

Rudgwick Parish Council

Weekly Clerk's Update: 27 September – 3 October 2025 (Agenda October 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)
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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 13 th October 2025	
Application No:	Response/Comments:
Applicant:	

Reason for Application:	
Official Response Date:	

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

Decisions

HDC Council Decisions – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 13th October 2025	
Application No: <u>DC/25/1248</u>	Response/Comments: Permitted / RPC - No objection to the planning application or the Listed Building Consent.
Applicant: Bucks Cottage, Tismans Common	
Reason for Application: Erection of a first floor link extension, rebuild main staircase and removal of modern secondary staircase. (Householder Application).	
Official Response Date:	
Application No: <u>DC/25/1249</u>	Response/Comments: Permitted / RPC - No objection to the planning application or the Listed Building Consent.
Applicant: Bucks Cottage, Tismans Common	
Reason for Application: Erection of a first floor link extension, rebuild main staircase and removal of modern secondary staircase. (Listed Building Consent).	
Official Response Date:	

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Applications going to Committee

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

Appeals Lodged / Appeals Determined

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

New Planning Compliance Issues

New Planning Compliance Issues – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 13 th October 2025	
Application No: EN/25/0358	Response/Comments: Case Closed
Address: Little Millfields, Horsham Road, Rowhook	
Nature of Complaint Alleged: Unauthorised works to listed building including the replacement of the whole roof.	
Official Response Date: 30.09.2025	

Parish Councils Website

Rudgwick Parish Council's New Website is now live!

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

Correspondence

Email dated 02.10.2025 from WSCC

Have your say on proposals to create school places for children and young people with SEND



news release

Have your say on proposals to create school places for children and young people with SEND

People can have their say on proposals by the county council to create 170 additional school places across West Sussex for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

The proposals at three special schools across the county are part of West Sussex County Council's ongoing commitment to ensuring children, young people and families with SEND are given the support they need to thrive.

The proposals include the use of satellite sites to expand the capacity at Oak Grove College in Worthing and Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee School in Horsham. A public consultation is also now open on the council's proposed expansion of St Anthony's School in Chichester by using the site vacated by Jessie Younghusband Primary School following its move to a new location.

Councillor Jacquie Russell, Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Learning, said: “The demand for specialist education in West Sussex is increasing and is much higher than the national average.

“We have plans in place to meet these challenges and we remain committed to helping children and young people with SEND to fulfil their potential in line with Our Council Plan priorities.

“Our education teams are working hard to increase SEND support in our mainstream schools. However, we know that some children need the specialised support that only a special school
“Responses to the consultations will help us to understand the potential impact of these proposals and will inform the decisions on future provision at Oak Grove College, Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee School and St Anthony’s School.”

Oak Grove College satellite site proposals

The proposal for Oak Grove College in Worthing involves the use of The Pines, a former county council adult services property in Faraday Close, Durrington, to create up to 60 additional specialist school places.

This would increase Oak Grove College’s number of planned places from 278 to 338, with the number increasing gradually over several years.

The proposals also include the replacement of a modular classroom currently used by the school, but which is placed on an adjacent county council site.

[FIND OUT MORE AND TAKE PART HERE.](#)

The deadline for responses is 6 November.

Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee satellite site proposals

The county council is asking for feedback on proposals to create 60 additional specialist school places at Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee School in Horsham, by creating satellite provision at Arun House, a vacant building on Hurst Road, which is owned by Horsham District Council.

The extra places would increase the school’s specialist provision for children and young people aged two to 19 from 120 to 180 places, with the number increasing gradually over several years.

The proposal also includes 10 places for post-19 pupils, which are anticipated to become available in several years’ time.

[FIND OUT MORE AND TAKE PART HERE.](#)

The deadline for responses is 6 November.

St Anthony's School expansion proposals

The public are invited to have their say on the council's proposal to provide an additional 50 special school places by expanding St Anthony's School in Chichester.

It is proposed that St Anthony's School can use the vacant building that was previously occupied by Jessie Younghusband School.

St Anthony's is a special school offering SEND provision for children and young people with moderate learning difficulties aged between 4 and 16. There is a need to increase the number of places at the school to meet rising demand. St Anthony's expansion into these school buildings would increase the school's planned place numbers from 248 to 298.

[FIND OUT MORE AND TAKE PART HERE.](#)

The deadline for responses is 6 November.

Email dated 02.10.2025 from NALC
Chief Executives Bulletin

Meetings

- At this week's meeting with county associations, we were joined by the [Suzy Lamplugh Trust](#), who spoke about their work and the [training and support](#) they can offer. I'm pleased to hear that several county associations are now set to organise training in their areas, particularly on being an active bystander. We provided an update on our upcoming devolution case study publication, examples of parish and town councils doing a good job on tackling anti-social behaviour and litter and encouraging potential peers to join the [Corporate Peer Challenge](#) webinar. I also provided an update on our committees and the Labour Annual Conference.
- The Martyn's Law Steering Group held its latest meeting on 30 September 2025, where members reviewed progress since July on raising awareness among parish and town councils to strengthen security culture and discussed possible updates to the third [advice note on preparing for the Act](#). Dr Amy Batley from the National

Counter Terrorism Security Office will join the next meeting to promote the Local Approach, which launched on 30 September 2025. The group was also updated on a positive meeting we had with the Home Office on 26 September 2025, which explored the next stages of draft Martyn's Law guidance and led to the Home Office agreeing to host a free webinar. This Martyn's Law webinar will take place on 21 October 2025 and will be open to Councillors and clerks. It will cover the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025, the types of premises and events in scope, compliance timelines, and ways to build a strong security culture. We will share further information in due course — so keep an eye out.

