

Rudgwick Parish Council

Weekly Clerk's Update: 19 - 25 July 2025 (Agenda September 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:

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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 8 th September 2025	
Application No: CA/25/0074 22.07.2025	Response/Comments:

Applicant: The Cottage, Church Street, Rudgwick	
Reason for Application: Surgery to 1x Turkey Oak (Works to Trees in Conservation Area)	
Official Response Date: 12.08.2025 / Determination 01.09.2025	
Application No: DC/25/1192 15.07.2025	Response/Comments:
Applicant: Wattlebury Farm, Rowhook Road, Rowhook	
Reason for Application: Prior notification for the erection of an agricultural barn.	
Official Response Date: Not available / Determination 11.08.2025	
Application No: DC/25/1107 04.07.2025	Response/Comments:
Applicant: 9 Woodfield Road, Rudgwick	
Reason for Application: Erection of a single storey rear extension and raised patio to replace existing.	
Official Response Date: Not available / Determination 29.08.2025	

Applications for consideration at Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting

Applications for consideration at Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 8th September 2025	
Application No:	Response/Comments:
Applicant:	

Reason for Application:	
Official Response Date:	

Decisions

HDC Council Decisions – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 8 th September 2025	
Application No: DC/24/1986	Response/Comments: Permitted / RPC - Rudgwick Parish Council has No Objection to the application but supports the view of the HDC Conservation Officer, in that the recommended conditions should be attached to any approval granted to protect the streetscape and rural character of the lane, in line with HDPF Policies 33 & 34.
Applicant: Bucks Cottage, Tismans Common, Rudgwick	
Reason for Application: Removal of existing dilapidated wire fencing and erection of matching post and wire fencing (Householder).	
Official Response Date:	
Application No: DC/24/1987	Response/Comments: Permitted / RPC - Rudgwick Parish Council has No Objection to the application but supports the view of the HDC Conservation Officer, in that the recommended conditions should be attached to any approval granted to protect the streetscape and rural character of the lane, in line with HDPF Policies 33 & 34.
Applicant: Bucks Cottage, Tismans Common, Rudgwick	
Reason for Application: Removal of existing dilapidated wire fencing and erection of matching post and wire fencing (Listed Building Consent).	
Official Response Date:	

Applications going to Committee

Applications going to Committee – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 8 th September 2025	
Application No:	Response/Comments:
Applicant:	

Reason for Application:	
Official Response Date:	

Appeals Lodged / Appeals Determined

New Appeals Lodged / Determined – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 8 th September 2025	
Application No:	Response/Comments:
Applicant:	
Reason for Application:	
Official Response Date:	

New Planning Compliance Issues

New Planning Compliance Issues – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 8 th September 2025	
Application No:	Response/Comments:
Address:	
Nature of Complaint:	
Official Response Date:	

Parish Councils Website

Rudgwick Parish Council's New Website is now live!

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

Correspondence

Email dated 25.07.2025 from Chichester District Council

Local Plan Update



July 2025

Chichester Local Plan moves to the next stage following Inspectors' report

Chichester District Council has received the Planning Inspectors' final report for the Chichester Local Plan 2021–2039, marking a significant milestone in the plan's progress.

The report confirms that the Government's Planning Inspectorate consider the plan, with their recommended main modifications, to be sound, legally compliant, and ready to be considered for adoption by district councillors. The full report can be viewed at: [The Local Plan examination - latest news - Chichester District Council](#)

This milestone marks the end of the examination process, which started in May last year when the plan was submitted for examination. The examination process assesses whether the plan meets legal requirements and national policy, and whether it has been positively prepared, justified, and effective. It also considers how well the council

has worked with neighbouring authorities and statutory bodies.

As part of the examination, two Planning Inspectors appointed by the Planning Inspectorate have reviewed the submitted plan, supporting evidence, and feedback from the public consultations that were carried out prior to submission. Following this, the Inspectors led a number of public hearings before identifying a series of 'main modifications' needed to make the plan 'sound' before it could be considered for adoption. In April this year, the council consulted on these modifications and sent all of the comments received to the Inspectors for consideration.

"I am really pleased that the Planning Inspectors have finished examining our Local Plan and returned their final report for councillors to consider," says Cllr Bill Brisbane, Cabinet Member for Planning at Chichester District Council.

