

Rudgwick Parish Council

Weekly Clerk's Update: 29th August – 4th September 2026 (Agenda September 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:

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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 14 th September 2026	
Application No:	Response/Comments:
Applicant:	

Reason for Application:	
Official Response Date:	

Applications for consideration at Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting

Applications for consideration at Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 14th September 2026	
Application No: DC/26/1317 14.08.2026	Response/Comments:
Applicant: Land West of Little Millfields, Horsham Road, Rowhook	
Reason for Application: Demolition of existing buildings and erection of a dwelling	
Official Response Date: Not available / Determination 09.10.2026	
Application No: DC/26/1233 03.09.2026	Response/Comments:
Applicant: 17 Cape Copse, Rudgwick	
Reason for Application: Surgery to 1x Oak	
Official Response Date: Not available / Determination 27.10.2026	

Decisions

HDC Council Decisions – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 14th September 2026	
Application No:	Response/Comments:
Applicant:	

Reason for Application:	
Official Response Date:	

Applications going to Committee

Applications going to Committee – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 14 th September 2026	
Application No:	Response/Comments
Applicant:	
Reason for Application:	
Official Response Date:	

Appeals Lodged / Appeals Determined

New Appeals Lodged / Determined – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 14 th September 2026	
Application No:	Response/Comments:
Applicant:	
Reason for Application:	
Official Response Date:	

New Planning Compliance Issues

New Planning Compliance Issues – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 14 th September 2026	
Application No:	Response/Comments:
Address:	
Nature of Complaint	
Official Response Date:	

Rudgwick Parish Council's New Website is now live!

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

Correspondence

Email dated 03.09.2026 from NALC
Chief Executives Bulletin

Announcements

- I have [announced that I will retire as chief executive](#) in March 2027, after 12 years leading the organisation. I am proud of the strong platform we have built together as devolution, local government reorganisation and the focus on neighbourhoods continue to gather pace. We have appointed executive search firm McLean Public to support the recruitment of our next chief executive, which begins this month.

Events

- Our latest event explored how parish and town councils can use social media effectively to build trust, strengthen community engagement and communicate with residents. You can [read more about the event](#) on our website.

Meetings

- This week our [Scrutiny Committee](#) met to review our 2026/27 first quarter finances and confirmed year-end performance remains largely on track despite some challenges. The committee endorsed priorities and timelines for the new triennial budget and agreed a recommendation to our Annual General Meeting of a proposed external auditor. The committee also received updates on governance and HR policies.

Parliamentary and political engagement

- We held our [Westminster Forum](#) this week to discuss the Representation of the People Bill 2026, which includes proposals to lower the voting age to 16, reform voter registration and strengthen electoral integrity measures. The discussions focused on the implications for parish and town councils, local democratic participation and opportunities to influence the Bill as it progresses through

parliament. The forum also highlighted the need for legislation on remote meetings and a stronger local government standards framework.

Resources

- [In this week's blog](#), Falmouth Town Council reflect on the impact of unitary change in Cornwall and explores what Cornwall's experience of Community Area Panels can teach other parish and town councils.
- We have published our annual analysis of council tax levels for precepting authorities, revealing parish and town council investment in communities is approaching £1 billion, an increase of £83 million (9.7%) from last year. You can [read the detailed analysis](#) on our website.

Support

- Congratulations to the [latest parish and town councils accredited under the Local Council Award Scheme](#). The scheme celebrates the best of councils, helps them develop their potential, and recognises that they are well run and meet the required standards. Four councils achieved the Gold Award, four achieved the Silver Award, and two achieved the Bronze Award. You can find out more about [the scheme and how to apply on our website](#).
- The Smaller Authorities Proper Practices Panel has launched a [consultation on a proposed new framework of proper practices](#) for Category 2 Authorities in England. The proposals aim to modernise and clarify requirements covering governance, accountability, financial reporting and internal audit, with parish and town councils encouraged to help shape the final framework. The consultation closes on 31 October 2026.

Email dated 01.09.2026 from HDC

Your Climate Action newsletter from Horsham District Council - September 2026

**Climate Action
News**



**Horsham
District
Council**



September 2026

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

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

Contents

- Share your views on plans to help shape a greener, more resilient West Sussex
- Supporting drought resistant planting
- Funding reopens for climate action community projects
- Discover the hidden benefits of recycling
- Reduce costs and your carbon footprint for Lift Share Week, 18-24 Sept 2026
- Sunset surveys for the Bat Conservation Trust



Share your views to help shape a greener, more resilient West Sussex



We are inviting those who live and work in West Sussex to take part in an important new climate change consultation on draft plans to make West Sussex a greener, more resilient county for nature and residents.

