

Mid Sussex Matters



**Bringing
Christmas
Home**

shopping and
making locally

**WEEE wish you a merry
Christmas!**

Delivering a digital future

**Helping you through
challenging times**

NO MATTER WHO WHAT
WHERE WHEN

WE ARE WITH YOU
NO MATTER WHAT

At Carers Support West Sussex, we recognise caring can be both wonderful and tough. Because of this, we are here to help you:

- No matter where you live in West Sussex
- No matter what your caring role
- No matter what is happening even in a global pandemic
- No matter what your age, gender, sexuality or ethnic origin...

...we are with you.

**CONTACT US TODAY TO FIND OUT
HOW WE CAN OFFER YOU THE
SUPPORT YOU NEED.**

Visit carerssupport.org.uk
Email info@carerssupport.org.uk
Call 0300 028 8888



Registered Charity No. 1123359
Company No. 6418743



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Welcome to the latest edition of Mid Sussex Matters.

As Government restrictions to slow the spread of Coronavirus continue towards the winter and the economic impact deepens, help is available to support residents through challenging times. If you are worried about your finances and need support, there are two pages of information in this edition of Mid Sussex Matters to guide you to where support is available.

New cases of Coronavirus in Mid Sussex have remained significantly lower than the English average in recent months and it is essential that we all continue to follow the social distancing guidelines and play our part to protect our local community.

We can also play our part to support the local economy, by shopping local this Christmas and supporting the great retailers and businesses in our towns and villages.

These last few months have also highlighted the importance of digital connectivity, as more people work from home and we rely on technology even more to connect with friends and family. The District Council is making significant progress on our project to roll out a superfast, gigabit speed, full fibre network across the district. Work is now underway on the first section.

In total, we have secured £9.5 million in Government funding to deliver over 80km of full fibre infrastructure across the district. Importantly, the network will be 'open access' meaning any commercial provider will be able to offer services to residents and businesses, increasing choice and significantly accelerating the delivery of 'full fibre' internet locally.

It is excellent to see Mid Sussex's three leisure centres back open and being well used by residents as sports, fitness and wellbeing activities return. The District Council has put significant financial support into our leisure centres to cover the deficit caused by reduced capacity and social distancing, without which they would not have been able to reopen.

Coronavirus and lockdown has had a substantial impact on the Council's finances. We entered the pandemic in a strong financial position and have used this to support local services, such as leisure centres, through the crisis. However, the Council currently has a multi-million pound deficit which will inevitably mean changes in how the Council operates over the medium term. Providing value for money local services, supporting residents and boosting the economy will continue to be our overriding focus.

Jonathan Ash-Edwards
Leader of Mid Sussex District Council

Please feel free to get in touch:
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Mid Sussex Matters is sent to all residents and provides you with information about our services. Published by the Communications Team, Mid Sussex District Council, Oaklands Road, Haywards Heath, West Sussex RH16 1SS.

Design 2 Up Front Design:
www.2upfrontdesign.co.uk

Printed by Storm Print & Design:
www.stormprintanddesign.co.uk

73,000 copies are distributed free to Burgess Hill, East Grinstead, Haywards Heath and Mid Sussex villages.

This magazine is delivered by the Royal Mail according to local postcode boundaries. From time to time these exceed the authority boundaries, but we hope that even if you live outside of Mid Sussex, you will still find something of interest within these pages.

Please recycle your copy once you have read it.

Editorial: 01444 477240
Email: msm@midsussex.gov.uk

Next issue out from the
22 March 2021.

Inclusion of advertisements does not constitute a recommendation by Mid Sussex District Council of the products or services offered or the organisations involved, nor will the council incur any liability for any claim relating to them.

If you need this publication in another language or format please call 01444 458166.

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MID SUSSEX
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Local news

News in brief

Covid recovery grant fund

See page 10 for details of the new £300,000 grant fund to support local businesses, community groups and voluntary organisations affected by the coronavirus pandemic. Deadline 30 Nov.

Have you lost your job due to the Covid 19 pandemic, or looking to get back into work for any other reason?

Our employment support scheme can help you on your journey back into work. Visit www.midsussex.gov.uk/backintowork for more details or call 01444 477546.

See pages 10 to 11 with more help and support available

Delivering a Digital Future

Work has now begun to deliver over 80km of full fibre digital connectivity across Mid Sussex. Funded through grants of £9.5m the project will ensure fast and secure fibre and mobile connections which can be routed through to towns, villages and rural communities – helping to stimulate innovation and business growth. See page 6 for more details

Have your say on Haywards Heath

See page 7 for details of how to help shape the future of the town.

In the picture

Do you have good eye for a photo? With some residents not able to get out and about as much as before we would like to share pictures of our vibrant and beautiful district – see page 23 for details.



Bringing Christmas Home

We understand that Christmas will feel very different this year so wanted to help bring our local community together with a clear message that it can still be a magical experience. Despite the changes, though, we hope it will bring a renewed focus on our communities, home-based Christmas traditions, simple pleasures, a slower pace and time well spent.

Our Christmas campaign this year centres on 'Bringing Christmas Home',

'home' to our communities, our high streets, our countryside, our families and friends.



Image – Getting festive at Fun Pots, Haywards Heath.

