

Rudgwick Parish Council

Weekly Clerk's Update: 9th – 15th May 2026 (Agenda June 2026)

To: Parish Councillors

c.c: Colin Minto (West Sussex County Councillor)
Richard Landeryou (Horsham District Councillor)

From: Anna Clayton

The weekly update provides information regarding:

- Announcements/delegated decisions by the Clerk
- Planning information
- Correspondence/communications from parishioners
- Correspondence/communications from outside organisations

List of organisations that communicate with the Council on a regular basis.

- AIRS (Action in Rural Sussex)
 - APCAG (Association of Parish Councils Aviation Group)
 - CAGNE (Communities Against Gatwick Noise Emission)
 - CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England)
 - HALC (Horsham Association of Local Councils)
 - HDC (Horsham District Council)
 - NALC (National Association of Local Councils)
 - WSALC (West Sussex Association of Local Councils)
 - WSCC (West Sussex District Council)
-

Clerk's announcements/delegated decisions:

-

GENERAL REMINDER: If you wish to speak face to face to a member of staff, please contact the Clerk on 07927 702321 during her office working hours (Monday – Wednesday 9.30 – 15.30).

Applications for noting at Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting

Applications for noting at Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 8 th June 2026	
Application No: DC/26/0379 05.05.2025	Response/Comments:
Applicant: Furnace Lakes, Guildford Road, Slinfold	

Reason for Application: Removal of 9 fishing swims and the siting of 3 shepherds huts for use as holiday accommodation together with associated works (Part Retrospective)	
Official Response Date: 11.06.2026 / Determination 30.06.2026	
Application No: DC/26/0336 12.05.2026 (new site & floor plans)	Response/Comments:
Applicant: Howick Farm, Waterside Barn, The Haven	
Reason for Application: Erection of a two-storey side extension to provide an ancillary annexe.	
Official Response Date: 26.05.2026 / Determination 21.04.2026	Response/Comments:
Application No: DC/26/0685 28.04.2026	
Applicant: Ivy Cottage, The Haven	
Reason for Application: Erection of a single storey rear extension to the existing dwelling, accompanied by comprehensive refurbishment works throughout the original building. (Householder Application).	
Official Response Date: 11.06.2026 / Determination 23.06.2026	
Application No: DC/26/0686 28.04.2026	Response/Comments:
Applicant: Ivy Cottage, The Haven	
Reason for Application: Erection of a single storey rear extension to the existing dwelling, accompanied by comprehensive	

refurbishment works throughout the original building. (Listed Building Consent).	
Official Response Date: 11.06.2026 / Determination 23.06.2026	
Application No: DC/26/0747 12.05.2026	
Applicant: 11 Cape Copse, Rudgwick	
Reason for Application: Surgery to install a root barrier.	Response/Comments:
Official Response Date: Not available / Determination 03.07.2026	
Application No: DC/26/0763 11.05.2026	
Applicant: Hall House, The Haven	
Reason for Application: Prior notification for the erection of a new agricultural building.	Response/Comments:
Official Response Date: Not available / Determination 07.06.2026	

Applications for consideration at Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting

Applications for consideration at Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 8 th June 2026	
Application No:	Response/Comments:
Applicant:	
Reason for Application:	
Official Response Date:	

Decisions

HDC Council Decisions – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 8 th June 2026	
Application No: DC/26/0422	Response/Comments: Permitted / RPC Clarification on the application form for an extension being used has now been received. With regard to the materials schedule supplied, it is noted that the previously refused application (DC/25/1923) contained photos showing the dwelling and existing storage building as both being predominantly timber (or timber clad). The current proposal states steel/timber cladding and shows in the elevations drawings very dark steel cladding only for the proposed storage building, which would possibly not relate as well to the dwelling right next to it, leading to potential conflict with aspects of HDPF Policies 28, 33 and RNP Policies 6 & 7. A more sympathetic choice of materials would be preferable
Applicant: The Old Stable, Guildford Road, Rudgwick	
Reason for Application: Erection of an implement store for machinery for equestrian use.	
Official Response Date:	

Applications going to Committee

Applications going to Committee – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 8 th June 2026	
Application No:	Response/Comments
Applicant:	
Reason for Application:	
Official Response Date:	

