

Weekly RPC Clerks Update 24 – 28 April 2019

Clerk's announcements/delegated decisions:

- Submitted end of year statement for WSSC LPGS
- Submitted starter form and relevant documentation to Hampshire (contractor for WSSC LGPS) for S Hall.
- Arranged for Skatepark to be repaired at a cost of £150 plus VAT if the sheet could be repaired rather than replaced. Confirmed that repair (weather permitting) will be undertaken in week commencing 29.4.2019.
- St Catherine's Hospice has thanked the council for the S137 grant they have been allocated.
- First precept 19/20 payment of £48,470.00 has been received from HDC on 26.4.2019.
- Insurance company will be monitoring cracks in Jubilee Hall in the beginning of May.
- Neighbourhood Policing Team will monitor King George V area.
- Arranged for British Gas to read meter for solar panels (8.5.2019)
- Arranged with KOMPAN installation manager to visit Churchmans Meadows Playground – 10 May at 10 am.
- Request from Little Street to put up different sign on A281 advertising Little Street/Café. (Clerk has referred Little Street to WSSC for regulations on what/what cannot be placed regarding advertising signs.)
- Reference for Mrs S. Hall received.
- Notification of BT price increases:

| Account number | Product | Up to 30 June 19 | From 1 July 19 | But you'll still get your discount | Your discount ends on |
|----------------|--|------------------|----------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| GP****7834 | Business Line (Phone No: 01403822137) | £24.60 | £26.10 | £8.00 | 17/09/2020 |
| GP****7834 | Call Essentials UK Unlimited (Phone No: 01403822678) | £12.00 | £12.90 | N/A | N/A |
| GP****7834 | Value Line (Phone No: 01403822678) | £18.50 | £19.70 | N/A | N/A |

- Informed hirers of the importance of lifting boxes and so not scratching the Rudgwick Hall floor.
- Sent e-mail to clubs using the KGV changing rooms regarding toilets and changing rooms.
- Investigating requirements for water testing in regard to legionnaires disease for halls and KGV changing rooms.

List of organisations that communicate with the Council on a regular basis.

AIRS (Action in Rural Sussex)
APCAG (Association of Parish Councils Aviation Group)
CAGNE (Communities Against Gatwick Noise Emission)
CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England)
HALC (Horsham Association of Local Councils)
HDC (Horsham District Council)
NALC (National Association of Local Councils)
SSALC (Surrey and Sussex Association of Local Councils)
WSSC (West Sussex District Council)

E-MAILS/COMMUNICATION

Letter dated 15.2019 from Jeremy Quin, MP Horsham regarding available funding for village halls (Unfortunately this is not applicable to Rudgwick as the Halls are managed by the Council and not a charitable organisation).

E-mail (18.04.2019) from parishioner regarding the parking situation at the Co-op – both inconsiderate and illegal parking (forwarded to Traffic Calming Group). Sign posted to police/WSSC as the organisations that have statutory duties regarding this matter.

23 and 24.04 2019 E-mail from WSSC (via WSSC District Councillor Mitchell)

“Just to let you know that, currently, we expect the Contractor, Jackson Civil Engineering, to deploy Variable Message Signs for the closure of the C622 (old A281) on Tuesday next week with the planned closure starting on the 29th April.

We are just awaiting final confirmation that they can manufacture the “specifically” worded diversion signs (rather than off the shelf diversion and road closure signs) in good time for the 29th.”

“WSSC have just released a press release which states that Jackson Civil Engineering will start the closure of the C622 on the 7th May.

There will be an article in the County Times this week we believe, just so you are aware.

I will be getting the webpage updated shortly.”

