

Rudgwick Parish Council

Weekly Clerk's Update: 5 – 11 April 2025 (Agenda May 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:

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).

Applications for noting at Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting

Applications for noting at Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 12 th May 2025	
Application No: DC/25/0145 26.03.2025	Response/Comments:

Applicant: Hope Farm, The Haven	
Reason for Application: Proposed demolition of 1970's extension to Grade II listed Farmhouse and changes to architectural treatment of proposed extension which was part of consented planning applications DC/22/2377 and DC/22/2378. Proposed new dwelling to north of the Farmhouse and associated landscape works (Full Planning).	
Official Response Date: Not available / Determination	
Application No: DC/24/0146 26.03.2025	Response/Comments:
Applicant: Hope Farm, The Haven	
Reason for Application: Proposed demolition of 1970's extension to Grade II listed Farmhouse and changes to architectural treatment of proposed extension which was part of consented planning applications DC/22/2377 and DC/22/2378. Proposed new dwelling to north of the Farmhouse and associated landscape works (Listed Building Consent).	
Official Response Date: Not available / Determination 21.05.2025	
Application No: DC/25/0512 19.03.2025	Response/Comments:
Applicant: Windacres Farm, Church Street, Rudgwick	
Reason for Application: Exempted Camp Site - to accommodate a maximum of 5 caravans/motorhomes onsite at any one time, plus no more than 10 tents unless express permission has been granted by the Club.	

Official Response Date: 24.04.2025 / Determination 15.04.2024!	
Application No: DC/25/0529 31.03.2025	Response/Comments:
Applicant: 4 Pondfield Road, Rudgwick	
Reason for Application: Enlargement of porch and installation of pitched roof to front. Erection of new sun room with flat roof to replace existing. Creation of covered seating area and installation of window at first floor level to rear.	
Official Response Date: Not available / Determination 26.05.2025	
Application No: DISC/25/0052 08.04.2025 (new documents/plans)	Response/Comments:
Applicant: Pennthorpe School, Church Street, Rudgwick	
Reason for Application: Application for Approval of Details Reserved by Conditions 6, 7 and 8 to approved application DC/19/2573.	
Official Response Date: 29.04.2025 / Determination 15.04.2025 (not updated)	
Application No: DC/25/0389 10.04.2025	Response/Comments:
Applicant: Little Jungle, 29 Gaskyns Close, Rudgwick	
Reason for Application: Surgery to 2x Field Maple	
Official Response Date: 01.05.2025 / Determination 03.06.2025	

Application No: DC/25/0593 11.04.2025	Response/Comments:
Applicant: Arun Valley Vineyard, Haven Road, Billingshurst	
Reason for Application: Prior notification for the erection of a steel portal framed agricultural building for the storage of vineyard equipment.	
Official Response Date: 02.05.2025 / Determination 07.05.2025	

Applications for consideration at Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting

Applications for consideration at Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 12 th May 2025	
Application No:	Response/Comments:
Applicant:	
Reason for Application:	
Official Response Date:	

Decisions

HDC Council Decisions – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 12 th May 2025	
Application No: DC/24/1747	Response/Comments: Permitted / RPC - It is unclear from the information submitted as to the potential increase of water usage involved by replacing the current building with one considerably larger. It is a commercial business with aqua treadmill and training, and stabling for horses. There is no Water Neutrality statement or evidence of the current usage submitted. Holding Objection until it is clear whether the Water Neutrality requirements are met, and also whether the HDC Conservation officer is satisfied that the larger replacement building will not affect the setting of the listed buildings on the site.
Applicant: Garlands, The Haven, Billingshurst	
Reason for Application: Erection of a 30.480 x 12.192m general agricultural storage shed	
Official Response Date:	

Application No: DC/24/1958	Response/Comments: Permitted / RPC - No Objection provided that the property (Gatefield) retains its agricultural occupancy restriction.
Applicant: Gibbons Mill Farm, Gatefield Bungalow, The Haven	
Reason for Application: Demolition of existing dwelling and construction of replacement dwelling.	
Official Response Date:	
Application No: DC/24/1967	Response/Comments: Refused / RPC – Strong objection.
Applicant: Sailtops, Cox Green	
Reason for Application: Variation of Condition 1 of previously approved application DC/24/0462 (Demolition of existing garage and annexe and construction of 1no 3 bedroom detached house with residential amenity areas, car parking and turning, together with hard and soft landscaping and new access) Relating to site area, change of use of land, vehicular access and minor elevational revisions to the new dwelling.	
Official Response Date:	

