

Rudgwick Parish Council

Weekly Clerk's Update: 31st March – 9th April 2026 (Agenda May 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)
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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 11 th May 2026	
Application No:	Response/Comments:
Applicant:	
Reason for Application:	

Official Response Date:	
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Applications for consideration at Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting

Applications for consideration at Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 11 th May 2026	
Application No:	Response/Comments:
Applicant:	
Reason for Application:	
Official Response Date:	

Decisions

HDC Council Decisions – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 11 th May 2026	
Application No: DC/25/1159	Response/Comments: Permitted
Applicant: Lodge Farmhouse, Guildford Road, Slinfold	
Reason for Application: Installation of 2no. units for overnight guest use with associated decking, footpaths, parking and turning area, and recycling/refuse storage. Minor landscaping of the site, planting of native species trees, hedgerows, shrubbery and enhanced modified grassland throughout the site.	
Official Response Date:	
Application No: DC/26/0195	Response/Comments: Permitted
Applicant: 12 The Marts, Rudgwick	
Reason for Application:	

Erection of a first floor side extension with pitched roof and gable, and installation of a pitched roof over lounge at ground floor.	
Official Response Date:	

Applications going to Committee

Applications going to Committee – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 11 th May 2026	
Application No:	Response/Comments:
Applicant:	
Reason for Application:	
Official Response Date:	

Appeals Lodged / Appeals Determined

New Appeals Lodged / Determined – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 11 th May 2026	
Application No:	Response/Comments:
Applicant:	
Reason for Application:	
Official Response Date:	

New Planning Compliance Issues

New Planning Compliance Issues – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 11 th May 2026	
Application No:	Response/Comments:
Address:	
Nature of Complaint	
Official Response Date:	

Parish Councils Website

Rudgwick Parish Council's New Website is now live!

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

Correspondence

Email dated 09.04.2026 from Rural Services Network
Your Free RSN Weekly Newsletter - 9 April 2026

09/04/2026



RURAL SERVICES NETWORK

The National Champion for Rural Services

FREE WEEKLY RURAL NEWS SUMMARY



You are receiving this abridged version of the Rural Services Network newsletter because you subscribed on our website, click [here](#) to unsubscribe.

As the national champion for rural services, the Rural Services Network brings you the latest stories shaping life in rural communities.

Here's a snapshot of what we're covering in this week's rural news:

- [Integrated Transport Strategy Published](#): A new integrated transport strategy sets out a long-term vision for a more connected and user-focused system.
- [Questions Raised Over Reach of 'Pride in Place' Scheme](#): Stakeholders in Cornwall have questioned the reach of the 'Pride in Place' scheme, citing missed communities.
- [Simpler Recycling Rollout Starts](#): New rules on how households sort their recycling and waste have come into force across England, aiming to support more consistent, streamlined collections.

- [How Are Funding Cuts Affecting Local Services?:](#) Town and parish councils are invited to complete our [short survey](#) on local service impacts.

Our full news service is available to paid subscribers only. Become a member to receive comprehensive rural updates, including key parliamentary news, monthly funding digests, and dedicated newsletters on rural health, the economy, and housing. Membership also gives you access to our varied online seminar programme and exclusive resources.

JOIN US IN MEMBERSHIP HERE.



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

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

The Rural Services Network encompasses a wide range of partners and organisations who all work together to help provide a voice for rural communities. We represent over 500 organisations across the public, private and voluntary sectors including leading national bodies, local authorities, utility companies, health trusts, housing associations, grass root community organisations and more.

The Rural Services Network is a membership organisation and includes different types of membership depending on the kind of organisation you belong to.

[For further details click here](#)

Happy Easter

- I hope everyone across the sector had a very happy Easter. Thank you for the dedication, resilience and community spirit you brought to your work every day, supporting residents, strengthening local democracy, and making a real difference on the ground. We hope you had a well-earned break and a chance to recharge.

Meetings

- In this week's meeting with county associations, we were joined by our partner Connect Public Affairs to discuss how our [new toolkit on engaging with parliament](#) can be used. There were also updates on parish and town councils performing civic roles following local government reorganisation and feedback on our recent events and meetings.
- We met with BT to learn more about [switching off the analogue phone network](#), the support available for those who haven't yet moved to a digital landline, and how we can work together to raise awareness of the switch to Digital Voice.

Resources

- [In this week's blog](#), Friends of the Earth welcome the work that parish and town councils are taking to address the climate and nature crises and the leadership their showing through local action.

Support

- Did you know we've helped over 100 parish and town councils over the last year to advertise their roles through our services? You can advertise your vacancy with us and reach a targeted audience across the sector, through our website, e-marketing and social channels, helping you attract the right candidates quickly and effectively. You can [find out more about advertising your job](#) on our website.
- I'm pleased to share that [parish and town councils across England are set to benefit from a major overhaul](#) of statutory reporting, as Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments moves the Annual Governance and Accountability Return process to a fully digital system.

