

Mid Sussex Matters



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Winter Support Information

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Festive Recycling tips

**Too many young people
in West Sussex don't have
a loving place to call home.**

Could you transform a child's life by sharing yours?

Join our fostering family today:

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77,000 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.



Cover image:
At the ShopAppy launch to support local traders in East Grinstead.

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

MSDCnews

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Welcome to the winter 2022 issue

This coming winter is going to be challenging for everyone as inflation and energy bills rise. This edition of Mid Sussex Matter contains a useful guide to support available for residents. Whether you are struggling to pay bills or are concerned about rising food and energy bills, there is help available, as well as energy saving tips.



It's also going to be tough for local businesses, who are also impacted by rising costs. The District Council has established a range of support schemes to help local businesses and traders start up, grow and adapt. As we head towards Christmas, please do shop local if you can.

Despite the challenges, the District Council is continuing its work to keep Mid Sussex special. Around 3,000 households are currently trialling our new food waste collection service. We're bidding to Government for levelling up funding for Burgess Hill town centre. And we're updating the District Plan to ensure we protect Mid Sussex from uncontrolled, speculative development.

Finally, this issue contains the shortlist for Mid Sussex Applauds, our community recognition awards. With over 70 nominations put forward, we are fortunate to have so many people going above and beyond for our community. Good luck to everyone who has been shortlisted!

Jonathan Ash-Edwards
Leader of Mid Sussex District Council

Please feel free to get in touch:
jonathan.ash-edwards@midsussex.gov.uk

Local news

News in brief

Could you be a Councillor?

On Thursday 4 May 2023, voters will elect Councillors to serve on the Mid Sussex District Council and any contested elections for Town and Parish Councils in the Mid Sussex area.

These are the tiers of local government closest to the communities that they serve, and the 2023 elections come at a time when local government continues to face the challenges of post-pandemic recovery. Councils will hope that committed and energetic residents will stand for election, either as independent or political party candidates, to seek to provide effective representation for their community and, together with other elected Councillors, to take key strategic and policy decisions.

Those considering standing for election are encouraged to read our 'Being a Councillor' booklet, which seeks to provide information about the duties and the rewarding nature the role. It also includes a couple of personal stories from Councillors who were newly elected in 2019.

You can view our 'Being a Councillor' booklet by scanning the barcode below which will take you directly to the webpage where it is published.



www.midsussex.gov.uk/elections

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

Our website – www.midsussex.gov.uk

Follow us – [mid-sussex-district-council](https://www.facebook.com/mid-sussex-district-council)

Follow us – [@MSDCnews](https://twitter.com/MSDCnews)

Find us – 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

Image credit Jon Bowers



New open space supports

Bluebell Railway improvements

MSDC recently approved a one-off payment of £692,500 to the Bluebell Railway as part of an agreement to create a new greenspace at Hill Place Farm in East Grinstead.

Due to planning regulations, development of 200 new homes by Taylor Wimpey and Vistry must be mitigated with suitable alternative greenspace (SANG) because the site is within 7km of the Ashdown Forest. The new Hill Place site will provide local people with green spaces on their doorstep, alleviating strain on the Forest.

Bluebell Railway plan to use the funding advance to develop their sustainable energy sources, in turn reducing overheads and increasing efficiency.

Improved Community

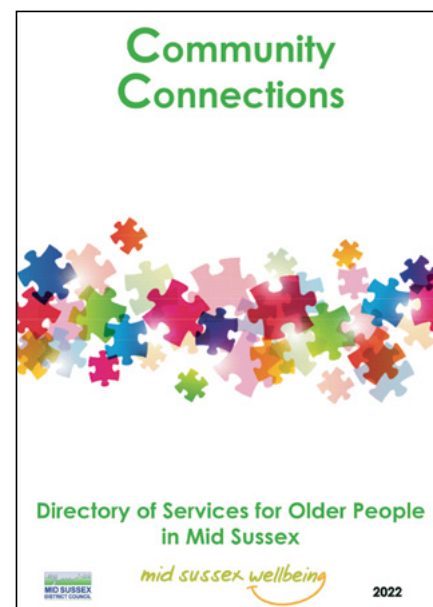
Connections

The latest edition of the Community Connections is now available. It has been developed in partnership with organisations working with, and for older people in Mid Sussex and contains a wealth of information.

The aim of the directory is to provide information about organisations which are here to help older people in Mid Sussex, and forms part of the Mid Sussex Wellbeing Service.

Mid Sussex Wellbeing is a 'one stop shop' for information and signposting to health and wellbeing services in Mid Sussex. The team includes trained advisors who can provide advice and guidance about leading a healthy lifestyle and staying well.

For the most up to date version please visit www.community-connections.org.uk



STEM challenge inspires future generations

Students from local schools and colleges gathered recently to find out about the latest Mid Sussex STEM challenge.

There is currently a STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) skills shortage in the UK workforce, so activities like the STEM challenge play an important role in inspiring the next generation to engage with, develop knowledge of and attain much-needed expertise in these areas.

For the challenge students will research, develop, and build a remote-control vehicle that is capable of

navigating a large and complicated obstacle course. Teams from Burgess Hill Academy, Downlands Community School, Imberhorne School, Millais School, Oathall Community College, St Paul's Catholic College, Sackville School and Warden Park Academy will meet in six months to compare creations.

Students will be supported by local engineering and medical companies who will act as mentors, working with the school to share their knowledge and show the students what it's like to work in the industry.

Warmer Homes

Are you looking at ways to make your home energy efficient to help you reduce your energy bills?

The Warmer Homes programme offers a range of fully-funded energy-efficiency improvements for eligible residents including:

- insulation
- air source heat pumps
- solar panels



Am I eligible?

You may qualify for the funding if the following statements apply: Your home has an EPC rating of E, F or G (limited funding is available for EPC D rated properties).