Applications going to Committee

Applications going to Committee – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 12 th May 2025	
Application No:	Response/Comments:
Applicant:	
Reason for Application:	
Official Response Date:	

Appeals Lodged / Appeals Determined

New Appeals Lodged / Determined – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 12th May 2025

Application No:	Response/Comments:
Applicant:	
Reason for Application:	
Official Response Date:	

New Planning Compliance Issues

New Planning Compliance Issues – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 12th May 2025

Application No: EN/25/0116 03.04.2025	Response/Comments:
Address: Furnace Lakes, Furnace Lakes Fishery, Guildford Road, Slinfold	
Nature of Complaint: Continued siting of shepherds huts for use as holiday accommodation (Class C3) together with associated works following refusal of application DC/24/1959	
Official Response Date:	
Application No: EN/25/0117 03.04.2025	Response/Comments:
Applicant: Windacres Farm, Church Street, Rudgwick	
Reason for Application: Alleged: earth being moved around the site.	
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>

PUBLIC NOTICE

WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL TEMPORARY TRAFFIC REGULATION

THE HAVEN BILLINGSHURST

NOTICE IS hereby given that in pursuance of the provisions of Section 14(2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act, 1984, as amended, the use of (and parking on) **The Haven Billingshurst** from junction with **Okehurst Road** to is temporarily prohibited from **22nd April to 23rd April**

The restriction will be in place off peak only between 09.30-15.30

This closure is necessary to allow **Volker Highways** to undertake urgent carriageway patching repairs on behalf of WSCC

Emergency vehicle, Residential and Pedestrian access will be maintained at all times

The alternative route for traffic will be signed on site

This restriction will be effective for a maximum of 5 days from the start date given above

Any queries about the effect of the closure on traffic using the highway please contact West Sussex County Council on 01243 642105

Any queries about the works please contact **Volker Highways** on **01243 642105**

Dated **08 April 2025**

Matt Davey
Assistant Director of Highways, Transport and Planning



Correspondence

Email dated 11.04.2025 from WSCC

Easter fun and events galore, cutting food waste, your health and wellbeing, and more!

Residents' eNewsletter



Egg-citing Easter events!

Spring is in the air, it's Easter next week and our county is brimming with exciting events and activities for all ages.

You'll find egg hunts, tulip festivals, seasonal markets and more - there's something for everyone to enjoy.

Discover all the wonderful Easter events happening by visiting [Experience Sussex](#).

And why not remove the hassle of driving and parking and take the bus, which can be a more environmentally friendly and affordable way to travel. [Plan your trip here](#).

You might also qualify for cheaper fares or a concessionary bus pass. [Find a full list of discounts here.](#)

On the link below you'll find our opening times over the Easter holiday, and who you can contact if you need us in an emergency.

Easter break information



Still time to have your say on devolution

There's still time to have your say on proposals for a Mayoral Combined Authority in Sussex and Brighton.

The government consultation closes at the end of the day this Sunday (13 April).

It seeks views from everyone who lives and works in our county, and asks about:

- The proposed geography
- Governance arrangements
- Supporting the economy
- Improving social outcomes
- Local government services
- Improving the natural environment
- Supporting the needs of local communities and reflect local identity.

Find more information about [devolution and local government reorganisation here.](#)

Complete the consultation



Do you love reading?

Discover which authors are the favourites among West Sussex residents - including several with local links.

Our library service has compiled a list of the top 100 favourite authors voted for by local people.

2025 is a special year for libraries as they celebrate 100 years of being in the heart of the community, and there's lots happening that you can join in with.

And if you are not already a member of the library, and would like to join in with the celebrations, it's quick and easy to sign up if you live or work in the county. [Visit your local library](#) or [join online](#).

[Read more!](#)



Improved reablement service

A greater proportion of West Sussex residents will soon be able to access reablement care to enable them to live independently for longer. This includes those with learning disabilities or mental health needs as well as older people.

We have re-commissioned our Community Reablement Service as part of a significant investment and expansion of the service and awarded the new contract to Essex Care Limited (ECL).

The contract will almost double current provision to deliver 2,000 hours of support each week to enable more people to benefit and regain independence.

It is envisioned that demand for the service will grow through the four to six-year contract, which has the potential to deliver 5,000 hours of support each week.

[More information](#)



Book your vaccines

Top up your protection against **Covid-19** by getting vaccinated this spring if you (or your child) are eligible.

Those at increased risk from severe illness can get the vaccine if they:

- are aged six months or over and have a weakened immune system
- live in an older adult care home
- are aged 75 or over (on 17 June 2025).