Working in collaboration with County and West Sussex district and borough councils, the plans focus on:

- **Mitigation (decarbonisation):** Reducing the amount of carbon produced and released into the atmosphere from transport, homes, and businesses.
- **Adaptation:** Adapting to the impacts of an increasingly changing climate - such as longer and more frequent heatwaves and more severe flooding

Responses from this short survey will help us to understand whether the draft plans address where people feel action should be focused, the level of support for action on climate change, and whether these are considered the right priorities locally. We would love to hear your thoughts.

The consultation closes midnight Sunday 27 September

West Sussex Climate Change Consultation

Supporting drought resistant planting



With changing weather patterns, including hotter summers, water is becoming increasingly vulnerable to scarcity even in the UK, as the recent heatwaves across the country has shown.

Horsham District Council's Parks and Countryside team is working to ensure our natural environment minimises water usage and benefits biodiversity by choosing plants that are drought tolerant. Other initiatives we have adopted include planting in the autumn which reduces the need for watering, buying native plants where possible, and mulching with a 5-8cm layer of well-rotted manure after planting.

Why not visit the Warnham Shelley Wildlife Garden and Horsham's Park House Sensory Garden which have both benefited from being planted up with drought tolerant plants. This in turn benefits our native wildlife because the plants are able to provide nectar, fruits and seeds during times of drought.

You may also want to check out the article below about our Community Climate Fund as we may be able to help your own community project to harvest rainwater, as we have done for others.

Helping your garden at home

Find out some quick facts and practical advice about drought resistant plants and water-wise gardening on the [Royal Horticultural Society website](#).

Visit our Parks and Open Spaces pages

Our Community Climate Fund reopens for applications



Did you know that your community group's new climate and environment focused project could be eligible for an award of up to £5,000? This is a great opportunity to help you to improve your sustainability as a community, and maybe reduce costs too.

This month we are encouraging community groups to think about ways to reduce your water usage to help combat the effect of the hotter drier summers we have been getting - whether this involves harvesting rainwater, drought resistant planting, automatic water taps or other water saving ideas. Other projects such as those that focus on energy, waste, biodiversity, or transport will of course still be considered.

Our team is able to offer free targeted support to help you with your application. For example by offering support with your draft application forms, assistance with carbon calculations, or one-on-one consultations to discuss your application form to ensure it meets our requirements.

We encourage interested groups to contact our friendly team early at 01403 215156 or by emailing communityclimatefund@horsham.gov.uk.

Applications close on 30 September 2026

Photo: Rainwater harvesting tank

Apply for a Community Climate Fund

The hidden benefits of recycling - Recycle Week 14 to 20 September 2026



As Recycle Week approaches (14 - 20 September 2026) we consider how your recycling helps save energy, reduces carbon emissions, lowers household costs, and creates renewable power!

Most of us know recycling helps reduce waste, but did you know it can also save huge amounts of energy, reduce carbon and methane emissions, lower household costs as we recognise and reduce our waste, and conserve valuable natural resources? And every recycled can, bottle, jar, cardboard box and food scrap helps!

Recycling materials means manufacturers need fewer raw resources and less energy to create new products. For example, recycling aluminium uses up to 95% less energy than producing new aluminium from raw materials, while recycling steel, glass, paper and plastics also delivers significant energy and cost savings.

Food waste recycling which we introduced this year across the District also plays a vital role. Food collected from households will be processed into biogas, a renewable energy source, and digestate, a natural fertiliser that can be used on farmland.

Read our latest blog post to learn how everyday recycling helps save energy, money and valuable resources.

[Read more about the hidden value of recycling](#)

**Reduce your carbon footprint and costs
for Lift Share Week, 18-24 Sept 2026**



During the daily rush hour there are said to be up to 38 million empty car seats in the UK! So, if you want to commute in a more sustainable way but can't give up your car, please consider car sharing.

The **West Sussex Car Share** site helps you find someone to share your journey with to begin saving money. Car sharing is also a great way to alleviate the stress caused by travel, plus you will reduce road and parking congestion and minimise air pollution.

You can see the full guidance and watch a short video at the link below.

[West Sussex Car Share](#)

Sunset surveys for the Bat Conservation Trust



Are you looking for something to do with your friends and family in your local area this autumn?

The Sunset Survey from the Bat Conservation Trust brings you a perfect opportunity to get together with family/friends and discover bats and other wildlife in your local area.

This is ideal for you if you don't have previous bat surveying experience. Just spend an hour from sunset (or before sunrise) and let us know what you see/hear from your window, balcony, garden or local green space.