- The [Improvement and Development Board](#) (IDB) Workforce Taskforce met last week on 25 September 2025 to examine good practices and recommend improvements in job evaluation and benchmarking, and to examine working hours. The task force aims to take its recommendations on job evaluation and benchmarking to the IDB meeting on 6 November 25. They also agreed to seek the IDB's approval for reviewing job scales.

Resources

- [In this week's blog](#), we celebrate Black History Month 2025 and its theme, Standing Firm in Power and Pride. The blog showcases how parish and town councils across England are celebrating black heritage, culture, and contributions through concerts, creative competitions, exhibitions, films and community events. We also reaffirm our commitment to equality, diversity, and inclusion, encouraging parish and town councils to reflect, celebrate, and act. It's a powerful example of how parish and town councils can amplify voices and maintain inclusive communities all year round.
- I'm pleased with the addition of a [new section on our website showcasing the briefings we produce for MPs](#) and peers on key debates and legislation. These briefings set out our position and priorities for parish and town councils, providing analysis, evidence, case studies, and recommendations to highlight both challenges and opportunities. By sharing them with MPs, peers, government ministers, parliamentary researchers, Select Committees, and All-Party Parliamentary Groups, we aim to raise awareness in Westminster, support informed debate, and ensure the voice of our sector is heard in parliamentary discussions and decision-making.
- The [Practitioners' Guide 2025](#) introduced a new Assertion 10 to the Annual Governance Statement, part of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR). This new assertion brings existing requirements around digital and data compliance to the fore. It introduces two new requirements for email management and an IT policy. We have several resources to help parish and town councils meet the requirements, such as guidance on [council parish and town council email addresses](#) and [understanding and preparing to move to a .gov.uk domain](#). We have plans for more resources, such as a Data Protection Roadmap, a comprehensive IT Policy template and guidance on meeting the new WCAG 2.2 website accessibility

guidelines, which will form part of a new Assertion 10 resource, launching on our website soon.

Support

- Last week, on 24 September 2025, over 350 attendees joined our sold-out online event [Beyond The Precept: Exploring Alternative Income Sources](#). Speakers from Lowestoft Town Council, Sevenoaks Town Council and East Devon District Council shared practical strategies on grants, investments, crowdfunding and cultural initiatives to help parish and town councils strengthen their financial resilience. The key message was clear that while precept remains vital, using it strategically can unlock far greater investment for communities. [Read more about the event](#) and [find out more about our upcoming events](#) on our website.
- We are inviting [parish and town councils to share their experiences of devolution and local government reorganisation](#) for a forthcoming case study publication. Parish and town councils with relevant experience are encouraged to get involved and highlight how devolution has shaped their communities. Submitting a case study is straightforward, parish and town councils just need to [complete a simple form](#) by 12 November 2025.
- We are working with the Local Government Association to offer the [Corporate Peer Challenge](#) to super councils in the parish and town council sector. We are also looking to build a larger pool of peers who can provide their time and experience to help. If this sounds of interest, join our online webinar on 21 October 2025 at 10.30 by [registering your attendance](#) to learn more about what's involved. It is open to both councillors and clerks, and we're particularly keen to hear from councillors from larger parish and town councils.
- Over the last few days, [we've been at the Labour Annual Conference](#) in Liverpool. This year, we've gone bigger to make our presence louder by exhibiting at the conference. It has meant we've been able to engage for longer, talking to more MPs, ministers, peers and policy advisors to discuss the things that matter to parish and town councils, meeting attendees and other key stakeholders, as well as attending events to raise the profile of the sector. Our exhibition was led by Cllr Ian Hamilton (Merseyside Association of Local Councils), Cllr Paul Harvey (Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Association of Local Councils) and Cllr Lewis Anderson (Staffordshire Parish Councils Association). I was pleased to see so many councillors come to our stand to speak about creating new parish and town councils. Whilst the primary interest was from areas undergoing local government reorganisation, there was plenty of interest from metropolitan areas and London. Some of the highlights including meetings with the secretary of state for Housing, Communities and Local Government Steve Reed MP, secretary of state for Culture, Media and Sport Lisa Nandy MP, minister for Food Security and Rural Affairs Dame Angela Eagle MP, minister for Devolution, Faith and Communities Miatta Fahnbulleh MP, and Housing, Communities and Local Government Committee chair Florence Eshalomi MP. During

the conference, Steve Reed MP announced the [locations for new towns](#) and plans to reinstate pensions for councillors. You can keep up-to-date through our [X \(formerly Twitter\)](#), and we'll be sharing more information next week.

- As part of the review of the proper practices in governance and accountability for smaller authorities, the [Smaller Authorities Proper Practices Panel](#) (SAPPP) will be launching a sector-wide consultation. The consultation, which will be available on our website, seeks to capture views on current issues with the proper practices and the Practitioners' Guide. The outcomes will contribute to the rewrite of proper practices and an accompanying new guide. The consultation, commissioned by SAPPP, has been prepared by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accounting, which will also draft the new proper practices.

Email dated 01.10.2025 from HDC

Your Climate and Environment newsletter from Horsham District Council - October 2025

Climate Action News



Horsham
District
Council



October 2025

In these newsletters we share with you how Horsham District Council and our partners and communities across the District are working to reduce carbon emissions and improve the local environment.