We wanted to support and celebrate our local businesses, where so many have worked in truly challenging circumstances. 'Bringing Christmas Home' encourages us all to shop locally in our towns and villages this Christmas, to find inspiration among the unique and amazing companies we have here on our own doorstep.

Lockdown has also seen many of us baking, crafting and generally "making". This Christmas we would love you to share with us your stories and Christmas traditions, whether that's trimming the tree, cooking, baking, making decorations or frosty walks in the countryside; how will you be 'Bringing Christmas Home'? **#bringingchristmashome**

Meetings of the Council are open to the public

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic new regulations were introduced to enable the Council to hold its meetings virtually, allowing elected representatives to attend remotely with residents able to watch online. For info about scheduled Council meetings visit www.midsussex.gov.uk/council. The live stream of each meeting is available to view via the Mid Sussex District Council Youtube channel.



Shop safely online this Christmas

As online shopping becomes more popular it is important to keep your information safe. Here are a few simple tips that will help to ensure that you have a safe and secure online shopping experience –

- Only purchase goods from legitimate retailers. Look up reviews of the company and ask friends and family members if they know of the company. If in doubt, don't use them.

- Be wary of unsolicited emails and texts offering questionably good deals – if it looks too good to be true, it probably is!
- Avoid paying for goods and services by bank transfer as that offers you little protection if you become a victim of fraud. Instead, use a credit card or payment service such as PayPal if possible.
- Is the payment page secure? There should be a padlock symbol in the browser window frame, and the address of the page should start with 'https://'.
 - Don't use a public unsecured wi-fi connection when shopping online – ensure you use a secure and safe network.

If you think your card has been used fraudulently, contact your bank straightaway.
Report any scams to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040.

If you, a family member, or someone you know needs some support during the Coronavirus pandemic, please get in touch. Support is available in Mid Sussex through the West Sussex Community Support Hub.
Helpline 033 022 27980 open 8am – 8pm seven days a week.

How to get email notifications for planning applications in your area

If you would like notifications of applications in your neighbourhood you can sign up to our online planning register. This enables

you to track a particular application or check applications submitted within a ward or parish.

Just search for 'Planning Applications' on www.midsussex.gov.uk



Keeping you informed

We want to keep you up to date with all the projects and activities in your community
Mid Sussex Matters – published 3 times each year

- 📞 Telephone – 01444 458166
- 📞 For emergencies and outside office hours call – 0845 602 1035
- 🌐 Our website – www.midsussex.gov.uk
- 📺 Follow us – @MSDCnews
- 📺 – find us at [MidSussexDistrictCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/MidSussexDistrictCouncil)
- ➔ You can sign up to a free online version of MSM which comes out between paper editions by submitting your email at www.midsussex.gov.uk/msm

Delivering a Digital Future



Mid Sussex District Council is about to embark on the build stage of its own superfast fibre network across Burgess Hill and onward connections to Crawley and Brighton. The Gigabit capable digital fibre network will enable businesses, residents and communities across Burgess Hill to enjoy ultrafast connectivity services and have access to a wider range of market providers. The network will also connect Digital and Technology businesses in Crawley and Brighton, with a new innovative Digital Exchange.

The network has been funded by the Department for Digital Culture Media and Sport through the National Productivity Infrastructure Fund and will be constructed by contractor partner Balfour Beatty over the next six months. Completion is expected by April 2021. The Council have worked closely with Balfour Beatty to ensure that works can be delivered

with the least disruption while maximising the network coverage across Burgess Hill. Most works will be undertaken using temporary 2-way traffic lights during normal working hours. Advanced notification will be provided to those residents and businesses directly affected by the works.

Once the network is complete, businesses and residents will be able to choose services from a number of commercial providers via an arrangement that the Council will enter into with Cooperative Network Infrastructure. More information will be publicised as the build stage progresses.

Our Full Fibre project has proved a catalyst for neighbouring Councils to realise wider ambitions for a brighter digital future across West Sussex. Contractors Balfour Beatty



are building more than 40 kilometres of duct and fibre spine with funding from the councils and Local Enterprise Partnership, Coast to Capital. The route is from Burgess Hill and Haywards Heath to Horsham and Crawley and will provide improved digital connectivity for public sector sites and increase the fibre footprint in these areas. The new infrastructure will lower the cost to suppliers of building gigabit-capable broadband services to homes and businesses in the future.

Have your say on Haywards Heath Town Centre Masterplan

The Council has prepared a draft masterplan for Haywards Heath Town Centre and we would like to hear from you.

The Council's Economic Development Strategy, adopted in 2018, sets out the aim to create viable and vibrant town and village centres which meet the retail, leisure and employment needs of our growing population. The production of a Town Centre Masterplan for Haywards Heath will help to achieve this aim.

The Masterplan sets out a vision for the future of Haywards Heath seeking to strengthen the position of the town by encouraging economic growth and attracting people to live, work and visit. It provides a framework and guiding principles for,

- improvements including measures to improve sustainable travel
- public realm improvements including measures to protect, enhance and improve the town's significant green spaces

opportunity sites for regeneration. In doing so, it will encourage economic recovery and growth and strengthen its ability to attract people to visit, work and live in the town centre.

Once the Masterplan is adopted (anticipated early 2021) it will replace the previous 2007 Masterplan. It will help make decisions on planning applications.