"Preparing a Local Plan is a complex and lengthy process, and I would like to thank everyone who has been involved in moving this critical piece of work to such an important stage. This includes everyone who has shared their views in the public consultations that we carried out in the lead up to, and throughout, the examination process — your input has played an important role in shaping the plan."

The next stage will be for the council's Full Council to consider the Inspectors' report, with its recommended main modifications, at a meeting on Tuesday 19 August 2025. During this meeting, councillors will decide whether to formally adopt the 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 a range of policy areas, including climate change and the natural environment. There is a separate plan for the part of the district located within the National Park and this is produced by the South Downs National Park Authority.

People 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 — at: www.chichester.gov.uk/localplan. Links to recordings of all of the examination hearings can be found at: www.chichester.gov.uk/localplanexamination

Email dated 25.07.2025 from BRTA
British Regional Transport Association - Brighton Forum

I am a member of the British Regional Transport Association (BRTA), which is a small unincorporated voluntary association which subject to resources, seeks to advance towards better public transport across the United Kingdom. Indeed, we are very keen to see a rolling programme of local line reopenings, rebuilds and select new builds of conventional railways for passenger and freight. We also campaign for an environmentally friendly, integrated, comprehensive, inclusive and affordable transport system including buses, cycling and pedestrian facilities.

Website: <https://brtarail.com/>

I am now writing to say that the BRTA will be holding a Brighton Forum on **Saturday 30 August 2025 at The Post & Telegraph, 155-158 North Street, Brighton, East Sussex BN1 1BA** www.jdwetherspoon.com/pubs/the-post-telegraph-brighton/ Phone: 01273-827540 for **2pm lunch and 3-5pm business** . You are welcome to attend this meeting, plus any of your fellow Councillors. ([Agenda](#))

Yours faithfully,

Simon Barber - Administrator
British Regional Transport Association

Email dated 21.07.2025 from WSALC Admin
ACRE/NALC Flooding Survey

NALC has partnered with Action with Communities in Rural England (ACRE) to launch a new survey designed to help parish and town councils enhance their flood resilience. The short survey will capture what information and support parish and town councils need to better plan for flooding. The results will directly shape the development of practical resources tailored to local needs, ensuring that any future resources are genuinely helpful and relevant.

Alongside ACRE, NALC are particularly keen to ensure that the voices of parish and town councils are heard so that they can provide support that addresses real on-the-ground challenges. Member council participation will help both organisations deliver meaningful action that improves community resilience.

Parish and town councils are encouraged to respond to the survey **by 23:45 on 29 August 2025**. To ensure a broad and representative range of input, NALC request one response per parish or town council. This initiative supports Action 20 of the Rural Flood Resilience Partnership Action Plan, which aims to help communities plan for flooding. The survey link is [here](#).

Kind regards, Emily, WSALC

**Email dated 24.07.2025 from NALC
Chief Executives Bulletin**

Events and meetings

- The [Policy Committee](#) held its latest meeting on 17 July 2025 and received a helpful update on neighbourhood planning from Ian Mackay of Leeds City Council. We will work with the Local Government Association (LGA) and Locality to promote wider access to shared planning resources. The committee agreed to work with Connect Public Affairs on clause amendments to ensure mayors include parish and town councils when using their power to convene, encourage the government to require unitary authorities to parish all unparished areas during local government reorganisation, and ensure neighbourhood area committees include parish and town council representatives with voting rights and full membership. A motion from Cheshire Association of Local Councils was adopted, calling for an amendment to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to allow planning authorities to require the replanting of trees proposed for felling in Conservation Areas, where a Tree Preservation Order isn't

suitable but replanting would help preserve local amenity. The committee also noted our recent responses to government consultations on [new towns](#), [solar and EV charging in car parks](#), and [improving build-out transparency](#). You can read all of these on our website.