You don't need to wait for an invitation to book your vaccine. Visit the NHS App, [the NHS website](#) or call 119 for free. You may also be able to visit a [walk-in](#) site which doesn't require a booking.

The **RSV vaccine** helps protect against respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), a common virus that can make babies and older adults seriously ill.

It's recommended during pregnancy and for adults aged 75 to 79. The RSV vaccine is given all year round.

The vaccine is recommended during every pregnancy (from 28 weeks onwards), older adults only need one dose, which should protect them for several years.

[Find out more](#) or speak to your GP or maternity service.



Community Food Hubs for all

Working in partnership with Sussex-based food rescue charity UKHarvest, our Community Food Hubs redistribute surplus food from suppliers while educating residents on food waste prevention.

The scheme has already successfully prevented over 94 tonnes of food from going to waste since it started in April 2023, with hubs taking place once a month in each district and borough across West Sussex.

For a small voluntary donation of £5, residents can access a wide selection of surplus food. No referrals are needed and all residents are welcome to visit the child-friendly hubs.

Food waste prevention



Have your say on health and wellbeing

The West Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board is seeking residents' views on its draft five-year strategy (2025 to 2030), which sets out the overarching plan for improving health and wellbeing and reducing inequalities across the county.

The draft strategy uses the latest evidence to identify the challenges and needs of people and communities in West Sussex and presents the board's vision and five priority areas:

- Food and nutrition
- School readiness
- Transitioning to adulthood – children and young people's mental health and wellbeing
- Tobacco control
- Health and wellbeing in temporary accommodation.

A public consultation on the draft strategy is now open until 11.55pm on Sunday 27 April 2025.

Everyone in West Sussex, including young people, professionals, and local organisations, is invited to take part on the link below.

If you would prefer to complete a paper copy of the survey visit your local library where copies are available. The survey is also available to download and print and can be returned to any West Sussex library. [Find your local library on our website.](#)

[Take part in the consultation](#)



Supporting economic growth in Worthing

Residents and visitors are enjoying a more attractive and better-connected approach to Worthing railway station, thanks to major investment by the county council and [Active Travel England](#).

Improvements have been designed to support the town's economic growth with better and safer walking and cycling routes.

New rain gardens, which are flower beds that absorb excess water to prevent the road and pavement flooding during heavy rain, have been added to create an urban habitat for birds, butterflies, bees and other insects.

[More information](#)



Helping children and young people to stay safe

We know that staying safe is a concern for many young people, this can be especially so when they are out and about in town centres.

The Children First Board have worked with young people and a range of partners, including the county council's community safety team and Sussex Police to review the information and advice we provide to help young people to feel and stay safe.

We would ask all parents and carers to share the information on the link below which we hope you and the young people in your life find helpful.

[Staying safe](#)

More news



Head to our [Newsroom](#) to find all the latest news.

- Serial offender prosecuted for [selling illicit tobacco and alcohol to child in Littlehampton](#) following a trading standards undercover operation.

- Rap music is being used to [help parents and children improve their maths skills](#) as part of an innovative partnership between West Sussex County Council and musicians, educators, nursery schools and families.
- Our Record Office has retained its [Archives Accreditation, which sets the standard for archive services across the UK.](#)
- Be tick aware in warmer weather as they can carry infections like [Lyme disease](#) and [tick-borne encephalitis](#). [For more information watch this video](#). You can also report a tick through the [Tick Surveillance Scheme](#).

Did you know?



Thursday 8 May is the 80th anniversary of VE Day - Victory in Europe Day, which marked the end of World War II in Europe. [Find out what events are taking place in your local area](#), and information on [how your town and village can become a 'Tip Top Town'](#).



This is how much the average family of four could save every month by reducing their food waste.

Click here to join us in our **#FightAgainstFoodWaste**

Email dated 10.04.2025 from Chichester District Council Chichester Local Plan moves to the next stage

People are being invited to make comments on modifications being proposed to Chichester District Council's Local Plan, after councillors gave the green light to move to the next stage of

the examination process.

The Chichester Local Plan 2021–2039 was submitted to the government’s Planning Inspectorate for examination in May last year. Since then, two independent Planning Inspectors have been reviewing the plan document, alongside a range of supporting documents and comments from the most recent public consultation.

As part of this examination, the Inspectors led a series of public hearings last year, before issuing a post hearings advice letter, which can be viewed on the council’s Local Plan examination web pages: www.chichester.gov.uk/localplanexaminationnews

In a meeting of Full Council this week, Chichester District councillors agreed that the proposed ‘Main Modifications’ that are needed to make the plan ‘sound’ are now ready for residents and businesses to view and comment on.

