

Mid Sussex Matters

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Parks Improvement Plans

**New multi-million pound
Centre for Outdoor Sport**

Food waste trial update



No ID? You can apply for free voter ID

Find out more at

electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID

or call 0800 328 0280



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Please recycle your copy once you have read it.



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Victoria Park,
Haywards Heath

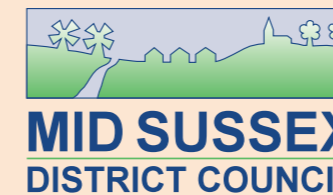
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Welcome to the spring 2023 issue

2022 was a busy year for your Council and, in this issue, we wanted to report back to you on the work we have done for Mid Sussex. Delivering high quality local services for residents will always be our number one priority.

This approach shapes our budget for the year ahead as well. Our budget proposes significant expansions of our garden waste and bulky waste services as well as progressing our parks masterplans and Centre for Outdoor Sport. You can read more about both exciting projects in this edition.

Ensuring value for money is also critical. While Council Tax will increase, it will do so significantly below the rate of inflation. It will also go up by less than the Government's cap due to careful financial management. MSDC's share of Council Tax remains the third lowest of any District Council in East or West Sussex.

Finally, I would like to thank the 3,000 households who have been taking part in our trial of weekly food waste collections. The trial has been a huge success, with most residents participating regularly and over 120 tonnes of food waste being turned into clean energy in the first 12 weeks. The trial is testing how the service can work best for residents as we are keen to provide it across the whole district.

Clr 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

Your Council Tax

Your council tax payments are split between the organisations that support and provide a huge range of vital services throughout the district. When you receive your bill it will list all these elements and the percentage of your monies that are allocated to them.

Recently published rates for 2023/2024 give the expected increase and an idea of what this means for a Band D property (which is the average rate).

Mid Sussex District Council **2.75%** increase, **£4.95** for the year

Sussex Police **6.67%** increase, **£15** for the year

West Sussex County Council **4.99%** increase, **£77.67** for the year

Your bill will also include an amount from your own Town or Parish Council.

To give an idea of how this works out. **For each £1 of your Council Tax (for a Band D property) this would result in payment to each authority of**

9p to Mid Sussex District Council

11p to Sussex Police

4p (on average) to Town and Parish Councils

76p to West Sussex County Council.

FREE English Classes

We are supporting Citizens Advice West Sussex in delivering free English Classes in Burgess Hill, East Grinstead and Haywards Heath. Please share this information with anyone you think might benefit.

Come along to make new friends and practice your English speaking.

More details from Citizens Advice on **01273 944460** or **community.engagement@westsussex.org.uk**



Jubilee bench winners

Charlotte (from Lindfield), Eliza (from Horsted Keynes), and Maisie were the winners of our 'Design a woodland seat' competition as part of the Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

The group recently visited Burgess Hill Shed to see the finished product and were presented with a commemorative Jubilee coin and a certificate by MSDC Vice Chairman Councillor Phillip Coote.

The Platinum Jubilee bench will be placed alongside 250 new trees we have planted at Ashenground Woods Nature Reserve in Haywards Heath.

Local Elections 2023

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

Would you like to be a local Councillor?

Councillors serve and represent the community in many ways, including:

- Responding to queries and issues from local people, investigating concerns, helping with solutions (this is called casework).
- Keeping the community informed about local issues and events – for example through email, newsletters, blogs, social media and in person.
- Attending formal council meetings as well as meetings with local organisations.

If you are interested in becoming an elected representative in your community you can find out more at www.midsussex.gov.uk/elections-voting/being-a-councillor or contact the Elections Team on elections@midsussex.gov.uk **01444 477003**. Nominations close on Tuesday 4th of April.

New Changing Places facility

Residents welcomed the completion of new, modern public toilets at the start of the year in next to the Orchards Shopping Centre Haywards Heath. The new building includes a Changing Places toilet, designed to meet the needs of disabled children and adults who require extra space, appropriate equipment, and support from carers.



Street Party Celebrations

The Coronation of His Majesty The King will take place on Saturday 6th of May 2023 at Westminster Abbey in London. A bank holiday has been declared for Monday 8th May as an opportunity for families and communities across the country to come together to celebrate.

If you are planning a Street Party remember to apply for a temporary road closure. You can find out details at of Mid Sussex arrangements at www.midsussex.gov.uk/the-coronation/ The deadline for applications will be Friday 31st of March and there is no charge for commemorative celebrations. You can find helpful tips, advice and support for organising a successful street party at www.streetparty.org.uk