25.04.2019 Email from WSSC West Sussex Crowd Funding

As you may be aware, last summer West Sussex County Council launched West Sussex Crowd - an online crowdfunding initiative enabling communities to make

projects happen. So far, 'The Crowd' has provided local groups with a platform to present more than 120 shared ideas unite communities and raise funds to deliver sustainable projects. Here, individuals can run a crowdfunding campaign on behalf of their group, promote it among supporters and residents of direct benefit, plus demonstrate community demand by attracting monetary pledges towards their fundraising target. In addition to this, eligible projects can also pitch for a share of the county council's £280,000 Community Initiative Fund, with grants of up to £5,000 available.

In Year 1, the council gave its backing to a variety of enterprising projects floated on The Crowd, all of which pledge to produce in line with the authority's priorities as set out in [The West Sussex Plan](#).

To date, more than 1,900 backers, made up of local people, businesses and organisations, have accessed the platform and donated across all projects countywide. I'm proud to report that £456,700 to 75 projects have gone on to be successfully funded having achieved their crowdfunding target. Meanwhile, we are encouraged by a further [19 exciting projects currently crowdfunding](#) and would warmly welcome your organisation's involvement and support.

Many Parish and Town Councils have already pledged to projects in their local area. If your organisation is interested in supporting future projects, there are three ways in which you can get involved:

1. **Pledge** – it only takes a few clicks to register a Spacehive account, log-in and start pledging to projects. [Click here to find out more about current crowdfunding campaigns](#). Let us know if you need supporting pledging to a project. Once you've submitted your pledge, your organisation's name, logo and the amount you have pledged will be visible on the project's page. [Click here](#) if you are interested in staying up to date and potentially pledging to projects on a semi-regular basis. Spacehive will then email you with a list of current campaigns approximately three times per year and you can choose which projects to back.
2. **Partner:** If you would like to support projects on a more regular basis, you can become an official supporter with a profile outlining your offer of funding or in-kind support/resources. This [two-page](#) overview provides more information on the reasons why some organisations chose this option. If you are interested in going a step further such as establishing your own community fund on the platform, please let us know and we can discuss this further.
3. **Promote:** Spread the word about live campaigns and the opportunity to crowdfund by reaching out to audiences through your channels or events. If you are interested in promoting the initiative, please let us know and we'll arrange for Spacehive to share some resources with you.

County Local Committees will be allocating funds to projects for the next round during June & July. See [here](#) for more information on how people can get involved. We are also running two free workshops in [Crawley](#)

and Haywards Heath on the 7th of May if you would like to come along and learn more; other workshops are available on request.

We have already seen a range of inspiring projects come to life across the county. With your help, even more projects can come forward and get funded.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,



Debbie Kennard,
Cabinet Member for Safer, Stronger Communities

26.04.2019 Email from NALC Executives Bulletin

Judicial review outcome

I'm delighted to let you know the court has concluded a decision by Slough Borough Council to abolish two parish councils was flawed and should be quashed. The recent judicial review case of Britwell Parish Council v Slough Borough Council has given us some helpful guidance on the interpretation of the law and government guidance on community governance reviews – hopefully, this will also deter other principal authorities! Well done to all colleagues involved in supporting the parish councils, especially colleagues at the Berkshire Association of Local Councils. You can read the court judgment in full [here](#), we will be updating our own legal guidance in due course.

***The Telegraph* article on local elections**

Some of you will have no doubt seen [The Telegraph](#) on 23 April about the forthcoming local elections and reports of councils struggling to fill seats. While the story is behind the

paywall I thought you might be interested in the quote they used from me: “We are pretty upfront about the challenges that the forthcoming local elections faces, given what’s happening in Westminster and the fact people lead such busy and changing lives, but it is far from doom and gloom. We already have across the country more than 100,000 people, real hyperlocal heroes, who are spending their time and energy helping their communities. This should be celebrated and recognised more. But reform is needed to the whole local election process and better collection of national data, and NALC will continue to press the government and other organisations such as the Electoral Commission on these. Local councils are actually becoming one of the most important parts of local government as they are closest to the people and covering the issues that really matter in a time of real disenchantment. They are the only growing part too as several are created each year.” Over the Summer we plan to undertake another review of the local elections in tandem with the Diversity Commission, so do look out for that which I’d really appreciate your help with.