And either:

You have a total household annual income of £30,000 or less (before housing costs/bills)

OR:

You receive a means-tested benefit

Apply now:
www.warmerhomes.org.uk
or call us on 0800 038 5737 (freephone)

* This programme is available to owner occupiers and private rental tenants only. Private rental properties will require landlord permission and landlord contribution.



Scan the QR code using the camera on your smartphone and apply now



Keeping Safe online

When costs rise it can make us all the more vulnerable to being exploited through scams and cons. Some recent trends to be aware of are:

- Texts claiming to be from 'Gov.org' or the 'DWP' inviting claims for cost-of-living payments. In fact payments are made automatically so there's no need to make such a claim.
- Fake messages about energy payments relief purporting to be from Ofgem, the energy regulator. Payments are actually being overseen not by Ofgem, but the Treasury.
- Emails, texts or calls claiming to be sent by energy suppliers offering switching deals, cheaper tariffs, discounts on prepayment meters or rebates.
- WhatsApp messages – a number you don't recognise claiming to be a family member or friend needing help.
- Offers of non-existent loans or those with incredibly high interest rates, to help you through a period of financial hardship.

Scams can be very clever and many play on our fears, worries and behaviours. Be wary and check before parting with personal details. Legitimate services will understand and will not pressure you.



"Each month we see many incidents of fraudsters targeting our residents in an attempt to defraud them. We're working hard to prevent this and support vulnerable victims of fraud or scams. By following our tips and encouraging family, friends and colleagues to do so too, you can reduce the risk of becoming a victim."

*Detective Chief Inspector Simon Doyle,
Surrey Police & Sussex Police*

The National Cyber Security Centre gives wide ranging digital advice www.ncsc.gov.uk

Get Safe Online gives a wide range of online safety information www.getsafeonline.org

It is vital that victims of fraud share their experiences to help prevent others being exploited. Frauds can be reported at www.actionfraud.police.uk or by calling 0300 123 2040.

Looking for extra support with your day to day living?

The Connect to Support website is for anyone in West Sussex who is looking for additional help or support to maintain their independence.



westsussexconnecttosupport.org

Do you need help to use the website? • Email: socialcare@westsussex.gov.uk • Phone: 01243 642121



Visit our website to:

- **DISCOVER** tips on improving your health and wellbeing
- **VIEW** equipment to help you stay independent
- **FIND** support for carers
- **LEARN** about options for extra care and support.

Landmark

maps celebrate

Copthorne and

Crawley Down

Sussex-based illustrator Helen Cann was commissioned by MSDC to create public display panels of the area. Helen has created beautiful maps with a specific focus on villages of Crawley Down and Copthorne. Key local sites combine with natural landmarks, historic events, quotes, and comments to give each a very individual feel in her recognisable style.

Liaison with the Parish Council took place throughout the project and residents were involved through public workshops to gather comments.

The signs are funded by S106 Developer Contributions from the area and will be installed on noticeboards in the villages in the coming months.



Community building support

1st Copthorne Scouts were recently awarded £10,791 toward the cost of landscaping, surfacing and fencing to improve access, safety and security at The Scout Centre and Guide Hall in Bowers Arms Road.

1st Copthorne Group has two Beaver Colonies, two Cub Packs and two Scout Troops, providing activities for 220 local children.

Copthorne Sports and Community Association was awarded £9,906 for acoustic cladding for the main hall in Copthorne Pavilion on King George V Field.

The association manages the facilities to enable local clubs and organisations to carry on sports and recreational pursuits. A specialist contractor will supply

and install wall cladding, acoustic wall panels and free hanging acoustic units to improve the sound quality and user experience.

Bolnore Village Community Partnership was awarded £8,326 for an acoustic wall on the mezzanine floor of the Woodside Pavilion on Tim Farmer Recreation Ground. The building consists of a main hall, small hall and sports changing facilities which are hired out for community use. These improvements will stop sound from travelling and enable them to hire out both halls simultaneously.

These Facility Grants are funded by S106 Developer Contributions.

www.midsussex.gov.uk/grants

Help support local shops and businesses this Christmas

- ★ With the current cost of living crisis, it is more important than ever to support the local businesses in our area. A purchase from a local shop is an investment in our community
- ★ For every £1 spent 38p stays in your local economy
- ★ Shopping local means fewer delivery vans on our roads, and less packaging in landfill
- ★ Visiting your local traders makes you happier! Over 70% of people say shopping in local high streets lightens their mood
- ★ During lockdowns, our local shops helped us all get through it – but shopping local is for life not just for lockdown

You can also browse, book, and buy with ShopAppy.com

Earlier this year MSDC partnered with ShopAppy.com to create an online presence for the district's independent retailers. The response locally has been fantastic, with well over 150 businesses now signed up to the platform across the district – and more still joining.

With ShopAppy.com you can browse, book, and buy online from numerous local shops and businesses in the area. ShopAppy aims to get more people shopping local, not just online. The digital shop window influences local footfall, promoting to people the variety of things they can do and places that they can shop locally, all from this one website. The online platform also enables people to order items from home and click and collect, making it as convenient as possible to shop locally.

To celebrate ShopAppy.com officially going live across Mid Sussex, launch events were held in each of the three town centres giving shoppers a chance to win a ShopAppy voucher, learn more and even pick up a free 'Pop to the Shops' bag. The ShopAppy team were also on hand to visit and talk to businesses.

The launch days saw a record number of businesses signing up to the platform.

Lisa Edwards, Place Manager for ShopAppy, said "Local shopkeepers were so friendly and so clearly committed to their communities. We are delighted to be working closely with Mid Sussex Council for the launch of ShopAppy and in the months ahead we are looking

forward to seeing more of the businesses adding products and services."

Mid Sussex businesses have been grouped together geographically around the three town centres with separate pages for Haywards Heath, Burgess Hill, East Grinstead and their surrounding areas so have a browse to see what new businesses you can discover!