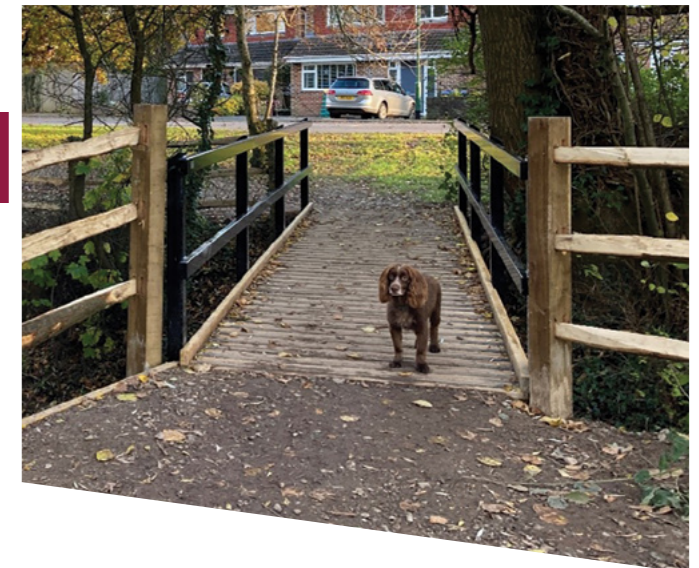
New footbridge for popular nature reserve

Great news for visitors to Scrase Valley Local Nature Reserve! A new footbridge has now been installed, creating a welcoming entrance into the nature reserve from Croxton Lane, Lindfield.

During last year, the old bridge was found to be coming to the end of its life. While the new bridge was being constructed a temporary scaffolding bridge was put in place so the entrance could stay open.

The new bridge is a sturdy wood and metal construction, an upgrade on the previous all-wooden bridge, and should last for many years to come. As you can see in the photo, Rolo the Ranger dog approves!

You can find out more about our nature reserves at www.midsussex.gov.uk/environment/nature-conservation-and-landscape



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 at [MidSussexDistrictCouncil](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)

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

First residents move in at Brookleigh

The first new houses at Brookleigh in Burgess Hill are now complete and the first residents have been welcomed to their new homes. Countryside Partnerships is building 460 homes at Brookleigh, with over 50% of them as affordable housing in partnership with affordable housing provider Sage Homes.

Affordable Housing enables local people on the Housing Register who are assessed as being in priority housing need to have a home to call their own.

One of the first local people to benefit is Jemima and her two-year-old daughter Alayia.

When Jemima and her partner separated in 2022, she worried that finding an Affordable Home would take herself and daughter far from their hometown.

After Jemima and Alayia spent two weeks in emergency accommodation in Brighton and almost two months in temporary accommodation, Mid Sussex District Council found them a brand new two-bedroom apartment delivered by Sage Homes at the new settlement of Brookleigh being built between Wivelsfield station and Burgess Hill.

The 24-year-old said: "When my relationship went south, it left me needing to get a house for me and Alayia, but we had nowhere to go."

Jemima said she loves her new Affordable Rented home – especially the size of the rooms, the carpets and the décor – and Alayia has settled right in.

She said: "There's nothing in the property I don't like. I'm so happy that we have got somewhere we can call home because in the last two months I've moved four times with Alayia."



She added that the best aspect is that they stayed living in Burgess Hill – she is five minutes from her work as a dementia care support worker and a short drive from family who help to look after Alayia, who has autism.

She said: "I was quite worried we would be far from everyone, so it's the best thing in the world that my sister lives up the road and my mum is five minutes away; I'm just so happy."

"If it wasn't for this development, we probably wouldn't have been in Burgess Hill and with my family – it means a lot to me to stay locally in my own Affordable Home, and I'll be forever grateful for it."

Jemima's home is one of 237 Affordable Homes being delivered by Sage Homes at Brookleigh in partnership with developer Countryside Properties and Homes England.

All Sage Homes available for Affordable Rent at Brookleigh will be allocated by Mid Sussex District Council to people on its housing register assessed as being in priority housing need.

If you are interested in a Shared Ownership home at Brookleigh with Sage Homes, visit: www.sagehomes.co.uk/sales/listing/oakhurst



West Sussex County Council's plans to build a new £57m zero-carbon secondary school in Burgess Hill were granted full planning permission on 15 December 2022. West Sussex County Council has recently appointed Willmott Dixon Construction Ltd as its contractor and initial work is set to begin on site later this year.

Towards the end of 2023, Homes England expect to see a planning application submitted for the next school building at Brookleigh – the primary school site of the Bedelands Academy which will be built close by the secondary school.

Later this spring Bellway will be on site to build 249 homes on land east of Isaacs Lane and at Lowlands Farm. 30% of these homes will be Affordable Housing, built alongside public open spaces and an extension to the Bedelands nature reserve.

John Sisk & Son and Jackson Civil Engineering continue their work on the link roads to the east and west of the site, which will open up access for construction traffic to new development plots for housing, schools,

neighbourhood centres and Mid Sussex District Council's Centre for Outdoor Sport.

If you have any questions relating to Brookleigh, please email Brookleigh@homesengland.gov.uk or visit the dedicated Facebook page at [@Brookleigh.BH](https://www.facebook.com/Brookleigh.BH)

You can find out more about Brookleigh at www.burgesshill.net/housing/brookleigh.



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

Waste matters



'I think it is a great step forward. And it makes us all aware of how much food is wasted'

'When the trial first started, I didn't think it was a good idea but now think it is really good.'

