
COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 5th MAY 2026 AT 7.30 PM AT THE STEYNING CENTRE

Present: Cllrs I Alexander (Chair), Norcross, Hanson, S Alexander and Sharp.

Clerk: John Fullbrook

Members of the public: 2

Meeting Commenced : 7.30 pm

DRAFT MINUTES

C/25/64 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

ACTIONS

64.1 Apologies received from Cllrs Linfield, Young, Lloyd and Johnson.

C/25/65 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

65.1 Cllr S Alexander declared an interest in agenda item 8.2, when meeting due to discuss potential Canada Gardens entrance road upgrade, as Simon is a plot holder at Canada Gardens.

C/25/66 QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR {in summary}

66.1 None

C/25/67 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS - To agree 3rd March draft minutes.

67.1 Cllr I Alexander **proposed, seconded** by Cllr Sharp to agree as a true and fair record, the draft minutes of the Community Committee meeting held on the 3rd March 2026. **Agreed 3 For, 1 Abstained** {Cllr Hanson had temporarily left the meeting during this item and did not vote}

C/25/68 MATTERS ARISING AND ACTIONS - These items were taken as read.

68.1 Clerk & Chair to write to Sport England re loss of facility proposed at School redevelopment – **Actioned**

68.2 Clerk to continue with planned Hedge and Tree works – **Actioned**

68.3 Allotment rent rise agreement relayed to plot holders – **Actioned**

68.4 Skip hire for Allotments put in place – Five used, potentially one more to go – **Actioned**

68.5 Allotment tidy day organised, with support from plot holder volunteers – **Actioned/ See item 69.2**

68.6 Pot Hole works completed – **Actioned**

68.7 Pot Hole contacts for residents promoted on SPC Socials once more – **Actioned**

68.8 Log seating, lockable gate, trees, hedge and trellis installed at Chandlers Way – **See item 69.3**

68.9 Abbey Road volunteers to discuss stream location of willow bundles, potential stream side planting and additional 'scrapes' – **See item 69.1**

68.10 Clerk's office to commence purchasing plants for Chandlers Way, against agreement which is part of the successful HDC Wilder Horsham £5,000 grant application – **Actioned/ See item 69.3**

68.11 Installation of MPF improvement project features inc, grasscrete, planters and bollard – **Actioned**

68.12 Tanyard TRO project taken forward to next year's Action Plan – **See Item 69.4**

68.13 Coxham Lane TRO project taken forward to next year's Action Plan – **See Item 69.4**

68.14 Goring Rd / Clays Hill junction TRO project taken forward to next Years Action Plan – **See Item 69.4**

68.15 Charlton Street to be further considered as a TRO project – **See Item 69.4**

68.16 School planting day organised for the 13th March – **Actioned**

68.17 Annual Gym inspection moved to the Wicksteed engineers team for Winter 2026 – **Actioned/Item 69.5**

C/25/69 COMMUNITY MATTERS AND OPEN SPACE PROJECTS

69.1 Report on the Abbey Road Conservation Area from the Lead Volunteer

The Lead Volunteer, Roger Brown, was in attendance and spoke in support of his written report. The main theme was to outline the remarkable progress that has been made by the volunteers at Abbey Road, and especially so within the last 6 months. Dramatic improvements have been made to the pond, an additional scrape dug out, and the health of the stream, with support from the Environment Agency, and the Ouse and Adur Rivers Trust, is much improved. Hundreds of trees, shrubs and bulbs have been planted, and the variety of habitats for such a small area is outstanding, with subsequently an incredible array of flora and fauna now being observed.

69.2 Update regards the Allotments Tidy Day

The 'Tidy day' went very well indeed. There were a number of skips delivered to Canada Gardens and to two locations at either end of Rublees Allotments over a period of about a month. At the same time the combustible material was accumulating at the designated positions on both sites, plus there was a pile to burn at Chandlers Way also. The accumulation of material at Rublees was significantly more than previous years. Steve the Caretaker, and the Clerk were ably assisted by a number of Allotment Association volunteers at all three sites. The whole event was completed inside of 6 hours.

69.3 Chandlers Way Pocket Park Project update

The school planting day went exceptionally well. 24 children plus 6 volunteers and a teacher and the Head Teacher and the Clerk took part on the 13th March. The School's Student Eco council members took a very active role, with 150 plus plants being potted, and it is planned that these plants will continue to be looked after by the school children until either autumn this year or early spring 2027, when they may be transferred to Chandlers Way and again planted by the Children. It is possible that there will be an attempt to coordinate a significant bulb planting programme in September. Also, there are 40 odd plants and small trees donated mostly by *Steining for Trees* which are in a Nursery at the Steining Centre and are likely to be planted at Chandlers Way in two, three or four years' time.