As new businesses sign up, they are assisted in getting started and uploading their products and services to the site. So keep checking to see what's new and how the site is growing!

ShopAppy.com is a multi-award-winning digital platform founded by Dr Jackie Mulligan in 2016 (long before the pandemic) to revive British High Streets by providing a local, town-based online platform with its own "shops" so that small businesses could compete with the online retail giants. As well as the local site, businesses that have products available for posting, can have their items promoted nationally on [ShopLocalOnline.org](https://www.shoplocalonline.org).

For further details visit www.shopappy.com or info@shopappy.com



Local traders in the Spotlight



Martell's, East Grinstead

Being a long-established family business means our team have a great relationship with our customers. The fifth generation of Martell's have joined this family business – it is hard work but not many people are able to spend time with their family every day and for that we are very lucky.

Our Christmas gift suggestions

You can pick up all the top Christmas toys and games from Martell's and the team are always on hand to make Christmas gift suggestions.



Tracy's Little Gift Shop, Burgess Hill

I love the gift of shopping locally and am thrilled to have joined in the festive fun with Shopappy.

I love the way it enables you the freedom to choose the gifts you want at a time that suits... so you're ready with your list when you're ready to "hit the shops"

Christmas gift suggestions

I'm happily stocking up on Resident Pheasant's local chocolate bar range with gorgeous Christmas packaging. Another of my favourite gifts for the festive season are the eco candles by Matty's. Made from a coconut and rapeseed wax they're truly sustainable.

Fun Pots, Haywards Heath

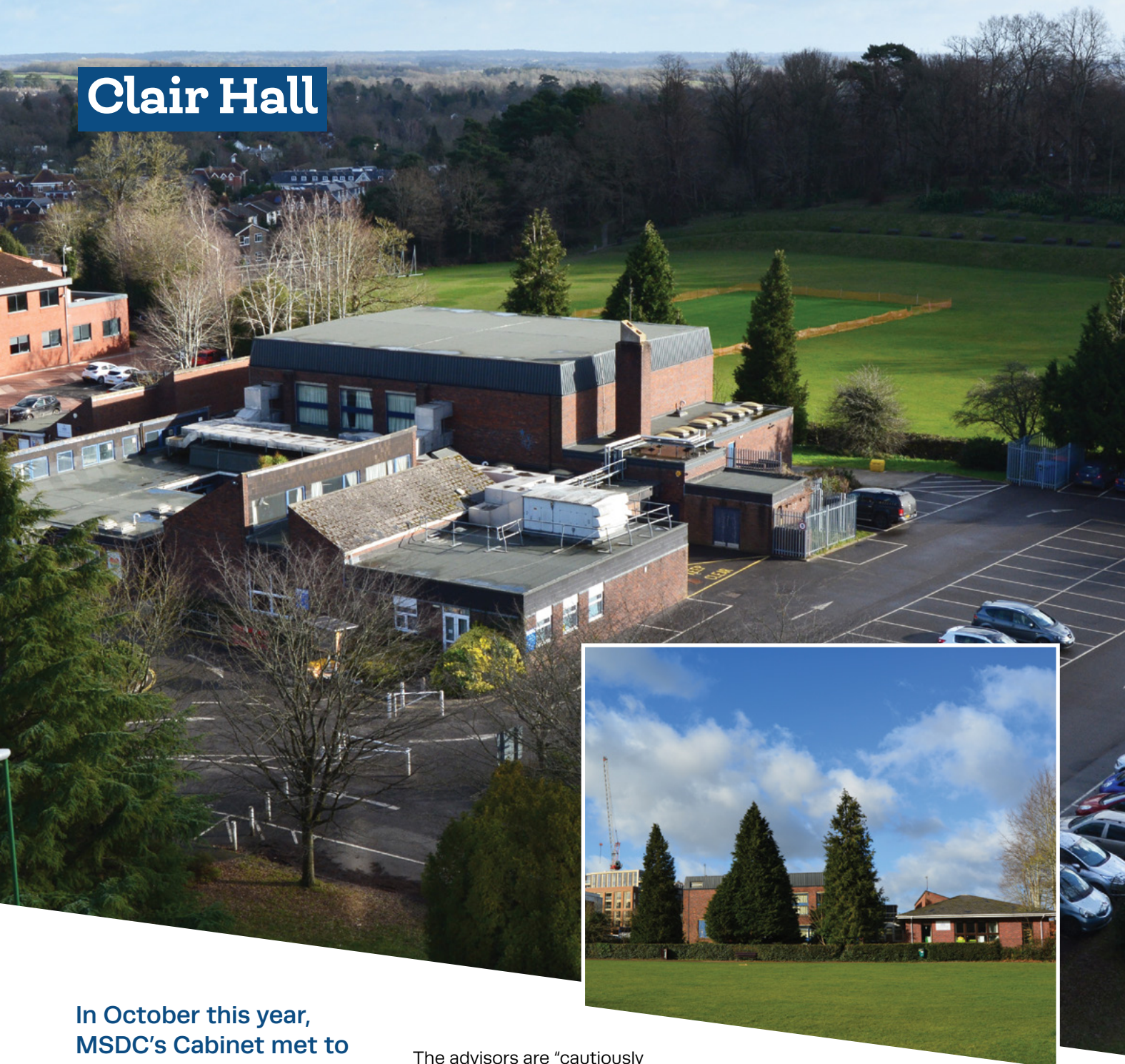
We are looking forward to celebrating 20 years of Fun Pots in 2023! We are grateful to have the support of very loyal customers, enabling us to continue trading through these past difficult years. As a business we support local where possible as it's so convenient and the local community is important to us.

Christmas gift suggestion

We think personalised, hand painted gifts are a great idea, in particular our baby footprint baubles which make treasured keepsakes for friends and family. We are also able to offer commission painting and gift vouchers.



Clair Hall



In October this year, MSDC's Cabinet met to discuss the final report from our cultural and creative consultant, BOP, following their lengthy investigations into the future of the Clair Hall site.