The public consultation will run for six weeks, between **10 April** and **29 May 2025**, and people can access this consultation by visiting the council’s designated Main Modifications web page: www.chichester.gov.uk/main-modifications-consultation

Cllr Bill Brisbane, Cabinet Member for Planning at Chichester District Council, says: “The examination process assesses whether the plan has met the legal requirements; whether it has been positively prepared and is justified, effective and consistent with national policy; and if the council has engaged and worked effectively with neighbouring authorities and statutory bodies.

“As part of this, the Inspectors not only reviewed the plan itself, but also the evidence on which it is based, along with a series of modifications that we proposed to address consultation feedback. Following the examination hearings, we received a written letter earlier this year, which detailed the Inspectors’ initial findings and recommended the way forward. The letter identified some Main Modifications that need to be made in order for the plan to be considered for adoption. We are now at the point of consulting on these main modifications.”

In line with the government’s examination process, residents and businesses will only be able to comment on the modifications being proposed for the plan. People won’t be able to comment on parts of the plan that are not proposed to be modified. Comments and representations made in the previous Local Plan consultations have already been considered by the Inspectors and do not need to be resubmitted.

A full list of the Main Modifications are available to view on the council’s Local Plan web pages: www.chichester.gov.uk/main-modifications-consultation. Alongside the main modifications, there are a series of additional modifications, which are factual updates and corrections, and members of the public will be able to comment on these as part of the consultation, if they wish to — however comments on those will not be considered by the Inspector but by the council.

Once the consultation is completed, all comments on the Main Modifications will be reviewed by the Planning Inspectors. If they are happy the Plan can proceed to adoption they will write their final report, setting out the Main Modifications which the council must make to adopt the Local Plan.

More about the Chichester Local Plan

The Local Plan identifies housing requirements, development areas for economic growth and locations for new homes in the Chichester plan area over the next 14 years. The Local Plan also has a raft of policies relating to climate change and the natural environment. There is a separate plan for areas located in the National Park and this is produced by the South Downs National Park Authority.

You can find more information about the Chichester Local Plan, including the council's Statement of Consultation — which summarises the work that has been done to prepare the plan — on the council's local plan web pages: www.chichester.gov.uk/localplan. Links to recordings of all of the hearings can be found on the examination web pages: www.chichester.gov.uk/localplanexamination

For more information about the local plan examination process, the government has also created a guide with information on the key stages: www.gov.uk/guidance/taking-part-in-local-plan-examinations#what-is-the-local-plan-examination-for-and-who-does-it

Update on the Local Development Scheme 2025-2028

In a meeting of Full Council this week, Chichester District Councillors also approved a revised Local Development Scheme (LDS), which contains information about the planning documents the council will produce for the Chichester Local Plan area.

The LDS is published to help the local community and stakeholders keep up to date with the timescales for when various key planning policy documents will be produced. It includes a profile for each of the documents, and a timetable for their production, including dates for when the public will be consulted on them.

This document will be published and available to view at:
www.chichester.gov.uk/localdevelopmentscheme

Email dated 10.04.2025 from NALC
Chief Executives Bulletin

National Assembly

Councillors representing county associations across England met online for our [National Assembly](#) this week, on 8 April 2025. They received updates on the work of our [committees](#), exchanged information on local progress with devolution and local government reorganisation, and discussed the implications of using artificial intelligence. I also gave an update on our strategies and the need to review them. County association representatives raised several issues, and I will meet with them to discuss them further.

Local audit reform

The government announced on 9 April 2025 its [response](#) to the recent Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government consultation on local audit reform and the setting up the Local Audit Office. We will be considering this in detail, but it is encouraging that many of our asks have been addressed, including a commitment to raising the upper threshold for smaller bodies. Disappointingly, the government is not proposing to increase the lower thresholds but has committed to introducing a risk-based approach to enable audit regimes that are proportionate and appropriate. We will work with the [Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments](#) (SAAA) to form our response and continue our engagement with the government on local audit reform.

Practitioners' Guide 2025

Over 1,600 downloads have already been made from our website for the [Practitioners' Guide 2025](#). The feedback highlighted some uncertainty over the requirement for a data protection officer in paragraph 1.524 of the guide. The [Smaller Authorities Proper Practices Panel](#) has issued an addendum to clarify the position for parish and town councils and parish meetings.