CLERK

69.4 To agree priorities for the next years Action Plan projects

The Clerk had supplied a full list of potential projects for consideration for both this committee and for the Council as a whole. It was the first chance for members to discuss a prioritisation of community committee projects with an understanding that a final recommendation would be made to F&GP at the next meeting. Members preference at this point was to defer two items and discuss further at the next meeting. Cllr I Alexander **proposed, seconded** by Cllr S Alexander that the committee park {defers} the Operation Watershed at Mouse Lane, and Twittens projects, to likely another year. **Agreed**

CLERK

69.5 To review the Wicksteed Play Area Reports 25/26 & updates concerning planned maintenance

Since being received the office has been sorting out, one by one, a number of the issues raised. Moss growth removal from play surfaces is to be completed on the 11th May. There was an additional issue when someone decided to dig out one of the grasscrete mats from under an MPF swing. It's been put back but will need to be replaced with a new mat. The South Ash play area swing presents the costliest issue, with a possible replacement required, but members will be brought further information at the next meeting before action is taken.

CLERK

69.6 To discuss a course of action in relation to the fencing that no longer exists around the Church Church St end of the Fletcher's croft stream, with wheel and fencing debris now in the stream.

The Clerks office had notified HDC about a fly tipping incident and it seemed that it may have been actioned, with some debris removed from site and some had been taken elsewhere.

The fencing has not been fully in place for some considerable time, and the stream containing debris has been the case for at least 6 months.

Cllr I Alexander **proposed, seconded** by Cllr Norcross that the Clerk is delegated to write to Horsham (and to copy in the Environment Agency), to tell them about the situation and to convey the dissatisfaction concerning the matters that members had just discussed. **Agreed**

CLERK

C/25/70 FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE

70.1 To accept the I & E Reports.

Cllr I Alexander **proposed, seconded** by Cllr Hanson that the Community Income and Expenditure report for February 2026 be accepted as a true and fair record. **Agreed.**

C/25/71 HIGHWAYS AND PARKING MATTERS

71.1 To consider the recent DMMO Hearings report and agree any subsequent actions

CLERK

Cllr Young and Gill Muncey did a very good job, and had spent some considerable time on this matter, but the Inquiry on the 19th March did not rule in favour of SPC, and therefore the ROW/3349228 permissive footpath has not been granted a *public right of way* status. Though lodging an Appeal was a consideration, members did not think the decision would likely change, however there was strong feeling that some of the administrative process and untimely and therefore unhelpful distribution of information / documentation by the WSCC office deserved further comment. Cllr I Alexander **proposed, seconded** by Cllr S Alexander that those involved with the Hearings (including the Clerk) put together a response to West Sussex about SPC's feelings about the way this decision process was managed. **Agreed**

& W. Party

And Clerk to convey heartfelt thanks to Gill Muncey for her time and effort in this matter.

CLERK

71.2 To consider potential Canada Gardens entrance road upgrade

The entrance road to Canada Gardens has been in decline for some time. A number of residents have formed a group, and the Clerk has met with them to consider options to complete repairs. Each group member is interested in potentially match funding a project with the Council. Quotes are being sought and further meetings will be undertaken, and this is all dependent upon what work will be agreed to be done and when more detailed estimates are available then these will be brought back to members.

CLERK

71.3 To begin to consider the Glebe Fields access pathway upgrade and agree any actions

CLERK

The access was discussed at length and the existing pathway adjacent SPC land and Play Area was noted as being too narrow for such a potentially busy route, and members suggested the Clerk inform the appropriate group, contractor (potentially Vistry) or Council to see what can be done.

71.4 To discuss a course of action on what to do to ensure Fletcher's Croft car park sign is changed to say 'All Day Parking'. Cllr I Alexander proposed, seconded by Cllr S Alexander that the Clerk is asked to change the direction of the parking sign in Tanyard Lane to its correct positioning, pointing in the right direction and fixed properly, and that the Fletcher's Croft parking sign is more properly changed to show 'All Day Parking' and that this is done by SPC and that then SPC inform WSCC that it has been done. **Agreed**

CLERK

C/25/72 ONGOING ITEMS – These items will be taken forward to the next Community Meeting.