During these investigations BOP interviewed a range of market experts and professionals. Their final report is clear that there is a challenging economic climate for projects of this nature. The market experts gave positive feedback on the Council's success criteria which, included the Council's position that MSDC will not sell the site and that any organisation based at Clair Hall must be self-funding.

The advisors are "cautiously optimistic" as there are some positive findings from their investigations. Whilst the volatility of current market conditions and high inflation costs will make it extremely challenging for interested parties to secure the required funding, BOP did hear that flexibility of the space and variety of use is the key to the future viability of the site.

To this end it was agreed at the Cabinet meeting that MSDC should continue pursuing its goal to secure a cultural anchor tenant who can deliver a cultural and leisure offer for the whole of the Mid Sussex community now and in the future, in a modern fit for purpose venue on the Clair Hall site.

It was agreed MSDC will commission a specialist broker who can engage the market and identify potential interested parties to put forward ideas that can deliver such investment.

This work will start with the creation of a briefing pack building on the evidence gathered to date, including BOP's investigations and the previous resident consultation and engagement exercise, and report back to the MSDC Cabinet in the new year.

Stayed tuned to our work by registering on the engagement hub at <https://engage.midsussex.gov.uk/clair-hall>

WINTER SUPPORT INFO FOR RESIDENTS



Whether you are struggling to pay bills, or are concerned about food and rising energy costs, we have a range of support available to you. Here is some information about schemes you may be able to access locally and some key contacts.

This support guide is up to date at time of going to print. Please visit our website for more cost of living support.

www.midsussex.gov.uk/cols

Affordable Warmth

Energy support & advice

Any resident in Mid Sussex can access free tailor-made energy advice, available to all housing tenancies. Citizens Advice energy advice is provided by the Arun and Chichester advisers. They can help with checking the best energy tariffs, energy and household debts, local and national schemes, grant funding and accessing relevant community services.

To speak to one of their friendly advisers call **01243 974063** (Monday to Friday 10am – 4pm) or email **energy@arunchichestercab.org.uk**

Energy saving measures

The Local Energy Advice Partnership (LEAP) provide free support for lower income households across West Sussex. They offer Home Energy visits with free energy saving measures installed. There is also telephone support for money advice, information and referrals to other services and project as well as grants and support with bills.

Call **0800 060 7567** or email **support@applyforleap.org.uk**

www.applyforleap.org.uk

Energy advice and information

On the West Sussex affordable energy website you can find a range of trusted information from local services by going to the 'Advice' section and selecting Mid Sussex District Council. There is also energy saving tips, heating, grants and up to date information from the latest government schemes.

www.westsussexenergy.co.uk

Warm Home Discount

The Warm Home Discount has been increased to £150 for the winter of 2022/2023 and the eligibility criteria will be extended by almost a third benefitting up to three million vulnerable households.

You can get help applying through Citizens Advice by calling **01243 974063**

www.gov.uk/the-warm-home-discount-scheme



Help with Finances

If you are struggling to pay your bills or rent, make sure you visit **www.midsussex.gov.uk/revsandbens/benefits/** where you can find details of a range of support that is available to you.

Whether you need help to pay a Council Tax bill, or are struggling to pay your rent, or need debt advice, here are a number of ways in which we can help people who are experiencing financial difficulty.

Benefits calculator

You can find a free benefits calculator at **www.entitledto.co.uk/benefits-calculator**, which provides you with an estimate of your entitlement to benefits, tax credits and Universal Credit. A further benefits calculator from Citizens Advice is at **advicewestsussex.entitledto.co.uk**

Money advice service

The Government's money advice service - **adviser.moneyhelper.org.uk/en** – can also help you find financial support. It includes a tool that provides specific guidance for customers whose income has been

impacted by coronavirus as well as advice for people whose incomes are stretched due to rising costs.

Pension Credit

Find out if you or someone you know could get Pension Credit to top up your weekly income if you are over state pension age

www.citizensadvice.org.uk/benefits/help-if-on-a-low-income/pension-credit/. Receiving pension credit can give you access to additional help, such as help with heating bills, housing costs and a free TV licence if you're over 75.



Food Support

Many residents in Mid Sussex are concerned about the cost-of-living and may worry about getting food for themselves or their families.

Food Partnership Group

Mid Sussex Voluntary Action lead on the local Food Partnership group and have created a webpage with local community support.

www.msva.org.uk/get-help-with-food

Food Partnership Group

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www.msva.org.uk/get-help-with-food

Foodbanks

Organisations have different access criteria. Most require a referral by an agency such as Council, GP, or Citizens Advice.

* requires you to sign up to a membership scheme

** have free access to anyone in need.

Burgess Hill Pantry *

25-29 The Martlets, Burgess Hill RH15 9NN, **0800 987 1156**

Burgess Hill Community Foodbank

85 Church Walk, Burgess Hill RH15 9BQ, **01444 247726**

supplyteam@burgesshillfoodbank.org.uk

(associated with Hassocks and Hurstpierpoint Community Foodbanks)

East Grinstead Foodbank

Jubilee Community Centre, Charlwoods Road, East Grinstead, **07983 209940**



East Grinstead Quarry Café and Community Fridge**

54 Holtye Avenue RH19 3EG, **07724 087336**

Haywards Heath Foodbank, 07884 106719

Bentswood Community Hub Community Larder**

34 America Lane, Haywards Heath RH16 3QB, **01273 443563**

Healthy Start

If you're pregnant or have children under the age of four years old, you may be eligible for the Healthy Start scheme which provides regular payments to spend on fruit, vegetables and milk, as well as free vitamins.

www.healthystart.nhs.uk

Donating to local foodbanks

BanktheFood is a free app which will link you to the needs of your local foodbank. Once you have followed your local food bank the app will send you a helpful 'ping' with a reminder of your food bank's needs when you are shopping in a participating supermarket with a drop-off point.