Email dated 08.04.2026 from WSCC

Inaugural meeting of the Sussex & Brighton Strategic Authority



NEWS RELEASE

Inaugural meeting of the Sussex & Brighton Strategic Authority

Inaugural meeting of the Sussex & Brighton Strategic Authority

Issued on behalf of the Sussex & Brighton Strategic Authority

The first meeting of the Sussex & Brighton Strategic Authority will take place on Wednesday 15 April 2026 at Brighton Town Hall.

This inaugural meeting follows on from the formal establishment of the new authority in March 2026 and will enable the organisation to start operating.

The Strategic Authority is the result of East Sussex County Council, West Sussex County Council and Brighton & Hove City Council joining the Devolution Priority Programme in 2025, reflecting their shared ambition to create a mayoral authority to provide a single strategic voice for Sussex and Brighton.

At the meeting, members of the three constituent councils will be asked to establish the authority's initial governance arrangements, including appointments to the board, the appointment of the chair and vice-chairs, and approval of a constitution and an assurance framework. Members will also be requested to set in motion the building of the foundations for the authority's early priorities and work programme.

These arrangements will be kept under regular review through to the first election of a Mayor for Sussex & Brighton, scheduled for May 2028.

The establishment of the Sussex & Brighton Strategic Authority is a key step in securing devolution for the area. Through a mayoral strategic authority, Sussex and Brighton is able to access significant long-term investment from national government, alongside new devolved powers over areas such as transport, skills, housing, economic growth, public safety and public service reform.

The transfer of significant powers and funding to the Sussex & Brighton Strategic Authority, includes:

- A long-term investment fund totalling £1.14 billion, providing sustained long-term funding for locally agreed priorities.
- £30.4 million released over the next two years before mayoral elections, enabling early investment in programmes that matter most to Sussex residents and businesses.
- £9.0 million in capacity funding over four years to support the establishment and operation of the new authority.

The meeting is open to the press and public. Seating will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Notes to editors

The Sussex & Brighton Strategic Authority is the preferred name for the Sussex & Brighton Mayoral Combined County Authority and it covers East Sussex, West Sussex and Brighton & Hove.

The Authority has been established to provide strategic leadership across the area, working with local councils, partners, investors and government to deliver greater prosperity for the area.

The first mayoral election will take place in May 2028.

Due to the meeting taking place during the pre-election period for county council elections, it will not be webcast live. A recording will be published on the Strategic Authority's website after the meeting.

Agenda papers for the meeting are available at:

<https://democracy.eastsussex.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?MId=7117&x=1>

Email dated 08.04.2026 from HDC

Feedback from Around the District meetings in February

Further to my email to you all at the beginning of March, as promised, we are now sharing our [responses to your questions](#) and feedback from all the Around the District meetings.

We have collated all of these into one document as the questions raised in the different meetings may prove helpful to all Parish and Neighbourhood Councils.

As we received such positive feedback about how useful you found these meetings, we will be arranging the next Around the District meeting for your area in June/July, so do look out for my email in a few weeks regarding this.

Could I please ask you to share this email and feedback with the members of your Parish Council for their information, particularly those that attended the meetings.

If I can be of any further assistance, do let me know.

Kind regards

Sarah

Sarah Attfield

PA to Leader and Cabinet

Telephone: 01403 215396

Email: Sarah.Attfield@horsham.gov.uk



**Horsham
District
Council**



Email dated 07.04.2026 from HDC

Monthly Planning Compliance Team statistics for March 2026

During March 2026, we received 39 new Planning Compliance investigations.

The closure statistics for March 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	March	26	6	11	5	3	10	16	38.46
Total for 2026		26	6	11	5	3	10	16	38.46%

No Notices were issued during March, and no appeal decisions have been received. We therefore still have 10 outstanding decisions on appeals relating to enforcement notices previously issued.

Please note that the Principal Planning Compliance Officer, Reg Hawks, has now retired from HDC, and his cases will be distributed amongst others in the team, and Lucy Green has now started in the Team as a Planning Compliance Officer, having previously worked in the Planning Department's Business Support Team, following the departure of Sam Nye to his role as a Planning Officer within DM.

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



Horsham District Council, Alberty House, Springfield Road, Horsham, West Sussex RH12 2GB
Telephone: 01403 215100 (calls may be recorded) www.horsham.gov.uk Chief Executive: Jane Eaton

Horsham District Council will only accept service of documents by email if they are sent to legal@horsham.gov.uk. Any documents sent to individual email addresses will not be accepted under any circumstances.