It is important that the community have their say on the draft Masterplan as it will shape the long-term future of Haywards Heath Town Centre. The Council are inviting comments on the draft Masterplan during a 6-week consultation period starting w/c 9th November.

You can view the plan, explore the proposals using an interactive map, and submit your comments at www.midsussex.gov.uk/TownCentres. Full details of the consultation are also available on this page.



Engagement with community groups in Haywards Heath and the surrounding area is set to start over the autumn and winter to help set the next steps for community facilities and the town's wider regeneration

Following the closure of Clair Hall an independent organisation is being appointed to gain a richer understanding of the current and future community

needs, this will be added to the data the Council already holds.

The outcome of this engagement work will inform projects including the provision of modern community facilities, the future of the Clair Hall site and the wider Haywards Heath Masterplan. The independent structured engagement will work with past users of Clair Hall and the wider community. Details of the engagement will be published as soon as it is available.



Helping you make the right decisions



Arranging long-term care for yourself or on behalf of a relative can be challenging, with so many choices to consider and the pressure to make the right decisions.

Contact the Carewise care funding scheme for impartial information and expert independent financial advice on paying for care. All the Carewise-approved care fees specialists are members of the Society of Later Life Advisers (SOLLA).

Book your free consultation

Visit www.carewiseadvice.com and arrange your free consultation by requesting a call back or contacting your chosen adviser directly. Alternatively, you can email socialcare@westsussex.gov.uk or phone 01243 642121 and ask for a Carewise referral, quoting ref: SL1020.

Leisure matters

The Triangle, Burgess Hill
01444 876000 www.thetriangleleisurecentre.org
The Dolphin, Haywards Heath
01444 457337 www.thedolphinleisurecentre.org
Kings Centre, East Grinstead
01342 328616 www.kingsleisurecentre.org

Our three leisure centres at The Dolphin in Haywards Heath, Kings in East Grinstead and The Triangle, Burgess Hill reopened in September.

Places Leisure, who run the leisure centres on our behalf, have worked hard to ensure the following:

- signage is in place to help people follow social distancing
- there are regular hand sanitising and cleaning stations and cleaning regimes have been greatly enhanced
- the number of people taking part in each activity has been reduced.

Customers are asked to book all activities in advance via the Places Locker app or the Places Leisure website at www.placesleisure.org/

Social distancing restrictions mean leisure centres must operate at a vastly reduced capacity and they will require a significant financial subsidy to help them stay afloat, potentially £2.5 million this financial year alone.

Our leisure centres are an important part of the local community and they mean so much to local people but this level of financial support cannot go on indefinitely. Now they are open again they desperately need your support to help them through this coronavirus crisis – the more you use them, the less burden there will be on the taxpayer.

Messages from the team



Lucia, Kings Centre

Lifeguard and swim teacher

"Really good to have everyone back and seeing people being active again."



Lewis, Kings Centre

Lifeguard and swim teacher

"The regulars are really happy to be back in the pool, and it's nice to see them."



Jonny, Kings Centre

Gym instructor

"We've got really good measures in place so people feel safe and comfortable coming back."



Karla, Triangle

Fitness instructor / memberships

"If you are unsure or anxious in any way please book a tour, come to the measures we've put in place."



Thomas, the Dolphin

Costa Café manager

"It's great to see people coming back to the building – hope to see you soon."



Alice, the Dolphin

Group exercise co-ordinator

"I'm really excited to be back at work, seeing all my colleagues and lots of members. Hope to see you soon!"



Virtual Weight Management groups

All of us have had to rise to the challenge of making changes in the past months. Mid Sussex Wellbeing's Weight Off Workshops are changing too. To ensure the residents of Mid Sussex can still access this popular and successful course, the Wellbeing Team are pleased to offer a real time virtual version via your PC, laptop or tablet.

Running with a regular timeslot over eight weeks, participants will be able to chat to and see the advisor in charge of the group, as well as working with each other. Through experience, we understand the importance of interaction between those attending and the part it plays in the Workshops' success.

"very friendly relaxed and supportive group"
"The course has helped me lose weight, and helped me change the way I think about food"
"Thank you for your time and help. The course and the group encouragement really helped me focus on what I was eating"

Next sessions start in the new year!

Topics will include:

- What is a healthy way of eating?
- What's in your food?
- Food and you – what is your relationship with food?
- A good balance – why is it important?
- Keeping motivated.

Participants will also have **free access** to 6 online exercise classes.

All this for the cost of £20 for the complete course.

To find out more, call the Wellbeing Team on 01444 477191 or email wellbeing@midsussex.gov.uk.

Booking will be essential as there are limited spaces available to accommodate the new format. The Wellbeing team look forward to supporting you in making healthy changes to your life.

mid sussex wellbeing

Adapting to support you

Mid Sussex Wellbeing Team have been busy adapting services to offer phone, email and online support.

www.midsussex.westsussexwellbeing.org.uk
wellbeing@midsussex.gov.uk
or call 01444 477191

Please get in touch for help on issues such as

Mental Health | Alcohol intake | Stopping smoking

We can offer support on all three and have a dedicated officer working on low-level Alcohol support. We have several officers that provide free Nicotine replacement therapy and behaviour change support. Now has never been a better time to quit smoking!

Life is all about balance

As we age the risk of a fall dramatically increases.

The good news is falls are preventable and one of the best ways to do this is by keeping active. If you're feeling unsteady on your feet, finding stairs a little more difficult or rising from a chair harder than usual....