Useful Contacts



www.Gov.uk has a wide range of support options

West Sussex Citizens Advice Financial Support **0808 278 7969**

West Sussex Citizens Advice Home Energy **01243 974063**

Universal Credit Helpline **0800 144 8444**

NHS Free Prescription **0113 265 0222**

E.ON **0345 052 0000**

EDF Energy **0333 200 5100**

National Grid **105**

Southeast Water **0333 000 0001**

Southern Water **0330 303 0368**

Carers Support **0300 028 8888**

West Sussex Community Hub **033 022 27980** (open 7 days a week). Can help eligible households with costs of fuel or food bills through the Household Support Fund.

Out and about



Into the Blue

Over the last few years, the Council has been supporting the BLUE Campaign's 'Rewilding Britain' initiative to help counter the loss of wildlife habitats across the country, particularly lowland grassland.

Following successful trials in previous years, 2022 saw an expansion of the scheme to 40 sites, many of which were suggested by residents. These sites were then left to 'rewild' over the summer season by leaving the grass uncut. You may have spotted these sites which were marked by BLUE Campaign information signs and blue hearts.

Over the summer, the Countryside Rangers kept an eye on the BLUE Campaign areas, noting some amazing species that appeared once nature was left to do its thing.

There was a good variety of plant species at all the BLUE Campaign sites, along with a selection of invertebrates that had been attracted to the new habitats created. It was great to see meadow grasses such as Yorkshire fog and Timothy grass, wildflowers such as birds-foot trefoil, buttercups, bugle, and bedstraws and to hear the chirping of grasshoppers, the buzzing of bees, and to see numerous butterflies, moths, hoverflies, beetles, bugs, snails, and spiders.

Most notably, we recorded orchids at a number of BLUE Campaign sites, including bee orchids again this year in Burgess Hill, but perhaps one of the most successful sites was at our own council offices campus in central Haywards Heath. Here we had a green-veined orchid,



common spotted orchids, and autumn lady's tresses orchids. Butterflies seemed to love this location and one afternoon we even spotted a chalk hill blue!

Large areas of camomile have also flourished in the Black Hill area of Lindfield Common.

At the end of the summer all sites were cut and cleared, as if left, any cuttings would decompose and enrich the soil with nutrients. Wildflowers thrive in nutrient-poor soil.

More information about the BLUE Campaign at Mid Sussex, including a map showing the locations of this year's sites, can be found on our website at www.midsussex.gov.uk/leisure-sport/bluecampaign/. We will update this webpage with details of the 2023 campaign when available.

More information about the national BLUE Campaign can be found at www.bluecampaignhub.com

Festive Pop to the Shops campaign

POP TO THE SHOPS



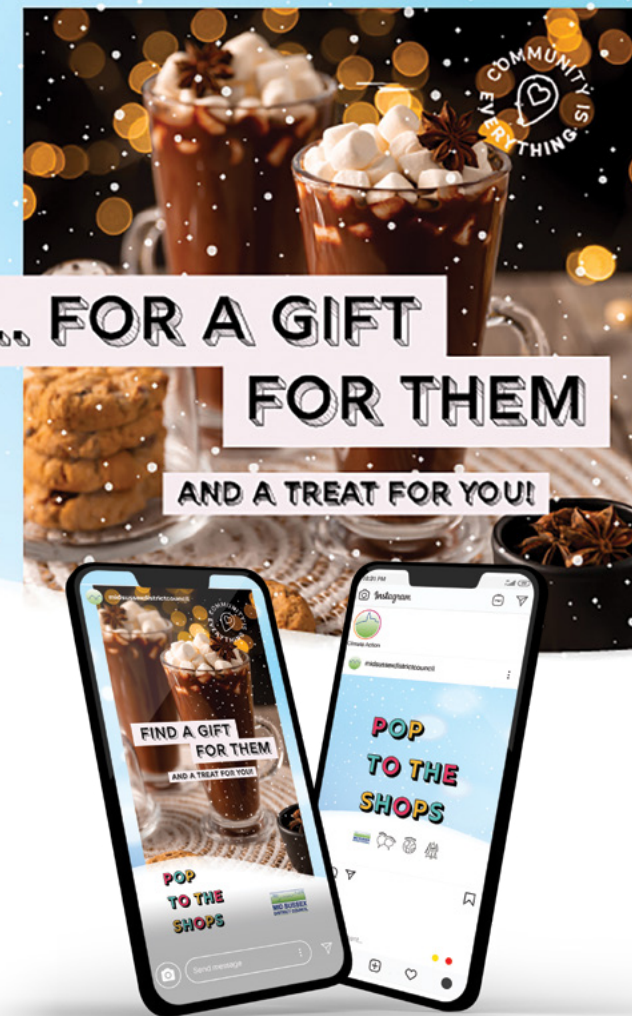
Supporting businesses to start, grow and adapt

The Covid pandemic and economic stress put unprecedented strain on the local economy and the businesses operating within it. During that time the Council took every opportunity to support the local economy in a huge variety of ways.

Projects to help support residents back to our high streets included Santa's Secret Mission, Pop to the Shops and most recently subsidising independent traders to join ShopAppy.com, along with Council funded grant schemes to support businesses to diversify, grow and even start-up.

Grant schemes have included

- MSDC funded Covid-19 Recovery Grants to support businesses to adapt and diversify supporting 42 businesses across the district
- Store Improvement Grants, which allocated over £70,000 to support 24 independent retailers to enhance their business premises or make operational improvements
- A further 48 businesses and start-ups were supported with over £70,000 worth of Micro-business grant funding.
- The current Micro Business Grants scheme has so far awarded £39,230.



Recent business feedback

7th Heaven Beauty Salon in East Grinstead where owner Ellie commented that "Mid Sussex, I felt, handled it better than a lot that I heard about, and the support was incredible. At the end of the phone they were really kind and understanding and the information was, I think, brilliant."