[Sunset survey](#)

Useful Links

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

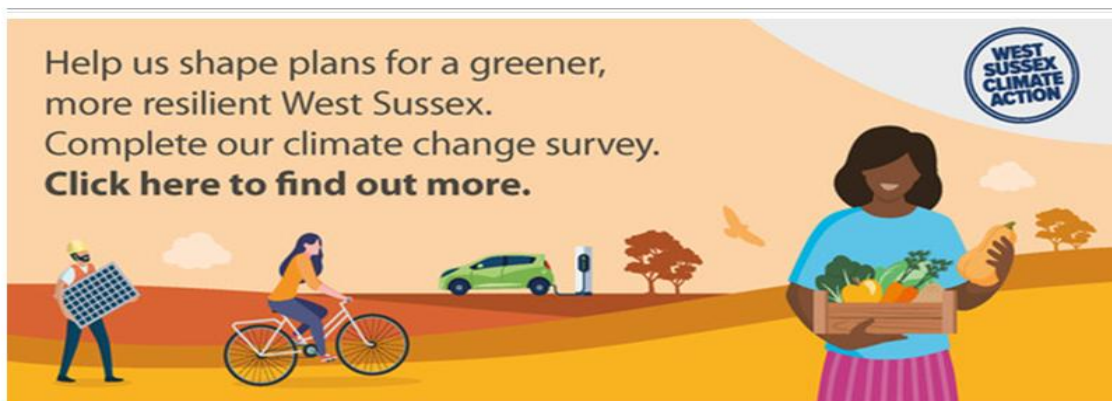
[Get involved in climate action](#)

Find out about our [Community Climate Fund](#)

[Explore our Wilder Horsham District programme](#)

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

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



Stay connected



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



**Horsham
District
Council**

Email dated 31.08.2026 from West Sussex Carers Support
Your August Update from Carers Support West Sussex



Carers Support West Sussex
for family and friend carers



August Update: Support and Resources for Unpaid Carers

Welcome to our August newsletter for professionals supporting unpaid carers across West Sussex.

This month, we're highlighting some of the services, resources and opportunities available through that you may find useful when supporting carers.

You can help carers access information and support through our **Carer Portal**, signpost them to **Carer Coaching** and our free **Benefits Advice Service** and let them know about opportunities such as free visits to National Trust places with a companion.

We hope you find these updates useful in your work with carers and the people they care for.

Thank you, as always, for being part of our carers community.

Explore our full range of services: [Our services](#)

Help carers access support through our Carer Portal

More than **800 carers** are now registered with our Carer Portal, giving them a convenient way to manage their support and access information and resources relevant to their caring role.

The portal enables carers to:

- access information and resources
- update their contact details
- book groups, events and activities
- download proof of carer registration.

Further features are also being introduced, including the ability to book telephone appointments, access local offers, apply for or update a Carer Emergency Contact Card, create and share an emergency plan, and access information about planning for the future.

Please encourage carers you work with to register if they haven't already.

[Access the Carer Portal](#)

Help us shape the future of our Carer Portal

We're giving our online carer portal a new name.

As more features, support and resources are added, the site is becoming an even bigger part of how carers can access information and support. However, we recognise that the

word “portal” doesn’t mean much to most people or really capture everything that’s on offer.

We’re looking for a name that feels welcoming, useful and meaningful to carers. So we are hosting a vote!

Please share our voting opportunity with carers you support. It only takes a few moments to take part, and those entering their details will also have the opportunity to enter a prize draw to win a **£30 Amazon voucher**.

Take part in the vote:

[Help Shape the Future of Our Carer Portal – Fill in form](#)

Carer Coaching: helping carers find a way forward

Carer coaching provides carers with dedicated time and space to focus on themselves, explore what matters to them, build confidence and identify practical ways forward.

One carer described their experience:

“With your guidance I have found my way through my fog of procrastination in dealing with stuff. I thank you and the carer coaching team for this opportunity.”



Professionals may find carer coaching a useful option to signpost carers who are feeling overwhelmed, lacking in confidence or struggling to identify what they need for themselves.

The next coaching session starts on the 23rd of September.

Please share the opportunity with any carers you think may benefit from finding out more.

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

Making National Trust visits more accessible for carers

The National Trust's Essential Companion Pass enables eligible visitors to bring one or two carers or companions with them free of charge.

The pass is issued in the visitor's name, meaning they can choose who accompanies them. Carers and companions can also visit free of charge without a pass, although having one can make admission quicker and easier.

This may be a useful resource to share with carers who are looking for opportunities to enjoy days out and access National Trust places with the person they support.

Find out more and explore National Trust places:

[National Trust](#)

Could a carer you support be missing out on financial support?

Caring can bring additional financial pressures, and some carers may not be receiving all the benefits or financial support they are entitled to.

Our **free Benefits Advice Service** can help carers understand what support may be available to them and the person they care for, including:

- Carer's Allowance
- Universal Credit
- Pension Credit
- Council Tax Reduction
- disability benefits.

Our advisers can explain eligibility and likely entitlement, support carers with applications and provide guidance where a benefit decision needs to be challenged.

