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### Parish News

August 2025

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# THE PARISH OF RUSPER SERVICES AT ST MARY MAGDALENE'S CHURCH RUSPER AUGUST 2025 SERVICES



## PLEASE NOTE - THERE WILL BE NO SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION AT DURRANTS VILLAGE DURING AUGUST AND NO 8AM HOLY COMMUNION AT RUSPER CHURCH IN AUGUST

Mass celebrated also every Wednesday at 10am at All Saints' Roffey

#### **Services in August**

Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Coffee & Cake after the service	11am Holy Communion
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup>	11am Holy Communion
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup>	11am Holy Communion
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup>	11am Holy Communion
Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup>	11am Holy Communion

Why not visit the Rusper Church website and follow Nick on Facebook? If a priest is required at short notice and Nick is unavailable, please contact the Churchwardens.

Rector	Revd Nick Flint	01293 871251
Authorised Lay	Mr Chris Pearce	01403 268047
Minister		
Churchwarden	Mr Stephen Busby	01293 871219
Churchwarden	Mrs Maggie True	01293 871722
Treasurer	Mrs Lorna Reeves	01293 871012

Nick is here to minister to all who have need in our parish. He is keen to be told if someone has moved in and to have an opportunity to visit newcomers. Holy Communion can be arranged for the housebound or those who are sick. Nick tries to take Friday as a rest day each week, so he kindly suggests that you only contact him on a Friday in matters of urgency

Information on services is updated monthly on: www.rusperchurch.org.uk

#### ALL-CHANGE AUGUST

In August we celebrate the feast of the patron saint of parish priests, St Jean Marie Baptiste Vianney, the C19th I Curé [vicar] of Ars en Dombes. It is a month in which I have reason to be grateful for our retired priests in particular those who enable me to have some Sundays off by stepping in to take services. We benefit from their spiritual wisdom and experience. They each bring something unique with their different gifts and personalities.

Among them it will be a particular joy to welcome Zachary Allen who was priest in charge of Rusper 40 years ago and whom some of you will remember.

How strange that 1984. towards which George Orwell looked with such fear we now look back on with nostalgia If not for the fashion in clothes then certainly for the music. It was also the year of St Mary Magdalene's Great kneeler project.



The various designs and stitch work on these prayer cushions recall our village and many of its characters of those times.

While the custom of kneeling in church may not be so prevalent as once it was they a colourful addition to the interior of the building a testament to the prayers and faith of past worshippers.

Please do also support Caroline Currer and Alan Mayer as well as Kevin Humphrys, who is not retired but is a priest with another full time secular career.

Nick

Check Website and Church Facebook for news and updates. Email Nick if you would like to receive the weekly update. rusperchurch.org.uk



#### **RUSPER CHAT 2025**







### FRIDAY 29<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2.30PM – DAN & TOM GRIANNON, HORSHAM ROAD

ANY QUERIES? PLEASE CONTACT PAM 01293 871527 / KAY 01293 871566 ALL VERY WELCOME!

#### **RUSPER VILLAGE HALL**

If you wish to book Rusper Village Hall for any event, please visit the Village Hall website <a href="https://ruspervillagehall.org.uk">https://ruspervillagehall.org.uk</a> which contains a booking form.

#### RUSPER CHRONICLE

#### **Rusper Pubs and Ale Houses**

At the July meeting we revisited the Inns and Beerhouses of Rusper that had been covered in Rusper Chronicles – Edition One back in 2017. Further research had uncovered the existence of 2 or possibly 3 more: the Faygate Beerhouse and Saykers Beerhouse and there is also reference to a Red Lion in 1845 but this may be an alternative name for The Star.

We talked about the sad loss of three of six local pubs over more recent times and shared experiences those present had enjoyed, or otherwise, at those venues.

The group also sampled 3 new ales from a new local brewery called Brolly Brewing, based in Redkiln Close, Horsham, which led to a livelier than usual meeting!

Note that there is no meeting in August, but meetings will resume in September on the second Tuesday each month at 7pm as usual.