1-2-3 trial approaching six-month mark!

Last autumn we successfully launched our 1-2-3 collection service trial to just over 3,000 residents within three areas of Mid Sussex. We delivered every trial property an indoor grey caddy to collect the food waste and an outdoor lockable green bin to present on their collection days. Communal properties also received their indoor caddies and a larger green communal bin in their existing bin stores.

Mid Sussex residents in parts of Ashurst Wood, Burgess Hill and Lindfield were selected to take part in the new waste collection trial to represent a mix of housing types and locations and to ensure that the trial was representative of the whole of the District. The trial will

enable Mid Sussex District Council and West Sussex County Council to assess the feasibility of rolling out a similar service across the whole of our District.

We thanked our residents taking part in the food waste collection trial after they recycled 29 tonnes of food waste in the first four weeks. We continue to welcome all feedback regarding the 1-2-3 trial and many residents not selected in the trial have expressed interest in the food waste collection when it is available to them.

You can find out more at www.midsussex.gov.uk/waste-recycling/123collections

School Council Visit

We were delighted to welcome the School Council of Warden Park Primary Academy on a recent visit.

The pupils met the Leader of the Council, Cllr Jonathan Ash-Edwards, saw a Council Committee in action, tried out voting in a polling booth and talked to colleagues in our waste and recycling team.

"I just wanted to say the BIGGEST THANK YOU! Our afternoon with you was absolutely fantastic. I asked the children what their favourite part of the afternoon was and it was a really mixed bag! The most popular answers were: watching the meeting, using the microphones, voting and seeing the recycling truck (so basically everything!)" **Class teacher.**



East Grinstead business leader chosen to support Digital Futures

Barney Durrant, director of Bluebell Digital, will be the business voice for the Digital Futures programme in Crawley and Mid Sussex.

Digital Futures was launched to inspire jobseekers and people at all stages of their careers to discover the range of digital roles available in West Sussex, to connect local businesses with local talent and to increase aspiration for digital careers across the county. A range of events and information sessions will take place throughout 2023.

Barney has more than 20 years' experience in the digital sector. After seven years working at Google, he set up his own digital marketing company, Bluebell Digital, in East Grinstead.

"I'm passionate about the internet and the opportunities that digital

can offer young people and those looking for a change in direction in their careers.

"As a digital marketer, my business is closely aligned with educating businesses about what they can achieve online so this project seems like a natural fit for me. I can't wait to engage with people across the county on this vital area for our future economic development."

Barney will support Digital Futures alongside two other ambassadors: Mark Bullen, managing director of GB Electronics in Worthing, and Luke Mead, chief executive of LMS Group in Chichester. The ambassadors will play a key role in supporting businesses in their local area to attract homegrown tech talent, as well as supporting jobseekers with guidance on suitable entry routes to digital jobs and showcasing the benefits of a digital career in the county.



Events will take place across the county in 2023. Our Mid Sussex events will be

Burgess Hill
Burgess Hill Library
Monday 27th March 10am - 3pm

Haywards Heath
The Orchards
Thursday 18th May 10am - 3pm

East Grinstead
East Grinstead Library Thursday
7th September 10am - 3pm

Drop in to find out more about the local opportunities available to you at any stage of your digital career.

There will be further sessions across the County throughout the year, you can find out more details at www.digitalfuturesws.co.uk



2022 year review

At Mid Sussex District Council we continue to work towards being an effective Council delivering value for money services and helping to create a strong economy, environment and community. Our priorities continue to be:

Effective and responsive services

Sustainable economic growth

Strong and resilient communities

Financial independence


You can find our Corporate Plan and Budget online at www.midsussex.gov.uk


Looking back 2022 in Numbers


Below are some examples of our achievements in the last year giving an example of the volume and range of work carried out.


Waste and Recycling


 **4,077,710** bin collections in the year from 66,622 households

 **44%** of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting


 General waste – **27,764** tonnes


 Recycling – **14,522** tonnes


 Garden waste – **8,235** tonnes


 **193** tonnes of dog waste collected from 420 bins.*


Housing, Planning and Safety

 **726** face-to-face queries about housing

 **67** households helped to access the private rented sector.

 **6,902** Building Control site inspections


 **5,141** Environmental Health requests


 **91** Disabled Facility Grants completed to deliver a range of home adaptations to help people to live more independently in their own homes.


*Bins are provided by Mid Sussex District Council and Town and Parish Council.

NOTE These figures cover numbers in 2022 as far as can be broken down within the dates.