Our Wellbalanced for Wellbeing classes may be suitable for you.

Strength & Balance Assessments Classes + NEW! Virtual Resources Advice, support & community

Call us on: **01444 657099**

Visit our website: wellbalancedprogramme.co.uk

wellbalanced wellbeing | AHS WELLBEING | On behalf of Mid Sussex District Council and Worthing & Adur Council

Supporting you

Helping residents through challenging times

Effects of the COVID19 crisis continue to show up in many ways. 31% of Mid Sussex residents were furloughed and some may struggle when this help stops. We as a Council are paying out an additional £1/2m in Council Tax Support with many people now on Universal Credit for the first time.

We want you or anyone you know who might be struggling, to access help. Talk to us before it's too late and before you get further into debt and risk losing your home. We are here to help.

Please see <https://www.midsussex.gov.uk/housing-council-tax/> including a, Worried about Finances, leaflet.

Homes and housing

Threatened with losing your home? Contact us sooner rather than later!

If you are struggling to meet your housing costs, whether this is for your rent or mortgage, please contact the Housing Needs Team. They can provide you with advice and assistance so that we can support you to avoid losing your home.

housingadvice@midsussex.gov.uk
01444 477574

Discretionary Housing Payments

are a way of helping you if the Housing Benefit or Universal Credit (Housing Costs element) you get is not enough to pay your rent. Discretionary Housing Payments come from a separate, cash limited fund. You can claim online from the Council at <https://midsussexdhp.entitledto.co.uk/home/start>. 01444 477264.

Finance help for individuals

Self-Isolation Payments

From 28 September 2020 you may be entitled to a Test and Trace Support Payment of £500 if you are advised to self-isolate by the NHS. To be eligible you will need to comply with the notification from NHS Test and Trace to self-isolate and be

- employed or self-employed
- unable to work from home and will lose income as a result; and
- in receipt of support benefits.

The scheme is due to last until 31 January 2021. You can apply at <https://midsussex.grantapproval.co.uk/>

Universal Credit is not administered by the Council but you can access financial help from the Department for Work and Pensions at <https://www.gov.uk/universal-credit/how-to-claim>.

Council Tax Support – You can also check with our online calculator at: www.midsussex.entitledto.co.uk/home/start to see if you qualify for Council Tax Support (CTS), which is a reduction in your Council Tax bill.

Remember to advise the Council of all changes in income and

circumstances as these could affect your payment.

Hardship Payment – if you qualify for Council Tax Support during 2020/21 you will get an additional up to £200 towards your Council Tax. This will be awarded automatically by the Council if applicable.

Independent Free Debt Advice – is available to help taxpayers with any outstanding debt. We will hold any recovery action that we take against any debt for up to 60 days if you agree to be referred through the debt advice pilot scheme in which the Council participates.

General Financial Advice MSDC commissions a Money Advice service from the Citizens Advice (CA) as part of our work to prevent homelessness and for those struggling with debt and or who need support to manage their finances.

Please contact the CA on www.advicewestsussex.org.uk or call 0344 477 1171 (Mon-Fri 9am – 4.30pm)

Helping local businesses and employers

We know it is a really tough time for business owners and self-employed



people, who are so valuable to our community and local economy in Mid Sussex. In a district of over 5,000 businesses and self-employed people, we know this time will be particularly difficult. It is a priority for the Council to do what we can to help you retain your livelihoods during the Covid-19 pandemic and we want to make sure that you know about, and are able to access, the support that is out there for you.

Business Rates

If you believe that your business has a material change of circumstances due to Covid-19 you can apply to Check and Challenge your rateable value with the Valuation Office

Agency (VOA). Further information on the Check and Challenge process can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/correct-your-business-rates>.

Please note that any amendment of the VOA will take some time but if your rateable value is adjusted down the Council will refund any overpayment. You can contact the VOA at <https://www.gov.uk/contact-voa>.

What Mid Sussex District Council is doing:

We have already delivered over £26

million in Government business rates grants to over 2,050 eligible businesses. We have also delivered nearly £1.5million in Government discretionary grants to nearly 300 local businesses.

East Grinstead Business Association told us – 'I just wanted to say a huge thank you for everything that you and your team have done to help our members and businesses in East Grinstead and the surrounding areas. The feedback we have received with regards to you guys has been amazing and I know other areas have not been so lucky with the support that they have received, so very much appreciated that you have all worked so incredibly hard!'

We are also delivering the 2020/21 business rates holiday agreed by the Government. This means around 1,800 eligible businesses (over £23.5m) in nurseries, retail, leisure and hospitality will not have to pay business rates for this financial year.

New Covid recovery grant fund

Mid Sussex District Council has agreed a new fund which will award £300,000 in grants to local businesses, community groups and voluntary organisations affected by the coronavirus pandemic. Grants of £1,000 to £5,000, will be available to help local businesses and organisations in three key areas:

Emergency Response – Financial help with the additional costs that are incurred whilst operating under Covid-19 restrictions

Return to Pre-Covid Provision – A grant to local groups and businesses to help them reopen, and return to business as usual in a way that is Covid-19 secure

New Service or Business Innovation – Financial support to help local businesses and support organisations adapt to new ways of working

You can apply until 30 November. www.midsussex.gov.uk

We will continue to work with local organisations and government to get relevant and timely information on business support out to all local organisations.