Appeals Lodged / Appeals Determined

New Appeals Lodged / Determined – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 8 th June 2026	
Application No:	Response/Comments:
Applicant:	
Reason for Application:	

Official Response Date:	

New Planning Compliance Issues

New Planning Compliance Issues – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 8 th June 2026	
Application No: EN/26/0159 08.05.2026 (Slinfold Parish)	Response/Comments: For noting only.
Address: Arun Valley Vineyard, The Haven	
Nature of Complaint Alleged: Breach of condition 6 of DC/20/1554 (building to be used solely for agricultural purposes only)	
Official Response Date:	
Application No: EN/26/0164 08.05.2026 (Slinfold Parish)	Response/Comments: For noting only.
Address: Arun Valley Vineyard, The Haven	
Nature of Complaint Alleged: breach of condition 7 of DC/20/1554 (external lighting)	
Official Response Date:	

Parish Councils Website

Rudgwick Parish Council's New Website is now live!

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

Announcements

- We are bitterly [disappointed that the government's legislative programme in yesterday's King's Speech failed to include measures](#) to enable remote and hybrid council meetings permanently, and are deeply concerned by the absence of legislation to strengthen the standards regime in local government.
- The parish and town council elections last week once again highlighted the remarkable scale and importance of grassroots democracy across England. In a single election cycle, 376 parish and town councils and 3,401 seats formed part of the democratic process, with thousands of individuals stepping forward to serve their communities. We extend our congratulations to all newly elected and re-elected councillors and thank them for their commitment to supporting their communities.

Events

- We have added two new events to our online events schedule, supporting parish and town councils with some of the most pressing challenges they face. On 11 November 2026, [Public Conveniences: Cost, pressure and practical solutions](#), will explore the growing financial and operational demands of maintaining these essential facilities. On 10 March 2027, our free event, [Flood Resilience: Local action, lasting impact](#), will share practical insights and real-world examples to help councils strengthen their approach to flooding. Both events are now open for bookings, and [more information is available on our website](#).

Parliamentary and political engagement

- We have responded to the government's consultation on fees for planning applications, backing measures designed to improve the resourcing, consistency and effectiveness of the planning system. You can [read our full response](#) on our website.

Meetings

- Our Policy Committee met this week to discuss a range of policy issues affecting parish and town councils, including a motion on strategic authorities, a presentation from the National Youth Agency and updates on several key pieces of legislation. You can [read more about the meeting](#) on our website.
- Our [climate emergency network](#) met last week, bringing together councillors and sector partners to discuss local climate action, food resilience and the challenges

facing parish and town councils. You can [read more about the meeting](#) on our website.

Resources

- [In this week's blog](#), we explore how parish and town councils can continue supporting their staff and communities' mental health during Mental Health Awareness Week.
- We have [updated our HR policy templates](#) on paternity leave and pay, sickness absence, and whistleblowing and published a new HR policy template on bereavement to support parish and town councils following changes introduced through the Employment Rights Act 2025.

From across the sector

- A new report by English Rural has challenged the long-standing belief that affordable rural housing is too expensive to manage, finding instead that rural housing associations often outperform the wider sector on costs, tenant satisfaction and financial performance. You can [read more about the report](#) on our website.

Email dated 13.05.2026 from WSCC
Elections in West Sussex

Local election
information



Welcome to this special edition of our Residents' eNewsletter about the 2026 West Sussex County Council election.

Election results

The results of the West Sussex County Council elections were announced late on Friday 8 May and parties are now in talks to decide who will form an administration.

Last week 321,657 people voted for whom they want to represent their local community on the council, a turnout of just over 47%.