Annual Governance and Accountability Return

By now, officers across England will have received the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) forms for 2024/25. The deadline for returning completed forms to the external auditor is 30 June 2025. One of the key messages in SAAA's Annual Report on the [Results of Auditor's Work at Smaller Authorities 2023/24](#) is that too many smaller authorities submit their AGAR forms late. I encourage all parish and town councils to plan the completion and sign-off of their AGAR forms to comply with the auditor's deadline. Guidance on completing the AGAR can be found in the [Practitioners' Guide 2024](#) or by contacting your county association. The SAAA has once again reiterated that parish and town councils must not contact the external auditor for advice on completing their forms.

On the blog: Charity Commission

[In this week's blog](#), the Charity Commission explores the role of parish and town councils as charity trustees. With over 1,200 parish and town councils acting as trustees, they must understand their responsibilities and legal duties. This blog highlights managing assets correctly, handling conflicts of interest and meeting reporting requirements. The Charity

Commission has also published refreshed guidance to help parish and town councils navigate these responsibilities.

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Task Force

I'm pleased that NALC has been invited to sit on the government's Delivery of Government Missions in Rural Areas Task Force. Established by Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs minister Daniel Zeichner MP, it includes other members of the Rural Coalition, academics, and civil servants. The task force aims to increase understanding across government departments of the challenges facing rural areas and the contribution rural businesses and communities can make, with the proper support, to delivering the government's missions and tackling rural disadvantage to unlock the potential of the rural economy.

And finally...

The [Heritage Revival Fund](#) has been created to help communities across England rescue and repurpose neglected historic buildings. It forms part of the government's broader £270 million investment in arts and culture. The fund will do this by supporting community organisations in taking ownership of, adapting, and reusing the local heritage assets that matter to them, transforming them into thriving spaces that meet their needs. The fund will run from 1 April 2025 until 31 March 2026. It is open to parish and town councils in England seeking to take ownership of and/or adapt historic buildings for community use. Funding is available to support projects from the earliest stages to capital works, including feasibility studies, development of business plans, design, surveys, and the costs of acquiring and renovating buildings.

Email dated 09.04.2025 from HDC

Latest news: New vision for Horsham Town Centre | Council urges public to play their part in combatting litter | 'Growing Your Teenager' course for parents is back



Latest news and information

New vision for Horsham Town Centre

We are inviting residents, businesses and visitors to share their feedback on suggested exciting new improvements to the Bishopric, Worthing Road and Carfax areas of Horsham town centre.

[Have your say](#)



Council urges public to play their part in combatting litter

We are asking local motorists and residents to help reduce levels of littering on the District's roadsides, particularly in key problem areas.

[Find out more](#)



Council's Community Climate Fund now open

Applications are now open for the Community Climate Fund grant for community groups to deliver project that will reduce their carbon emissions and create community value locally.

[Find out more](#)



Welcome return to Horsham's teenager behaviour course for parents

A teenager behaviour course, '**Growing Your Teenager**', is set to make a return due to popular demand from July 2025.

Horsham District Council, in partnership with West Sussex County Council and Sussex Police, developed the course with the aim of increasing parents' knowledge about the types of issues their young people may face as they transition from primary to secondary school.



[Read more](#)

[More news from Horsham District Council](#)

Sign up for Jobs, employment
and current vacancies

Sign up



Horsham
District
Council

Stay connected



Albery House, Springfield Road
Horsham
West Sussex
RH12 2GB



Horsham
District
Council

Email dated 09.04.2025 from Rural Services Network

RSN Weekly News - Free Edition

The Rural Services Network is funded by our members, and we've made some changes to the way we support those organisations with their weekly Rural Bulletin.

As a result, we're changing the format of our newsletters to those that are not part of the Rural Services Network. Unfortunately, your organisation is not a member, but we will still be sharing a few highlights from the news with you each week as below.

- **England's Homeless Children:** A revealing look at the national crisis in temporary accommodation, with over 164,000 children affected. Dive deeper into the challenges and solutions proposed by the Housing, Communities and Local Government Committee to address this pressing issue.
- **Fixing NHS Dentistry:** Uncover the unique challenges faced by rural communities in accessing NHS dental care. From workforce shortages to systemic inefficiencies, learn how these factors disproportionately impact rural areas and the call for urgent reforms.
- **Navigating the Shift to Digital Landlines:** Discover the impending transition from analogue to digital communication systems and its implications for rural communities. Learn about the efforts to ensure seamless and reliable connectivity, especially for vulnerable populations.

You can read these articles [here](#).

Additionally, we have an exciting opportunity for someone with a passion for rural communities! Learn more about our current vacancy here: [Do you have a head for figures and a heart for rural communities?](#)

For more detailed insights, including our weekly politics update, members' news, and comprehensive data insights, [consider joining us as a member](#).