Are you Dreaming of a Waste Free Christmas? Follow our A-Z recycling tips...

A Advent Calendars

Eat your chocolates, separate plastic inserts from outer sleeves if needed and pop in your recycling bin.



Bags

Take reusable bags when shopping, it will save you paying for bags.



Christmas Crackers

Only recycle plain cardboard crackers and paper hats. No glitter and remove contents, snaps, bows or other adornments.



Decorations

Try making sheet music angels, paper chains and snowflakes – all of which can be recycled. Broken plastic or glass decorations should be placed in your rubbish bin.



Electrical items

Recycle any old small electrical items using our new kerbside collection or at your local Household Waste Recycling Site.



Foil

Trays from your turkey can be recycled as long as they are cleaned of any food waste and given a rinse to remove any fat.



Gift tags and greeting cards

Only recycle tags and cards without glitter. Remove any adornments and place these in your rubbish bin. Why not send an e-card?



Household Waste Recycling Sites

Don't forget to check holiday opening times via our website www.midsussex.gov.uk/hwrs.



ID

Remember to take your ID when attending a Household Waste Recycling Site.



Jumpers or old clothes

Take them to a charity shop, clothing bank or Household Waste Recycling Site. Visit www.recyclenow.com/local-recycling to find your nearest recycling point.



Kitchen waste

Try not to buy or cook too much food. Can you save it, freeze it or reheat it another day? Visit www.lovefoodhatewaste.com for leftover recipe ideas.



Lights

Swap incandescent lights for LED to save energy and dispose of old bulbs at your local Household Waste Recycling Site.



Mobile phones

If you get an upgrade for Christmas remember your old mobile phone can be recycled. Some companies will even pay for your old phone.



New Years Resolution

Make a New Year's Resolution to recycle more – everyone can make a difference!



Order an extra recycling bin

Order an extra recycling bin. Email wastematters@midsussex.gov.uk if you need to order an extra blue lidded bin.



Presents

Be kind to your purse and the environment by gifting preloved items this Christmas. Also remember moulded plastic packaging from many toys and gifts can be placed in your recycling bin.



Questions

If you have any questions about your recycling collections email wastematters@midsussex.gov.uk or visit www.midsussex.gov.uk/recycling.



Reduce, re-use and repair

Gift an experience, make homemade decorations and crackers or provide rechargeable batteries and a battery charger with battery operated gifts.



Squash

Squash cans or plastic bottles and flatten your cardboard to make more space in your recycling bin. Just remember to keep all items clean, dry and loose.



Terracycle

We can't recycle everything at the kerbside but there are lots of local Terracycle drop off points where other household waste can be recycled. Visit our Community Recycling website page for details.



Unwanted gifts

Take them to your local charity shop, re-purpose, donate to a shelter or sell them online.



Vegetable peelings

When preparing Christmas dinner pop uncooked vegetables and peelings in your compost bin if you have one. Visit our Home Composting web page for help and advice.



Wrapping paper

Do the scrunch test! If it is not shiny with minimal glitter and holds its shape when scrunched you can recycle it.



Xmas trees

Real trees are the more eco-friendly choice if you consider where and how they have been grown. If rooted keep for the following year or chop them up and put in your garden waste bin. Alternatively take to one of our local drop off points or your household waste recycling site.



Yuletide collections

Don't forget your bins may be collected on a different date over the Christmas period. Check the back page for details!



Zinc batteries

Don't put batteries in your rubbish bin. Recycle them using our new kerbside collection, at any shop selling batteries or take them to the Household Waste Recycling Site.



Web: www.midsussex.gov.uk/recycling
Telephone: 01444 477440
Email: wastematters@midsussex.gov.uk

Winter matters

Keep warm this winter with home insulation grants

Insulating your home is one of the most effective ways to reduce the cost of heating and make sure you can stay cosy this winter. Insulating your home is also good for the environment and is effective at reducing carbon emissions that cause climate change.

The good news is that home energy efficiency improvement measures are offered at a discount through a range of government schemes. There is also a simple one-stop-shop for energy efficiency advice online. Visit www.simpleenergyadvice.org.uk to get impartial grant advice or call free on 0800 444 202.

Approaches from companies

You might even have been approached by insulation companies offering help to survey your home and to help you access these grants. Most companies offer an honest service, but a few do not, please consider these common-sense rules:

1. Check their identity and ask for a letter of introduction with the company name, telephone number and full address. Don't let them in straight away. Before you let them indoors, check online or phone the company.
2. Ask a friend or relative to help you should you feel unsure about things or don't have internet access. You can contact www.simpleenergyadvice.org.uk to confirm the company is registered with any of the schemes.
3. Don't give your bank details at the door or pay money up-front.
4. Should you feel pressurised, or suspicious, decline their offer and close the door on them. If necessary, call the police on 101.
5. And finally, please remember to ensure both you and anyone entering your home follows the government's current guidelines on staying safe during the pandemic.

New lease of life for Lingfield Lodge

We have been working with Eldon Housing Association and West Sussex County Council to redevelop the old Lingfield Lodge older persons housing scheme in East Grinstead.



The new 'extra care' scheme on the site will be completed in Spring 2021. It will provide 48 affordable housing flats for older people as well as on-site care, meals and other facilities.