The Fresh Fish Shop Ltd in Haywards Heath was awarded a grant towards the cost of e-commerce and marketing activity. Managing Director, Sebastian, commented "During the pandemic we wanted to ensure we could continue to serve the local community from our shop and offer a comprehensive online ordering and home delivery service for those who were self-isolating, shielding, or simply looking for a safer, convenient way of shopping for food. The development of our e-commerce site has introduced a new way of supplying our products to the local community, as well as highlighting the quality, sustainability, and availability of Sussex seafood to consumers nationwide."

Mid Sussex Osteopaths was awarded a grant towards the cost of staff training to offer new services, marketing, and outreach work. Business owner Adam provided the following feedback: "It has helped push a lot of marketing forward which has accelerated our return to a reasonable level of service. It has also helped us reach out to the community more effectively and helped boost our skill set to offer more to the public."

Find out more about support for our local economy at www.midsussex.gov.uk/business

Waste matters

Festive Recycling Tips

Don't drown under a mountain of packaging this Christmas, 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. Don't forget lids and trigger sprays on plastic bottles are now accepted in your kerbside recycling, just squash the empty bottle first then put the lid back on.

Be sustainable and save money this Christmas...

Celebrate Christmas more sustainably this year and with less waste. Here's some ideas to get you started...

Christmas decorations

- If you buy something durable and store it carefully you can re-use it again and again
- Swap with family and friends if you fancy a change, or donate to charity
- Buy second hand from charity shops
- Get crafty and have a go at making your own – salt dough ornaments, paper chains and stars, door wreaths and swags using natural materials, reusable crackers, and hats. Just search online for ideas.

Christmas cards

- Send e-cards
- Make a Christmas phone/video call
- Choose cards clearly marked as recyclable and with the FSC logo (this means they have been sourced from sustainably managed forests)
- Re-purpose cards by turning them into gift tags for the following year



Gift wrap

- Re-use ribbons and bows from previous gifts
- Make your own – you can use newspaper, magazines, fabric wraps/scarves, out of date maps, or why not have a go at furoshiki, the Japanese art of fabric wrapping, avoiding the need for Sellotape altogether?
- Choose paper with the 'widely recycled' logo on the packaging and avoid shiny, metallic or glitter finishes
- Save good quality paper for use next year
- Don't forget the scrunch test! If it scrunches and stays closed in the palm of your hand the wrapping paper can be recycled
- Shop local and support local businesses, minimising deliveries from online shops

Presents

- Go through what you don't use, want or need and pass unwanted toys and items in good condition to charity, then someone else can enjoy them for Christmas.
- Make memories with gift experiences
- Try making your own gifts such as chutneys, fudge, soap, or crafts. There's lots of great ideas online.
- Buy pre-loved items. You can often find items in new or nearly new condition in high street charity shops or online classifieds such as Vinted, Facebook marketplace and Gumtree, saving money and resources!

- Consider membership to a club or society, donations to charity, sponsorship of an animal or purchasing a tree
- Avoid novelty Christmas gifts. Opt for something that can be used again and again and include a gift receipt

Food Waste

- Get food savvy for Christmas by checking out www.lovefoodhatewaste.com. Find tips on how to create a waste free Christmas dinner, recipes for Christmas leftovers, food storage and other festive food hacks.
- Donate food to your local food bank in Haywards Heath, Burgess Hill and East Grinstead or download food sharing apps such as 'Olio' or 'Too good to go'. Visit www.midsussex.gov.uk/community-recycling-for-details.



Christmas Trees

- Buy a living Christmas tree which can be left in its pot outside and used again the following year
- Short on storage space? Why not consider renting a tree?
- Some Christmas tree farms offer the option for you to return your tree, so it can be shredded and chipped.
- Artificial trees could be donated to your local charity shop, advertised on local community re-use networks such as freecycle, or disposed of at your local recycling centre.
- If you do purchase a real tree that requires disposal you can:
 - (a) chop it up and place it in your garden waste bin if you subscribe to this service
 - (b) take it to one of our local drop off points, or
 - (c) take it to your local recycling centre.

Sport matters

During Winter, fitness is essential in boosting our immune systems and fighting off those winter blues!

Here is our round-up of the top activities to check out this winter across our centres. The perfect way to make memories and spend some active family time outside of the house!

Keeping youngsters busy during the holidays

Combine fun with keeping active! We run a range of holiday activities and short courses including, tennis, trampolining, football, gymnastics, and intensive swimming courses across The Triangle, The Dolphin and Kings Centre. All sessions are coached and/or supervised with structured activities for all ages to prioritise fitness, learning and, most importantly, fun!

For your little ones

Our indoor soft play adventure zones promote healthy play for kids in a safe and clean environment. Or, let your pre-schooler explore as they enjoy an exciting, energy-fuelled Active Play and Bounce session. These sessions offer a variety of activity zones, including ride-on cars and trikes, inflatables, and more with a focus on developing balance, agility, and creativity.

The Triangle also offers Active Play and Paint sessions – with the added opportunity of exploring their creative side. These sessions will offer a festive twist as we approach Christmas!

Age and height restrictions vary – visit your closest centre's website for more details.

For your pre-teen/teenager

For children who are ready to flex their independence, we offer junior gym sessions for 11–15-year-olds. Once they've had their induction and have been shown how to use all of the equipment safely, the teen/pre-teen in your life can attend junior sessions on their own, or with an adult at other times.

Giving children a chance to learn about leading a healthy lifestyle, these sessions encourage healthy habits ready to be taken into adulthood.

Teenage gym



Active Play and Bounce sessions



Inflatable obstacle course. Sessions available to book online at Kings Centre.

For all the family

Fun with the family wouldn't be complete without a challenge – achieved best with an Inflatable Fun session! Think 'Total Wipe Out' style courses with obstacles and slides to be enjoyed by children and adults alike – who can get to the other side first without falling overboard!?