Business and finance


 **98.3%** in year collection rate for Council Tax

 **445** new Housing Benefit claims processed in an average of 20 days. 9,796 changes in circumstances recalculations


 **1,603** new Council Tax Support claims processed in an average of 16.5 days, with 20,848 changes in circumstances recalculations


 Paid out Council Tax £150 Energy Rebates to **40,366** recipients


 Supported **43** small businesses to expand or take on an apprentice


 **4,499** invoices paid, 98.2% within 10 days of receipt


Community and Leisure

 **1,785** people assisted by our Wellbeing Service to adopt a healthier lifestyle.


 **1,088,720** visits to our Leisure Centres


 **£22,168** Platinum Jubilee celebration grants funding to 37 neighbourhood, charity, and local organisations across the district

 **£92,949** paid to 20 community and voluntary groups as part of the Council's Community Grants Scheme

 **10** Playdays on Tour events brought free fun and entertainment across the District in the Summer holidays

Responding

 **62,568** calls taken by the Customer Service Centre

 **931** freedom of information responses

 **9,221** visitors to reception

 **495,667** unique website visitors

Focus on Sustainability

In 2022 we agreed the **Sustainable Economy Strategy and Action Plan** and set a target for Mid Sussex District Council to become NetZero by 2040 for carbon emissions the Council directly controls..

We've already begun to reduce our carbon emissions by installing PV solar panels on our building and switching our parking enforcement fleet to electric vehicles. In the past year we have made further progress –

60 electric vehicle charge points installed in Council owned car parks.

153 applications to Warmer Homes scheme to improve home energy efficiency and reduce bills. £66,954 of grant money spent on energy efficiency improvements so far.

We worked with Solar Together as part of group buying scheme for residents to purchase solar panels and battery storage systems. Recent figures show Mid Sussex leading the installation numbers compared to other participants in Sussex with **305 homes being accepted onto the scheme** (the average being 118 homes).

Supporting the **BLUE campaign** by allowing **40 sites to rewild, supporting environmental diversity.**

In Burgess Hill over **3,500 metres of footways, cycle paths and bridleways** enhanced to provide safe and reliable alternatives to using the car.

Trialling a **'1-2-3' enhanced recycling and rubbish collection**, including food waste trial collection.

You can find our Sustainable Economy Strategy and Action Plan on www.midsussex.gov.uk

Mount Noddy

Victoria Park

The Hemsleys

Parks Improvement Plans

Over the last couple of years, the Council has been working with local residents and our consultants landscape architects, Allen Scott, in the creation of six long term masterplans for the parks. These will determine how these green spaces will be used and enjoyed by everyone in the future. The six sites are:

Brooklands Park – East Grinstead

Finches Field and Hemsleys Meadow – Pease Pottage

London Road Recreation Ground – Hassocks

Mount Noddy Recreation Ground – East Grinstead

St Johns Park – Burgess Hill

Victoria Park – Haywards Heath

Funding has been agreed for the first phase of delivery for three of these plans. This phase includes full delivery of the Finches Field and Hemsleys Meadow and Mount Noddy Recreation Ground plans and delivery of parts of the Victoria Park plan. Funding has been secured developer S106 contributions, capital funding from the Council and part funding from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

We are now working on refining these plans and over the course of the next couple of months we will be re-engaging with local residents on these three sites. We are making it easier for everyone to keep up to date with all these projects via our Engagement Hub which can be found on the Council's main website.

Parks Masterplans

Mount Noddy Masterplan

Find out more about the improvement plans for Mount Noddy, East Grinstead.

[View Project](#)

Victoria Park Masterplan

Find out more about the improvement plans for Victoria Park, Haywards Heath.

[View Project](#)

Hemsleys Meadow and Finches Field Masterplan

Find out more about the improvement plans for Hemsleys Meadow and Finches Field, Pease Pottage.

[View Project](#)

Brooklands Park Masterplan

Find out more about the improvement plans for Brooklands Park, East Grinstead.

[View Project](#)



engage.midsussex.gov.uk

Plans revealed for multi million-pound Centre for Outdoor Sport

On 8th March a public exhibition event took place at The Triangle to show plans for the new Centre for Outdoor Sport in Burgess Hill. This followed a comprehensive consultation with key user clubs from Burgess Hill, local secondary schools, over 100 potential user clubs from the wider area and relevant national governing bodies of sport.

Display material from the exhibition can be viewed at: <https://engage.midsussex.gov.uk/cfos>

On the site you can download a copy of the plan, read about the background and changes made to the scheme in response to feedback from the consultation.

Your feedback

On the Engagement site you can fill out the online feedback form the purpose of which is so MSDC can consider the facilities most eagerly awaited by residents. This may help inform the order in which we construct the centre's sporting facilities.

Get updates

You can also opt into receiving occasional email updates from MSDC about progress with the delivery of the Centre for Outdoor Sport by providing contact details and two permission.

Next stages

It is hoped that planning permission can be sought in 2023 with construction beginning soon after.

Key elements of the Centre for Outdoor Sport include



Key

- A. Full size 3G football pitch
- B. Clubhouse
- C. RFU compliant artificial grass rugby pitch
- D. Access road and parking
- E. New access from Link Road
- F. Natural turf U13/U14 football pitch (11 v 11)
- G. Natural turf U18 football pitch (11 v 11)
- H. Natural turf mini soccer U9/U10 pitch (7 v 7)
- I. Natural turf mini soccer U9/U10 pitch (7 v 7)
- J. Artificial cricket wicket and natural turf outfield
- K. Green Circle
- L. Six lane tarmac 60m running straight
- M. Play area (LEAP)
- N. Storage containers
- O. Attenuation basin

— Site boundary
— Footpath



Going with the Flow

Finding your chosen career path can be much more complex than a clear response to the question “What do you want to be?” at school.