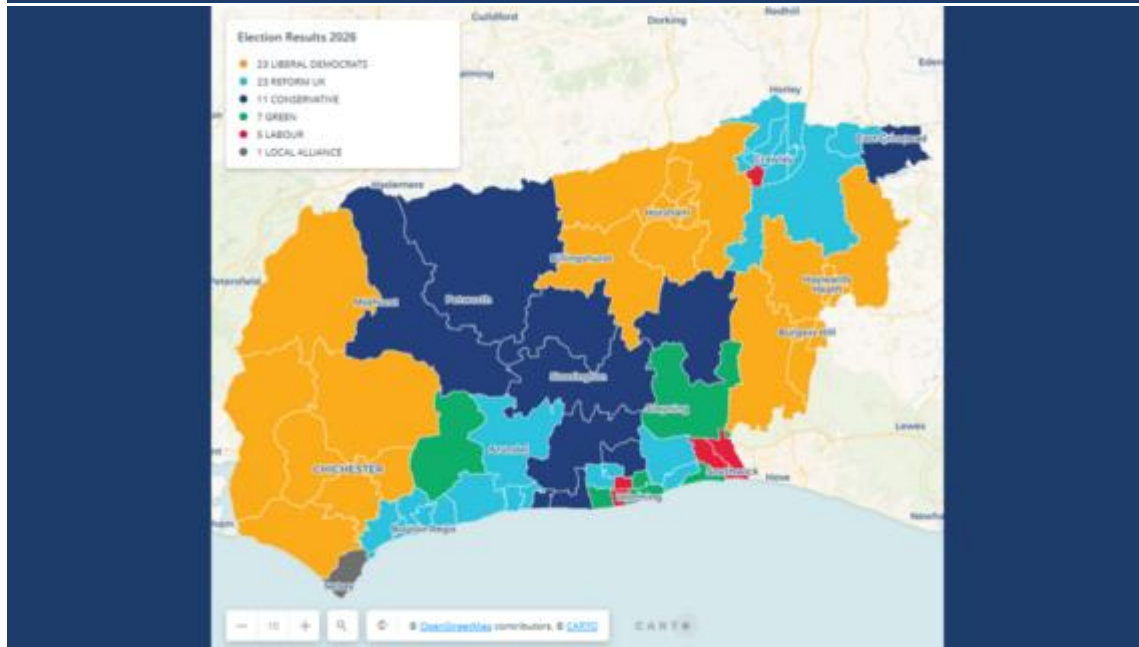
This is the highest level of voting since 2005, with Horsham producing the highest turnout of all districts in the county.

- Reform UK has 23 councillors with 28% of the vote
- The Liberal Democrats have 23 councillors with 23% of the vote
- The Conservative Party has 11 councillors with 22% of the vote
- The Green Party has 7 councillors with 14% of the vote
- The Labour Party has 5 councillors with 10% of the vote
- The Local Alliance has 1 councillor with < 1% of the vote

No one political party has more than half the seats on the council and so the outcome is no overall control.

[More on the results](#)

Your local representative



On our website you can see how people voted in your local area of West Sussex, including who won the vote, the party they represent and a map of results.

Each county councillor represents their division on behalf of around 12,000 residents and contributes to policy and spending decisions affecting vital council services.

[Find your local councillor and their contact details.](#)

Results for local areas

Next steps

The first full meeting of all newly elected county councillors is next Friday (22 May).

At the meeting, key council positions are due to be formally appointed including chairman, leader of the council, cabinet members, and committee members.

Find the agenda and watch the meeting live, or the webcast at a later date.

County Council meeting Friday 22 May

Other elections in West Sussex

Adur District, Crawley Borough and Worthing Borough Councils also held elections as well as some town and parish councils.

The results are published on their websites.

District and borough councils

Future of local government

West Sussex County Council and our partners are part of plans for historic changes to local government across England.

Local government reorganisation is the process of moving to a single level of unitary councils in areas where there are currently two council levels.

The government is consulting on proposals for two unitary authorities in West Sussex.

[Have your say here – consultation open until 15 June](#)

Plans are progressing too for devolution. This is the separate process that created the Sussex & Brighton Combined County Authority with elections for mayor due in 2028.

More on the future of local government



**Fostering is creating a family
with people you didn't know
needed you, or that you needed**

Click to read more



**FOSTERING
WEST SUSSEX**



Did you receive this eNewsletter from a friend? [Sign up here.](#)

Email dated 13.05.2026 from WSALC
Free Big Lunch & Big Help Out Toolkit

This summer, we're very excited to bring The Big Lunch and The Big Help Out together on 5–8 June for [one big do](#) – encouraging people across the UK to meet, eat and lend a hand locally.

It's a simple, flexible way to build stronger, more resilient communities and encourage social action.

We'd love you and your members to be part of it.

Your members can also download the toolkit from our website:

[Download your free toolkit](#)

Please spread the word.

Email dated 13.05.2026 from HDC
May half term in Horsham District

May Half Term in the Horsham District



Horsham
District
Council



Parks & Countryside



Animal Encounters at Blackbridge Community Centre

Tuesday 26 May, hourly sessions

Meet some of the wonderful animals, reptiles and insects from Animazing.

