

District Council Update

The Fire Damaged Buildings

An update from Cllr Yvonne Gravely, the owners of the fire-damaged buildings, and the South Downs National Park can be accessed via the link below. While progress may have seemed slow at times, there are now encouraging signs that significant developments are being made, and there is finally light at the end of the tunnel.

[Update on Midhurst fire-damaged buildings – August 2026 - South Downs National Park Authority](#)

Chichester District Midhurst Laser Show (Meeting)

On Tuesday 11th August, Cllr Dominic Merrit met with Cllr Harsha Desai, Cabinet Member for Events, and the Events Team from Chichester District Council in Midhurst to discuss the possibility of bringing more district-wide events to the Midhurst Ward. One of the key events discussed was the Chichester District Laser Show, which traditionally takes place around Chichester Harbour and was held at Petworth House last year.

We are delighted that Midhurst will host this fantastic event in 2027 and are really looking forward to welcoming the Laser Show to Midhurst and seeing thousands of residents and visitors come to the town. It will be a fantastic opportunity to showcase Midhurst, support our local businesses and encourage visitors to shop locally and enjoy our fantastic range of restaurants, cafés and pubs.

Parish Local Plan Briefing - Monday 14th September

The Planning Policy Team at Chichester District Council is holding a Local Plan 2045 Scoping Consultation Briefing for all parish councils within the district on Monday 14th September at 5.30pm. The meeting will be held via Zoom, with joining details to be circulated nearer the time.

This session will provide parish councils with an overview of the Local Plan 2045 Scoping Consultation and explain how they can help shape the plan-making process. Parish councils are invited to nominate up to two representatives to attend. Please respond to the email sent to all parishes on 01/09/26.

Land at The Grange

This is continuing to move forward, with a couple of operational matters still being worked through before further information can be shared publicly. We want to reassure parishes and residents that the site will ultimately be used in a way that reflects what local residents have wanted and requested. Once the remaining operational matters have been resolved, we hope to be in a position to share more information and provide a clearer update on the plans.

Speed Watch Group – Midhurst

The group is continuing to go from strength to strength, with new members joining and getting involved. The team is out on a weekly basis across Midhurst, monitoring speeding and helping to raise awareness of the dangers of excessive speed. To date, over 100 letters have been sent to drivers caught speeding by the team. This approach appears to

be having a positive impact, with early indications that it is helping to deter speeding and improve road safety across Midhurst.

Midhurst Police Station

Following my previous update, Dominic Merrit continues to campaign for the reopening of the public front desk at Midhurst Police Station, alongside a stronger and more visible policing presence across Midhurst and the surrounding villages. He is hoping to meet with the Police and Crime Commissioner at Midhurst Police Station soon to discuss this further and to continue making the case on behalf of local residents. The campaign remains focused on delivering what residents across the Midhurst Ward have consistently asked for - an open and accessible police station, a public-facing front desk and a more visible policing presence within our communities. Dominic Merrit and I (Hannah Burton) will continue to push for these improvements and keep residents and parishes updated on progress.

Visit Midhurst – Website and App

Easebourne resident Neil Sore has asked that we include the following information regarding the Visit Midhurst website and app. Please see the details set out below.

Building on the development of the VisitMidhurst.com website I have created a small 'app' installable on both Android and Iphones which feeds off the website and provides a filterable list of forthcoming events. It includes all events I know about in town the town, Significant events nearby, and large events that are further away but may bring you to the area. I do publish a bulletin of what's going on in the town, but it only covers a small set of venues. The app, because it is dynamic, allows users to filter by location and category, and is always up to date.

[Visit Midhurst – Heart of the South Downs National Park](#)

Hannah Burton