

Rudgwick Parish Council

Weekly Clerk's Update: 28th February 2026 (Agenda March 2026)

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:

- HDC have not received any election requests, the Parish Councillor vacancy has now be advertised

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 11 th May 2026	
Application No: DC/26/0166 05.03.2026	Response/Comments:
Applicant: Fox Inn, Guildford Road, Bucks Green, Rudgwick	

Reason for Application: Erection of a single storey side extension, and internal and external alterations. (Full Application).	
Official Response Date: 26.03.2026 / Determination 22.04.2026	
Application No: DC/26/0167 05.03.2026	Response/Comments:
Applicant: Fox Inn, Guildford Road, Bucks Green, Rudgwick	
Reason for Application: Erection of a single storey side extension, and internal and external alterations. (Listed Building Consent).	
Official Response Date: 26.03.2026 / Determination 22.04.2026	Response/Comments:
Application No: DC/26/0397 05.03.2026	
Applicant: 12 Cape Copse, Rudgwick	
Reason for Application: Fell 1x Oak	
Official Response Date: 26.03.2026 / Determination 29.04.2026	Response/Comments:
Application No: DC/26/0399 05.03.2026	
Applicant: 13 Cape Copse, Rudgwick	
Reason for Application: Fell 1x Oak	
Official Response Date: 26.03.2026 / Determination 29.04.2026	

Applications for consideration at Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting

Applications for consideration at Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 9 th March 2026	
Application No:	Response/Comments:
Applicant:	
Reason for Application:	
Official Response Date:	

Decisions

HDC Council Decisions – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 9 th March 2026	
Application No: DC/26/0001	Response/Comments: Permitted / RPC – no objection
Applicant: Jubilee Hall, Church Street, Rudgwick	
Reason for Application: Replace and raise the roof over the lean-to annex on side elevation, to allow floor level to be raised to improve disabled access (Full Planning).	
Official Response Date:	
Application No: DC/26/0017	Response/Comments: Permitted / RPC – no objection
Applicant: Jubilee Hall, Church Street, Rudgwick	
Reason for Application: Replace and raise the roof over the lean-to annex on side elevation, to allow floor level to be raised to improve disabled access (Listed Building Consent).	
Official Response Date:	

Applications going to Committee

Applications going to Committee – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 9 th March 2026	
Application No:	Response/Comments:
Applicant:	
Reason for Application:	
Official Response Date:	

Appeals Lodged / Appeals Determined

New Appeals Lodged / Determined – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 9 th March 2026	
Application No: DC/24/0099 APP/Z3825/X/24/3342359	Response/Comments: Appeal Allowed
Applicant: Honeywood House, Horsham Road, Rowhook	
Reason for Application: Repair works to 1, 2, and 3 The Stables to reinstate residential accommodation (Lawful Development Certificate - Proposed)	
Official Response Date:	

New Planning Compliance Issues

New Planning Compliance Issues – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 9 th March 2026	
Application No: EN/26/0063	Response/Comments: Case Closed
Address: The Old Stables, Guildford Road, Rudgwick	
Nature of Complaint Alleged: Erection of additional outbuilding to a	

Class Q converted building without planning permission.	
Official Response Date:	

Parish Councils Website

Rudgwick Parish Council's New Website is now live!

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



RUDGWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Councillor Vacancy

Rudgwick Parish Council are looking for someone to serve as a Parish Councillor.

- Are you interested in local current affairs?
- Do you wish to serve your Community?
- Could you provide a voice for residents?

For further information or an informal chat
please contact the Parish Clerk:

Anna Clayton

clerk@rudgwick-pc.gov.uk

01403 822678/07927 702321

(working hours Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday
9.00 – 16.30)

**Closing date for acceptance of requests for
consideration midday Friday 8th May 2026.**

WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL
(RUDGWICK: A281)
(30MPH & 40MPH SPEED LIMIT) (CONSOLIDATION) ORDER 2026

NOTICE is hereby given that West Sussex County Council proposes to introduce a permanent Order the effect of which will be to extend the 40mph speed limit on the A281 east of the B2138 Church Street to a point 329m east of the Downslink Crossing point.

As part of the legal process West Sussex County Council is required under the Road Traffic Regulation Act to undertake a formal consultation with you. I am pleased to attach a weblink. This will enable you to view:

- Plan showing the proposed lengths of road to be subject to the new speed limit.
- Statement of Reasons for proposing to make the Order
- Public Notice outlining the proposal that will be advertised in the West Sussex County Times
- Draft Order

<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/traffic-regulation-orders/live-consultations-for-permanent-tros/horsham-live-tro-consultations/>

if you have any problems accessing the consultation documents via the link please contact me immediately.

In the usual way if you wish to express support or raise an objection about any part of the proposal please e-mail tro.consultation@westsussex.gov.uk, or write to TRO Team, West Sussex County Council, The Grange, Tower Street, Chichester, PO19 1RH quoting reference **TRO/HOR8018/RC**

Please note the statutory consultation period ends on 26 March 2026 and any comments you wish us to take into consideration should be received before this date.