Rusper Chronicle

#### **CHURCH CLEANING**

#### **Church Cleaning Rota for August 2025**

August 1st	Pat Newman	01293 871354
August 8 <sup>th</sup>	Elaine Farrow	01403 257788
August 15 <sup>th</sup>	Keith Davies	07710 601081
August 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Dawn Shurville	07986 993504
August 29th	Pam Turner	07512 565316

Sue Matthewson 01293 8712665

#### RUSPER SPORTS CLUB UPDATE

Thanks to all those who have paid their annual subscriptions to Rusper Sports Club. The good weather has meant that they have had plenty of enjoyment using the refurbished courts. Sadly, there still seems to be some people who aren't honest enough to pay the membership fee, or think they are entitled to play for free and have been using the courts regardless. Income from membership fees is crucial to ensure the ongoing upkeep and improvements to the club: we urge you to join and pay. With facilities available to members for a whole year, our annual fees for Rusper residents are very reasonable - £80 for a family (2 adults and up to 3 children under 18), £40 for an adult, £20 for a junior (under 18) and £20 for a senior citizen. If you are on a low income or you are a full time student over 16 years, the Horsham Leisure Access Card is free to apply for online and entitles you to 50% off the membership fee. If you are not a member and have been using the courts, please be honest and pay up. Membership forms and information on tennis and football can be found at: https://ruspersportsclub.co.uk

Sadly, after all the efforts to improve the club, there have been inconsiderate people not looking after it. There have been regular occurences of litter being left at the club (odd wrappers, discarded cans and bottles as well as large bags of rubbish) - please make sure to take your rubbish home with you. A big thank you to those members of the public who have quietly cleared this up as they've seen it.

We are also finding more dog mess on and around the sports field, not nice for the footballers nor for anyone unlucky enough to tread in it. Please clear up after your dog and remember that this is a sports field, not a dog walking field.

The football club recently invested in new goals so we are dismayed to see that in the last few weeks one of the goals has already been badly damaged. Please do not swing on the goal posts nor let your children do so.

If you see anyone misusing or vandalising anything or if you notice something amiss at the club, please contact secretary@ruspersportsclub.co.uk or call 07801 665096

Rusper Sports Club

#### RUSPER PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council meeting 24th June 2025
Present: Cllrs M Cooke (Chair), G Hussey (Vice Chair), G Sallows, R Gatt, F Maitland-Smith, G Fleming, M Fillmore, M Fenton.

#### Rusper Parish Council Update - July 2025

#### **District and County Updates**

- *Trafalgar By-election*: Congratulations to Louise Potter (Liberal Democrat) who won the recent WSCC Trafalgar by-election.
- Waste Collection: Horsham District Council has purchased 7 new refuse vehicles powered by biodiesel. Full electric alternatives were ruled out due to high costs and limited range.
- Devolution Discussions: An East-West Sussex split is currently
  the favoured option for local devolution among many district
  councils. However, WSCC prefers a single unitary authority for all
  of Sussex. Each council may submit its preferred plan.

#### **Planning Matters**

- A working party meeting with Stonebond will take place on 29th July at 6pm at Rusper Village Hall, ahead of the main meeting, to receive an update on the Millfields development (DC/24/0699).
- DC/21/1427 Land North of Horsham: The Council has requested this application go to committee if water usage monitoring is not included as a condition.
- DC/24/1835 Rear of The Rectory, Rusper: Objections remain unchanged. Concerns were raised regarding tree protection due to changes in the entry layout. The Council supports representations submitted in May and February.

#### Rusper Sports Club

A draft underlease from Surrey Hills has been received. Cllr Malcolm Fillmore will review and bring it back to the next meeting.

#### **Gatwick Airport**

The Council noted the latest Gatwick report – available on the website.

Pier Schmitt will take over as CEO following the departure of the current Gatwick Chief Executive.

#### Roads & Open Spaces

- Approved the installation of Parish Gates on Rusper Road (Ifield end).
- Agreed to move the socket at the same time and review SID (Speed Indicator Device) maintenance.
- Updates to the tree inventory are underway, and tree-related funding opportunities will be discussed at the next Open Spaces meeting.

#### **New Website and Emails**

The Clerk presented the new <u>gov.uk</u> website and email systems. Details of the transfer process are being shared with councillors.

#### **Police & Crime Commissioner Survey**

Councillors will respond to Katy Bourne's survey individually.

#### **Rusper Stores**

A shop committee member will attend the next council meeting to provide updates.