- 72.1** C/24/68.2 DIY Dog washing machine to be brought back to future agenda
- 72.2** C/24/81.1 River bank management needs to be added to the Abbey Road Management Plan
- 72.3** C/24/81.1 SPC to discuss the need for a Parish Council Flood Plan
- 72.4** C/25/18.4 SPC to discuss potential its future management of Twittens with WSCC at appropriate time
- 72.5** C/25/27.5 Clerk to obtain pledged donations following completed MPF Planter installations.
- 72.6** C/25/47.6 Clerk to create a counterargument to attempt to get new waste bins installed after request rebuffed
- 72.7** C/25/47.6 Bus Shelter spot lights to be brought forward to next year's Action Plan

- 72.8** C/25/47.6 Clerk's office to attempt to remove HDC's recycling bin from the Car Park
- 72.9** C/25/48.3 Clerk to take latest Operation Watershed project idea forward to WSCC engineers and Working party
- 72.10** C/25/60.2 Clerk to work on draft Business plan for potential Car Park Asset Transfers
- 72.11** C/25/60.2 Clerk to seek approval for criteria which will balance the accounts in consideration of this business plan

C/25/73 INFORMATION / CORRESPONDENCE ITEMS

73.1 None

C/25/74 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 2nd June 2026 at 7.30 pm.

Meeting ended at 8.45pm

Signed by the Chair: Date: 2nd June 2026

A recording of this meeting can be found using this link: <https://youtu.be/xWBmOmzsawY>

7.0 Community Matters and Open Space projects

Briefing Notes

7.1 Update on potential Car Park asset transference project.

The Clerk will update on latest communications from HDC, which are currently not that positive, and subsequent emails, plus the District Councillors input and the subsequent hoped for convening of a meeting with HDC directors to try and negotiate a deal.

7.2 Grammar school redevelopment regards sports provision request from this committee

A number of residents attended the Community Committee on the 3rd of March who were very concerned about the loss of sports facility being proposed within the realms of the new Grammar School development. Namely the current Astro turf pitch being potentially replaced by a 4G or 5G pitch in so far as it would mean that Hockey could not be played on the 'upgraded' facility. The Committee subsequently wrote to Sport England in support of the residents concerns and the planning committee also objected to the development on the basis of this factor and that Community Use was seemingly being compromised elsewhere.

We are pleased to report that both Sport England and then the developers/school have subsequently agreed a compromise and this has led to the STC Planning and Premises Committee withdrawing their objection on STC's behalf – See below.

Please find below Steyning Parish Council comments as per P&P meeting on the 26th May, on current planning applications:

DC/26/0322 - Steyning Grammar Upper School - Part-demolition of existing teaching buildings, MUGAs and all-weather pitch. Construction of replacement 2-storey and 3-storey teaching buildings, flood-lit all-weather pitch and hard surfaced sports courts, with associated access, parking, landscaping and infrastructure.

Cllr Trundle proposed, seconded by Cllr Hanson. No objection – the committee support the amended plan and the inclusion of the 2g all-weather pitch. Agreed.

This item is on the agenda to acknowledge this latest information/ notification of decisions made and to consider if there is anything else that needs to be discussed and agreed, in terms of responding to the Hockey Club members.

7.3 MPF & High St Interpretation Boards and Map {Visitor & Tourism} Project update

The Clerk will elaborate on the recent installation of the V&T Steyning & District Partnership Boards and Map, as illustrated via the pictures within supporting papers 7.3.1; 7.3.2; & 7.3.3. Plus to consider what needs to be done to complete the project.

7.4 Agree priorities for recommendation to F&GP for 26/27 STC Action Plan project list

See supporting paper 7.4 for details

7.5 To consider a potential swing replacement at South Ash Play Park

The Clerk will discuss the potential options associated with the renewal of this aging piece of play equipment and will illustrate the potential costs involved with doing nothing at this stage and continued monitoring of wear and tear, or attempting a repair, or to purchase and install a replacement swing, and then whether this should be considered an opportunity to renew the entire play area.

7.6 To consider installation of third planter at the MPF to complete entrance aesthetics

The Council has installed two large planters on the MPF recently and members will be aware that to complete the project there is a need to purchase one further planter, which will fill the gap between the 'Suicide prevention' bench, and the beginning of the row of benches adjacent the Car Park. The two planters have (will) be supported by match funding donations of £500 from the Cricket Club and the Steyning in Bloom group. It is hoped that for the third planter we gain support via a memorial tribute donation, and members are asked to consider agreeing a third planter acquisition in advance of gaining such a donation - with the cost of purchase of planter, soil, plants, tree and installation being in the region of £2,000.