Kind Regards,
Becky Caney

Rebecca Caney
FCILEX Chartered Legal Executive Chichester, Crawley & Horsham TRO Team
Place Services, Highways, Transport & Planning, West Sussex County Council

CALL IM EMAIL

Location: First Floor Northleigh Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 1RH
Contact: **Internal:** 26345 | **External:** +44 (0)330 222 6345 | **E-mail:** Rebecca.caney@westsussex.gov.uk

[Report a problem with a road or pavement](#) or [raise a highways related enquiry](#)

Follow us at [@WSHighways](#)

Certified Carbon Literate



Correspondence

Email dated 05.03.2026 from WSCC

Major Projects Update

Highways, Transport and Planning



Haywards Heath: South Road



A visualisation showing the proposed improvements on South Road.

Haywards Heath town centre was identified as a priority area for investment in the [West Sussex Transport Plan 2022-2036](#), and a previous scheme was developed in 2022 covering South Road and Commercial Square. Following the September 2022 mini budget, the original scheme was deemed unaffordable.

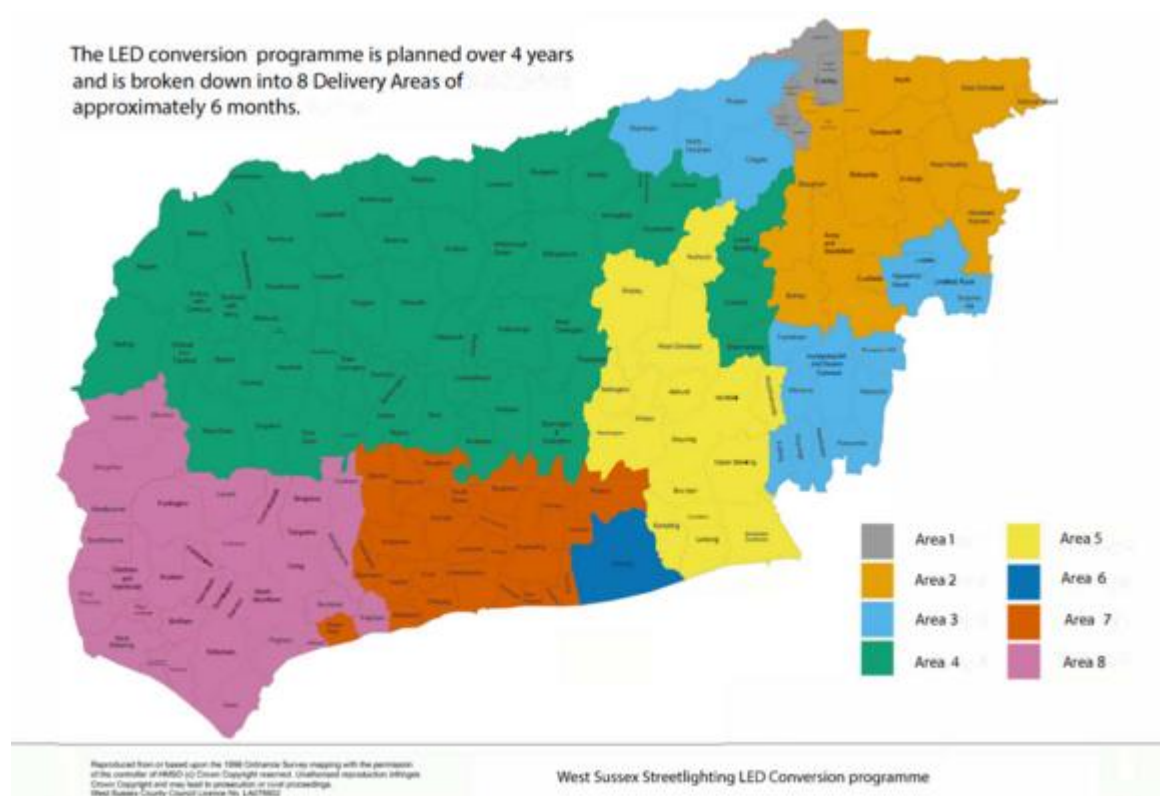
Since then, West Sussex County Council has revisited the proposals and updated the design, to ensure the scheme priorities can be delivered. The Council has just finished seeking feedback on the revised proposals, it invited members of the community to have their say online or in person at the drop in day.

The proposals aim to improve the look and feel of the area, and make it more attractive for people walking, wheeling and cycling.

Click below for more information about the proposals, and next steps now the feedback window has closed.

[Read More](#)

LED Conversion Project



The project will replace all the West Sussex County Council-owned street lights that are not already LED. This equates to 65,249 lanterns.

Street lights are the third-biggest consumer of energy and creator of carbon for the County Council. Converting street lights to LED will significantly reduce both our use of electric and creation of carbon, helping us reach our target to [become a carbon neutral organisation by 2030](#).

The replacement of the existing lanterns with LED lanterns will commence later this year and is planned to take four years to complete. The implementation will begin in the area where street lighting uses the most energy and then will move through the county to ensure efficient future maintenance.

The project is divided into eight delivery areas, each area will take roughly six-months to complete. You can view these geographically on the above map.