Or, to really keep the family thrill alive, The Triangle are offering 50% off selected Fun Splash and Slide sessions until Sunday 18th December 2022!*

Take a splash for less cash, catch a ride on their flumes and rapids, or zip down their recently reopened, much-loved little splasher slide!

Or, bring out the adventurer in you with The Triangle's state-of-the-art Clip 'n Climb wall. Climbing provides an excellent workout and a fun adventure for all, whether you're looking for a solo workout or some fun time with friends and family. Capture a unique experience to let off some steam or simply share some laughs together.

No matter how you choose to stay active, make it fun with something for all at our leisure centres. Check out our contact information below, take a browse of our websites and get booked in today!

*Available on selected sessions. Discounted sessions run Monday to Friday at the following times; 5.15pm–6.30pm | 5.40pm–6.55pm | 6.05pm–7.20pm | 6.30pm–7.45pm.

Places Leisure

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



Clip 'n Climb at The Triangle. Available to book online.

MID SUSSEX APPLAUDS

Meet our awesome Mid Sussex Applauds 2022 shortlist

Our VIP Awards event takes place on Sunday 20th of November when we will find out the winners of Mid Sussex Applauds 2022.

From an impressive list of over 70 initial nominations we are pleased to introduce our amazing, shortlisted candidates in the words of their nominees! Winners will be featured in our Spring issue.

You can follow the announcements of the winners in real time from 3pm on 20th November at [#midsussexapplauds](https://twitter.com/midsussexapplauds)

MSVA Mid Sussex Voluntary Action

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Mid Sussex Times

www.midsussexapplauds.co.uk

STRONGER COMMUNITIES AWARD

Supported by



Burgess Hill Bonfire Society, "The volunteers are such a fun, enthusiastic, caring bunch. They are invaluable to Burgess Hill and people probably don't realise just how much they do for the town."

Sayers Common Community Shop, "The shop is a real community business, run by volunteers. Any profits are ploughed back into the community."

Igor Srzic Cartledge from Dandylyon Style, "He is constantly taking on challenges to raise money for charities, but it is also the awareness he raises in his own delightful and compelling way. I am sure every single person living in Ardingly knows Igor."

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Supported by

jobsgopublic

Christina Chelmick, Haywards Heath Founder member of CARE which currently has around 300 clients and 150 volunteers: "a selfless individual, she has always shown compassion in abundance."

Jon Martin, "set up Horsted Keynes Conservation Group, initiated litterpicking, parish walks, men's lunch and community film nights."

Andrew Thurgood, Haywards Heath (posthumous nomination). A founding member of Ensemble Reza, "His enduring legacy will be the joy and inspiration he brought to so many, through his amazing playing, teaching and composing."

TAKE PRIDE IN MID SUSSEX

Supported by



John Pierpoint, "John has served Balcombe as unpaid village ranger for decades, he is a true ambassador for village life always with a warm greeting, an engaged conversation and an eye out for a task to be done."

Mark Plass, Lindfield, "is a superb example of community spirit in action,

and an encouragement to those around him. He's a community superstar!"

Derek and Brenda Sisson, Brook Street "Six out of seven days each week (and for the last 10 years) Derek and Brenda collect litter on a one-mile stretch of road from home to Cuckfield. They demonstrate complete and utter pride in the area in which they live. We are extremely proud and grateful to them."

The Monday Group, Hassocks "Made up of retired gentlemen who want to give something back to the community. Their high-quality work building and maintaining stiles and wooden structures helps open up access to nature and the outdoors."

STRONGER TOGETHER AWARD

Supported by



Trevor Carpenter, "Over the past 18 months Trevor Carpenter has given a huge amount of time and energy in setting up Lindfield's Repair Café. Our community is stronger, by Trevor's efforts to show us that repair is best. He's also a kind and community minded member of our village."

Lindy Elphick, "Lindy uses her natural organising ability, business acumen and attention to detail for the benefit of the Cuckfield community."

Lyn (Dizzie) Howes, Sayers Common, "She is the reason we have our wonderful Ukrainian guests and for giving them a real Community. She always puts other before herself and makes sure everyone has everything they need."

Eva Sonner, "Eva set up East Grinstead Mums Facebook group, raises money and organises donations for help people who need help including truckloads of donations for Ukraine."

GOOD SPORT AWARD

Supported by



Ray and Lesley Dennis, East Grinstead "an inspiration to many for decades – they have devoted many thousands of hours to build Ashurst Wood Junior Football Club to the amazing standard it is today"

Michael Wain, Haywards Heath Matt Fiddes Martial Arts. "I've never seen such passion, dedication, kindness and confidence building abilities in a teacher."

John Kendall, West Hoathly Football Club, (posthumous nomination). "He had an engrained belief that everyone could improve in not just football, but all aspects of their life."

BUSINESS IN THE COMMUNITY AWARD

Supported by



Cox Skips, Turners Hill, "a big support to the community over the years."

Old Dunnings Mill, East Grinstead, "nothing is too much trouble."

Tulleys Farm, Turners Hill, "help out whenever they can."

We are particularly proud to announce our shortlisted candidates in the youth categories.

YOUNG VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Supported by



Francesca Butler-King, "without Francesca our junior section (at Woodside Netball Club) wouldn't be the same."

Jessica Divall, "completed over 100 hours volunteering and attended Young Leader Training."

Kieron Fox, "has volunteered with Burgess Hill Youth for two years."

Millie Hill, "Millie has grown in confidence through volunteering by coaching our younger club members."

YOUNG ACHIEVER AWARD

Supported by



Jessica Richardson Blunt "has shown amazing strength and resilience."

Harri Gander "has raised an enormous amount of money for Rockinghorse."

Kobi Ghasemi "a very valuable member of SCYP's youth work team."