[Book now](#)





FREE Skate Sessions at Horsham Park Skatepark

Wednesday 27 May, 9am-12pm

Free community skateboard lessons, at Horsham skatepark. Run by the pro team from South Coast Skate Club, whether you are new to the board or looking for advice on how to master the Ollie - there is something for everyone!

[Find out more and book a masterclass](#)



Pond Dipping at Warnham Local Nature Reserve

Wednesday 27 May, hourly sessions throughout the day

Discover the world of amazing and unusual wildlife that lives under the water in our ponds. All equipment will be provided.

[Book now](#)



Pop-up in the Park at Bennetts Field

Thursday 28 May, 10am-12pm

Come along to our free session with nature trails, arts and crafts and garden games.

This is a free session, simply turn up (please be aware we will not go ahead if it rains).



Children's Fun Sessions

Shows every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday during the May half term

Our children's fun sessions are free 45-minute children's entertainment shows on Horsham Park Podium next to Koffee Cafe.

[View schedule](#)

Horsham Museum & Art Gallery



Half Term Crafts:
Create your own
Medieval tile

CRAFTS
£2

BOOK
TODAY

HORSHAM MUSEUM & ART GALLERY

**Tuesday 26
to Friday 29
May**

10.30am – 3pm

Horsham District Council

Create Your Own Medieval Tile

Tuesday 26 May - Friday 29 May, hourly sessions from 10.30am-3pm

Visit Horsham Museum this Half Term and create your own Medieval tile!

[Book crafts](#)



**FREE
ADMISSION**

**Transport Trail:
Children's Trail**

HORSHAM MUSEUM & ART GALLERY

**Tuesday
19 May to
Saturday 20
June**

10am - 4pm

Horsham District Council

Transport Trail

Tuesday 19 May - Saturday 20 June

When were cars first invented? Which famous runner was from Horsham? Learn these fascinating transport facts and more in our free new children's trail.

Buy Local



Discover the magic of the Arun Valley Railway Line

Tune in to the award winning Arun Valley Line podcast, discover new places to visit, stories from locals to enjoy, and landscapes to fall in love with.

FREE activity pack - help Sonnet the Skylark solve a mystery on the Arun Valley Line. For all ages, it's packed with clues, puzzles and creative challenges to enjoy between stops.

[Find out more](#)



Discover District Markets

Horsham District's market towns and villages are home to a variety of thriving weekly and monthly markets, each with their own unique and diverse offer for visitors.

[District market schedule](#)



Drinks Producers Leaflet



Sussex Six Leaflet

[Download Leaflets](#)

Events



Big Bands



Sussex Sounds

[View schedule](#)

Sign up for parks and
countryside news and
events



Click here for more
news from Horsham
District Council



Stay connected



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



**Horsham
District
Council**

Email dated 13.05.2026 from WSCC

West Sussex residents encouraged to repair, reuse and reduce waste through the Big Fix

NEWS RELEASE



West Sussex residents encouraged to repair, reuse and reduce waste through the Big Fix

Residents across West Sussex are once again being invited to cut down on waste by choosing to repair and reuse everyday items, rather than disposing of them.

Throughout May, The Big Fix has been shining a spotlight on repair cafés across the county, raising awareness of the environmental value of repairing belongings and helping people keep items in use for longer.

Throwing something away doesn't just discard the object itself, it also wastes the land, energy, and raw materials that were needed to make it. Extending a product's life through repair helps protect these limited natural resources.

West Sussex County Council is supporting this year's Big Fix by sharing details of local repair café sessions, promoting the environmental and financial benefits of repair, and hosting an online space where cafés and residents can exchange advice, ideas, and practical know-how for fixing everyday items.

Originally launched by Recycle Devon in 2019, The Big Fix began as a nationwide pushback against throwaway culture, encouraging people to bring broken household items to their local repair cafés. The campaign quickly grew, in 2020 volunteers across the UK repaired more than 2,500 items in a single day. By May 2024, that number rose to 3,177 repairs completed during the month, including 132 in West Sussex across four cafés.

In May 2025, the campaign continued to thrive, with 2,358 items repaired nationally over the month. West Sussex volunteers fixed 154 of those items, welcomed 155 visitors, and supported repairs ranging from lawnmowers and jewellery to clocks and textiles across five cafés.