The term 'extra care' housing is used to describe housing developments made up of self-contained units which include support services to enable independent living for older people and some younger people with certain disabilities.

People who live in extra care schemes have their own self-contained home, their own front door and a legal right to occupy their property. Lingfield Lodge will also offer a range of facilities including communal lounges, social activities arranged for the community, a dining room, mid-day meal services, and other facilities including a 24 hour emergency alarm system.

For more information or if you want to apply for housing at the new scheme please contact lpither@eldonhousing.co.uk or call Linda on 07701 303243.



Adastra reaches for the stars

Before getting started the Parish Council developed a master plan setting out a vision for the park. This went to consultation with the community resulting in a range of suggested improvements.

As a result of recent building developments in the village the Parish had Section106 contributions available to provide community facilities. These funds are held by Mid Sussex District Council, so in autumn of 2018 a detailed application was sent to MSDC for the upgraded skate park. "The application process was rigorous but relatively painless."

Having secured funding, the first phase of the project progressed rapidly with the new Skate Park opening in July 2019.

Buoyed by this success the Parish Council sought further Section106 funding in 2019 to support the second phase of improvements – a totally renewed children's play area for Under 12s and an area alongside the skate park for older children. This was completed in August 2020 despite the impact of the pandemic and is now open for use.

The popular village of Hassocks has been growing over the last decade. Local Parish Councillors decided that, in order to complement this and to cater for the increasing numbers of young people in the area, they would like to upgrade facilities in Adastra Park.

"These facilities have greatly enhanced the park as a go-to location for local families and young people – whilst the Parish Council is keen to improve our local facilities this requires deep pockets and having S106 funding from developments makes it possible to achieve things faster when added to our own resources".

Chairman of Hassocks Parish Council, Cllr Ian Weir.

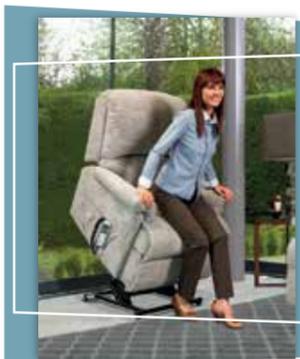
Over the last two years, the Cabinet Grants Panel has released Section106 contributions totalling £894,457 to community organisations to enable them to improve local leisure facilities.

Developer contributions have been distributed across the District to support 16 community led capital projects to improve sports and community facilities in Cuckfield, East Grinstead, Haywards Heath, Hurstpierpoint, Lindfield, Slaugham and Worth. These schemes ensure our sports, play and community buildings can be modernised and expanded to meet growing demand and residents can exercise, play and socialise within their neighbourhoods.

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Call: 01444 253 300



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Mon - Sat 9am - 5pm
Call: 01293 577 977



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*Terms & conditions apply. Voucher expires 12.12.20.
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Shop online at: www.clearwellmobility.co.uk



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If you want to make a difference, speak to us about fostering

0330 222 7775
www.westsussex.gov.uk/fostering



FOSTERING #changealife



Waste matters



WEEE wish you a merry Christmas...

In the run up to and after Christmas, we tend to look at purchasing new electrical items for our homes or as gifts for friends and family, so now is a great time for us all to recycle any unloved and unwanted items. To make it as easy as possible for our residents, our new kerbside collection of small waste electrical and electrical equipment (WEEE) is launching from 23rd November.

Any small items that have a plug, use batteries, need charging or have a picture of a crossed-out wheelee bin on, are known as Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE).

A massive 75% of all materials in your old electrical items can be recycled and turned into useful things like life-saving equipment, children's playgrounds or even new electricals! Any small items of WEEE from electric razors and toothbrushes to phone chargers, kettles, hair dryers, toasters and curling tongs can be repaired or recycled using this new service.

Think 'little and often' - space on our collection vehicle is limited and we'd like you to put your small WEEE out for collection whenever you need to rather than saving items up for collection. All your small WEEE items must be clean, dry and fit into one small carrier sized bag (35 x 40cm) that is placed next to your black wheelie bin for collection on the same day as your rubbish. This service will not be available to those properties with communal bins at the present time but we hope to introduce collections in the near future. Any batteries should be removed and put into a separate small bag for collection.

A full list of what we can accept can be found online at www.midsussex.gov.uk/electricals



Festive Recycling Tips

Don't drown under a mountain of packaging this Christmas from presents, cards, food and drink. Just visit the Mid Sussex District Council website www.midsussex.gov.uk/waste-recycling and download our handy festive flyer with tips for all your Christmas recycling queries or email us at wastematters@midsussex.gov.uk

Connecting you to everything you need to live well in West Sussex

The Connect to Support website is for anyone in West Sussex who is looking for additional help or support to maintain their independence, manage day-to-day tasks and improve their health and wellbeing. Visit our website to:

- access information and advice
- discover tips on improving your health and wellbeing
- view equipment to help you stay independent around your home
- find support for carers
- learn about options for extra care and support.

Need help to use the Connect to Support website?

Email: socialcare@westsussex.gov.uk | Phone: 01243 642121

www.westsussexconnecttosupport.org



Safety matters

Putting the brakes on car cruising



Earlier in the year, we introduced a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) to address ongoing concerns from local residents and businesses about car cruising in Burgess Hill. Local people had expressed concern about groups of people meeting with their cars and causing excessive noise involving dangerous driving and stunts.