Look out for updates on Council and community initiatives and events, national campaigns, plus suggestions on how you too can make a difference. If you have any comments or suggestions please [email emailcommunications@horsham.gov.uk](mailto:emailcommunications@horsham.gov.uk)

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- Sustainable Energy at Home event - Monday 27 October
- Carbon Literacy training for communities - save the date!



Our NEW online tool supports home energy saving ambitions

The advertisement features a row of houses in various colors (red, orange, yellow, green) on the left. A large blue speech bubble on the right contains the text: "Our Energy Saving Plan Builder tool helps you create a roadmap for making your home cheaper to run, more comfortable and healthier to live in." Below the speech bubble, a woman is shown interacting with a large smartphone displaying an energy efficiency rating scale from 1 (green) to 9 (red). In the top left corner, there is a small logo for "ENERGY SAVING PLAN BUILDER" featuring a house with a green-to-red gradient bar.

www.horsham.gov.uk/energy-saving-plan-builder

Chichester District Council

Horsham District Council

We have been working with Chichester District Council and Parity Projects to develop a free online tool called Energy Saving Plan Builder to help householders learn about the home retrofit options available to them.

This tool can help you to understand the changes you could make to your home to reduce the amount of energy you use, make your home more comfortable to live in, reduce your carbon emissions, reduce your bills, and potentially increase the value of your home too.

Simply put in your postcode, choose your address and your goal, and suitable energy-saving measures will be suggested for your specific property, along with average costs for the works.

Take advantage of Energy Saving Plan Builder

Centre for Sustainable Energy: Free energy guidance for community building managers



The Centre for Sustainable Energy (CSE) is a national charity that offers an independent, impartial and bespoke service to help managers of community buildings know where to start and what type of funding they could apply for to help make their buildings energy efficient, more sustainable, cost less to run and more comfortable for their users.

If you run or use a community centre, find out how CSE can offer information and guidance to help improve your community centre. This includes a template for a **free DIY energy survey and a bespoke service** to help community buildings become more energy efficient and cut bills.

Centre for Sustainable Energy

Our Nature Recovery Award opens again to support biodiversity projects



New applications now welcome

Wilder Horsham District's grant scheme is open once again to support practical schemes that improve and connect habitats for wildlife in the Horsham District. Community groups and charities, as well as individual landowners, can apply for funding up to a maximum of £5000. Site visits are also available to help support and develop your project ideas.

In a recent [Sussex Wildlife Trust blog post](#), Amberley Museum's Director, Katrina Burton, reports on how her funding is helping this local visitor attraction improve habitats for wildlife.

The Nature Recovery Award is a fund set up with the Sussex Wildlife Trust to complement our [Wilder Horsham District](#) initiative.

Applications close on Friday 28 November 2025.

Read our Wilder Horsham District Annual Report 2024-25



The Wilder Horsham District initiative was set up in 2020 in a pioneering partnership with the Sussex Wildlife Trust. The objectives of this project are to:

1. Help wildlife thrive across Horsham District.
2. Create networks of land that are protected and improved for wildlife. This will allow habitats to expand and species populations to increase, helping them become more resilient to change.
3. Increase awareness of the benefits wildlife provide and the actions communities can take to enhance nature locally.
4. Maximise the opportunities for climate change mitigation and adaptation through nature restoration.

You can read all about the project's amazing achievements to date in our most recent Annual Report (2024-25) linked below, or read it as [a flip book](#).

Wilder Horsham District Annual Report 2024-2025

Happy National Apple Day!



To celebrate National Apple Day on Tuesday 21 October we are celebrating **Mayes Park Farm in Warnham** which is using the Council's Wilder Horsham District funding to help actively restore and plant Sussex apple orchards as part of a wider nature recovery effort.

In November 2024, a work party started planting an orchard of native Sussex apple varieties at Mayes Park Farm, with an additional 70+ new fruit trees planted in early 2025. The goal is to bring long-term biodiversity to the site. The orchard initiative is part of Mayes Park's nature-focused management style, away from its former use as a dairy farm, to restore and increase wildlife habitats across the farm.

The work at Mayes Park is supported by a Nature Recovery Award from the Wilder Horsham District project, a partnership project between Horsham District Council and the Sussex Wildlife Trust.

[Visit Mayes Park Farm website](#)

Bramber Brooks Nature Reserve - now enhanced



Following the purchase of Bramber Brooks Nature Reserve by Horsham District Council in 2024, we have been working closely with the Environment Agency to create a number of wetland ponds and shallow pools, providing varied wetland habitat for birds such as snipe and green sandpiper, as well as dragonflies and fish.

A key sustainability feature of the project was the re-use of soil excavated during the pond creation to provide raised earth walkways to improve public access. This approach has ensured a materials neutral site, with no need for imported or exported materials.

The new raised walkways and pedestrian bridges offer a much-improved experience for walkers, and the biodiversity gains will help us meet our climate goals, underlining our commitment to become carbon neutral as a District by 2050.

Bramber Brooks

Events



Sustainable Energy at Home event Monday 27 October, 7-9pm. FREE

The Rock Horsham (craft house) 38 East Street Horsham RH12 1HL

Look out for Neil Sephton, our Sustainability Manager, who will be speaking at a Horsham Home Energy event this month. This will be an evening of two parts, starting with short talks about our new “Energy Saving Plan Builder” tool (see top article in this newsletter) and “A Retrofit Journey” from Sustain Change. These talks will be followed by the opportunity for informal discussions with the above, and with local homeowners who are using the technologies.