- Our [national network on climate emergency](#) met on 22 July 2025, which featured a series of informative updates and resources for parish and town councils. Paul Roberts of the National Energy System Operator (NESO) provided a helpful overview of NESO's ongoing projects and highlighted opportunities for parish and town councils to get involved. Kerrin Wilkinson of the Gloucestershire Association of Parish and Town Councils introduced their Climate Action Toolkit, a practical resource supported by the Greener Gloucestershire Climate Change Fund. The Society of Local Council Clerks' climate and sustainability advisor, Andrew Maliphant, shared essential updates on the place-based initiative and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Local Area Adaptation Panel.
- In this week's meeting with county associations, there were updates on the [Improvement & Development Board \(IDB\)](#) Task Forces on civility and respect, data and workforce, which bring together representatives from the sector to look at how we can develop in each area and produce updated guidance and information. We also provided updates on the [Star Council Awards](#), next year's study tour, upcoming joint events with the LGA and our publications schedule. SLCC's new branch empowerment officer, Lara Jacob, spoke about her work in improving how SLCC branches reach out to members. The meeting concluded with county officers discussing asset transfers and the impact of local government reorganisation.
- On 18 July 2025, our communications officer, Inés Mitchell-Rodriguez, administration manager, Claire FitzGerald and proper practices project manager Claire Reed attended the Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils (OALC) Annual General Meeting and Talking Tables Training Day. They spoke with councillors, clerks, and council staff from across the county about how to encourage more people to stand for election as councillors. It was an informative day, during which the team learned more about the work of parish and town councils across Oxfordshire. It was also great to see the launch of [OALC's new website](#)!
- Our chair, Keith Stevens, and I attended the [Rural Coalition](#) on 16 July 2025, where the longstanding chair Margaret Clark CBE, stepped down. She has been an effective champion of rural areas and a strong supporter of our work and parish and town councils. We welcomed its [new chair, Mark Pragnall](#), who is also chair of the English Rural Housing Association. We took the opportunity to flag up with the food

security and rural affairs minister our views on devolution and local government reorganisation. He indicated his view that parish and town councils had the potential to benefit from these developments.

Support

- The LGA has informed us that the National Joint Council (NJC) for Local Government Services has agreed on pay rates applicable from 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026. The new pay rates are each increased by 3.20 per cent per annum. You can [find the full details](#) on our website.
- The [SLCC Annual Awards 2025](#) are open for nominations! It's a chance to celebrate the incredible clerks who are instrumental to parish and town councils nationwide. Whether it's a new clerk shaking up the sector, a long-serving officer dedicated to decades of service, or a volunteer going above and beyond, these awards recognise at every level. With nominations open until 15 August 2025, help honour those making a real difference in their communities.

Resources

- [In this week's blog](#), the Parish Council Domains Helper Service Team shares exciting progress toward their 2025 goal, helping 1,000 more parish and town councils transition to trusted .gov.uk domains. With 574 parish and town councils already on board this year, the team addresses common concerns around cost, time, and complexity, showing how switching is easier and more affordable than many think. Backed by hands-on support and simplified processes, this is a practical step toward stronger digital identity, security, and public trust.
- This week, we [published our quarterly activity report](#) covering April to June 2025. The quarterly activity report details progress in delivering our strategic plan. The last quarter's key highlights include launching the [Star Council Awards 2025/26](#), [launching the Westminster Forum](#), publishing the [2025 edition of the Practitioners' Guide](#), our joint [guide with the CPRE on responding to planning applications](#) and [the all-new digital edition of Local Councils Explained](#), achieving a major breakthrough for parish and town councils as the [government has backed a proposal to reintroduce remote and hybrid council meetings](#). As well as providing extensive advisory support in handling 51 formal advice requests, 112 informal enquiries and 5 communications and data compliance queries. We also had 193 people attend our events in the latest quarter, which included our sold-out [Power Shift 2025](#) conference in London, our sold-out [study tour at Braunstone Town Council](#) and an online event on [strengthening local connections](#). The subsequent report covers July to September 2025 and will be published in October 2025.



Star Council Awards

We are thrilled to announce that nominations are now open for the Star Council Awards 2025/26, the only national awards dedicated to celebrating the vital work of parish and town councils in England. Ready to celebrate your achievements or nominate someone amazing? Learn more about how to submit your entry.

[Submit a nomination](#)

Email dated 23.07.2025 from WSCC
New and improved digital services for West Sussex residents



news release

New and improved digital services for West Sussex residents



More and more residents are using improved digital services provided by our library service and West Sussex Record Office.

New figures reveal:

- Over 9million people used digital library services between April 2024 and March 2025, smashing the target of 8.8million, with customer demand continuing to grow.
- Since the new West Sussex Record Office website was launched in June 2024, there have been 376,123 page views up to June 2025. This compares to just 50,889 in 2022/23.