The county council is proud to support this campaign as reducing waste, encouraging reuse, and increasing recycling all support the key priority in our Council Plan of a sustainable economy that adapts to climate change. The Big Fix helps residents cut waste, save money, and learn valuable skills that empower them to repair items themselves in the future.

Residents can find information about repair cafés in West Sussex, along with practical repair tips, at: www.westsussex.gov.uk/thebigfix

To locate your nearest repair café, visit the Community Climate Map:
yourvoice.westsussex.gov.uk/community-climate-action-map

Email dated 11.05.2026 from WSCC

“Fostering is about so much more than providing a bed” - could you provide a loving home for siblings in West Sussex?



news release

“Fostering is about so much more than providing a bed” - could you provide a loving home for siblings in West Sussex?

West Sussex County Council has launched an urgent appeal for residents who can open their hearts and homes to siblings in need of foster care, ensuring that brothers and sisters can stay together when they need each other most.

Across West Sussex, foster carers provide love, stability and care to children and young people. But with ever growing need, the council is calling on people from all walks of life to step forward, so that every child can be matched with the right home for their needs and, where possible, alongside their siblings.

Helping siblings settle together

Tracey, a West Sussex County Council foster carer from Crawley, knows first-hand the importance of caring for siblings, and how everyday acts of care can change lives. She said: “My fostering journey began with two little boys. They were small, polite, and unsure of everything. One of the first things we did was take them shopping so they could choose a few things of their own - a school uniform, shoes, bedding, and little bits that made their eyes light up.

“The next morning, one of them stood in front of the mirror, turning slowly, taking himself in. Then he smiled and said, ‘I look like everyone else.’ When we got to school, he didn’t walk in, he ran! His teacher later told us how different he seemed calmer, proud, like he finally felt he belonged.”

For many children coming into care, remaining with brothers or sisters is the most important aspect of adjusting to life in a new home, and siblings make up the majority of the council’s emergency requests for carers. Keeping siblings together helps preserve the bonds that

matter most at a time of uncertainty and upheaval. When children are unable to stay together, it can deepen feelings of loss, loneliness and anxiety, making it harder for them to settle, feel secure and begin to heal.

Foster Care Fortnight

The appeal for more carers coincides with Foster Care Fortnight (11-24 May). This year's theme, This is Fostering, focuses on the everyday reality of fostering; the quiet, often unseen moments that help children feel safe, valued and understood. It highlights the skill, judgement and resilience foster carers show in patiently rebuilding trust, providing consistency and helping children feel comfortable in a new environment.

Tracy said: "Fostering isn't just those warm moments. We noticed one of the brothers had damaged some of the things he'd chosen from our shopping trip. When we gently asked why, he said, 'So we can't sell them.'

"That winded me. It was a glimpse into a world where nothing felt permanent. It reminded me that fostering is about so much more than providing a bed, it's about helping children feel safe enough to believe that what they have, and who they're with, won't disappear."

Can you help?

While all children in West Sussex's care are safe, there are still many more children needing homes than there are foster carers. This means that some are living further away from their schools, friends and support networks. It can also make it harder to keep siblings together, even when that is in their best interests. Having more local foster carers, especially those able to foster sibling of two or more, can make a lasting difference to children's wellbeing, stability and sense of belonging.

By fostering with West Sussex County Council, carers become part of a strong local community, with ongoing professional support, training, and a competitive financial package of up to £32,347 per year for foster carers, and £15,496 per year for Supported Lodgings Hosts (per child or young person – fee based on your experience, the age of the child and the length of time a child is in your care).

Director of Children's Services, Dan Ruaux, said: "This is about recognising the everyday moments that truly matter; showing up, staying consistent, being patient, and offering reassurance when a child needs it most.

"It's also about understanding how important it can be for siblings to stay together. Keeping brothers and sisters together, at what we know is a scary and uncertain time, can help children feel less alone and more able to rebuild trust.

“There are still many children and young people in need of a place to call home, and I would encourage anyone who has ever considered fostering, especially those who could help keep siblings together, to get in touch with our dedicated team.”

Could you support a local child, or siblings, when they need it most?

Contact Fostering West Sussex on 0330 222 7775 or visit fosteringwestsussex.org.uk to find out more.