Speakers on the day include:

- Neil Sephton (Horsham District Council)
- Amy Isted (Sustain Change)
- AND local homeowners

This free event is organised by Transition Horsham Energy Group.

[Book via Eventbrite](#)



Carbon Literacy training for parishes and communities - SAVE THE DATE

In April 2024, we started our Carbon Literacy journey by training Council staff to become climate champions for Council services. This dedication was recognised this year by the Carbon Literacy Project with the receipt of our Bronze Carbon Literacy Award.

In a bid to reduce the region's carbon footprint, protect the environment and become a net zero district, we will soon be offering this free training to parish and neighbourhood councillors and community leaders.

Save the Date: 10 November 2025

We will be running a Community Leader course on Monday 10 November, with a course for parish leaders in the early new year.

If you are not able to make that date but are interested in learning more, please do get in touch at climatechangeaction@horsham.gov.uk

Community Leaders Course

Useful Links

[Read how we are tackling climate change](#)

[Get involved in climate action](#)

[Apply for a Community Climate Fund](#)

[Explore our Wilder Horsham District programme](#)

[Read our latest climate action blog posts](#)

[Visit the West Sussex Climate Action Hub](#)

Stay connected

Albery House, Springfield Road
Horsham,
West Sussex,
RH12 2GB



**Horsham
District
Council**

Email dated 30.09.2025 from WSCC
Highways, Transport and Planning - News and Updates



Winter Service Plan



In West Sussex Highways, the winter season starts on 1 October. Our fleet of gritters were out the last weekend of September to carry our trial runs of the gritting routes.

Take a look at our 2025/2026 Winter Service Plan which has now been published to see the operational strategy we will use to keep roads and paths safe and passable.

[**Download and read our full Winter Service Plan**](#)

Have you seen the Riparian Toolkit?

The Riparian Toolkit is designed to support you with watercourse/riparian matters in your area.

We are pleased to announce the launch of the new Riparian Toolkit designed to support you with watercourse/riparian matters in your area. If you have not yet received your copy, please do contact us at Parish-Town.Enquiries@westsussex.gov.uk and we will email it to you.

The toolkit provides readily accessible information and resources on topics such as:

- Riparian ownership and responsibilities
- Guidance on managing vegetation
- Contact details for relevant agencies

We believe this resource will help you when assisting residents with watercourse enquiries.

Have your say on proposals to improve the A24 between Worthing, Horsham and Dorking



West Sussex County Council and Surrey County Council are inviting public feedback on proposals to improve the A24 between Worthing, Horsham and Dorking.

The proposals aim to make walking, cycling and public transport more attractive options for journeys and improve the standard of our roads. The [West Sussex Transport Plan](#) and [Surrey Transport Plan](#) set out how the councils intend to address a number of challenges, including climate change, congestion, public health and road safety through improvements to the transport network.

Improving the A24 Corridor

The A24 between Worthing, Horsham and Dorking is a vital route for access to jobs, education and local services. However, high traffic levels lead to congestion, noise and air pollution.

We're exploring improvements to key junctions to boost capacity and safety, alongside measures to make bus services more reliable and active travel—like walking and cycling—safer and more appealing. These changes aim to reduce car use by encouraging more short trips to be made by public transport or on foot or bike.

The types of improvements that we are considering along the route include:

- Junction capacity improvements
- Bus priority and bus stop improvements
- Walking and cycling path improvements
- Crossing facilities for people walking, cycling and horse-riding
- Road safety improvements including junction modifications, safety barriers and speed limit changes

The scheme is at an early stage of development and future delivery is likely to depend on securing Government grant funding, so it may be several years before construction could commence on the larger scale schemes.

The consultation opened on Tuesday 16 September and closes at 23:55 on Monday 27 October 2025

To view the proposals and complete the survey, visit our [YourVoice page](#)

A281 / B2117 Poynings Crossways - Road Safety Scheme



Work commenced on Monday 8 September, to carry out safety improvements along the A281 between its junctions with Clappers Lane and the B2117 Brighton Road (also known as Poynings Crossways).

The interventions were developed in response to a growing number of crashes, which mostly involved drivers failing to give way at the B2117 junction.

Description of Works:

- Improved signage on all four approaches to the junction.
- Improved chevron signing on the bend.
- Refreshed road markings.
- A reduced 40mph speed limit throughout the series of bends and junctions (approx. 1km in length).
- Extensive vegetation clearance and branch clearing activities to restore sightlines.
- Extension of High Friction Surfacing (HFS) treatment on westbound approach to address a pattern of harsh braking incidents.
- Replacement of two Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) on the A281.

[Read the project FAQs](#)

Reducing roadworks reaps real rewards



Disruption caused by roadworks in West Sussex has been reduced by almost a third, thanks to a scheme which encourages utility companies and contractors to plan their works more effectively.

We're one of only four local authorities in the country to operate a [Government-endorsed lane rental](#) scheme, which allows us to charge up to £2,500 a day for works on our busiest roads.

Not only is the scheme helping to keep traffic moving and reduce inconvenience to residents and road users, it is also generating much needed income we can reinvest in road repairs and community highways projects that we would not otherwise be able to support.

Organisations can apply to the Lane Rental Surplus Fund for projects that benefit West Sussex highways.