Councillor Duncan Crow, Cabinet Member for Community Support, Fire and Rescue, said:
“We will continue to support this growing demand for digital services as one of the key priorities for the council is to make the best use of resources.

“Our library service and Record Office also provides another council priority which is to help people and communities fulfil their potential.

“We will continue to develop eLibrary platforms and the production of virtual and online event content.

“For our Record Office, the aim of enhancing what people can do online means we can reach out to new audiences and many more people can explore and enjoy the history and heritage of West Sussex, in addition to people visiting us in person.

“We are continuing to take in and preserve digital archives and digitise our existing collections so that we can add more images to the website and make more archives available online.”

What are just some of the things you can do online?

West Sussex Record Office – visit wsro.org.uk

- Search the online catalogue comprising 624,470 detailed descriptions to help people find relevant documents.
- Search and view 55,500 historic images – more being added all the time.
- Access research guides, like the newly uploaded one on [women’s history in the county](#).
- Book for talks, tours of the Record Office, and events.
- Download schools resource packs to use in the classroom.
- Explore the online shop for a range of local history books
- Take a look at the [You Tube videos](#), read [the blogs](#), follow the Record Office on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

West Sussex Library Service – visit arena.westsussex.gov.uk

Read thousands of eBooks, eMagazines, eComics and eNewspapers and listen to eAudiobooks free of charge on our [eLibrary platforms](#).

- Search the entire catalogue of items available in all 36 libraries.
- Reserve and renew items, read and write book reviews.
- Follow the library service on social media on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#), or take a look at its [YouTube channel](#).
- Get [free Wi-Fi or use the computers free of charge](#) in our libraries.
- Get free support from our [digital volunteers in libraries](#) by appointment on a range of digital enquiries from setting up an email account to help with online shopping, being safe online and guidance on interacting with AI chat bots.

Images show: 1. Customer at Littlehampton library.

2. From the Garland Collection at West Sussex Record Office: pigs at Morison's Farm in the Petworth area with Stewart Savage in December 1953.

Email dated 23.07.2025 from WSCC

 Plan a summer full of family fun with Experience Sussex



Your family's summer starts here

School's out, the sun's shining and Sussex is calling!

Whether you're hosting visiting relatives, entertaining the kids, or simply looking for new ways to enjoy the holidays, [Experience Sussex](#) is your go-to guide for unforgettable family adventures.

From beach days and countryside walks to wildlife parks, festivals and open-air theatre, Sussex is packed with things to do for all ages. The easy-to-use [trip builder](#) on our website lets you save your favourite spots and create a personalised plan to share with friends and family. Click on the heart icon next to each product to add it to your planner and view it any time from the menu bar.

Need ideas? Explore our [What's On listings](#) for the latest events happening across the region, from food fairs and craft workshops to storytelling sessions and summer shows.

Make this summer one to remember and start planning today!

 **Discover Sussex**



Inspiration for all ages

From tiny tots to tricky teens, explore our ideas to keep everyone entertained this summer.

Days out with children

We've rounded up 15 top things to do with younger kids over the summer holidays, from fun-filled adventure parks and discovering castles to nature trails.

 [Child-friendly fun](#)

Things to do with teens

Take your teens on a Sussex adventure, with watersports, climbing, underground skate parks and crazy golf courses to name a few.

 [Teen-approved adventures](#)



Rainy Days

Ideas for a rainy day

When the skies turn grey (which isn't all that often, honestly!) Sussex shines in a different way. From fascinating museums to lively theatres and family-friendly indoor attractions, there's no shortage of things to do when the rain rolls in. When you're dodging showers with the kids Sussex has you covered.



Indoor attractions



Places to Eat

Family-friendly places to eat

Hungry hordes to feed during the holidays? We have compiled a handy guide to child-friendly eateries in Sussex, from cheap seaside treats to pub garden feasts and more.



Find places to eat



What's on

Discover the best events, festivals and days out for the family to create unforgettable moments this summer. Step back in history at [Weald and Downland Museum](#) or experience a train or vintage bus ride at [Amberley Museum](#). Get back to nature at [Wakehurst](#) and [Nymans](#) gardens or check out our [Theatre](#) listings to experience something new!