The PSPO prohibits these activities throughout Burgess Hill and those causing a nuisance can be issued with a fixed penalty notice by a police officer or authorised council officer. Failure to pay can lead to a prosecution.

Further information on the PSPO and a full list of prohibited activities can be found on our website at www.midsussex.gov.uk/environment/anti-social-driving.

Reporting your concerns

If you have concerns and see anyone taking part in these activities please report this through the Sussex Police website or via 101, giving as much detail as you can, including:

- location, date and time
- description of activity
- any information that will help to identify vehicles and/or individuals involved
- any video or audio recordings.

Please do not approach those involved in the activity.

Contact Sussex Police at www.sussex.police.uk/ro/report/

Dangerous driving

Dangerous or careless driving should be reported through Operation Crackdown which is a joint initiative between Sussex Safer Roads Partnership and Sussex Police.

You can report incidents at www.operationcrackdown.org.

CARE IS...

Spending quality time with Betty, having a cup of tea and a chat.

A JOB TO BE PROUD OF.

Find out more and search for local vacancies at www.proudtocarewestsussex.com

Proud to Care West Sussex is an initiative from West Sussex County Council supporting employment within the local care sector.

Proud to Care
WEST SUSSEX

Burgess Hill Growth Programme



www.burgesshill.net

Place and Connectivity Programme

Walking, cycling and public transport improvements underway

Work has begun on delivering projects on the ground with some significant progress already made. Improvements to the bridge at Wivelsfield Railway Station are now complete and projects to better connect the station area with new walking and cycling links are due to commence shortly. Work on progressing the Phase 1 improvement to the town's network of walking and cycling facilities has also started, including improvements to the green circle on the south side of the town.

MSDC is working with West Sussex County Council to deliver this Place and Connectivity Programme funded by £22.8m of government grant and developer contributions.

Public engagement was held on the Programme during May and June 2020. The responses to the engagement have been used to form final scheme designs for a number of projects or to inform the next stage of design ahead of planned further public engagement over winter and spring 2020/21.

You can find full details of the programme and latest news at

www.burgesshill.net/placeandconnectivity



Town centre plans take a step forward

In September the plans for NewRiver's £65million regeneration of Burgess Hill town centre were approved. The decision came after consultation with local residents and businesses that helped to shape the proposals, including a revised layout of the library to accommodate a Changing Places toilet.

NewRiver REIT (NewRiver) has a vision to deliver a revitalised Burgess Hill town centre and continue to work with the proposed tenants, retailers and existing occupiers as they look to create a vibrant and sustainable destination that will meet the future needs of the local community.

Businesses are facing ongoing challenges due to Covid-19 and NewRiver is committed to working with all tenants as the town centre moves towards this much needed step change. Talks with proposed tenants, retailers and occupiers are ongoing. Confirmed tenants to date remain very keen to have stores in Burgess Hill and are enthusiastic about moving forward with the town centre regeneration.



Northern Arc Update

In July, Mid Sussex District Council approved the construction of a new link road connecting the Northern Arc to the A2300. Homes England appointed Jackson Civils to carry out the work and construction is scheduled to begin in December. This link road to the west of the Northern Arc site is being built at the same time as the link road to the east which will join Isaacs Lane to Freeks Farm. Both roads will provide direct access to the site for construction traffic and pave the way for new homes to be built over the coming years.

Countryside Properties are the first developer to build homes at the Northern Arc and started building houses in September. As a direct response to the COVID-19 situation, Countryside will be making over 50% of the homes at Freeks Farm affordable – 20% more than is required by the conditions of their planning consent and a total of 237 properties.

Stay up to date

Thanks to all who attended the latest community drop-in session in September. For those who missed it, you can view the full presentation and answers on the Northern Arc area of at www.burgesshill.net. On the site you can also see a 'project library' with key documents and full background information.

The Northern Arc now has a dedicated facebook page – visit [@northern.arc.BH](https://www.facebook.com/northern.arc.BH) for regular site updates and as another way to get in touch with questions or comments.

Rolo's Report

Hello again, I've been allowed back! Thank you to everyone who contacted me after last month's article.

It's good to hear so many people are clearing up after their dogs. Several people commented on dog poo being bagged then left, either on the ground, thrown in to bushes or hung up in trees! This is neither a good look, or allowed. Please humans, once you've done the hard work of picking the poo up, take the bag to a bin or home to put in the land fill bin. We can all help to keep our District clean and tidy, whether it's not dropping litter or disposing of poo bags properly.

Now onto other matters; I've had a busy time lately out and about, visiting sites and following up enquiries. I thought I should give you some information on the team that I work with. My title, Ranger Dog, means I am part of the Park Ranger Service at Mid Sussex District Council (MSDC) which is part of the Parks and Leisure Team.

The team manages the Council's leisure land and some facilities which include; parks, sports grounds, open spaces and nature reserves and areas within them such as playgrounds, pitches, pavilions, tennis courts and skate parks.

There are three Rangers, providing District wide cover, who try to ensure that any problems that arise are dealt with as quickly as possible. However, with over 400 sites across the district it keeps us all on our toes. The Rangers carry out regular site visits to monitor sites and pick up on issues which are reported back to the relevant department. This is the best part of the job! On a good day the Rangers can cover 13,000 steps each, of course that's nothing really, as its double for me plus a few thousand more with all the extra investigations I undertake!