Communications received after 5pm will be regarded as being served on the next working day. Please contact us in advance if your email, including any attachments, is going to exceed 30MB.

Madeleine Hartley

Planning Compliance Team Leader

Telephone: 01403 215168

Email: Madeleine.Hartley@horsham.gov.uk



Email dated 02.04.2026 from Sussex Police
Partnership Working To Protect Sussex Communities



Sussex
Police & Crime
Commissioner

KATY BOURNE OBE



Last week, I chaired the final Pegasus board meeting, bringing together national retailers and UK policing to tackle serious organised retail crime.

I launched Pegasus in 2023 with 13 of the UK's leading retailers, who funded specialist police officers and analysts working within the national Opal intelligence structure. Pegasus created the blueprint for a sustainable national response, and Opal is now delivering that vision. This work will continue under the National Business Crime Centre's 'Tackling Retail Crime Together' campaign.

Since going live in May 2024, Opal has supported 196 referrals and delivered 84 operations against serious organised crime gangs (OCGs). The team has identified 739 offenders and recovered thousands of pounds' worth of stolen goods, resulting in 251 arrests, 118 imprisonments and 20 deportations. In 2025 alone, Opal recorded a 73% reduction in offending among OCGs referred to the unit.

These achievements rest on the strong foundations laid by Pegasus, which secured £1 million in initial funding and a further £5 million from the Government after demonstrating significant impact.

I am immensely proud of what Pegasus has achieved: uniting retailers, sharing vital intelligence, funding a dedicated policing unit, and restoring confidence that organised retail crime will not go unchecked. Pegasus has become one of the most successful private-public partnerships in UK policing and I'm pleased to have played an integral part in its success.

My office also convened the latest Safer Sussex Business Partnership (SSBP) meeting with local retailers, police and partners to drive action on business and retail crime

across Sussex. The discussion focused on reducing shop theft through my Op STOP project - the UK's first pilot electronically tagging prolific shoplifters while offering support to tackle the causes of their offending.

A long-standing SSBP member, Lisa Peretta of the Brighton & Hove Business Crime Reduction Partnership, received national recognition last week. Her team achieved the highest Police CPI accreditation rating of "Exceeding" alongside further honours at the National Association of Business Crime Partnerships Awards. My warmest congratulations to Lisa and her team.

If you are a business owner or know someone in the retail sector who may benefit from joining our Safer Sussex Business Partnership, please contact me: pcc@sussex-pcc.gov.uk.

Neighbourhood Boards



Earlier this month, I joined members of the Bexhill, Eastbourne and Hastings Neighbourhood Boards for a joint Pride in Place meeting in Bexhill. The event provided a valuable opportunity to sit around the table with partners from across our coastal communities and reflect on both the shared challenges and the opportunities we face.

Throughout the session, each board presented their recent successes, ongoing priorities and the issues their residents are experiencing. Hearing these updates reinforced just how closely connected our towns are, not only geographically but also through the day-to-day experiences of the people who live and work in them.

The mixed group discussions that followed were very productive, giving members the space to explore common themes, compare different approaches and identify areas where closer collaboration will genuinely strengthen outcomes for local people.

As Police and Crime Commissioner, it was encouraging to see such a strong commitment to working together. Whether we're addressing community safety, supporting neighbourhood resilience or helping to create places people are proud to call home, effective partnership is vital. Meetings like this reaffirm the collective

ambition across our three towns to share learning, build on what works and deliver long term improvements for our communities.

I look forward to following the progress of this joint working and will ensure my office remains a trusted voice in discussions to strengthen our beautiful county.



Katy Bourne OBE
Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner

FRIDAY FOCUS

As Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner, I've seen first hand how community projects can transform young people's lives.

WBC Cares, a community focused initiative operating six amateur boxing gyms across Sussex, is helping young people build confidence, develop life skills and stay away from crime. Through dedicated coaches trained in youth work and mentoring, the charity uses the discipline and structure of boxing to inspire positive change – particularly among disadvantaged young people.

The project is supported and funded by our Sussex Violence Reduction Partnership (VRP) which works to address the root causes of violence and create safer communities. The VRP brings together Sussex Police, local authorities, criminal justice partners, the NHS, public health teams, the police and crime commissioner and community organisations to prevent serious violence across the county. WBC Cares have also received funding through my Safer In Sussex Community Fund in recent years.

Projects like WBC Cares provide safe spaces, structured activity and mentors who understand the challenges young people face, helping steer them away from potential criminality and towards healthier, more confident futures.

This is exactly the kind of early intervention that brings a lasting difference to a child's life whilst helping to make our communities safer.