Since 2021, the service has helped carers in West Sussex identify an estimated **£7 million in additional annual benefits and financial support**.

Signpost a carer to our Benefits Advice Service and Toolkit:

[Find out more and access the Benefits Toolkit](#)



Supporting carers in your work

Thank you for the important role you play in identifying and supporting unpaid carers.

By recognising carers early and connecting them with the right information and support, you can help them maintain their own wellbeing while continuing in their caring role.

If you're unsure what support may be appropriate, please get in touch with us. Our team is here to help with queries and signposting.

[Explore our services for carers](#)

Thank you in advance for your time and support.

Kind regards,

Caroline Pope, CEO

Contact us today if you have any questions:

0300 028 8888 info@carerssupport.org.uk www.carerssupport.org.uk

Email dated 28.08.2026 from Sussex Police
Protecting natural spaces across Sussex



Sussex
Police & Crime
Commissioner

KATY BOURNE OBE





This week, I joined Sussex Police's Rural Crime Team for Operation Barley, a multi-agency initiative led by the Environment Agency, focused on tackling illegal waste crime and fly-tipping across Sussex.

The operation targets offenders carrying waste illegally before it is dumped, helping to prevent environmental damage and reduce the significant clean-up costs often borne by local taxpayers. Alongside Sussex Police and the Environment Agency, partners including the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA) and Chichester District Council were involved, highlighting the importance of a coordinated approach to tackling this issue.

Fly-tipping and waste crime has a damaging impact on our communities and countryside. In Sussex, the most common forms of illegal waste involve household rubbish, construction materials and discarded white goods. Not only do these offences blight our environment, the cost of the clean up has to be met by private landowners (often our farmers) or local authorities.

I was pleased to see first-hand the work being carried out by Sussex Police's Rural Crime Team and their partners to prevent, disrupt and investigate this type of offending. Their commitment to protecting our rural communities and natural spaces is commendable.

The Government has recently announced tougher measures to tackle fly-tipping, including increasing fixed penalty notices from £300 to as much as £5,000. I welcome the recognition of the cost impact that waste crime has on local communities but I also hope Government will ensure all relevant enforcement agencies have the resources and support they need to identify offenders and bring them to justice.

If you discover fly-tipped waste, you can:

- Report it to your local council
- Large-scale, hazardous or organised waste crime should also be reported to the Environment Agency
- If you witness fly-tipping taking place and there is an immediate need for a police

response, please contact Sussex Police straight away

- Of course, you can always report anonymously through Crimestoppers

I was pleased to join Op Barley and see everyone working together to hold offenders to account, protect our environment and help ensure Sussex remains a clean, safe and enjoyable place for all of us.

Have your say - Safer in Sussex Survey

Today, I am pleased to launch my annual Safer in Sussex Survey, giving residents across our county the opportunity to share their views on community safety, the policing service they receive and what could help them feel safer where they live.

Hearing directly from residents is one of the most important parts of my role as your Police & Crime Commissioner. The feedback you provide helps me act as your voice within policing, ensuring that the issues that matter most to you are raised directly with the Chief Constable and her senior leadership team.

Every response helps me to build a clearer picture of the issues affecting residents across Sussex and supports efforts to make our county safer for everyone.

The survey takes just a few minutes to complete and will remain open until Friday 9 October.

Your voice matters - please do take part and have your say by [clicking here](#).



Katy Bourne OBE
Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner

FRIDAY FOCUS

Improving the 101 Service Through Innovation

The Government has recently announced investment in new AI-assisted call-routing technology designed to reduce waiting times for the police non-emergency 101 service. The aim is to direct callers to the right organisation more quickly when their query is not a police matter. This will help free up valuable time for call-handlers to focus on crime reports, safeguarding concerns and supporting victims when they are most in need.

It is hoped that this technology will also play an important role in tackling the substantial number of hoax and nuisance calls that place an unnecessary burden on

policing. Between August 2025 and July 2026, Sussex Police received nearly 290,000 calls approximately 20% of which were identified as prank, hoax or nuisance calls. That equates to roughly 58,000 calls diverting officers and call-handlers away from tackling crime, protecting vulnerable people and helping those in genuine need.

Last year, a woman from Portslade was given a suspended sentence after making more than 300 nuisance calls over a six-month period. It is appalling that one individual was able to consume so much police time while genuine callers may have been waiting for assistance. Hoax and nuisance calls are not harmless pranks, they waste valuable resources, place additional pressure on stretched services and can delay support reaching those who need it most.

By helping to identify and filter inappropriate calls, this technology has the potential to make the 101 service faster, more efficient and more responsive for the public. I am determined that police resources should be focused on protecting communities and supporting victims, not dealing with those who abuse the system.



SHARE WITH A FRIEND