See what's on



Help shape the future of West Sussex

All councils in the area are working together to gather views that will help shape proposals for the future of local government in the county. The government has asked councils to explore how local government reorganisation could work in the area, with the aim of creating a new unitary council model, or models – replacing the current two-tier system with a single-tier council responsible for all local services.

All West Sussex residents and organisations are invited to complete a survey asking about where they live or work, the council services they use, as well as what matters to them about how their council could be structured in the future.

The survey will close at 11.59pm on Wednesday 13 August.

[Take the survey](#)

Get the latest from Experience Sussex

Don't forget to [sign up to the Experience Sussex newsletter](#) to stay up to date with everything happening across Sussex this summer and beyond. Follow us on [Instagram](#) & [Facebook](#) for more ideas and inspiration. Use #ExperienceSussex on your posts so we can see what you get up to!

Know someone who would like to receive this eNewsletter?

If anyone you know who would like to sign up for this bulletin, please forward this eNewsletter to them and they can [sign up here](#). Thank you for your support.



Email dated 23.07.2025 from WSCC

County council launches Skills Bootcamps to boost careers and recruitment across West Sussex



NEWS RELEASE

County council launches Skills Bootcamps to boost careers and recruitment across West Sussex

West Sussex County Council has launched Skills Bootcamps, a new initiative designed to help people gain in-demand skills that local employers are actively seeking. The programme offers access to industry-recognised, flexible training courses tailored to meet current workforce needs.

Skills Bootcamps, which are funded by a £4.3million grant from the Department for Education, are open to anyone aged 19 or over who lives or works in West Sussex, whether employed, unemployed or self-employed.

The courses last up to 16 weeks and have a guaranteed job interview or career progression opportunity at their conclusion. Participants gain both technical and soft skills relevant to local industries, helping them secure employment, start an apprenticeship or advance their careers. In addition to up-to-date industry-relevant knowledge, learners receive tailored support, including:

- Coaching and mentoring from industry experts
- CV support and interview practice
- Regular check-ins during and after the course

Skills Bootcamps are designed to be inclusive and accessible, with tailored support available to help all learners succeed, regardless of their background or circumstances.

Councillor Garry Wall, Cabinet Member for Economy and Skills, said: “I’m really pleased that we are working with local employers and training provider partners to provide this much-needed programme.

“Skills Bootcamps offer a new way for people living or working in West Sussex to gain in-demand skills, leading directly to sustainable employment and real career progression - especially in our county’s key growth sectors.

“By equipping residents with the skills local employers are actively seeking, Skills Bootcamps support the county council’s commitment to inclusive growth - helping residents thrive, supporting local employers and strengthening the economy.”

Employers play a vital role in the programme, actively shaping course content to meet real-world needs, mentoring participants throughout their training, offering hands-on experience and facilitating interview opportunities. In turn, they’re supported to address skills and recruitment gaps within their workforce, which helps boost productivity and drive business growth.

Training is targeted at addressing local skills gaps and supporting employers of all sizes. As such, the programme includes a wide range of courses across the county’s key employment sectors, including:

- Construction
- Engineering
- Creative & Digital
- Transport & Logistics
- Education & Early Years
- Business & Administration
- Tourism & Hospitality

- Health & Social Care
- Horticulture, forestry and viniculture

To find out more visit www.westsussex.gov.uk/skillsbootcamps

Email dated 18.07.2025 from Sussex Police

Sussex pilot programme tackling online grooming – officially launched



**Sussex
Police & Crime
Commissioner**
KATY BOURNE OBE



**Sussex Youth
Ambassador
programme:**
LAUNCHED!
JULY 2025



Sussex
Police & Crime
Commissioner

BRECK FOUNDATION

This week, I was delighted to host a launch event for our new Youth Ambassador Programme in Sussex.

You may have read about the pilot in one of my previous newsletters but, as a reminder, the programme has been developed by my office and The Breck Foundation to educate and inform young people about the dangers of online grooming.

Out of 100's of applicants, 48 young ambassadors across 14 x Sussex schools and colleges have been recruited and trained to host awareness sessions amongst their classmates. The sessions will have a major focus on the true story of Breck Bednar, a 14-year old boy who was tragically murdered by an 18-year old who groomed him online.

The launch event celebrated the hard work of our new ambassadors and showed the audience of parents and carers the journey they have been on throughout their training.