7.7 Discuss and agree response to the HDC consultation request concerning Air Quality

Members will please note supporting paper 7.7, and consider whether our Council responds or simply promotes a response from residents.

New {Almost finished} Main interpretation Board onto the MPF

At Car Park entrance – Just requiring planting to complete and soften the impact



MPF 'Gateway to the South Downs' Visitor & Tourism Board

Top of Field installation



High Street Town Signage Renewal Project

Before



After



Proposed Draft Projects List for 2026 / 27

Briefing Note

Following the last meeting where members downgraded two projects and in so doing, deferred them to the 2027/28 list, at this meeting we will need to agree to the details involved under the headings in **List 1**.

These are therefore this committee's essential projects to be attempted for this coming year. Members should be aware therefore that any other projects which are brought forward during the year and are seen to be important will likely need to displace one of these listed. There are some amended details from the last meeting due to a change of circumstances in some respects – which we will discuss, and then all these details / scope of works involved, need to be recommended to F&GP as project requests from this committee please.

List 2 is a list of the remaining projects which will be being discussed at F&GP and are here to complete the picture of next year's projects but are only detailed here for members' information

List 3 contains projects now agreed to deferred to 2027/28.

List 1.

1. **Play Area upgrades** – To include South Ash swing replacement or renewal, and potentially other upgrades at this location. The priority of order of next year's main play area upgrade then needs to be discussed and agreed. Members might want to consider less able-bodied equipment. And attempt to begin to get grant for these works.
2. **Chandlers Way** – Complete South and West border planting including at least 6 x 6-foot trees, plus bulbs to be completed via School Eco Council & Volunteers. Start hedgerow planting of East border. Complete Trellis tunnel planting and installation and base of Mega Bug Hotel. Purchase and continue to grow other plants for *Plant islands*.
3. **Armistice Day Event** – Appoint gardener and find contacts earlier in year to secure more support if possible from armed services contacts. Work with Father Mark & School
4. **Traffic Regulation Orders** – Submit schemes having potentially gained agreement on up to 5 different schemes including Charlton Street, Tanyard Lane, Coxham Lane, & Goring Road junction.
5. **Car Park Management** – To first attempt to negotiate a position whereby HDC believe our Council is competent to take on the responsibility associated with the management of these assets. Then to build a Project / Business model and associated agreements mapped out with a view to possibly taking them on board in April 2027.
6. **MPF Access improvements phase III** – Third Trough, Interpretation Board complete both installations, and consider further improvements to access adjacent Tennis Club, and consider other long term bin placement and further finger signs
7. **Assets from HDC** – Negotiate any Asset Transfers - Add any possible Land Acquisitions from HDC to SPC Register and put draft plans in place for long term management of these areas.
8. **Canada Gardens Access Upgrade** – This includes work on the main access road leading to the Allotments entrance gate, as well as further upgrade to the track within the bounds of Canada Gardens allotment – as per completed two years ago.

List 2.

1. **Glebe Fields ongoing management** – Regular liaison and continual positive influence / feedback with Vistry and HDC.
2. **Bus Shelter Improvements** – Wheelchair access, additional Christmas lights installation, improved scheme for toilets and other internal fittings, Posters / Art installation, CCTV installation.
3. **Phase II CCTV Installation** – MPF & Fletchers Croft?
4. **Steyning Centre upgrades** - Energy cost & Carbon saving measures in line with Climate Action targets
5. **Neighbourhood Plan** – Complete Phase II and ensure new reviewed plan is ‘Made’.
6. **Sports Centre / School Community Use Agreement broker** – Potentially submit joint Astro pitch installation project proposal
7. **Complete Community Governance Review**
8. **Emergency Plan** – Complete and sign off on plan having undergone training day – trial emergency scenarios.
9. **Cricket Club** - Lease agreement and monitor demolition of existing structures and start of reconstruction process ensuring appropriate risk assessments and contractors management arrangements in place and being overseen.
10. **High Street Christmas Lights** – Manage project as in previous years, seeking all appropriate permissions.
11. **Begin to plan for what projects future Cil Monies might be used for.**

List 3.

1. **Operation Watershed** – Assuming there is agreement for grant application, and that that grant is successful – Oversee project installation at Mouse Lane.
2. **Twittens** – Submit plan to WSCC for long term management of all the twittens within the Parish, understanding first the financial liabilities involved.