Membership provides full access to our extensive rural bulletins packed with invaluable resources and updates tailored for rural communities. Members also receive access to our exclusive [meetings and events](#).

Find out more about becoming a member [here](#).

If you feel you've been sent this in error and your organisation is a member, please do not hesitate to contact us at admin@sparse.gov.uk

Rural Services Network

Tel: 01822 851370

www.rsnonline.org.uk

Email dated 07.04.2025 from Sussex Police

Sussex Police Rural Crime Team – Street Surgery Invitation for Your Parish

I'm getting in touch on behalf of the Sussex Police Rural Crime Team (RCT) as we're launching a new Street Surgeries initiative, aimed at engaging directly with rural communities across the county.

These sessions will give residents the opportunity to:

- Meet members of the Rural Crime Team and learn more about the work we do in rural areas
- Raise any rural crime concerns—such as livestock worrying, poaching, machinery theft, or fly-tipping
- Receive tailored crime prevention advice relevant to farms, smallholdings, equestrian yards, and other rural properties
- Learn about and sign up to initiatives like Neighbourhood Watch and DISC

A member of the local Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) will also be present at each session, so residents can discuss any non-rural matters too—such as anti-social behaviour, scams, community safety concerns, or general policing issues.

We're currently reaching out to parish councils to see if they'd like to bring one of these sessions to their local area. The aim is to provide a visible, approachable police presence in rural communities and offer reassurance, advice, and support.

As we start booking in Street Surgeries for the year ahead, we fully appreciate how busy parish calendars and village spaces can be. That's why we're contacting you early—to give you the opportunity to pencil in a date that works best for your parish and residents.

There are two ways you can take part:

- Host a Street Surgery in your parish – ideally with access to a location where we can park our large engagement van (such as a village hall or public car park). We don't need access to indoor facilities.
- Join a neighbouring parish's event and help promote it locally to your residents.

If you'd like to be involved, just let us know whether you'd prefer to host or attend. I'll then send over a list of available dates for you to choose from, and we'll do our best to accommodate your request.

We'd also be happy to provide materials and support to help you promote the event locally and make sure as many residents as possible can benefit from attending.

We are expecting interest from a large number of parishes across Sussex. While we'll make every effort to accommodate all requests this year, once the 2025 calendar is full, we will begin offering 2026 dates.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss further, please don't hesitate to get in touch. We'd love to bring this opportunity to your community and look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards, Jenny



Jenny Edge
Police Constable DE076
Rural Crime Team Coordinator
Sussex Police Rural Crime Team
Mobile: 07712695807
jennifer.edge@sussex.police.uk

Email dated 07.04.2025 from Sussex Green Living

VIP invitation to the official opening of the Plant to Plate Festival in Horsham on Sat 26th April 9.45am



YOUR PERSONAL INVITATION

When: Saturday 26th April 9.45am

Where: West Street Entrepreneurs Market, Horsham RH12 1QN by the Mobile Woodland Theatre Stage and our Eco Float

We are delighted to invite you to join us for the inaugural Plant to Plate Festival on Saturday 26th April 2025, when Horsham will come alive to celebrate a day of sustainable living, food, and fun.

The official opening will commence at 9.45am with welcome from **John Milne MP and Nick Nuttall**, digital broadcaster at [We Don't Have Time](#) and the former Director of Communications for the UN Environment and UN climate organizations.

Throughout this family-focused day there will be talks, demonstrations, music and ideas for growing your own healthy food, and protecting the local environment, taking place at multiple locations in Central Horsham (all within a 2 minute walk of the bus station).

After the official opening you will be given a programme of events, and we would love it if you would join our guided tour of the four locations that make up this unique urban festival. Of course, you are most welcome to explore at your own pace.

You can book your priority ticket to any of the [12 free expert-led talks and demos through this Eventbrite link](#). The [full programme of talks, demos and music](#) can be viewed and downloaded from here. There are 14 free children's activities – including craft, storytelling, seed planting, and more. [Explore the free children's activity programme](#).

Please download the [festival flyer](#) and [map](#) and share in your community. ing.

We look forward to your participation in making 2025 World Earth Day a memorable and impactful occasion. Please let us know if you plan to attend by [registering here](#).

Yours,

Carrie Cort,

CEO and Founder Sussex Green Living
She/her/hers

Together, we can make a difference. Join us in celebrating and protecting our environment.