During the evening, we also watched a moving and, at times, visceral performance of 'Game Over' given by Brighton Little Theatre Youth Company. The production, written by Mark Wheeler, is a verbatim play of the events leading to Breck's murder and draws directly from the words of Breck's family, friends and even his killer.

We were joined by Breck's family members including his mother Lorin and father Barry, as well as the High Sheriffs of East and West Sussex and members of Sussex Police.

After the performance, Lorin spoke to the assembled guests and said that no matter how many times she has watched Game Over, it still makes her emotional. Her hope for our Sussex ambassadors is to spread her son's story far and wide to ensure this doesn't happen to anyone else.

With peer-to-peer education often proving to be more relatable and impactful, I look forward to hearing about the start of the sessions in September.

I want to thank The Breck Foundation for their diligent work training our young people on this extremely important topic. I'd like to round off this section of my newsletter with a quote from one of our youth ambassadors who said why he wanted to become an ambassador: **"A young person was part of the problem, I want to be part of the solution."**

Keep an eye on my website in the coming days to read more and watch a video about the evening.

Neighbourhood Policing Teams hand out unique crime prevention kits



You may recall that I funded 1,000 SelectaDNA tool-marking kits earlier this year? The kits contain unique, DNA coding with microdot technology so that if stolen tools or equipment are found by the police with a DNA mark, they can be scanned, identified on a database and reunited with their owner.

Half of the kits were part-funded by the National Farmers' Union and these have been given to the Sussex Police Rural Crime Team to distribute amongst the rural community. The other half are being given away, free of charge to tradespeople across Sussex.

I have enlisted the help of Sussex Neighbourhood Policing Teams (NPT) to host 'pop-up events' in relevant areas across Sussex to hand out the kits, to ensure we protect as many tools as possible.

Recently, the Eastbourne NPT hosted a successful event outside B&Q, handing out kits and engaging with local tradespeople and residents.

Sussex tradespeople and farmers tell me the kits have provided an extra layer of protection, especially as for many, their tools are their livelihoods.



Katy Bourne OBE
Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner

FORCE FOCUS FRIDAY

Man jailed after betting shop robberies

Following two betting shop robberies in Brighton and Hove, a man has been jailed.

The man took a seat and waited for the shop to empty before running towards the counter at around 6.30pm and jumping onto it.

He demanded money from the staff member on duty, threatening violence if they did not comply, before managing to escape with some of the takings.

The following evening, at a similar time, he entered another betting shop in Brighton. Again, he waited for the premises to be empty, and then approached a staff member from behind, grabbed her by the collar and demanded money.

He then pushed her through the shop while continuing to issue threats before stealing some of the takings and fleeing.

He was later arrested in a betting shop in Hove. Officers took him into custody where he admitted committing the offences during interview and charges were authorised that evening.

In court, the man pleaded guilty to both charges and was sentenced to three years behind bars.



[SHARE WITH A FRIEND](#)

**Email dated 23.07.2025 from Rural Services Network
RSN Weekly News**

This week, the Rural Services Network — as the national champion for rural services — is pleased to share this week's snapshot of the most important rural news, research and developments — helping to keep you informed on what matters most to rural communities across England. Here is the latest news from the Rural Services Network:

- **New ACS Report Reveals Public Priorities for Local Services:** New ACS report reveals the local services voters value most and want to see more of, offering fresh insights into community priorities across the UK.
- **West Devon Invests Second Home Tax In New Housing:** West Devon Borough Council is using second home council tax income to boost local housing, supporting new home purchases and projects for those most in need.
- **RMTG Sounding Boards - Rural Voices of All Ages Heard:** From ageing well to growing up rural, our latest RMTG Sounding Boards explore what's needed to support every generation.
- **New Chair of the Rural Coalition appointed:** A new Chair of the Rural Coalition has been appointed following the retirement of longstanding Coalition Chair Margaret Clark CBE.
- **Dedicated Support for Rural communities to end:** Last week the Government advised Local Authorities that the UK Shared Prosperity Fund is coming to an end in March 2026.

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

JOIN US IN MEMBERSHIP

If you would like to receive our full range of services, please get in touch. Membership includes access to our extensive publications packed with invaluable resources including our funding digest, as well as our exclusive [meetings and events](#).

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

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Rural Services Network

Tel: 01822 851370

www.rsnonline.org.uk