024 Autumn Budget will have a devastating impact on many family farms with little or no impact on those investing in land purely to avoid tax.

It will explain that the emerging West Sussex Local Nature Recovery Strategy requires strong collaboration with local agricultural stakeholders and environmental partners to drive initiatives to protect and enhance biodiversity across the county and also that farms that stay in family ownership are better positioned to continue practices that support wildlife corridors, habitat preservation, and sustainable land stewardship.

The motion that was debated noted that the conservation and protection of farmland across the South Downs National Park, the Chichester Harbour and High Weald National Landscapes and the numerous sites of special scientific interest (SSSIs) and nature reserves across the county depend upon the co-operation of land owners, and that family-run farms, handed down through the generations, are better able to support these aims.

The notice of motion on family farms was proposed by Councillor Charlotte Kenyon and was passed following a vote.

Email dated 13.12.2024 from Sussex Police

Nearly 100 gang members caught for multi-million pound thefts



Sussex
Police & Crime
Commissioner

KATY BOURNE OBE



You will have read in previous newsletters about our ground-breaking national policing and retail Pegasus Partnership which I have spearheaded and led.

This week, I'm delighted that the successes of the Pegasus Partnership are being shared through [national news platforms](#).

Thanks to funding provided by 15 of the country's top retailers, Pegasus has created opportunities for information and intelligence sharing between retailers and police and led to the creation of a dedicated, intelligence and analytical team within OPAL - the national police acquisitive crime unit.

Despite only being operationally live since 1 May, in just seven months, OPAL's work has led to the arrest of 93 members of 28 organised crime gangs who are estimated to be behind more than £4 million worth of shop thefts. It has also secured numerous convictions, with more to come, and seen five people deported.

Importantly, nearly 230 previously unknown offenders and 70 vehicles involved in retail crime, have been identified.

This is the first time that police have mapped and been able to pinpoint the retail crime gangs targeting shops and supermarkets around the country. Prior to this, OPAL had scarce resource and police forces were not easily able to link offences, especially when they occurred outside their own force area, meaning that they had no understanding of the extent of the criminality operating across multiple force areas and retailers. I am pleased with the positive results so far and I will continue to chair our regular Pegasus performance meetings.

With online retail crime becoming a growing threat to retailers, we now need to ensure our virtual shopping spaces are also provided the same protection.

As well as stealing in shops, organised crime gangs can operate digitally, through the sale of stolen and counterfeit goods, particularly in alternative marketplaces. Offenders are able to hide behind fake profiles and accounts causing great harm to businesses and potentially the public, as the goods aren't always the 'real deal'.

Social media and re-seller platforms have a responsibility to their users to ensure the sales taking place on their websites are legitimate and safe. Similarly, customers need to make sure they understand what they are purchasing online.

It can be difficult to identify stolen goods. However, signs to look out for may include: extremely low prices; no detail on the listing; electrical goods being sold that are password locked; the seller has no reviews; the seller cannot provide proof of ownership; the seller has crossed out serial numbers or barcodes. It's quite simple really - if you're in any doubt, don't purchase the item.

I will be working closely with Ministers on how we can protect shoppers and businesses from online retail crime and will continue to update you through my newsletter and website.

Hearing from you



As part of my ongoing annual programme of listening to residents across Sussex, my office has run discussion groups and online meetings with people of all ages from school pupils and youth groups, farmers and garden centres to senior citizens and veterans' groups, local councillors and clerks. The feedback and ideas that have been collated will inform the priorities in my Police and Crime Plan for the next four years.

We have also just completed a demographically representative survey of Sussex residents - conducted by an external polling company - which asked a range of questions about perceptions of crime, experiences of crime and interactions with police and what would make people feel safer.

Having conducted the same survey at this time last year, we now have a baseline for comparison for each district. This should show any difference and improvements in

public confidence that have arisen from police campaigns like 'Hotspot patrols' and targeted crackdowns on anti-social behaviour and shoplifting. I will be presenting the findings and results of the survey to the Sussex Police and Crime Panel in January.



Katy Bourne OBE
Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner

Knives seized and arrests made



Last month, Sussex Police officers visited schools, checked retailers, and completed searches in Sussex as part of Operation Sceptre, a national campaign to tackle knife crime.

Results are now in that more than 70 weapons were taken off the streets as part of the campaign, while 23 arrests were made across the county.

Police also carried out checks on shops and retailers to ensure that staff completed age checks on restricted items such as knives. You can read more on the [Sussex Police website](#).



[SHARE WITH A FRIEND](#)