Find out how we're helping to keep traffic flowing

Flooding



As Autumn progresses the risk of localised flooding increases.

What can you do? Find out if your property is at risk from flooding by checking [Environment Agency flood map](#).

Flood Warnings

If your home or business is at risk of flooding you can sign up to receive flood warnings from the Environment Agency. The service is free, and you can get warnings by phone, email or text message.

You can also check for current Environment Agency flood warnings and Met Office weather warnings.

Read our Flooding Advice: [Flooding advice - West Sussex County Council](#)

You can report Drainage Issues here: [Report a drainage problem - West Sussex Self Service](#)

Keep up to date

WhatsApp

Did you know you can get gritter alerts, grass cutting updates and up to date information on road issues on WhatsApp? You can follow silently or opt for alerts to notify you when we share an update. To find us open WhatsApp and select "Updates" from the bottom menu, then simply search for WSHighways or click the link - [WSHighways](#).

Facebook, X & Bluesky

Updates on emergency reports are posted every day and project updates are posted frequently on the West Sussex Highways Facebook [@West Sussex Highways](#), X [@WSHighways](#), and Bluesky [@wshighways.bsky.social](#) accounts.



Holly loves playing with her toy kitchen

Become a foster carer and provide a fun, safe and loving home to a child like Holly

[Read more about Holly](#)

Email dated 29.09.2025 from Rusper Clerk
West of Ifield - DC/25/1312

<https://www.rusper-pc.gov.uk/community/rusper-parish-council-20862/west-of-ffield-plans/>

[West of Ifield - Rusper Parish Council - Rusper Parish Council, Rusper, Horsham - rusper-pc.gov.uk](https://www.rusper-pc.gov.uk)

The planning application for land West of Ifield seeks permission for a phased, residential-led development comprising new housing, educational facilities, community services, and associated infrastructure. The proposals include provision for transport and access improvements, healthcare and leisure facilities, open spaces, and measures to enhance biodiversity and sustainability. Supporting ...

www.rusper-pc.gov.uk

Please find the link to our website if Councillors want to see details and presentations on the plans for the 3000 homes in the Parish of Rusper.

Kind regards

Lisa Wilcock CiLCA, Clerk and RFO to Rusper Parish Council

Rusper Parish Council, c/o Rusper Village Stores, East Street, Rusper, RH12 4PX

Email dated 29.09.2025 from Gatwick Airport Ltd
Gatwick In Touch - September 2025 #2



Gatwick In Touch

Airport news for local residents



Nothern Runway decision

Last week the Government confirmed it has approved plans to bring our Northern Runway into routine use, just over a month ahead of the final deadline. You can see our statement [here](#) with more information on our plans available on our [website](#).

This is a £2.2bn investment, fully funded by our shareholders and a key part of our growth plans. The decision is another important gateway in the planning process, and you can read the full information related to the decision on the Planning Inspectorate website [here](#).

[READ MORE HERE >](#)



GAIL's touches down at London Gatwick

The popular bakery chain GAIL's opened its doors this month in the South Terminal departure lounge. The beloved London-born brand is known for its signature pastries, seasonal sandwiches, salads and expertly brewed drinks, which passengers can now enjoy before take-off. The new bakery also features a spacious seating area and an exclusive travel-focused gifting range.

There are also significant benefits to the local community, with more than 70 new jobs created, including a number of roles through the Rise with GAIL's programme, which supports career development in hospitality.

[READ MORE HERE >](#)



Welcoming our new graduates

London Gatwick is excited to welcome nine talented individuals as part of our 2025 Graduate Programme.

Selected from more than 2,000 applicants, this year's cohort brings a rich mix of academic backgrounds and fresh perspectives. Graduates have joined us from top universities including UCL, Loughborough and Sussex, with degrees spanning Aeronautical Engineering, International Business and Computer Science.

They'll join departments including Construction, Commercial, Corporate Affairs, Engineering, IT, Sales & Operations Planning and Development, on two-year contracts except for construction, which is a three-year contract.

Throughout their time with us, the graduates will gain hands-on experience, take part in learning and development opportunities, and collaborating with senior leaders on impactful projects that shape the future of the airport.

[LEARN MORE HERE >](#)

Email dated 29.09.2025 from WSCC

Operation Watershed awards highest ever funding to Bersted Parish Council

NEWS RELEASE



Operation Watershed awards highest ever funding to Bersted Parish Council

Since April 2024 Operation Watershed has awarded £837,655 to support local community led schemes to reduce the risk of flooding to properties, businesses and highways.

The latest round of funding from West Sussex County Council saw a project from Bersted Parish Council awarded the highest amount ever given by Operation Watershed, £233,698.

The project will focus on stabilising a section of the banks of the Shripney River to prevent the bank slipping which could cause flooding to properties up-stream of the river and the nearby A29.

The project will also replace the existing culvert to increase the water flow capacity and reinstate the footbridge to allow for access and easier maintenance.

To ready the application for funding a substantial amount of pre-work was required which was funded by Bersted Parish Council and Arun District Council at a combined cost of approx. £35,000.

Speaking about the Bersted project, Cllr Deborah Urquhart, West Sussex County Council Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change, said: “We are grateful for the hard work and additional finances Bersted Parish Council have put into bringing this project to us and Arun District Council also for their support in providing a contribution towards funding the pre-application work.

“The collaborative efforts of the local councils and community are a testament to what Operation Watershed is all about, working together to bring about solutions.