Your Council

The following Council and Committee meetings are scheduled to take place over the coming months. Details are correct as at the time of publishing but for current information on the timing and location of meetings please see www.midsussex.gov.uk/council or contact Committee Services on **01444 477222**. All meetings will be broadcast live on the Mid Sussex District Council YouTube page. Meeting agendas and papers will be available online five working days before the meeting.

Wed 16 Nov	Scrutiny Committee for Community, Leisure, and Parking	7.00 pm
Thurs 17 Nov	District Planning Committee	2.00 pm
Mon 21 Nov	Cabinet	4.00 pm
Mon 21 Nov	Standards Committee	6.00 pm
Wed 7 Dec	Council	7.00 pm
Thu 8 Dec	Planning Committee	4.00 pm
Mon 12 Dec	Cabinet Grants Panel	4.00 pm
Tues 13 Dec	Audit Committee	7.00 pm
Thu 15 Dec	District Planning Committee	2.00 pm
Wed 11 Jan	Scrutiny Committee for Leader, Deputy Leader and Housing and Customer Services	7.00 pm
Thu 12 Jan	Planning Committee	4.00 pm
Wed 18 Jan	Scrutiny Committee for Planning, Economic Growth and Net Zero	7.00 pm
Thu 19 Jan	District Planning Committee	2.00 pm
Wed 25 Jan	Charity Trustees	6.45 pm
Wed 25 Jan	Council	7.00 pm
Wed 1 Feb	Scrutiny Committee for Community, Leisure, and Parking	7.00 pm
Mon 6 Feb	Cabinet	4.00 pm
Tue 7 Feb	Licensing Committee	7.00 pm
Thurs 9 Feb	Planning Committee	4.00 pm
Thu 16 Feb	District Planning Committee	2.00 pm
Mon 20 Feb	Cabinet Grants Panel	4.00 pm
Mon 20 Feb	Standards Committee	6.00 pm
Tue 21 Feb	Audit Committee	7.00 pm



Expert advice on paying for care

Long-term care in your own home or in a residential care home is expensive, but with expert advice from independent financial specialists, Carewise can help you to make informed decisions on choosing and paying for the right care.

The Carewise care fees specialists are regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and members of the Society of Later Life Advisers, so you can have peace of mind when discussing your finances.

Carewise could also help to protect your finances for the future. Contact Carewise to find out how you could benefit.



carewiseadvice.com carewise@westsussex.gov.uk 0330 222 7000



Brookleigh update

New homes, new community

The Northern Arc has a new name! Brookleigh

As the project in Burgesss Hill moves away from the design and site preparation phases into a real, living community, Homes England spoke with elected representatives, the history society and secondary school students to explore the possibilities for a permanent name.

In coming up with the name consideration was given to industry, historical connections as well as environment and landscaping. ‘Leigh’ is an old English word meaning ‘clearing in the woods’, and ‘Brook’ comes from the small waterways such as Copyhold and World’s End streams that are a feature of the landscape and habitat of the development area.

A summer of activity

During August, John Sisk & Son installed the precast concrete bridge beams that will form the base of the new road bridge over the River Adur. The bridge forms part of the Eastern Bridge and Link Road which will connect Isaacs Lane to Freeks Farm in the eastern part of the Brookleigh development and will support the construction of the new homes. It will also allow residents access. You can visit the Brookleigh Facebook page and website to view the drone footage and more photography of the bridge installation.



West Sussex County Council (WSCC) has submitted a reserved matters planning application to Mid Sussex District Council (MSDC) for a secondary school at Brookleigh. The secondary school building being proposed will form part of an ‘all-through’ primary and secondary school that The University of Brighton Academies Trust will operate on the Brookleigh development. The primary school element, which will be designed and built later, is being created by Homes England.

Next phase

Since our previous update, MSDC’s District Planning Committee voted to approve Bellway and Homes England’s joint Reserved Matters planning application for 249 homes on land east of Issacs Lane and at Lowlands Farm – the next phase of housing at Brookleigh. 30% of these homes will be affordable housing, and all 249 will be delivered along with public open spaces and an extension to the Bedelands nature reserve.

You can find out more about Brookleigh, including news updates, works notifications and planning applications, online at <https://www.burgesshill.net/housing/brookleigh> or via the Facebook page [@Brookleigh.BH](https://www.facebook.com/Brookleigh.BH).

Festive rubbish and recycling collections

Please place your black and blue lidded wheelie bins out for collection by 7am on your collection day. Any missed collections should be reported using the online missed bin collection form which can be found on our website at www.midsussex.gov.uk/waste-recycling/bin-collection.

Garden Waste

Garden Waste collections will stop between Monday 26 December and Friday 6 January, the last collection being Friday 23 December. Garden waste collections will return to normal from Monday 9 January 2023.

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 open from Friday 30 December to Friday 13 January 2023 where residents can drop off real Christmas trees for recycling. Details of the sites can be found at are available at www.midsussex.gov.uk/treerecycling

Christmas trees can also be disposed of at your local recycling centre. Please check opening hours for the festive period via our website www.midsussex.gov.uk/recycling-centres

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

Rubbish and recycling collection days will change only from Mon 26 Dec as detailed below

Normal collection date	Festive collection date
Monday 26 Dec	Tuesday 27 Dec
Tuesday 27 Dec	Wednesday 28 Dec
Wednesday 28 Dec	Thursday 29 Dec
Thursday 29 Dec	Friday 30 Dec
Friday 30 Dec	Saturday 31 Dec
Monday 2 Jan 2023 onwards	Return to normal schedule

Key contacts for Council Services

www.midsussex.gov.uk

Email: enquiries@midsussex.gov.uk

Our reception is open.

Mon – Thurs 8.45am – 5.15pm

Friday 8.45am – 4.15pm

Mid Sussex District Council,
Oaklands, Oaklands Road, Haywards
Heath, West Sussex RH16 1SS

Telephone: **01444 458166**

For emergencies outside office hours
call **01444 458166**.

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    – find us at

MidSussexDistrictCouncil