Opportunities for learning and development come in many shapes. We met up with James Howard, also a Mid Sussex STEM Challenge Ambassador, who took time to find the path to his successful role at Flowserve in Haywards Heath.

After GCSEs I made the decision to do A-levels. I wasn't very motivated when I did my A-levels as I didn't know what I wanted to do. I was just there to be there. But you can't just coast through A-levels and when I finished, I was disappointed at my results and didn't really know what to do next.

When I was starting out there wasn't really the opportunity for apprenticeships. There was a massive push for university – that's how it was in the mindset

of people my age, – but it isn't the best fit for everyone. Now things seem to be different, but without the A-levels I needed to go to university it threw me for a bit to have that option taken away.

I got a job at Alders Department Store but very quickly realised retail was not for me. From there I went to work with one of my old teachers. He worked with kids who had fallen out of the school system, and I joined the team in an assistant mentoring role. Kids would

come in and we would teach them basic Maths and English, do a bit of mentoring and give them a person to talk to. I'd talk to the kids about what they should be doing; – study and get a good education – and I started to realise I wasn't really practicing what I was preaching because I wasn't taking my own advice.

So, I did a bit of research and found that Brighton University offered a 1-year foundation course as a route to an engineering degree – and that's where it kicks off more positively for me. I was interested in the subject, and I had the motivation. I worked hard, went to all the lectures and started to win awards. Out of the five years I was at University I think I got awards every year.

What would you say to your 18-year old self?

That's a hard one! But I would probably say 'put effort in, do that and you will take positives from it, wherever you may eventually end up.'

My engineering degree was a sandwich course which included a one-year internship – and that internship I did at Flowserve. The internship opportunity at Flowserve has been key to my career success since, without Flowserve, I'm not sure where I would be now. That year in industry really learning how it is to be in an actual organisation and get experience was incredibly valuable. I had a really good manager, Paul, and when I finished the internship, he wanted me to do a project for Flowserve as part of my degree. So, in my final year I'd do three days a week at Uni and two days at Flowserve. I won an IMechE Award for that project (Institution of Mechanical Engineers). I went back to university to get my Masters, by which time I had already been offered a job at Flowserve, which was great for me.

James joined Flowserve full time as a staff engineer in 2015 and several promotions later is now Global Engineering Leader. For me it's been quite a big challenge, but it's been an interesting challenge and I've learned a lot, I'm still learning a lot.

James now heads up a team of engineers in the UK and globally, he is a keen advocate for internships, apprenticeship and work experience opportunities and is inspiring the next generation as a STEM Ambassador working with students at Burgess Hill Secondary Academy as part of the 2022-23 Mid Sussex STEM Challenge.

For info about opportunities at Flowserve contact wvukinfo@flowserve.com

Local history

Keen eyes will be able to spot a Blue Plaque on the Flowserve office in Haywards Heath. As the office of Norris Brothers Limited the site was associated with a landmark of UK engineering history. Born in Cuckfield the brothers helped design the Bluebird hydroplane boats driven by Donald Campbell as he pushed the limits of waterspeed records in the 1950s and 60s. The brothers Lew, Ken and Eric spent more than a decade designing the “Bluebird 7” hydroplane in Haywards Heath in which Donald Campbell sadly lost his life attempting the World Water Speed Record on 4th January 1967.



Workplace wellbeing

Helping you have a healthy workplace

Book a FREE Wellbeing MOT Day for your staff

Working adults spend on average one-third of their waking hours at work, making the workplace a powerful influence on health and wellbeing. Healthy employees help drive a healthy business. Therefore a proactive approach to the health and wellbeing of employees within the workplace, or working from home, is key to a happier, healthier, engaged, and more productive workforce.

The economic cost of ill health on the UK's economy is estimated at £100 billion each year.

How can the Wellbeing Team support your business and employees?

Wellbeing Teams are on hand to provide FREE advice, guidance and support for a range of health behaviours. Their aim is to enable staff to make small, realistic changes to improve their health and wellbeing, both physically and psychologically.

What the Workplace Wellbeing Teams offer

- 30 Minute appointments with a qualified Wellbeing Advisor
- Staff members receive immediate information using body composition scales
- Personalised advice around lifestyle
- Anonymised report and suggestions for your business around Staff Wellbeing

For more details or to book visit midsussex.westsussexwellbeing.org.uk

or contact wellbeing@midsussex.gov.uk 01444 477362

Three races – three towns – three days

Mid Sussex Marathon will once again bring communities of Mid Sussex together to run through the streets, trails and pathways in and around Mid Sussex.

Participants can challenge themselves to complete an individual town race or complete the full marathon distance of 26.2 miles over the three days.

Families, younger runners and those new to running are encouraged to participate with Fun Runs and Mile races taking place each day.