[Read More](#)

Chichester Public Realm



Artist impression of 'node' area at the East Street junction with North Pallant



Artist impression of East Street



Artist impression of East Street from a birds eye view



Artist impression of a 'node' area on North Street

West Sussex County Council is prioritising public realm improvements to Chichester City Centre. The existing public realm within the pedestrianised zones of East and North Streets is deteriorating and the current surface has reached the end of its useful life.

In order to allow us to finalise some of the details (tree pits, drainage and other underground apparatus) we have just finished digging some trial holes in North and East Street.

The works, undertaken by Volker Highways, started on 12 January 2026 and lasted around three weeks.

These works involved digging trial holes in 16 separate locations along both roads. The works involved some disruption to businesses, but we were able to keep this to a minimum. Advanced warning boards were put in place and businesses were letter-dropped prior to commencement.

We are aiming to complete the design phase this spring, so that the main contract can be procured over the summer. Construction is planned for 2027.

[Read More](#)

Burgess Hill Place and Connectivity Scheme



The Burgess Hill Place and Connectivity Programme sits within the Mid Sussex Growth Programme and is considered one of the most ambitious programmes in the region.

- The final list of Phase One remedials and Road Safety Audit works are complete. The next step is to review the completed remedial works and close the project.
- The Phase Two scope includes Victoria Business Park and town centre improvements to Church Road and Church Walk. The Church Road and Walk improvements are going to be taken forward in partnership with other town centre regeneration projects. This means Phase Two works are on hold awaiting progress from other partners.

- A Victoria Business Park public engagement exercise commenced in October and ended on 5 December 2025. Work on reviewing the consultation feedback is ongoing and commissioning the detailed design will follow.

[Read More](#)

Bognor Regis Esplanade



The public realm works along Bognor Regis Esplanade were part of the wider Arun Growth Programme, which is the mechanism for delivering the Arun Growth Deal.

The scheme was completed in late March 2025 and has been under contract maintenance for the last year. Following a Road Safety Audit, some minor adjustments have been advised. As part of these, an additional pathway has been added in the central area to link parking to the Place Saint-Maur crossing - this follows the desire path created by the public.

Some further adjustments to the scheme will be completed by the end of March 2026. After this time, the maintenance and watering of the landscaping areas will be licensed to Arun District Council.

[Read More](#)

Halogen Bulb Replacement Programme



Works to upgrade our traffic signals to the latest LED technology are now complete. The improvements will save money and reduce our carbon emissions by nearly 600 tonnes – the equivalent of taking 283 petrol cars off the road for a whole year.

The latest LED technology now operates 94 traffic signal sites around West Sussex. The new lights use 84% less energy than halogen bulbs which will save us an estimated £594,000 in energy costs. The work became necessary because outdated halogen light bulbs are no longer manufactured.

While working on the traffic signals, we also upgraded pedestrian crossings with the latest puffin crossing detectors. They improve safety and reduce traffic delays by monitoring how the crossings are used in real time. Other improvements to make the crossings more accessible included resurfaced footways, new tactile paving, and refreshed road markings.

[Read More](#)

Photo caption: From left to right Tim Macaulay (Landbuild Contracts Manager), Lee Maskell (Senior Project Manager; Traffic Signals and Street Lighting, West Sussex County Council); Simon Osborne (Asset Manager, Traffic Signals and Street Lighting, West Sussex County Council); Joe Harper (Telent Contracts Manager) at one of the new LED signal crossings on South Street in Chichester.

A259 Bognor Regis to Littlehampton



West Sussex County Council is developing a major road enhancement scheme for the corridor of the A259 between Bognor Regis and Littlehampton in Arun District.

The scheme extends between, and includes, the B2132 Yapton Road (Comet Corner) junction and the B2187 Bridge Road (Tesco's) junction.

The key objectives of the scheme are to:

- Enhance the conditions for walking, cycling and bus travel for non-motorised users. Thus, encouraging switch from car use to greener modes of transport.
- Improve the road safety record and journey-time reliability along the A259 corridor between Bognor Regis and Littlehampton.
- Increase junction capacity to support economic development, including the delivery of strategic development sites identified in the Arun Local Plan.

The council received approval from the Department for Transport for the Outline Business Case for the project in April 2025. We are now developing the Full Business Case to secure the majority of the funding for the scheme, which will be submitted later in 2026.

We are progressing the detailed design which is close to completion; this will form part of the Full Business Case submission. The planning application for the proposals at Comet Corner junction has been submitted and the Oystercatcher junction's planning application is being prepared and expected to be submitted to West Sussex County Council's Planning Services shortly.

[Read More](#)

A29 Realignment, Phase 1A Barnham Road Roundabout

The A29 realignment scheme is an important part of the aims for Arun District, as outlined in the [West Sussex Transport Plan](#).

The Barnham Road Roundabout is part of the A29 realignment scheme between Fontwell and Barnham. It was approved in a Key Decision early in 2025, so the scheme has been tendered and a contractor secured for the roundabout's construction.

