

County Councillor Report for Itchingfield Parish Council Meeting 25th July 2022

I am very grateful to Adam Bazley for attending this evening's meeting and no doubt he will be able to give you an insight into the workings of Highways and answer any queries you may have.

You may be aware that I forward Jan notices of upcoming Traffic Regulations Orders concerning road closures and public rights of way in the parish, usually in connection with maintenance, either by Highways or utilities. Often these are some weeks ahead but hopefully they give everyone a heads up and can be included on the PC's website or in the Big Mag if the timing is right.

Please note that people are being asked to protect themselves and others by wearing a mask in Sussex healthcare settings to prevent the spread of Covid-19. As cases increase across the country and in our communities, all NHS organisations in Sussex have agreed to reintroduce mask wearing for staff, patients and visitors. This applies to all clinical settings – including consulting rooms, hospital wards and outpatient departments.

The following free events have been organised by the County Council during the Summer for adults and young people:

July

- **Saturday 9 July – Saturday 10 September:** [Gadgets Summer Reading Challenge](#). This exciting challenge runs throughout the summer holidays and is open to children and young people at all 36 West Sussex County Council libraries.
- **Thursday 28 July to Saturday 20 August:** [Transatlantic Ties travelling exhibition](#). Starting out at Horsham Library, this exhibition from West Sussex Record Office explores the historical links between West Sussex and the US dating back to the 18th century including the 'Sussex Declaration'.

August

- **Monday 1 August:** Medals and certificates will be ready to collect from your local library for anyone who has taken part and completed the Gadgets Summer Reading Challenge.
- **Wednesday 3 August:** Green Watch from Bognor Fire Station will be visiting Bognor Library between 3 and 4pm to show off some of the cool gadgets from their fire appliances as part of the Summer Reading Challenge.
- **Saturday 20 August:** Libraries Discovery Day. Taking place at Crawley Library between 11am and 3pm, this is a chance for residents to come and discover everything their local library has to offer.
- **Saturday 20 August:** Alongside the Crawley Library Discovery Day, Blue Watch from Crawley Fire Station will be visiting between 1.30pm and 3pm to show off some of the cool gadgets from their fire appliances as part of the Summer Reading Challenge.
- **Monday 22 August to Friday 9 September:** Transatlantic Ties travelling exhibition arrives at Crawley Library for three weeks.
- **Wednesday 24 August:** Libraries Discovery Day. Taking place at Haywards Heath Library between 11am and 3pm, this is the second of five Discovery Days across the county.
- **Saturday 27 August:** Libraries Discovery Day. Taking place at Worthing Library between 11am and 3pm, this is the third of five Discovery Days across the county.
- **Tuesday 30 August:** West Sussex Record Office's Tuesday Talk. Starting at 7pm, this free online talk is called 'Dialect and heritage: the West Sussex story'. Tickets can be booked via [Eventbrite](#).
- **Wednesday 31 August:** Libraries Discovery Day. Taking place at Bognor Regis Library between 11am and 3pm, this is the fourth of five Discovery Days across the county.
- **Saturday 3 September:** Libraries Discovery Day. Taking place at Horsham Library between 11am and 3pm, this is the final Discovery Day.

Other events and handy links

West Sussex Libraries also hold a number of regular monthly events for both adults and children.

Adult sessions include Knit and Natter, friendly reading groups, Computer Buddy sessions and Relax with Colouring, whilst children's sessions include rhyme time, toddler time, Saturday singalong and multi-sensory story magic. Further information can be found by visiting www.westsussex.gov.uk/libraries and clicking on the 'What's on in libraries' tab.

Families with children who are eligible for Free School Meals can also sign up for free summer holiday clubs to help keep their children entertained over the school break. Eligible families can now book places on the [Family Information Service website](#).

For places to visit, there is plenty to discover by visiting www.experiencewestsussex.com. As West Sussex is one of the UK's most diverse counties, encompassing hills, harbours, beach, farmland and market towns, the website allows you to search for places to walk, beaches to visit, free to attend events and much more.

If you live in and around Crawley, [Buchan Country Park](#) is set in 170 acres of beautiful countryside and is an excellent place for walking, watching wildlife or enjoying a picnic. They also have a number of sculptures dotted around the park.

The [Cycle Journey Planner](#) lets you plan your own cycling route, with turn-by-turn directions and maps. You can choose where you want to go, find out journey times, distances and how many calories you'll burn. You can also see an elevation profile showing how flat (or hilly) routes are.

Although the summer months can offer a lot of joy and happiness for many, they are also a good time to stop, reflect and check in with how you and your family are feeling emotionally. For further advice and information on mental health and wellbeing, please visit www.westsussex.gov.uk/YourMindMatters.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me on amanda.jupp@westsussex.gov.uk

Best wishes for the Summer

Amanda Jupp

County Councillor for the Billingshurst Division which includes the parishes of Billingshurst, Shipley and Itchingfield