Join the volunteer team!

Volunteers are a vital part of Mid Sussex marathon. There are a range of roles and no experience is needed – just lots of enthusiasm and a friendly disposition! If you are interested in joining the team please register at www.midsussexmarathon.co.uk/become-a-volunteer



Saturday 29th April
East Grinstead, EG Rugby Club RH19 4JU
9.30am Mid Sussex Fun Run
10.00am Mid Sussex Mile
10.30am 10 Mile Race

Sunday 30th April
Haywards Heath, Victoria Park RH16 4HT
9.30am Mid Sussex Fun Run
10.00am Mid Sussex Mile
10.30am 10 Mile Race

Monday 1st May
Burgess Hill, The Burgess Hill Academy, RH15 9EA
9.30am Mid Sussex Fun Run
10.00am Mid Sussex Mile
10.30am 10K Race

Those who take part in all three races over the weekend will receive a Mid Sussex Marathon Weekend technical t-shirt and a much coveted bespoke 3-part medal. Find out more at www.midsussexmarathon.co.uk

Leisure Centre update

Sport matters



The weather is starting to warm and we can't wait to welcome you to our centres across the district to move your body and engage your mind!

Not sure where to start? Read on to find out what we suggest getting stuck into this Spring...

Making a swimming start

Swimming is a valuable life skill. Make it a part of your little one's routine and ensure they have a lifetime of water safety and enjoyment.

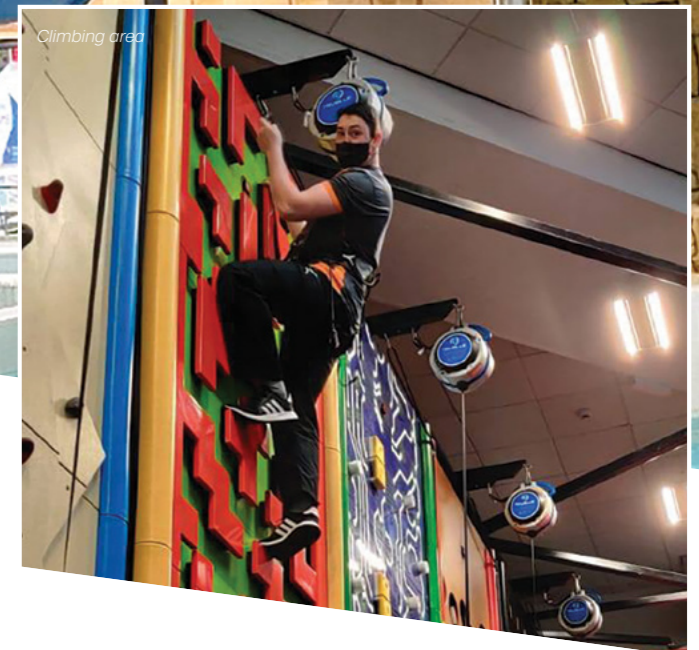
Our Intensive Swimming courses are taking place during April to fast-track progress in the pool ahead of Summer. If you're looking to progress your child through a particularly difficult swim stage or simply want them to brush up on their skills before the holidays, these courses are a fantastic option.

Just looking for a casual swim? Why not try our leisure pool at The Triangle featuring cascade falls, beach area, jacuzzi, indoor and outdoor rapids; along with two flumes – the ideal Spring swimming spot!

Courses for the kids

Did you know that learning a new skill gives children time away from the classroom to destress, improve self-esteem and take pride in overcoming physical challenges?

We offer a wide range of courses across our centres for children of all ages and abilities.



Defy gravity on the trampoline, get to grips with gymnastics or join one of our many sports clubs.

Just visiting

Our centres offer a variety of activities whatever the weather. As the cold of winter is put behind us, why not mix up your usual activity with something different on a pay when you visit basis.

Pick up a racket on our courts and challenge friends to some healthy competition in a tournament of squash, padel, badminton or tennis.

Get clipped into our climbing arena and explore the different interactive walls – just don't look down!

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

Safety matters

Keep yourself safe against scammers

Sadly, scams can be difficult to spot as fraudsters find more sophisticated ways to try and get hold of people's money. Anyone can fall victim to fraud and in Mid Sussex victims are reporting more incidents of impersonator and doorstep fraud than many other types of fraud. Older residents are particularly vulnerable.

Could you help take a Stand Against Scams?

Friends Against Scams is a National Trading Standards Scams Team initiative which aims to protect and prevent people from becoming victims of scams by empowering people to take a stand against scams.

You can learn how to protect yourself and your loved ones from scams by completing the Friends Against Scams awareness session and help to raise awareness throughout your community.

Visit www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk for more details.



Safety matters

Doorstep fraud occurs when someone knocks on your door and unexpectedly offers goods or services. They may try to convince you that work is required urgently and may put pressure on you to have this carried out immediately and may ask for an upfront payment. Often the work is not done or is completed to a poor standard, and you may also be overcharged for any work done.