- The council has been working to buy the land needed for the roundabout, which we were expecting to have completed by the end of 2025. However, one of the developers has taken action to prevent the negotiated land sale with one of the landowners. This has led to the council publishing a forward plan to bring a Key Decision to undertake a Compulsory Purchase Order. At the same time, we continue to negotiate with the developer to try to reach an alternative solution.
- We continue to move the scheme forward to construction with plans to undertake advanced site clearance, ground investigative works and utility diversions, whilst engaging with County Officers in Planning and Network Management to keep them appraised of the ongoing scheme delay and revised delivery programme.

[Read More](#)

A259 Littlehampton Improvements

The work on the A259 Littlehampton improvements is complete, with the exception of the rectification of some defects that have come to light. These include the pavement which has sunken east of the Audi Garage, and a damaged pipe at the Roundstone Lane roundabout. We are co-ordinating with the contractor and other stakeholders involved to confirm when these defects will be remedied.

There are still some financial matters to settle, including a compensation claim from one of the landowners affected by compulsory purchase.

[Read More](#)



Email dated 05.03.2026 from WSCC
Picture Books to Shout About! Award for 2026



news release

Picture Books to Shout About! Award for 2026



To celebrate World Book Day and this year's National Year of Reading, our Schools Library Service has announced the winner of its West Sussex Picture Books to Shout About! Award for 2026.

The overwhelming winner, voted for by children from 30 schools across the county, is *Don't trust fish!* written by Neil Sharpson and illustrated by Dan Santat.

The winning picture book is both a laugh-out-loud story warning of the suspicious and surprising activities of common fish, and a cautionary tale about misinformation and unreliable narrators.

Winning author, Neil Sharpson, said: "I'm over the moon and so, so grateful to all the kids who voted for Don't Trust Fish for the West Sussex Picture Books to Shout About Award!"

One of our participating primary schools said: "West Sussex Picture Books to Shout About! Award always promotes book chat and a buzz around the school. The children are very keen to share which is their favourite book with each other and adults around the school. I love

the way the books stay popular choices within book corners and the school library long after the award has finished.”

Cllr Duncan Crow, Cabinet Member for Community Support, Fire and Rescue, said: “It's wonderful to see so many school children across West Sussex getting excited about books and choosing their winner. Initiatives like this show the power of reading to spark imagination and bring school communities together, especially during the 2026 National Year of Reading and when we've just celebrated a century of libraries proudly being at the heart of our communities.

“Our libraries play a vital role in helping people of all ages discover new interests, build confidence, and fulfil their potential. This award is a brilliant example of how we continue to nurture a lifelong love of reading, in line with Our Council Plan.”

The other books shortlisted were:

- Dogdunnit by Peter Bently and Tor Freeman
- The Tour at School by Katie Clapham and Nadia Shireen
- Jenny Peckles lays eggs with speckles by Rachel Emily and Paul Delaney

All the shortlisted titles, including the winner, are available to borrow from your local library.

World Book Day is celebrated today (5 March) and is an annual celebration of books, authors, illustrators, and the joy of reading. To find out more visit www.worldbookday.com

For more information about the book awards and services provided by the West Sussex Schools Library Service email sls@westsussex.gov.uk or call 01903 704828.

The schools that participated were:

Arunside Primary School
Barnham Primary School
Barns Green Primary School
Bartons Primary School
Bishop Tufnell CE Primary School
Bramber Primary School
Chichester Free School
Downview Primary School
Durrington Infant and Junior Schools (Federated)
Easebourne CE Primary School
The Glebe Primary School
Heene CE Primary School
Heron Way Primary School
Holbrook Primary School

Hollycombe Primary School
Homefield Primary School
Langley Green Primary School
Nyewood CE Infant School
Oak Grove College
Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Primary School
Rudgwick Primary School
Shelley Primary School
St Philip's Catholic Primary School
St Robert Southwell Catholic Primary School
Summerlea Community Primary School
Thomas A Becket Junior School
Upper Beeding Primary School
West Chilton Community Primary School
Westbourne Primary School

Email dated 05.03.2026 from NALC
Chief Executives Bulletin

Events

- At our latest event last week, we explored successful practices that have effectively connected with younger generations, with attendees learning practical, innovative methods to increase youth participation in community life. You can [read more about the event](#) on our website.
- We are calling on parish and town councillors to take part in a major national event examining what it means to be a 21st-century councillor and to help shape the future support, strategies and resources the sector needs. You can [register your place and find out more about the event](#) on our website.
- Our head of policy and communications, Justin Griggs, spoke at the Kent Association of Local Councils Chairmanship Conference, outlining the national picture on local government reorganisation and its implications for parish and town councils. He also covered neighbourhood area committees, the emerging national direction of travel, and the leadership and practical steps councils need to take during transition.
- Local government reorganisation loomed large at this year's East Suffolk Council Towns' Conference. I briefed them on national developments and was encouraged to hear their

chief executive, Chris Bally, talk about their plans to work with parish and town councils through reorganisation, which included leveraging local knowledge held within communities, a clear list of services and assets suitable for transfer, named contacts within principal authorities and increased face-to-face engagement with parish and town councils. East Suffolk also launched a [new fund](#) to support small local communities, including parish and town councils.