[SHARE WITH A FRIEND](#)

Email dated 02.04.2026 from CAGNE
April Newsletter



April Newsletter

Environmental Transparency and CAGNE

The Civil Aviation Authority has issued new guidance requiring airlines to disclose flight emissions at the point of booking. This follows sustained campaigning by CAGNE since 2016, including its *Time is Ticking* talks and community outreach. While this is a positive development, CAGNE considers it an initial step and will continue its *Time is Ticking* programme in November. Organisations wishing to invite CAGNE to local events can contact cagnegatwick@gmail.com.

Route 4 Airspace Change – Consultation Deadline 28 April

A recording of the [Route 4 online session](#), addressing residents' questions on the current westerly departure route, is available here: [https://youtu.be/ 7fEmrisiMg](https://youtu.be/7fEmrisiMg). Supporting materials include the presentation slides and a press statement outlining concerns about the consultation process and the lack of independent oversight.

Gatwick Airport Developments

CAGNE has issued a press statement on Gatwick Airport's decline in profits, [Gatwick Expansion Risks Jobs, Housing and Climate Stability](#), and has submitted a response to the [National Planning Policy Framework](#) (NPPF) consultation on proposed planning reforms.

The High Court judge's decision has been delayed (originally expected by the end of February. Courts are now closed until 14th April) due to errors in the Government's climate data identified by CAGNE's legal and expert team. The ruling may approve the scheme, reject it (with a potential appeal by Gatwick), or approve it subject to significant conditions.

Airspace Change - Government officials have detailed that there will be no environment or community representative on the newly formed UKADS (body to push through airspace change). This is a major concern.

The Department for Transport's Airspace and Noise Engagement Group (ANEG) has not published meeting minutes since 2022, resulting in a lack of transparency regarding attendance and the views presented on behalf of communities. In response, CAGNE has submitted a Freedom of Information request, as it is unacceptable for a government body to operate without clear accountability or openness.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/groups/airspace-and-noise-engagement-group>

Night Flights – February 2026

Key concerns remain unchanged. Although overall flight numbers are significantly lower, [night flights](#) have increased. Gatwick Airport has not explained this discrepancy, nor clarified why reduced passenger numbers are not reflected in aircraft size. These issues further challenge the growth projections used to justify a second runway.

South East Climate Alliance (SECA)

CAGNE has supported the South East Climate Alliance since its inception but has withdrawn this year in order to maintain its non-political position.

Created by Councillors for Councils

www.cagnepcforum.org.uk

Email dated 01.04.2026 from NALC
Chief Executives Bulletin

Announcements

- The [national local government employers have published updates](#) on their negotiations with the NJC unions on the 2026 pay settlement, which includes a full and final offer of 3.30% noting that "This offer means an employee on the bottom pay point in April 2021 (then earning £18,333) will have received an increase in their pay of £7,282 (39.72 per cent) over the five years to April 2026. For an employee at the mid-point of the pay spine (pay point 22), their pay will have increased over the same period by 26.52 per cent and for those on pay point 43, at the top of the spine, 18.10 per cent".

Events

- Our event on putting parish and town councils at the heart of the housing solution explored the ongoing challenge of addressing the housing shortage and fixing the broken housing market. You can [read more about the event](#) on our website.
- We partnered with the University of Birmingham for an event exploring what it means to be a 21st-century parish and town councillor, reflecting on how the role is evolving amid increasing responsibilities, rising expectations and a changing local government landscape. You can [read more about the event](#) on our website.
- Our proper practices project manager, Claire Reed, was out and about over the last week, which included the Surrey Association of Local Councils Councillor and Clerks Forums and the Society of Local Council Clerks Kent Branch Annual General Meeting and Conference, to talk about the latest edition of the [Practitioners' Guide](#) and the upcoming changes to proper practices.

Meetings

- Our vice-chair, Cllr David Francis, head of member services, Anders Hanson and legal manager, Jane Moore, met with the Cleveland Local Councils Association to discuss working more closely and provided updates on our services and resources, any new and upcoming legislation, and the [Practitioners' Guide](#).
- We have reaffirmed [our commitment to working in close partnership with the Society of Local Council Clerks](#), following a meeting between our respective chairs, emphasising the importance of a strong, aligned partnership to support parish and town councils and the clerks who serve them.

Parliamentary and political engagement

- In [response to several government consultations on local government reorganisation](#), we are urging the government to place county associations at the centre of local government reorganisation, ensuring their expertise directly shapes the future of new unitary authorities.

Resources

- [In this week's blog](#), Nantwich Town Council celebrate Community Gardens Week by highlighting their two vibrant community gardens and dedicated volunteers aged between 23 and 80.
- This week, we circulated the latest legal bulletin to county associations, which included information whether a councillor committed an offence under the Bribery Act 2010, meeting notice if the press and public have been excluded, deadlines for recording rights of way on the Definitive Map, annual council meeting dates for councils with elections, and general advice on CCTV and the Data (Use and Access) Act 2025.