Protect yourself:

- Always check their identity and do not let anyone into your home under any circumstances if you are suspicious. Never leave your front door open and unattended
- Take time to consider your options and don't be pressured into making a quick decision. Have the confidence to say no to cold callers if you feel pressured
- Never pay upfront for goods or services you have not received.

Impersonator fraud occurs when someone calls or messages you claiming to be from a trusted organisation such as your bank, the police, HMRC or utility or internet company. They may claim that there is an issue with your account or request assistance with an ongoing investigation and ask you to carry out a task that will ultimately involve you handing over your money. In some cases, they may send a courier to collect your card/cash/PIN number.

Protect yourself:

- Never share your PIN with anyone or provide your card details to a cold caller to make a payment
- If you received an unexpected call, hang up and use another phone to call back and confirm identity
- Never allow a cold caller remote access to your computer
- Speak to family/friends before carrying out any actions
- Trusted organisations will never ask you for your PIN or password or ask you to transfer money to a safe account.

If you think you have been scammed, report it and get help

- **Sussex Police:** Phone 101 (non emergency) or report online at www.sussex.police.uk
- **Action Fraud:** Phone 0300 123 2040 or online at www.actionfraud.police.uk
- **Crimestoppers:** Report crime anonymously on 0800 555111 or online at www.crimestoppers-uk.org



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.



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.

westsussexconnecttosupport.org

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



MID SUSSEX APPLAUDS

Mid Sussex Applauds our amazing Community Champions



Plans for the 2023 Awards are well underway and we will soon be on the lookout for your nominations.



MEDIA SPONSORS
Mid Sussex Times

The Mid Sussex Applauds Awards 2022 celebrated the amazing people, groups and organisations in Mid Sussex.

The 2022 Awards were made in the following eight categories -

BUSINESS IN THE COMMUNITY AWARD

Sponsored by **Shop Appy**

Highly Commended – Cox Skips and Tulleys Farm.

Winner – Old Dunnings Mill

Lisa McNamara the Manager at Dunnings Mill has supported Being Neighbourly, a community group in East Grinstead and especially the Tuesday group called Chatter Chat, established for isolated elderly neighbours to meet up for a jolly good chat.

GOOD SPORT AWARD

Sponsored by **Places Leisure**

Highly Commended - John Kendall (posthumous) of West Hoathly Football Club and Michael Wain of Matt Fiddes Martial Arts.

Winner – Ray and Lesley Dennis

Ray and Lesley have been an inspiration to many for decades having devoted many thousands of hours to build Ashurst Wood Junior Football Club to the amazing standard today. From an immense struggle to keep the club going they now have over 200 children playing (ages 5 to 17 years) in many teams - making the club financially sound and achieving England Football accredited status.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Sponsored by **Jobs Go Public**

Highly Commended - Andrew Thurgood (posthumous) and Jon Martin.

Winner – Christina Chelmick

Christina is a founder member of Good Neighbours Care. Currently the organisation, which relies on finding volunteers, has around 150 it can call upon for the needs of over 300 clients across the area. They help with with tasks such as organising transportation for shopping trips, Hospital, GP and Dentist appointments.

STRONGER COMMUNITIES AWARD

Sponsored by **CJ Founds**

Highly Commended – Burgess Hill Bonfire Society and Sayers Common Community Shop.

Winner – Dandyllion Style, Ardingly

Dandyllion Style have come into the village and very quickly become a focal point for the Ardingly community. They have tackled social exclusion by regularly holding coffee mornings and lunches for the elderly. They put everything on free of charge and they even collect and drop off residents so they can attend.

STRONGER TOGETHER AWARD

Sponsored by **Orchards Shopping Centre**

Highly Commended – Lindy Elphick, Lyn (Dizzie) Howes and Eva Sonneveld.

Winner – 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. Trevor has worked relentlessly to make the Café a success - inspiring volunteers, building skills, linking the community and tackling waste. "I can't think of anyone who deserves a round of applause more than Trevor."

YOUNG VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Sponsored by **Clarion Futures**

Highly Commended – Kieron Fox and Millie Hill.

Joint Winners – Francesca Butler-King and Jessica Divall

Francesca is a committed young member of Woodside Netball Club who attends training and coaches the young children from the ages of 5 to 12.

Jessica has been a regular volunteer with sessions run by Albion in the Community as part of the youth club programme. Jess completed over 100 hours of volunteering and attended Young Leader Training.

TAKE PRIDE IN MID SUSSEX AWARD

Sponsored by **id Verde**

Highly Commended – Mark Plass, Derek and Brenda Sisson.

Joint Winners – John Pierpoint and The Monday Group

John has served Balcombe as an unpaid village ranger for decades. He keeps the verges mown and drains unblocked. Mending and tending to our hedges, footpaths, signposts, fences, bus stops and flower beds, he keeps the village clean and tidy and its assets working.

The Monday Group is made up of volunteers who build and maintain stiles and other wooden structures on public rights-of-way across the district and wider afield. In 2021 there have been 227 jobs completed including 73 stile repairs and 33 new stile, 56 clearance jobs and seven gates.