Meetings

- We held a call with county associations in areas with local government reorganisation consultations, covering the context and our response, which will focus on ensuring parish and town councils and county associations have a strong voice. County associations shared local concerns, asked for guidance on [creating new parish and town councils](#) and insights from community groups that had successfully triggered a community governance review.
- With over 30 community governance reviews underway, most a result of local government reorganisation, it was good to hear that [Tonbridge is the latest community to have a town council](#). I spoke at a public meeting in Whitstable, where they have begun their community governance review journey to create a new council. It was inspiring to see such interest from residents about their community.

Resources

- [In this week's blog](#), Action with Communities in Rural England shares its findings from our joint survey on flooding-related issues, including experiences, steps taken to reduce risk and the support needed to strengthen resilience.
- We have updated our [advice note on public rights of way](#) to reflect the extended date of 1 January 2031 for recording footpaths and bridleways on the Definitive Map.

Support

- Our Policy Committee met to [finalise our response to the government's consultation on proposed reforms to the National Planning Policy Framework](#). Given the scale and technical scope of the consultation, the committee focused its discussion on the strategic headlines across the six main chapters most relevant to the parish and town council sector.

Email dated 05.03.2025 from HDC

Examination of the Horsham Local Plan - Notification of Hearings

Representor: Rudgwick Parish Council

Contact: Mrs Sarah Hall

5 March 2026

Dear Mrs Sarah Hall,

Examination of the Horsham Local Plan 2023 -2040

I am writing in relation to the Examination of the Horsham Local Plan.

I can now advise you that the hearing sessions for the examination will be held in the Council Chambers:

Horsham District Council
Albery House
Springfield Road
Horsham
West Sussex
RH12 2GB

The Hearing Sessions will start at 10:00 Tuesday 21 April 2026 and continue until Thursday 23 April, with Friday 24 April held in reserve.

This letter provides formal notification of the hearing dates.

Inspector Jonathan Bore MRTPI has been appointed to continue the independent examination of the Plan. The Inspector is currently finalising the following documents:

- Examination Guidance Notes
- Inspector's Matters, Issues and Questions (MIQs)
- Detailed Hearing Programme

These documents will be issued separately as soon as they are available. They will explain:

- how representors may participate in the hearing sessions;
- the arrangements for submitting hearing statements; and
- how to observe the hearings

For information, a further set of hearing sessions is anticipated to be held in September 2026. Confirmation of those dates will be provided in due course.

Please continue to check the Latest News section of the examination webpages regularly as this will be updated with important examination news.

The Latest News can be found by following the link below:

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

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,
Kerry Trueman

Kerry Trueman
Programme Officer

Programme Officer Solutions Limited

Email: programmeofficer@horsham.gov.uk

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

Phone: 07582 310364

Kerry Trueman

Programme Officer

Telephone:

Email: Kerry.Trueman@horsham.gov.uk



Email dated 03.03.2026 from WSCC

Major street lighting LED upgrade to begin across West Sussex

NEWS RELEASE



Major street lighting LED upgrade to begin across West Sussex

West Sussex County Council will begin a major programme to upgrade approximately 64,000 streetlights to energy-efficient LED technology, marking a significant step forward in modernising the county's lighting infrastructure.

The £24million programme, which begins in March and will take place over the next 4 years, will also introduce a new Remote Monitoring System (RMS), enabling improved management of street-lighting performance, quicker fault detection and reduced maintenance requirements.

The upgrade is part of the council’s long-term commitment to reducing energy consumption, lowering carbon emissions and delivering better value for residents.

Cllr Joy Dennis, Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, said: “This programme of works will deliver a modern, high-performing and environmentally responsible street-lighting system for West Sussex, reflecting the underlying commitment to protect the environment as outlined in [our Council Plan](#) for a cleaner, greener and more sustainable county.

“By 2028/29, it is expected to reduce annual energy consumption by more than 10.7 million kWh, cut carbon emissions by around 1,633 tonnes of CO₂ and generate significant financial savings.

I am pleased to see this work moving ahead and look forward to the benefits it will bring to communities across West Sussex.”

Over the four-year delivery period, the programme will move systematically across the county, replacing existing halogen lighting units with new LED units and installing the RMS. Most works will be unobtrusive, typically taking 15–20 minutes per streetlight, however traffic management will be required along high-speed roads or in challenging locations for safety.

To ensure residents are kept informed throughout the roll-out, a dedicated project website can be found at: [LED Conversion Project | Your Voice West Sussex](#).

Email dated 02.03.2026 from HDC Planning Enforcement

Monthly Planning Compliance Team statistics for February 2026

During February 2026, we received 43 new Planning Compliance investigations.