“I’m particularly pleased that not only will the project protect the local area from flooding, but it will also have a positive environmental impact through associated works taking place to improve watercourses connected to the Aldingbourne Rife. Native hedgerow and grasses will be planted and new ditches will contribute to improving the habitat within Bersted Brooks.”

Cllr Joy Dennis, West Sussex County Council Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, said: “Whilst the land that is part of this project would be classed as being riparian, which is the responsibility of the landowner, we have recognised the importance of addressing these issues before they have a knock-on-effect to local residents and council-owned land by awarding the funding required to carry out the works.

“Highway drainage from the A29 outfalls into this section of the Shripney River. A bank slippage could mean that this section of an important road within the county would flood and impact nearly 400,000 vehicle movements a month.

“I’m glad that we were able to work with the landowner, Bersted Parish Council and Arun District Council, to develop a plan to protect the local area from potential flooding.”

As well as the Bersted project, between April 2024 and August 2025, Operation Watershed has awarded £603,957 to 13 projects which support local community led schemes to reduce the risk of flooding to properties, businesses and the highway.

These Funds have supported schemes to deliver local community led drainage improvement work which contributes directly to our Council Plan priority of building a sustainable and prosperous economy. The works include:

- Highway drainage improvements – increasing capacity, upsizing assets and building additional assets
- Improvements to riparian water courses – increasing capacity to open ditches and culverted (piped) watercourses, building headwalls, installation of trash screens and bank stabilisation

- Improvement to attenuation ponds

Parish and town councils and community and volunteer groups within West Sussex can apply for funding for projects they can deliver themselves. For more information and to apply visit our website at [Operation Watershed - West Sussex County Council](#).

Email dated 26.09.2025 from Sussex Police
Can you spot the signs of investment fraud?



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



BE SCAM AWARE

**IT COULD BE
INVESTMENT
FRAUD**



Surrey & Sussex

This week Sussex Police and Victim Support have been raising awareness of the dangers of investment fraud through Operation Signature, a dedicated operation which seeks to protect vulnerable victims of fraud.

If you've ever been tempted by a get rich quick scheme, you're not alone. Online investment fraud and associated scams are now prolific on social media, often using celebrities to promote them. These types of investment scams can affect anyone. Around 41% of all reported crime in England and Wales is estimated to be fraud.

One of my duties as Police and Crime Commissioner is to commission specialist support services for victims and witnesses of crime. In Sussex, this includes funding for two fraud caseworkers, employed by Victim Support, who provide emotional support and

practical guidance to victims of fraud. This innovative model, introduced in Sussex nine years ago, has since been rolled out across other areas of the UK.

As part of Operation Signature, Sussex Police and Victim Support have united to continue to raise awareness of investment fraud across the county, during [UK Savings Week](#).

Investment fraud can take many forms. Typically, fraudsters will contact their victims and convince them to invest in schemes or products that hold no value or do not exist. As soon as the victim hands money over to the fraudster, they disappear, taking the money with them.

Common investment scams see the victim being encouraged to buy one of the following commodities: Diamonds or rare metals; Fine wine; Land; Carbon credits and alternative energy technology as well as Crypto currency.

Scammers will always try to appear as authentic as possible. They will clone websites and imitate genuine companies and investment firms. They may have details of investments you've previously made, shares you hold and know your personal circumstances.

Remember:

- Do not be rushed or pressured into making a payment. Legitimate organisations will not encourage you to hand money over straight away.
- Seek independent financial advice before investing and check with the Financial Conduct Authority to see if the company is registered.

Investment fraudsters run increasingly sophisticated schemes and this type of fraud has the capacity to shatter livelihoods. We must continue to make more people aware of the guises it can take and the dangers it can pose.

You can sign-up to [Sussex Alerts](#) to keep up to date with the latest preventative information and follow Sussex Police's advice about [Fraud](#).

Student Safety

My Friday Force Focus this week (below) spotlights the work of Sussex Police and partners to support the night-time economy.

Today, representatives from my office attended the BIMM Music Institute wellbeing fair, welcoming freshers and Brighton music students.

Starting a university course in a new city can be both exhilarating and challenging. Adjusting to new responsibilities – like managing rent, bills, and finding a balance between having a social life and studying – can sometimes feel overwhelming. BIMM's dedicated Student Wellbeing Team provides personalised advice and guidance to help students navigate any challenges they face.

My team handed out StopTopps, which are versatile drink protectors designed to deter drink spikers. They also spoke to students about their concerns and ideas to keep Sussex safe and shared Your Story Matters - a visual campaign to amplify the message to victims of crime that their story matters and support is out there.



Katy Bourne OBE
Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner

FRIDAY FORCE FOCUS

Safety from Spiking

As students return to our county's universities, Sussex Police is working with its partners to make sure everyone can enjoy their nights out in safety.

Sussex is a safe place to enjoy a night out and, thankfully, instances of spiking are relatively rare. However, there will always be a minority of people looking to take advantage of vulnerable people or cause harm in the night-time economy. Sadly, we know that women and girls are more likely to fall victim to this predatory behaviour.

Throughout every term as your Police & Crime Commissioner, I've made tackling violence, especially against women and girls, a key priority. Spiking is no joke – it is dangerous and it is a criminal offence.

I am pleased that Sussex Police and local partners share my commitment to tackling this despicable crime. This is especially important for our students over the coming weeks, as Freshers events take place. We are lucky to live in a county rich with arts, culture and heritage and members of the public should be able to enjoy these without the fear of spiking looming large.