Item 7.7 – HDC Consultation Request

Residents asked to have their say to help improve air quality

Horsham District Council wants to know residents' views on how it can work to improve air quality across the Horsham District.

The Council is keen to know about your experience of air pollution.

This consultation provides an opportunity for residents and community stakeholders to share their views on the air quality in Horsham District and the measures proposed to improve it. We want to know what issues matter most to you, where the Council should focus its efforts, and how we can continue improving air quality. Your feedback will directly help shape our actions.

Please share your views in our consultation [survey on the Council website](#).

The survey will run from Tuesday 26 May until Tuesday 23 June.

Horsham District Council Cabinet Member for Environment, Recycling and Waste Cllr David Skipp said: "Whilst air quality across our District is generally good, we know that there are always improvements to be considered.

Creating a clean and healthy district for everyone who lives, works and visits our area is a key commitment for us as a council.

"Our forthcoming Air Quality Action Plan will set out how we will do this. We want to develop any future plans in partnership with our communities, so do please take the time to complete our survey."

Under the Government's Local Air Quality Management regime, all district and borough councils have to review and assess air quality in their areas. If monitoring shows air quality is above the air quality objectives, then the Council must declare an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA).

Following this consultation, the Council will review all feedback and produce a revised Air Quality Action Plan, which will be valid for up to 5 years.

Telephone:

Email: communications@horsham.gov.uk



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Telephone: 01403 215100 (calls may be recorded) www.horsham.gov.uk Chief Executive: Jane Eaton

MARCH

Committee Report

Amenities Cttee201 Highways & Lighting

	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
1001 HDC Cleaning Grant	30,491	30,500	9			100.0%	
Highways & Lighting :- Income	<u>30,491</u>	<u>30,500</u>	<u>9</u>			<u>100.0%</u>	<u>0</u>
4200 Street Light Energy	1,303	1,800	497		497	72.4%	
4201 Street Light Maintenance	2,479	2,450	(29)		(29)	101.2%	
4202 Lamp Post Testing	1,500	1,500	0		0	100.0%	
4210 Road Sweeping	28,409	31,900	3,491		3,491	89.1%	
4211 Town Improvements	1,625	1,500	(125)		(125)	108.3%	573
4259 Grit	0	200	200		200	0.0%	
4260 Pressure wash High St	0	120	120		120	0.0%	

Highways & Lighting :- Indirect Expenditure

	<u>35,317</u>	<u>39,470</u>	<u>4,153</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4,153</u>	<u>89.5%</u>	<u>573</u>
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Net Income over Expenditure

	<u>(4,825)</u>	<u>(8,970)</u>	<u>(4,145)</u>
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6000 plus Transfer from EMR

	573	0	(573)
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Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve

	<u>(4,252)</u>	<u>(8,970)</u>	<u>(4,718)</u>
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301 Playing Fields

1004 Reimbursed Charges & donations	578	500	(78)			115.6%	
1014 Memorial Donations	1,232	1,000	(232)			123.2%	
Playing Fields :- Income	<u>1,810</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>(310)</u>			<u>120.7%</u>	<u>0</u>
4276 Tree and Hedge Cutting	8,590	5,000	(3,590)		(3,590)	171.8%	3,660
4300 Grass Cutting	8,440	8,250	(190)		(190)	102.3%	
4309 Tree Reports & Essential works	1,630	2,000	370		370	81.5%	
4310 Grounds Maintenance	4,019	4,400	381		381	91.3%	
4312 Waste Removal	2,006	2,250	244		244	89.1%	
4320 Play & Gym Equip Inspections	3,613	2,550	(1,063)		(1,063)	141.7%	
4321 Play Equipment & Maintenance	4,942	4,900	(42)		(42)	100.9%	
4322 Memorial Tributes	1,498	1,000	(498)		(498)	149.8%	
4352 Litter and Bins	4,078	4,250	172		172	95.9%	
4360 Allotment Maintenance	2,124	3,250	1,126		1,126	65.4%	

Playing Fields :- Indirect Expenditure

	<u>40,940</u>	<u>37,850</u>	<u>(3,090)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(3,090)</u>	<u>108.2%</u>	<u>3,660</u>
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Net Income over Expenditure

	<u>(39,130)</u>	<u>(36,350)</u>	<u>2,780</u>
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6000 plus Transfer from EMR