The closure statistics for February are shown below:

Year	Month	Complaints Closed	----- Reasons Closed -----				Closed within 90 days	Closed over 90 days	% Closed within 90 days
			No Breach	Breach Ceased	Plan App. Received	Not Expedient			
2026	February	27	11	3	4	7	18	9	66.67
Total for 2026		27	11	3	4	7	18	9	66.67%

No Notices were issued during February, however 3 appeal decisions were received on outstanding enforcement notices as follows:

- EN/25/0063- Land West of Lower Prestwood Farm, Prestwood Lane, Ifield, West Sussex- APPEAL DISMISSED, ENFORCEMENT NOTICE UPHELD 2/2/26
- EN/24/0134- Development Site Lot 1 (Bryants Barn), Kent Street, Cowfold, West Sussex- APPEAL DISMISSED – ENFORCEMENT NOTICE UPHELD, BUT COMPLIANCE PERIOD VARIED FROM 12 MONTHS TO 15 MONTHS
- EN/23/0295- 3 Arun Walk, Faygate, Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 0BR- APPEAL ALLOWED, ENFORCEMENT NOTICE QUASHED

We therefore now have 10 outstanding decisions on appeals relating to enforcement notices previously issued.

Following the two day trial heard in the Brighton Magistrates Court on 27th and 28th January 2026 to hear evidence from the case officer in connection with the Council's application for a Planning Enforcement Order on land at Plot 10 and Plot 11 Dukes Paddock, Dukes Hill, Thakeham, West Sussex RH20 2LT (also known as Kingstone), the Council was successful in its application. As such we were awarded the Planning Enforcement Order by the Judge who heard the case, in her judgment made on 28th February 2026. We are awaiting the sealed Order from the Court and for the period for appeal to pass before we issue an enforcement notice in relation to the unauthorised development (Without planning permission, the material change of use of Plot 10 and Plot 11, Dukes Paddock, Crays Lane, Thakeham, Pulborough RH20 2LT from agricultural to a mixed use of agricultural and residential), which was deemed by the Judge to have been concealed.

I hope this is helpful- if you have any questions on individual cases, or any other planning compliance matters, please contact me.

Kind regards, Madeleine

Madeleine Hartley

Planning Compliance Team Leader

Telephone: 01403 215168

Email: Madeleine.Hartley@horsham.gov.uk



Email dated 01.03.2026 from CAGNE
March 2026 Newsletter

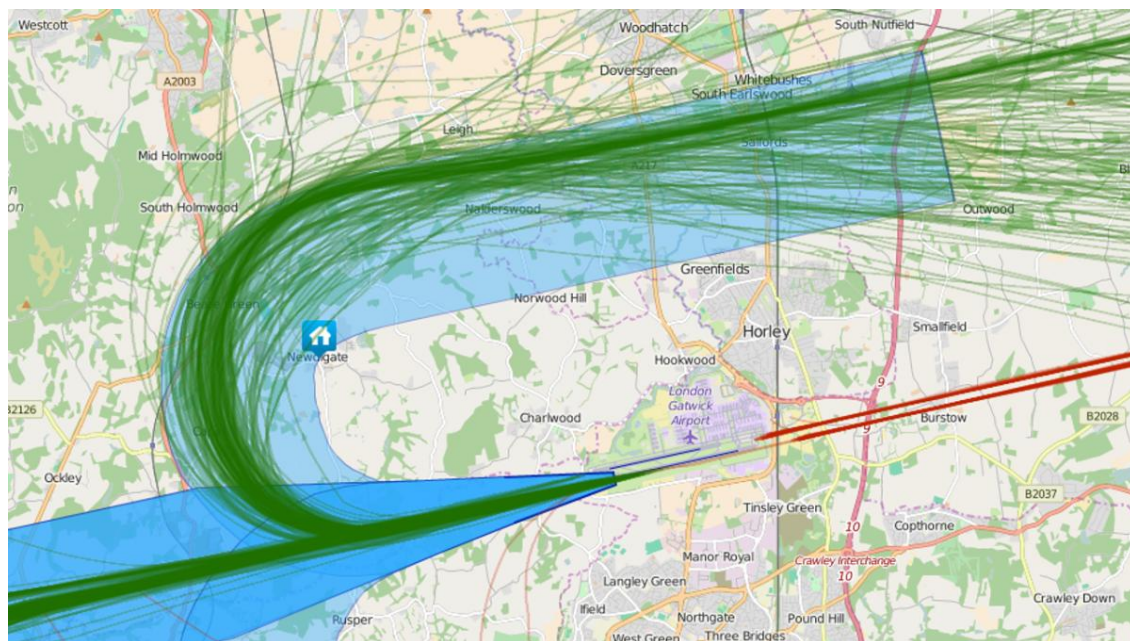


March Newsletter

CAGNE AGM 2026 recording with guest speakers Jenny Bates of Friends of the Earth and Baroness Caroline Pidgeon LibDem Transport spokesperson <https://youtu.be/pAJZqv5FXJQ>

Key for members is the £6 donation (£10 for councils to the Forum) every year to CAGNE as the legal case has reduced funds significantly for the daily cost of holding the database, website, etc.

Peter Lamb MP for Crawley provided a statement for the AGM which can be read [here](#).



Next online event – Route 4 – Book Now

The CAGNE online Route 4 event – Wednesday 4th March at 7pm

Book here and ask questions, as we aim to help you:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/help-with-route-4-airspace-consultation-tickets-1982772224097?aff=oddtcreator>

Route 4 airspace change consultation – Deadline 28th April 2026

Departure route that heads west and turns northeast.