Notes to Editor

Tracey (foster carer quoted) is available for interviews. Please email pressoffice@westsussex.gov.uk to arrange.

Email dated 11.05.2026 from HDC
Local Election Results May 2026



**Horsham
District
Council**

Local Elections Results May 2026

Residents of Horsham District voted in the West Sussex County Council and Horsham Parish Council elections on Thursday 7 May. There was also a Horsham District by-election in the Itchingfield, Slinfold and Warnham ward.

Full details of the results can be found via the Council website, a link is in the blue box below.

Full Results

Email dated 11.05.2026 from WSCC
Survey of ash trees with ash dieback summer 2026

Lee Newham
Tree Team Manager
Economy, Infrastructure and Environment
Highways and Transport
West Sussex County Council
0330 222 3825/01243 642105
ADB@westsussex.gov.uk

Southern Area Office
Clapham Depot
Clapham Common
Clapham
Worthing
BN13 3UR



11/05/2026

Dear Parish Councillors,

We are writing to let you know that we will be surveying the below routes that are within your local area for ash trees suffering with ash dieback summer 2026.

A29 (North) Strood Green North to County Boundary
B2070 Hill Brow to Wheatsheaf Common
B2133 Adversane to Alford Bars
B2128 Rudgewick A281 to County Boundary North
B2139 Storrington to Coolham

Our roadside surveys will identify ash trees that are the responsibility of WSCC potentially requiring removal works. During these surveys we also note the presence of privately owned ash trees showing signs and symptoms of ash dieback, which are within falling distance of the highway. We will contact all relevant landowners to advise them to have their own specialist carry out a full survey of their ash trees to identify any necessary remedial or removal work.

Once the surveys are complete and our WSCC works are scheduled, we will be in touch again to keep you informed of dates and plans for works to take place.

Please feel free to share this information accordingly.

Sharon Jones
WSCC Ash Dieback Project Support Officer



**Sussex
Police & Crime
Commissioner**

KATY BOURNE OBE



**SAFER IN SUSSEX
COMMUNITY FUND
APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN**



The Crime and Policing Bill has been enacted and is now law, bringing with it important new measures that will strengthen policing and better protect our communities across Sussex.

This legislation directly addresses many of the concerns residents, businesses and rural communities regularly raise with me – particularly shoplifting, abuse of shop staff and rural crime.

Unfortunately, the £200 threshold for shoplifting created the perception that repeated, low-value thefts were not taken seriously so this has now been scrapped. More importantly, the Act introduces a new offence of assaulting a retail worker. Abuse and violence against shop staff are unacceptable and should never be seen as part of the job. I fully support this change which sends a clear message that those working on our high streets deserve protection and respect. It will also enable policing to quantify exactly how much abuse is happening across the retail sector.

Rural crime is another issue I know deeply affects many people in Sussex. I welcome the new power allowing police to enter premises without a warrant to recover stolen, electronically tracked property, such as GPS-tagged farm machinery. This will help officers act quickly, improve recovery rates and disrupt organised criminal gangs who target our farming and rural businesses.

These new powers closely support the priorities set out in my Police & Crime Plan for Sussex – to prevent crime, catch offenders and build public confidence in policing.

Whilst legislation alone isn't the answer, it does give Sussex Police the tools they need to act decisively where it matters most.

I will continue to scrutinise Sussex Police to ensure these powers are used effectively and consistently so that our town centres, villages and countryside are safer for everyone who visits, works and lives in our beautiful county.

Safer in Sussex Community Fund: Applications Now Open

Community and voluntary groups across Sussex are invited to apply to my Safer in Sussex Community Fund, as the next application window is now open.

Since its launch, the fund has invested over £2.3 million into more than 600 local initiatives, demonstrating the vital role community-led organisations play in keeping people safe.

Previously funded projects span a wide range of activities including: youth services; domestic abuse support provision; homelessness initiatives; community safety interventions; and programmes supporting our veterans. These initiatives show how targeted, local action can make a real difference - helping people at the right time and strengthening neighbourhoods across Sussex.

Successful projects typically demonstrate strong community insight, collaborative work with others and clear outcomes that align with reducing harm and improving safety.

Details on eligibility, funding criteria and how to apply are available on my [website](#). If you know a local organisation that could benefit, please do encourage them to apply. My Safer in Sussex Community Fund will be open for applications until 6 June.