Sussex Green Living

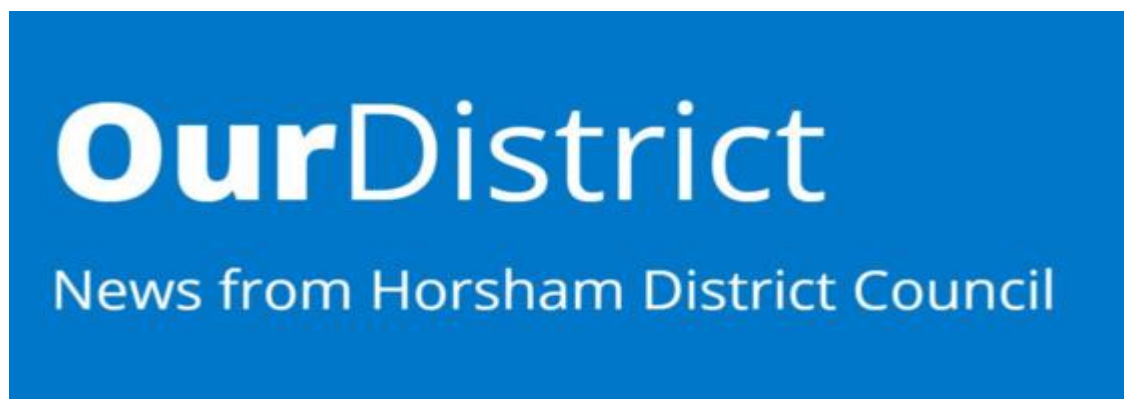
Charity No. 1189569

Web www.sussexgreenliving.org.uk

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Email dated 07.04.2025 from HDC

Read the new Our District magazine: March 2025 edition



March 2025 edition, out now

Join us behind the scenes as we visit our vehicle workshop technicians, and find out how we're securing the lowest Council Tax in Sussex. Get the latest news on our planned works at The Capitol and find an update on the Government's devolution announcements.

Plus, get set for spring with our ideas to explore and enjoy the District!

[Read the latest edition](#)

Read our top stories



[Managing a modern fleet](#)

Our Workshop team, based at our Hop Oast Depot, maintain a fleet of 59 vehicles. Find out how we keep our waste vehicles running.



[Our share of your Council Tax](#)

Horsham District Council is responsible for collecting your Council Tax. Of your payments we retain 7.5% to deliver our services for residents.



[Make the most of spring](#)

Discover our Easter and half term family activities as well as our bandstand music performances this springtime.



[Helping our residents live independently](#)

Whilst it is primarily the responsibility of homeowners to maintain their own properties, we can help vulnerable residents with some repairs and improvements.



[Devolution update](#)

The latest announcements and how they could affect Horsham District



[Discover Dinosaurs at Horsham Museum & Art Gallery](#)

Running until 21 April, Cretaceous Horsham takes you through the fascinating story of how dinosaurs came to be discovered.

[Read all articles in the March 2025 edition](#)



Email dated 04.04.2025 from Sussex Police
Sussex scheme continues to tackle anti-social behaviour



This week, disappointingly, marked the end of Home Office funding for our Immediate Justice (IJ) programme – you may recall that we were chosen by the previous government as one of just ten national trailblazer PCC areas to innovatively tackle anti-social behaviour (ASB)?

Whilst I am disappointed our funding is being discontinued by this new government, I am pleased to say that I will be financially supporting an extension of our scheme in Sussex because it is working and giving us positive results.

I would like to say a sincere and personal thank you to everyone involved in the programme to date - from my office staff, working with our Sussex Police ASB lead to establish the programme, to providers facilitating and organising reparative activity and our communities and residents for being so receptive and supportive to the scheme.

IJ has definitely made a positive difference to our county, with over 500 cases referred to our taskforce over the past two years. We have seen a consistently strong compliance rate, with more than 80% of offenders of anti-social behaviour both understanding and rectifying the harm they have caused. I remain hopeful that we may still get government to see sense and recognise that innovative schemes like IJ work and, who knows, a new funding stream for prevention work may become available in the future.

If you would like to know more about the success of Immediate Justice in Sussex, you can see and hear more on [my website](#).



On Sunday 6 April, I will be appearing on BBC Politics South East once again alongside local MPs.

The programme will air at 10am and we will be discussing a variety of topics including: sentencing, home education, the condition of our roads in the region and what might be done to increase safe cycle routes.

The show provides a good opportunity to unpack and explore solutions for change in our county and is presented in a more relaxed viewing format. You can watch live or on iPlayer and I'll also be issuing a write-up on my website.

Next week, I am expecting an announcement from the Home Office on the government's Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee.