Consultation at: <http://www.route4acp.co.uk/>

Email address for questions LGWairspace.Rte4@gatwickairport.com

New Runway at Gatwick Airport – the draft report from the Judge to the legal Judicial Review by CAGNE was expected at the end of February. There has been a delay which our legal team has been active in. This month we expect to receive some news. Recent survey [here](#)

Why the residents need an ombudsman to control the Civil Aviation Authority. CAGNE has asked for a bill to be put forward by Members of Parliament to obtain an independent body that can oversee the CAA and a body that residents can turn to. We ask you to support us in this request of MPs as we are sure the CAA will not wish this to be allowed. The government itself offers an ombudsman so why can't we have one that stops the CAA playing judge and jury over airspace change?

Change to arrivals - From 20 February 2026, London Gatwick will implement an arrivals-holding policy for flights coming in before 0600 - which are not scheduled to arrive before 0600 - to try to discourage airlines from arriving early and using some of our night flight quota.

Previously, aircraft arriving earlier than scheduled, before 0600, would be permitted to land but it then used our Department for Transport (DfT)-set night flight quota and negatively impacted taxiway congestion. These aircraft will now go into a holding pattern in our holding stacks TIMBA and WILLO until after 0600. This should only be around 10-15mins of holding on average. The first aircraft potentially impacted will be arriving on 21 February 2026. Over time, it is expected the policy will alter airline operating behaviour, encouraging aircraft to avoid reaching London Gatwick ahead of their scheduled post-0600 arrival slot. This process has the support of NATS and NERL.

Call to Action – How Members Can Help

CAGNE's work depends on the active support of its members. You can help by:

- **Renewing your annual donation** (£6 for individuals, £10 for councils) to ensure we can continue funding essential legal, technical, and communications work.
- **Engaging with the Route 4 consultation** by attending the online event, submitting questions, and responding before the 28 April 2026 deadline.
- **Raising concerns with your MP**, particularly in support of an independent aviation ombudsman to oversee the Civil Aviation Authority.
- **Staying informed and sharing updates** with neighbours and local networks to strengthen community awareness and participation.

Your involvement makes a tangible difference. Thank you for continuing to support CAGNE and our shared objectives.

Email dated 27.02.202 from WSCC

Scrutiny committee reviews West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service's new Community Risk Management Plan



news release

Scrutiny committee reviews West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service's new Community Risk Management Plan

West Sussex County Council's Fire and Rescue Service Scrutiny Committee met to discuss the service's new Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP) on Thursday 26 February.

The committee were presented with the service's CRMP for 2026-2030 which outlines how it will prevent emergencies, protect people and property, and respond effectively across West Sussex over the next four years. It builds on the successful delivery of the CRMP for the period 2022 to 2026.

The plan aims to respond to the risks identified in the county, including accidental dwelling fires, road traffic collisions, wildfires, and flooding, as well as emerging risks the service could face in the future by continuing to put in place effective prevention and protection measures and ensuring the efficient use of resources.

Members received an update on the service's plans to maximise cover and availability of on-call crews in areas aligned to community risk. The On-Call Duty System Report covers several projects the service is working on to address challenges around recruitment and availability which will form a core part of the CRMP 2026-2030.

The committee also heard how the service performed in the third quarter of 2025/2026. Of the 30 performance measures that WSFRS is benchmarked against, 25 had a green status, four were amber, and one was red.

Of the two measures that were red last quarter, the percentage of emergency calls answered within 10 seconds by Joint Fire Control has improved and returned to green status. On-call availability has improved slightly but remains in red status. The committee asked the service to consider whether the current on-call availability measure appropriately reflects the strategic use of this important resource. Strong performance has been demonstrated in contacting very high risk Safe and Well Visit referrals within one working day, first fire engine attendance times at critical incidents, and reducing false alarms at non-domestic premises.

Councillor Kevin Boram, Chairman of the scrutiny committee, said: “We were pleased to see the commitment and hard work taking place across West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service demonstrated in these reports.

“The new Community Risk Management Plan is the result of extensive analysis and engagement, and it reflects the needs and priorities of our communities.

“Fire and rescue services nationally are facing challenges around on-call crewing, so it was encouraging to hear how the service has contributed to the national work on this matter and is working to address the specific issues in West Sussex.

“We will continue to provide robust scrutiny to ensure the CRMP is delivered effectively and that the service remains responsive to the needs of residents, particularly during the period the service is preparing to be transferred to the Mayoral Strategic Authority.”

You can watch the meeting back on [the county council's website](#).

Email dated 27.02.2026 from WSCC
Crawley business fined for selling unsafe food

NEWS RELEASE



Crawley business fined for selling unsafe food

West Sussex Trading Standards has identified serious food safety breaches at Spice World in Crawley following a covert test purchase.

In September 2024 an officer made a test purchase of a lamb doner kebab and specifically asked whether the product contained milk. The staff member incorrectly assured the officer that it did not. Subsequent laboratory analysis confirmed the presence of milk protein in the kebab, rendering it unsafe for those with milk allergies.