Katy Bourne OBE
Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner

FRIDAY FOCUS

700 offences detected in first week of AI road safety cameras

In the first week alone, new AI road safety cameras in Sussex detected over 700 offences, mainly drivers using mobile 'phones at the wheel or not wearing a seatbelt. These are not minor issues – they are key causes of serious injury and death on our roads and we know the heartbreak and devastation they leave behind for families and loved ones.

What concerns me most is that many of these offences are entirely avoidable. Wearing a seatbelt correctly and keeping your 'phone out of reach could, quite literally, save your life or someone else's.

The technology being used by Sussex Police is there to support safer behaviour, not to be intrusive. Most images are deleted instantly and only potential offences are reviewed by officers, ensuring privacy is respected.

I fully support the use of modern, evidence-led approaches like this if they help reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured on our roads. While enforcement is necessary, the goal is clear: to change behaviour and prevent tragedies before they happen.

I remain committed to working with Sussex Police, our partners and residents to promote responsible driving and make Sussex's roads safer for everyone.

Email dated 08.05.2026 from WSALC
Horsham Housing Event

Please see the [attached flyer](#) which is an invitation to the Horsham housing event which is taking place on the 23rd June. If you could share this with your councillors, that would be appreciated.

Link to reserve a place:-

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1988154151587?aff=oddtcreator>

Many thanks and kind regards,

Emily Simpson, WSALC

Email dated 08.05.2026 from WSCC
West Sussex County Council election results



news release

West Sussex County Council election results

All results of the West Sussex County Council election for 2026 have all now been announced.

On Thursday 7 May West Sussex residents voted for whom they want to represent their local community on the county council.

The votes were counted and from 362 candidates 70 councillors have been elected:

- Reform UK has 23 councillors
- The Liberal Democrats have 23 councillors
- The Conservative Party has 11 councillors
- The Green Party has 7 councillors
- The Labour Party has 5 councillors
- One councillor is from the Local Alliance

Each county councillor elected represents their division on behalf of around 12,000 residents by contributing to policy and spending decisions affecting vital council services.

[Here you will find how people voted in your local area of West Sussex](#), including who won the vote in each division and the party they represent. There is also [a map showing results across the county](#).

No one political party has more than half the seats and so the outcome is no overall control of the council.

As a result of there being no clear majority, discussions will take place between political parties about who will form the administration.

The first full meeting of all newly elected councillors will be on Friday 22 May.

At the meeting, appointments to key council positions are due to be formally made including chairman, leader of the council, cabinet members and committee members.

You can see the agenda and watch the meeting live (or the webcast at a later date) on our [website](#).

West Sussex County Council was not the only council to hold elections here in the county.

Adur District, Crawley Borough and Worthing Borough Councils also held elections as well as some town and parish councils. The results of these elections are published on their websites.

Notes to Editor

The political composition of West Sussex County Council prior to this year's election was:

- The Conservative Party: 38
 - Liberal Democrats: 10
 - The Labour Party: 8
 - Green and Independent Alliance: 5
 - Reform UK: 4
 - Independents: 4
 - Vacancy: 1
-

Email dated 08.05.2026 from HDOPF

Newsletter May 2026

Newsletter - May 2026

What happened in Henfield?

MB @ HDOPF



The first of our Horsham District Older Peoples Forum Public Meetings of 2026 was held on Tuesday, 21st April at Red Oaks Care Home, Henfield. So what happened?

[Read More](#)

Email dated 13.05.2026 from Rural Services Network
Rural Services Bulletin

13/05/2026	View this email in your browser
------------	---



RURAL SERVICES NETWORK

The National Champion for Rural Services

FREE WEEKLY RURAL NEWS SUMMARY



Dear Subscriber,

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:

- [Report Reveals Rural Energy And Water Pressures](#): A new report from Rural England CIC highlights the growing energy and water pressures facing rural households, from higher energy use to rising concerns over affordability and infrastructure.
- [Are Digital Barriers Locking People Out Of Being Active?](#): New research examines the hidden challenges preventing some people from accessing sport and physical activity opportunities.
- [DfE Updates Funding Guidance For Local Authorities](#): Updated guidance on post-16 and adult education funding has been published, alongside plans for a new schools analysis tool for councils.

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](#)