Read more about spiking and what to do if you or someone you know may be a victim on the [Sussex Police website](#).



Email dated 26.09.2025 from West Sussex Fire & Rescue

West Sussex's new on-call firefighters are preparing to serve their communities



news release

West Sussex's new on-call firefighters are preparing to serve their communities

Six new on-call firefighters have successfully completed their initial two-week training course and have spoken of how a determination to serve their communities led them to join retained fire stations in West Sussex.

New recruit firefighter Steve Craske summed up the feelings of all six new recruits. He said: "I decided it was time to give something back to the community and I wanted to do something that would enable me to push myself."

On-call firefighters often have full-time employment outside of the fire and rescue service but respond to emergency calls within their local area.

The new recruits live or work nearby to one of the service's fire stations and will respond to emergencies either from their place of work or from home.

All six new recruits spoke highly of the intensive two-week training programme, which has prepared them to respond to emergency calls. Among them is Zac Burse who will be serving at East Preston. -

-
He said: "The training has been excellent; all the staff have been helpful. Physically it has really pushed me, but it's been great fun".

Before they began the training programme several new recruits believed that working at a height would be the biggest obstacle they would face. Steve Craske, who will be serving at Midhurst described how the training has helped him to face that challenge.

"Firefighting was never something in my mind that I thought I would ever do because I don't like heights, but I felt that I really needed to push myself, and the training felt safe at all times. As a result, I can now operate well at a height and I'm looking forward to putting that into practice."

Families and friends were invited to Platinum House, West Sussex Fire & Rescue's training centre in Horsham, on Friday 12 September for the Pass Out Parade. They watched the recruits receive their certificates from West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service's Area Manager for Protection, Dave Bray.

Speaking after the event, he said: "I was delighted to present our six new on-call firefighters with their certificates and officially welcome them into the service.

"The training course and the exams are challenging and intense, but they have all shown great physical and mental strength and should be very proud that they have reached our high standard and passed out today.

"I am pleased to say that they are now ready to join their crews and serve their communities."

Councillor Duncan Crow, West Sussex County Council's Cabinet Member for Community Support, Fire and Rescue, said: "Congratulations to our new on-call firefighters. They have a vital role to play in keeping the people of West Sussex safe and I know they will make their communities proud. They have all expressed a desire to serve their communities and I wish them all a long and successful career within the service."

The new firefighters, and where they will be based, are: Zac Burse, East Preston, Flynn Woods, East Preston, Steve Craske, Midhurst, Archie Largan, Midhurst, Karl Owens, Shoreham, Rob Flanagan, Storrington You can find out more about becoming an on-call firefighter on the [WSCC website](#)

Email dated 26.09.2025 from HDC
Winter Warm Up Events Coming This October!



Horsham District's
Winter Warm Ups

Join us
for a fun,
activity
filled day!

Tuesday 21 October
10am - 3.30pm
at The Bridge Leisure Centre,
Broadbridge Heath

Thursday 23 October
10am - 4pm
at Chanctonbury Leisure Centre,
Storrington

Enjoy free taster activities aimed for those over 50s for all abilities, across a wide range of interests and including some self-care opportunities too. There will also be plenty of stalls in the community marketplace offering information and freebies.



Further details are available at:
www.horsham.gov.uk/community/Winter-Warm-Ups

 **CHANCTONBURY LEISURE CENTRE**
Providing a healthy community

 **Places Leisure**
Part of Places for People

 **Horsham District Council**

Email dated 26.09.2025 from HDC
Latest news: West Sussex Business Case submitted for local government reorganisation

Latest News



Horsham
District
Council



Business Case submitted for local government reorganisation

Today (26 September), West Sussex councils have submitted a joint Business Case and individual preference letters to central government, proposing their preferred models for local government reorganisation in the county. The proposals respond to the Government's ambition to develop alternative options to the current two-tier council system.

Horsham District Council, along with the other six district and borough councils, is stating its preference for a two unitary council model for West Sussex which would see the creation of a new Unitary Authority combining Horsham District Council, Crawley District Council and Mid Sussex District Council areas.

Leader of Horsham District Council, Cllr Martin Boffey, is now writing to the Government to ask ministers to consider the Council's preferred option.

He commented: "I am proud of the collaborative approach we have adopted with all participating West Sussex councils to arrive at this point. We feel this option, which was by far the most preferred option by residents and stakeholders in our engagement survey, will put residents first, giving you a more local focus on housing, social care and leisure and community services and creating a localised single point of contact for services which are most important to you."

"Having two smaller unitary councils in West Sussex will also create four seats on the board of the newly formed Mayoral Strategic Authority for West Sussex which will ensure that our communities are more fairly represented in regional decision making. This will better reflect the larger size of the West Sussex population compared to the populations of East Sussex and Brighton & Hove."

"This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to deliver meaningful change and we cannot afford to miss it. In my view, only the two unitary council model can deliver on this ambition."

Read Cllr Boffey's full statement and find a link to the business case in our News section, link below.

[Read more](#)



New online tool helps residents boost their home energy efficiency

Horsham District Council, in partnership with Chichester District Council, has launched a free online Plan Builder to help residents improve the energy efficiency of their homes.

The tool generates a personalised home improvement plan based on your property details, offering tailored recommendations with estimated costs and savings.



Council marks Battle of Britain anniversary in Horsham

The Battle of Britain 85th anniversary was marked with a respectful act of remembrance in Horsham town centre this morning (15 September) at the War Memorial.