The inspection was part of a follow-up investigation to assess compliance after a previous prosecution. On 4 April 2024, EH Enterprise Limited, trading as Spice World, along with its director Zeshan UL HAQ and manager Ashan UL HAQ, were convicted at Crawley Magistrates' Court. They were fined for supplying unsafe food by providing incorrect allergen information and misdescribing a lamb doner kebab, which was found to be a mixed-meat product primarily containing beef.

On Thursday 26 February 2026, EH Enterprise Limited, trading as Spice World, its director Zeshan UL HAQ and manager Ashan UL HAQ appeared in court and entered guilty pleas. Each defendant was ordered to pay a £146 fine, a £58 victim surcharge and £500 in costs, totalling £704 each. The company was ordered to pay a £1,000 fine and a £400 victim surcharge, with no costs awarded, totalling £1,400.

Cllr Duncan Crow, Cabinet Member for Community Support, Fire and Rescue, said:
"Serving food without declaring the correct allergens present can have dire consequences
and it needs to be taken seriously by food business owners and their staff.

“I’m pleased that in this case our Trading Standards officers were able to identify the offence before any residents came to harm.”

[The Food Information Regulations 2014](#) state that businesses have a responsibility to provide accurate allergen information to all customers that request it. The consequence of poor allergen control can result in prosecution, immediate closure or a poor food hygiene rating. For more guidance for food businesses please visit [Guidance for food businesses - West Sussex County Council](#).

If a consumer wishes to report a business to Trading Standards they can do so at [Report an incident or issue to Trading Standards - West Sussex County Council](#).

Email dated 27.02.2026 from Sussex Police
Collaborating to cut retail Crime



The British Retail Consortium’s (BRC) annual crime report has been published this week. The findings are encouraging and show that collective efforts to tackle retail crime are starting to deliver real results.

Incidents of violence and abuse against shopworkers have fallen from 2,000 a day to around 1,600. While this number remains far too high, a 20% drop in a

year is significant and shows what can be achieved when an issue is tackled seriously.

The BRC's research cites the increasing role that organised crime plays in shop theft. Improved police responses, stronger collaboration and nearly £5.5 billion of sustained investment from retailers over the past five years are all beginning to make a tangible difference in addressing this.

PCCs have been central in bringing together major retailers and the police under the Pegasus Partnership, helping to build an intelligence picture of those behind the shoplifting epidemic who operate way beyond police force boundaries.

From April, the success of the Pegasus Partnership will be taken forward by Opal - operational policing's national intelligence unit - which targets serious organised acquisitive crime.

You can read more about the innovative approach we are taking in Sussex to tackle prolific shoplifting, in my Friday Force Focus below.

Sentencing of South Downs sheep killers

The sentencing of the two men responsible for the brutal killing of a sheep on the South Downs is a stark reminder of the shocking impact rural crime can have on our countryside communities. This was an appalling and deliberate act of cruelty.

While the violence of the incident has understandably caused distress, this case also demonstrates the effectiveness of a swift and coordinated police response.

Sussex Police's Rural Crime Team works every day to protect livestock, support farmers and safeguard our rural communities. This case - and the court outcomes - shows why that work matters and it sends a clear message: cruelty towards animals and attacks on our rural communities will not be tolerated - and offenders will be held to account.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Katy', is positioned at the bottom left of the page.

Katy Bourne OBE
Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner

FRIDAY FORCE FOCUS

Eastbourne shoplifter electronically tagged

An Eastbourne shoplifter has been electronically tagged as part of a drive to cutdown on reoffending in Sussex.

When I launched Operation STOP (Shop Theft Offender Pilot) last year, it was with a clear aim to reduce prolific shoplifting, improve monitoring and enforcement and restore confidence among retailers affected by persistent shop theft.

Shane Monery, 36, of Hamsey Close, Eastbourne, appeared at Brighton Magistrates' Court last week after being charged with 10 counts of shoplifting in the town.

At court he was given a 12 week prison sentence, suspended for 12 months, issued with a rehabilitation activity requirement and a three year criminal behaviour order (CBO) with 12 month tagging conditions.

In addition to the tagging and reporting requirements, the CBO includes several further conditions including a ban on entering specific retail premises.

Results like this show that innovative approaches like GPS tagging can make a real difference in keeping our high streets safer for everyone.



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Email dated 25.02.2026 from WSCC
Event for candidates for West Sussex County Council elections

NEWS RELEASE



Event for candidates for West Sussex County Council elections



West Sussex County Council is holding a virtual event for people who are planning to stand for election on 7 May.

The event on Monday 16 March at 6pm until 7.30pm will allow people to find out more about the role of a county councillor and what to expect if elected.

At the virtual event, which will be held on Teams, attendees will hear from:

- a panel of current county councillors, who will talk about their experience and the support available
- senior officers, who will explain what to expect if elected and give a summary of key dates

There will also be an opportunity to ask questions of the panel and senior officers.

To receive a programme, pre-event information, and a link to attend the event please email democratic.services@westsussex.gov.uk.

Those wishing to find out more about the county councillor role in the meantime can visit the county council website: [Become a county councillor](#).