YOUNG ACHIEVER AWARD

Sponsored by **HSBC**

Highly Commended – Harri Gander and Kobi Ghasemi.

Winner – Jessica Richardson Blunt

Jessica has shown amazing strength and resilience through some major changes in her life. Jessica works with a positive outlook, to the best of her abilities and, as a result, she has made excellent academic progress. Jess was in a class 'Student Councillor' in Key Stage 4 and is now House Captain.

PEER NOMINATED AWARD

In this category each nominee is given the chance to vote for their favourite in any of the categories. The winner was – The Monday Group who were delighted to have been chosen.

Awards were presented by MSDC Chairman Councillor Margaret Belsey alongside sponsors and High Sheriff of West Sussex James Whitmore. Full details of the winners' stories can be found at www.midsussexapplauds.co.uk

Thanks to our 2022 sponsors



If you could like to sponsor our Community Awards in 2023 please contact press@midsussex.gov.uk



Chairman's Charity – Kangaroos

Each Chairman of MSDC nominates a charity to fundraise for during their term. Our current Chairman, Councillor Margaret Belsey, has been championing the work of local charity, Kangaroos.

Supporting people with learning disabilities and their families and now heading into its 29th year, Kangaroos provides recreational clubs and activities that help disabled people exercise their right to fun, leisure and recreation.

For 2023, Kangaroos is looking for a new site for their hub in Mid Sussex to help them support more families with learning disabilities in the area. With an intake of new members and the search for a new premises will come the need for more funding too.

Kangaroos have some fantastic fundraising opportunities this year. From completing a challenge to becoming a member of their coffee club, there is a way for everyone to get involved and help support them.

Head to their website to find out how you can donate, and help Kangaroos bring colour to the lives of people with learning disabilities.

www.kangaroos.org.uk

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 (option 2)**. 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.

Mon 13 Mar	Cabinet	4.00 pm
Wed 15 Mar	Scrutiny Committee Planning, Economic Growth and Net Zero	7.00 pm
Thu 16 Mar	District Planning Committee	2.00 pm
Wed 22 Mar	Scrutiny Committee, Community, Leisure and Parking	7.00 pm
Wed 29 Mar	Council	7.00 pm
Thurs 13 Apr	Planning Committee	4.00 pm
Thurs 20 Apr	District Planning Committee	2.00 pm
Wed 24 May	Annual Council	7.00 pm

Are you interested in working at our local elections?

We are looking for staff to work at polling stations and the count venue on 4/5 May 2023.

For full details of pay and allowances visit www.midsussex.gov.uk/elections-voting/election-staffing



Clair Hall update

The Council is working to secure an investment partner and cultural anchor tenant for a modern community and entertainment venue on the Clair Hall site.

It follows the decision to accept the recommendations of BOP, the cultural and creative industry experts who have been advising the project. They recommended working on two options – either a brand new building or significantly remodelling the current building.

There is a clear need for change. In a public consultation in 2021, 95% of residents said they wanted to see change and improvement.

Despite the challenging economic environment, the Council is working to deliver a cultural and leisure offer for the whole of the Mid Sussex community now and in the future, in a modern venue on the Clair Hall site. The Council is not selling the site and the interim NHS use is continuing. There will be further updates on the project during 2023.

The Clair Hall Engagement Hub provides transparent updates and information on this project. Find out more at engage.midsussex.gov.uk/clair-hall

Spring into Action

Have a Go Family Fun

Wed 5th April @ Victoria Park, Haywards Heath 10.30am – 12.30pm

Wed 12th April @ St John's Park, Burgess Hill 10.30am – 12.30pm

Thurs 13th April @ Mount Noddy, East Grinstead 1 – 3 pm

Come and join in our FREE activities for families to have a go at something active together.

Activities will be centred around the park tennis courts there will also be lots of local sports clubs providing equipment for a chance to try out something new!

► Free drop in events ► No need to book ► Sport equipment provided

For details and to register for timely info on free family activities in Mid Sussex please visit: www.midsussex.gov.uk/playdays



Voucher scheme

– food and white goods



As part of our support for residents Mid Sussex District Council can now offer food and white goods vouchers. If you are struggling to feed yourself or your family in the short term you may be eligible for

- **£25 food vouchers per person**
- **up to £200 in vouchers towards the purchase of white goods.**

While this is not an emergency food service like a food bank, we may be able to help if supplied with the correct proof of need.

Please visit www.midsussex.gov.uk/cols to find out about all the support available and to apply for the voucher scheme. You can also call us on **01444 458166** or come and drop into our offices in Oaklands, Haywards Heath, RH16 1SS. **This scheme has a deadline date of 31 March 2023.**

Cost of Living Support

Whether you are struggling to pay bills or are concerned about food and rising energy costs we have a range of support available to help you through the current cost of living pressures many people are experiencing.

Our website hosts lots of information about pointers for further help www.midsussex.gov.uk/cols

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**.

 @MSDCnews

    – find us at

MidSussexDistrictCouncil