Horsham District Council's Chairman Cllr Tony Bevis led a simple wreath laying ceremony with members of the Horsham Branch of the Royal British Legion and the

[Read more](#)

Royal Observer Corps Association 2 Group
Horsham.

[Read more](#)

Neighbourhood Plan referendums held in Horsham District

Neighbourhood Plan Referendums were held in the Horsham District on Thursday 4 September in the parishes of Cowfold, Itchingfield, Lower Beeding, and Pulborough.

A Neighbourhood Plan Referendum asks residents of a parish whether they would like Horsham District Council to use the parish's Neighbourhood Plan to help decide planning applications.

Residents voted in favour of the Neighbourhood Plans being used to help decide planning applications. Read the results in full on our website.

[Find out more](#)

[Click here for more news from Horsham District Council](#)



[View current Council Consultations](#)



Stay connected



Albery House, Springfield Road
Horsham, West Sussex

RH12 2GB



**Horsham
District
Council**

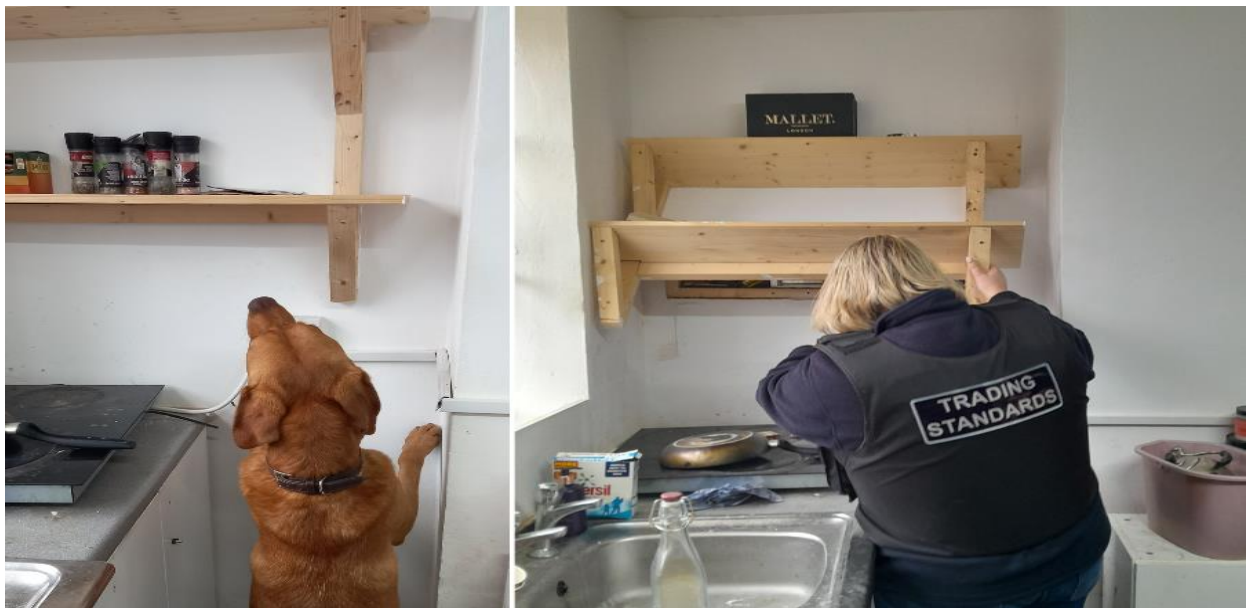
Email dated 26.09.2025 from WSCC

Director of Ideal Supermarket, Worthing found guilty of selling illicit tobacco and vapes

NEWS RELEASE



Director of Ideal Supermarket, Worthing found guilty of selling illicit tobacco and vapes



Sarhad Kamal Mahmoudi, the director of a convenience store in Worthing, has been found guilty of the sale of illicit tobacco and vapes following an investigation by West Sussex County Council Trading Standards.

A covert test purchase was carried out at Ideal Supermarket, Worthing, on 22 September 2023 where officers were sold foreign cigarettes. A further inspection was carried out on 18 October 2023 with assistance from police, immigration officers and a sniffer dog where illicit tobacco was found in a hidden concealment in the kitchen.

Eighty-eight items of tobacco were found to be a mixture of counterfeit, duty free or foreign labelled. A total of 198 vapes that did not comply with the Tobacco and Related Products Regulations 2015 were also seized. The vapes were not hidden and were on display for sale on the shop floor.

During this inspection, Police also seized Nitrous Oxide cannisters, commonly known as laughing gas, Nos, or happy gas. These cannisters were found within Mr Mahmoudi's car.

Mr Mahmoudi, the director of Sarhad Trading Ltd t/a Ideal Supermarket since October 2023, was found guilty at Brighton Magistrates on 22 September 2025 on all charges relating to the sale of illicit tobacco, vapes and the evasion of duty. He will be sentenced on 21 November 2025.

The defendant's company, Sarhad Trading Ltd, had also faced a total of 23 charges, but the company had since been dissolved.

Cllr Duncan Crow, Cabinet Member for Community Support, Fire and Rescue, said: "I am pleased that our Trading Standards team have once again been able to remove unsafe tobacco and vape products from our high streets.

"The work the officers do is vital for protecting our residents and holding individuals and businesses accountable."

If you would like to report an issue, please visit: [Report an incident or issue to Trading Standards - West Sussex County Council](#).