This sets out what communities might expect from their neighbourhood policing teams. The government previously announced they would be boosting the funding behind the Guarantee to put a renewed focus on preventing crime, particularly in town centres.

They have promised they will put more officers, PCSOs and special constables in dedicated neighbourhood policing roles so I look forward to receiving confirmation of the actual numbers of officers we can expect in Sussex and what funding will accompany this, next week.

In the meantime, it was reassuring to hear during my recent Performance & Accountability Meeting with chief officers that Sussex Police have already exceeded the government's request to maintain a baseline headcount figure of officers for 2024/25. Even with an enhanced secondary baseline target being set as 3,226 officers, Sussex Police have once again surpassed the target by over 60 officers.



Katy Bourne OBE
Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner

FORCE FOCUS FRIDAY

A man has appeared in court and was convicted over a spate of burglaries in Crawley Down.

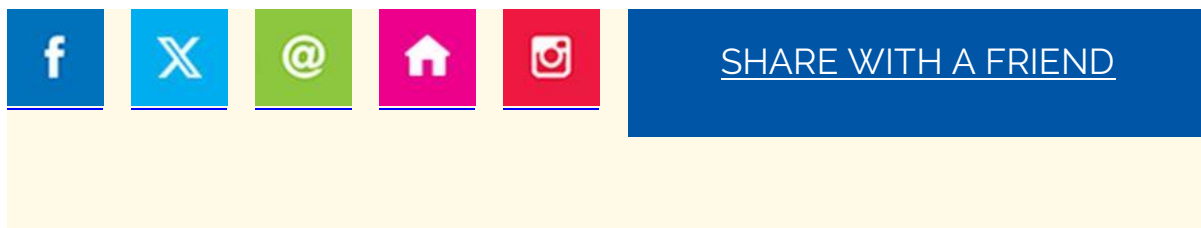
Officers across the Force have been working hard to investigate and arrest known offenders for burglary.

Sussex Police arrested the man and he has since been charged with fraud by false representation, four counts of attempted burglary and three counts of theft from a vehicle.

A 39-year-old man from Bognor Regis and a 23-year-old man from Croydon were also arrested in connection with the incidents.

Meanwhile, police are working hard to tackle burglaries across the county, with other suspects arrested, charged and remanded with offences.

Read more on the [Sussex Police website](#).



Email dated 03.04.2025 from WSCC
Seal of approval for our Record Office



News Release

Seal of approval for our Record Office





WEST SUSSEX

Record Office





Visitors to West Sussex Record Office can be assured of a first-class service when they are researching their local or family history after it successfully retained its Archives Accreditation, which sets the standard for archive services across the UK.

The Accreditation Panel praised the 'strongly-led' archive service that uses 'a considered approach to development and delivery', the effective use of resources to deliver services to its stakeholders, and the 'impressive work on digital preservation'.

Archive Service Accreditation is the UK quality standard for archive services. It defines good practice and provides a benchmark for gauging performance, recognising achievement and driving improvement within the archives sector.

The Record Office has a vast collection of archives relating to West Sussex, stored on over eight miles of shelving dating back over 1,200 years.

It holds archives dating from 780AD to the present day for local councils, churches, schools, police, courts, hospitals, businesses, groups and societies, families, landed estates like Goodwood and Parham, the Diocese of Chichester and the Royal Sussex Regiment, as well as managing the modern records of the county council.

It's the place to go if you are tracing your family history, studying the history of your house or any local building, want to research a military ancestor or explore old photographs.

You can also uncover information for a school or college project, carry out research for a book or postgraduate study, listen to memories of times gone by and view old film footage of the local area.

Councillor Duncan Crow, Cabinet Member for Community Support, Fire and Rescue said: “This is excellent news and shows what a valuable service the Record Office provides to help people and communities fulfil their potential by providing access to thousands of collections in one building.

“I am particularly impressed with the work by our Record Office staff on digital preservation, which puts us at the forefront of developments nationally and ensures that digital records for West Sussex can be preserved for future generations.

“The website was launched with 36,000 images in June 2024. More are being added as part of a regular programme of work and there are now over 52,600 digital images available for people to view.”

Take a magical history tour by visiting www.wsro.org.uk.

Notes to editors:

The awards were made by a UK Archive Service Accreditation Committee panel.

Archive Service Accreditation is supported by a partnership of the Archives and Records Association (UK), Archives and Records Council Wales, National Records of Scotland, Public Record Office of Northern Ireland, Scottish Council on Archives, The National Archives and the Welsh Government through its Museums, Archives and Libraries Wales division.

View the full list of [accredited archive services](#).

Find out more about [Archive Service Accreditation](#).