Also monitoring the sites and managing our landscape contractors are the Parks and Landscapes Contract Monitoring Officers. I often see them out on site or meet to investigate various issues. The Arboriculture Officer deals with all the trees – a big undertaking, but I try to manage the squirrels as much as possible for him! Our Outdoor Leisure Officer deals with all the bookings on our land. These can include; sports bookings, non-sporting events, pavilion hire, and various other uses of Council land.

I hope everyone is continuing to get out and about enjoying the parks, open spaces and nature reserves, we certainly saw an increase in activity during lockdown and the summer. Now is the chance to go back and look at the changes with the different seasons. Please enjoy these sites responsibly following the latest government guidance and help us to keep them safe, clean and tidy for everyone.

Thanks for helping, I hope to see some of you out and about soon. You can contact my colleagues by email at

parksandopenspaces@midsex.gov.uk
bookings@midsex.gov.uk
rangers@midsex.gov.uk
or by phone on 01444 458166.



Get involved – share your pics

Our new photoshare aims to help everyone see the special things you see.

We are asking photographers both amateur and professional to send us their photos on a variety of themes, entries will be published on the Council's social media to share with residents and visitors. Selected entries will also be included in the next issue of MSM.

What kind of photos?

Themes are wide and you can interpret them as you like. All entries within the theme will be displayed together.

December theme

(displayed in Jan) – 2020

January theme

(displayed in Feb) – New beginnings

February theme

(displayed in March) – Shapes and architecture

March theme

(displayed in April) – Green / wildlife

Please note that entries must be taken in the Mid Sussex area.

How to submit

Upload your entries to www.midsex.gov.uk/photoshare

You just need

- your photo (4 max),
- your name and contact details,
- a short description (such as where the image was taken and why it is special).

Photographs submitted in digital form should ideally be no larger 5mb in file-size.

The closing date for each theme is the 25th of each month.

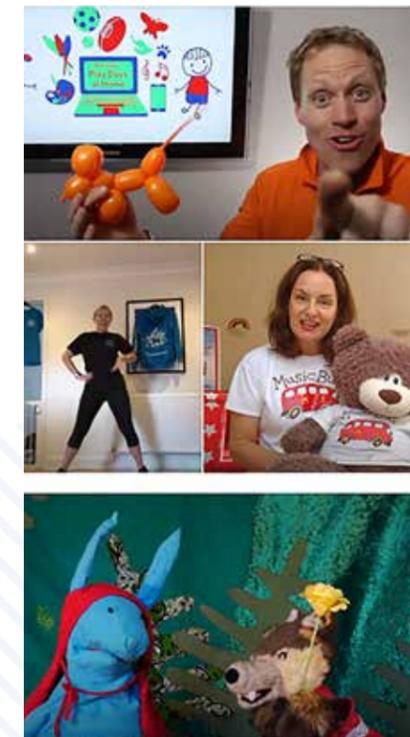


Keeping Connected

Mid Sussex Play Days

Each summer we host a series of Play Days for local families to enjoy in town and village parks across the District. However, with current coronavirus guidelines it wasn't possible this year.

Play Days at Home was our way of bringing the fun and excitement of Play Days to families while they were at home during lockdown. We worked with many of the performers who were popular at our outdoor Play Days to create a varied programme of videos that would help to keep children entertained over the summer holidays. If you missed the Play Days at Home during the summer then don't worry, all the videos are still available to watch on the Mid Sussex District Council YouTube channel.



Silver Sunday

Silver Sunday is a national day of celebration for older people. In previous years organisations and venues across the district have hosted parties, commemorations and tea parties. This year's Silver Sunday was a bit different as the Chairman of Mid Sussex District Council worked with Age UK and Befriended to identify older people who would benefit from a personal treat of a tea delivered to their homes. Packages also included advice on local services available to help and support them.



Festive Waste and Recycling Day Changes

Waste and recycling collection days will change for two weeks over the Christmas and New Year period. Your festive collection days are as follows:

Normal Collection Date	Festive Collection Date
Monday 21 December	Saturday 19 December
Tuesday 22 December	Monday 21 December
Wednesday 23 December	Tuesday 22 December
Thursday 24 December	Wednesday 23 December
Friday 25 December	Thursday 24 December
Monday 28 December	No Change
Tuesday 29 December	No Change
Wednesday 30 December	No Change
Thursday 31 December	No Change
Friday 1 January 2021	Saturday 2 January

All waste and recycling services will return to normal from Monday 4 January 2021.

Christmas Trees

Remember your Christmas trees can be composted in your garden waste bin. Just make sure the lid can be closed. Alternatively there will be temporary sites where residents can drop off real Christmas trees for recycling.

These sites will be open between Wednesday 30 December 2020 and Friday 8 January 2021. More details are available at www.midsussex.gov.uk/treerecycling



Garden Waste

There will be no garden waste collections between Monday 21 December and Friday 1 January. Garden waste collections will return to normal from Monday 4 January 2021.



If you have any questions about your festive waste and recycling please email wastematters@midsussex.gov.uk



HANDS



FACE



SPACE

STAY ALERT ▶ CONTROL THE VIRUS ▶ SAVE LIVES

Please continue to follow Government guidance to help protect friends, family and our community.

www.gov.uk/coronavirus