Consultations

There’s still time to tell us your views on two consultations which are underway on audit and highways. Next week we will be responding to the [National Audit Office Code of Practice](#) consultation, you can read more in our [news story](#) but do get your skates on and send comments by close of play on 30 April to chris.borg@nalc.gov.uk. We’ll also be responding to the Department for Transport [consultation on Traffic Commissioners](#), more time on this one and again views to Chris by 11 June 2019, [click here](#) to read the news story. We recently submitted a response to the Housing, Communities and Local Government Select Committee Inquiry into Local Government Finance, log in to the members’ area of the NALC website [here](#) for our response.

Borrowing approval guidance

This week we’ve added to the [Development Tools section](#) of the member's area of the website five really helpful documents which local councils should refer to when submitting an application for borrowing approval. These include a presentation from Shafi Khan,

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government to the recent county officers finance day, a handy tips sheet, a hints and tips note, a resident questionnaire, and a template cash-flow forecast table.

CiLCA Trainers Forum

Our policy officer, Jessica Lancod-Frost, attended the latest Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA) Trainers Forum held in Birmingham yesterday. Over 25 recognised CiLCA trainers came together with Elisabeth Skinner and Di Morgan from the Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) and experienced trainer Kim Bedford to discuss a range of issues including the latest report from the awarding body Ascentis, linking CiLCA to the Local Council Award Scheme, quality assurance of training and how to handle multiple referrals for the same module.

Salisbury litter free

Following our recent visit to Salisbury, it came as no surprise to me, nor Cllr Keith Stevens our vice-chairman (finance), the city is the [cleanest place in England and one of the best places to live!](#) Well done everyone at the City Council.

Management Board minutes

Just to let you know the draft minutes of the meeting of the Management Board held on 2 April are now available in the member's area of the [website](#) (login required).

And finally...

One of the quickest ways to keep up-to-date with NALC is by following us on [Twitter](#). Whilst it has its fair share of critics, it's the best place to find the latest NALC news, conference updates and speaker announcements, promotional offers on publications, campaign videos, useful funding opportunities and more. You can follow NALC on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#) and [Instagram](#).

Jonathan Owen

26.04.2019 E-mail for Glen Chip, Chief Executive HDC – Planning committees

All,

A lot of Parish Councils have written to me about the proposed changes to the governance of the Council's planning process.

Recommendations from Governance Committee were discussed at Council this week. Highlights of the recommendations that were approved are as follows:

- Members can opt out of sitting on a Planning Committee if they decide to on an annual basis. If Members do opt out they are still encouraged to attend training.
- That the scheme of delegation of responsibilities to Committees in the Council's Constitution with regard to call-in of planning applications be amended as follows: "Where a Local Ward Member requests it, such requests to be in writing (to include e-mail) and sent to the Head of Development", and "Where eight or more persons in different households living within the district or close to the neighbouring authority boundary or where bodies make a written representation (to include email), which discloses a material planning consideration within the consultation period and is inconsistent with the Head of Development's recommendation."
- Site visits will continue as per the Constitution but Planning Officers will facilitate a site visit to sites where access is restricted.
- A code of practice is to be produced which sets out general rules for Member and officer communication at the pre-application stage.
- The existing two area-based Planning Committees will be retained.
- The section in the Council procedure rules of the Constitution which deals with public speaking on agenda items will be amended to allow Parish Council or Neighbourhood Councils to speak for up to five minutes instead of two minutes on Planning applications.

- These changes will be reviewed after 12 months of operation.

If you have any queries on the above, please contact our Head of Legal, Democratic Services and Monitoring Officer, Sharon Evans at sharon.evans@horsham.gov.uk.

Brgds.

Glen

Glen Chipp

Chief Executive

(Sent by Sue Weston on behalf of Glen Chipp)