	3,660	0	(3,660)
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Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve

	<u>(35,470)</u>	<u>(36,350)</u>	<u>(880)</u>
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Detailed Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 31/03/2026

Month No: 12

Committee Report

	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
302 Allotments							
1005 Allotment Rents	6,167	5,550	(617)			111.1%	
Allotments :- Income	<u>6,167</u>	<u>5,550</u>	<u>(617)</u>			<u>111.1%</u>	<u>0</u>
4253 Water Charges	5,200	1,350	(3,850)		(3,850)	385.2%	
Allotments :- indirect Expenditure	<u>5,200</u>	<u>1,350</u>	<u>(3,850)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(3,850)</u>	<u>385.2%</u>	<u>0</u>
Net Income over Expenditure	<u>968</u>	<u>4,200</u>	<u>3,232</u>				
Amenities Cttee :- Income	38,469	37,550	(919)			102.4%	
Expenditure	81,456	78,670	(2,786)	0	(2,786)	103.5%	
Net Income over Expenditure	<u>(42,987)</u>	<u>(41,120)</u>	<u>1,867</u>				
plus Transfer from EMR	4,233	0	(4,233)				
Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	<u>(38,754)</u>	<u>(41,120)</u>	<u>(2,366)</u>				

Correspondence item 1.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing as a resident of ■ Charlton Street, whose property backs onto the recreational ground that includes the Cricket Club, Tennis Courts, and Bowls Club.

There is currently a bench positioned directly against the rear wall of our property. While both my neighbours and I appreciate that we live adjacent to a public recreational area, the low boundary walls mean that the location of this bench frequently results in an intrusion into our privacy and personal space.

On many occasions, groups of people gather at the bench, including rowdy and disrespectful young adults. There have also been instances of barbecues, loud music, and other disruptive behaviour taking place immediately outside our homes. As a result, we are often unable to comfortably use our own garden spaces.

I understand that, over the years, the Council has previously been approached with requests to relocate the bench to another area of the large recreational field. I would therefore like to ask whether anything further can be done to address this issue and consider moving the bench to a more suitable location.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

■

10.2 – Correspondence

FAO : PARISH COUNCILS of WEST SUSSEX

Should Parish Councils highlight the lack of consultation in West Sussex re – effluent recycling?

Recycled effluent is coming to taps in West Sussex, but without adequate consultation, due to Southern Water's application for an effluent recycling plant that will discharge into the new reservoir at Havant Thicket. From there the water will be distributed across the Portsmouth Water supply area whenever the reservoir is used. When a later pipeline is built from the reservoir to Pulborough recycled effluent from the reservoir will also be distributed north to Midhurst and across to Horsham to Southern Water customers (see section 6.20 attached).

Please see the email below from SOSCA to West Sussex County Council, with a separate email also sent to Chichester District Council, with the attached report highlighting the inadequacy in Southern Waters consultation with residents in West Sussex who will have to drink the recycled water.

Please read the email below and the first few summary pages of the attached report and **consider should the Parish Council write to the Planning Inspectorate to express concern about the failure to consult your residents?**

- Noting that you are likely to have just 14 days to write to the Planning Inspectorate

The critical consultation took place in 2021 after which effluent recycling via Havant Thicket Reservoir was selected by Southern Water, yet there was no consultation with those in the Portsmouth Water supply area (including West Sussex residents & Parish Councils) who would receive the mixed water from the reservoir at this formative stage of the plan. See Appendix C of the attached report for more information on this.

Southern Water did specifically consult with all of the Parish Councils in Fawley, the New Forest and Southampton Waterside area, as Desalination at Fawley was the selected option at that time. But there was no further consultation before one of 8 back up options (effluent recycling via Havant Thicket Reservoir) was selected in December 2021 instead. The residents in the Fawley area had years to object to the proposed desalination project and were given extra time to respond in 2021, before the desalination option was rejected. Parish Councils and residents in West Sussex were not given the same opportunity to comment on the selection of effluent recycling via Havant Thicket Reservoir. Southern Water did not even consult Rowlands Castle Parish Council who have part of the reservoir in their parish!

As a minimum it would be helpful if the Parish Council would support our request to the Council(s) to write to the Planning Inspectorate to highlight the failure of Southern Water to consult residents in West Sussex on this material change to our drinking water supply.

Yours sincerely, Libby Alexander

Libby Alexander

On Behalf of [SOSCA.org.uk](https://www.sosca.org.uk)

Save Our South Coast Alliance