#### Village Hall

Work has begun on the new hub. The extension project has gone to tender, with hopes to start in July. The Clerk will liaise with the Village Hall about grant payment timings for the solar panels.

#### Reports from Councillors

- Devolution, planning committee changes, and Community Asset
   Transfer were discussed at HALC
- Enforcement updates shared; Woodland Creation funding added to future agenda.
- Bus shelter and phone box maintenance scheduled; councillors engaging with local residents over tree concerns.
- Changes to national planning policy (NPPF) mean Horsham District's Local Plan is being reassessed. The required housing

target has increased to **1,600 homes per year**, affecting future development planning.

#### **Playgrounds and Local Assets**

- Play area repairs completed.
- The Clerk will investigate damaged fencing and clear wood debris behind Ghyll Manor.
- Grass cutting around all **fingerposts** approved.

#### **Community and Events**

- Upcoming session with AiRS will take place at the launch of the new Community Hub.
- Cllr M Cooke reported on preparations for the next Old People's Forum.

#### **Finances**

- The Council approved May's financial reports and bank reconciliation.
- Grant payments were agreed:
  - o Rusper Village Hall (Solar Panels): £5,000
  - o Citizens Advice Bureau: £100
  - o Air Ambulance: £400
- Interim VAT return will be submitted by the Clerk and RFO.

#### **Next Meeting:**

The next full Council meeting will be on **Tuesday**, **29th July 2025**. The Council will **not meet in August**.

Parish Council Clerk

#### SAVE WEST OF IFIELD CAMPAIGN

#### Last chance to fight!

By the time you read this Homes England may already have submitted their **planning application for 3,000 houses** West of Ifield, or as it should perhaps be known, East of Rusper. On

10<sup>th</sup> July a Public Notice in the West Sussex County Times and elsewhere flagged that the application will be submitted after 21 days, ie at any time from 31st

July: <a href="https://publicnoticeportal.uk/notice/planning/686f0562c2a6296aec6">https://publicnoticeportal.uk/notice/planning/686f0562c2a6296aec6</a> 5abf5

So the public consultation could start in August, and given the size of the proposal is likely to run for several months.

The important thing to realise is that **fighting this planning application** will be our last chance to stop the West of Ifield development.

#### So what is Save West of Ifield doing?

You may have noticed an increase in our media presence in recent weeks, particularly in the local press and BBC Radio Sussex, both to raise awareness, but also to support our latest fund-raising campaign. We need significant funds for the expert advice and professional reports which will underpin the strongest possible case against the proposals. Our planning consultants have produced an excellent "plan of attack", and we now need to fund its implementation.

Due to your generosity we currently have over £10,000 in the bank, but unfortunately this is not enough. So if you've ever thought " Oh yes, I should donate", **now is the time**. If you've generously donated in the past (thank you so much) and you can possibly afford to give a little more, **now is the time**.

The bank details are:

Account name: Save West Of Ifield It's a business account

Number: 55426514 Sort code: 53-50-39

Or via Go Fund Me: <a href="https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-save-west-of-">https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-save-west-of-</a>

ifield

#### Is it worth fighting this application?

As I said on BBC Radio Sussex in July, the West of Ifield proposals suffer from several fatal flaws which are likely to have disastrous consequences for residents, both new and existing. And which contravene the National Planning Policy Framework. Not least:

- They put the wrong houses in the wrong place, hence Crawley Councils strong objections;
- Crawley sewage treatment works are at capacity, and owned and managed by Thames Water who are on the verge of bankruptcy. Homes England have no answers as to how the additional capacity will be provided; and
- The transport plans are woeful. A 3,000 house estate opening onto C roads, ie country lanes and narrow residential roads, with increased dangerous rat-running through surrounding villages and conservation areas. It's unacceptable that the planning and modelling seem to have been largely a desk-based exercise.

This application should NOT be permitted. We asked our planning consultants why they were prepared to work with us, and they explained that they feel this is an unjust and unjustifiable application that should not go forwards. And they work with clients who are both for and against big developments – they certainly don't rely on business from us!

#### Making your objection to the application

We will be running workshops to help residents with their own responses to the application. If you want to do some advance reading please take a look at our Regulation 19 responses which contain a lot of relevant points, although note that the application will contain new detailed reports on areas such transport, hence we need professional input on this. Our Reg 19 responses are here: <a href="https://www.savewestofifield.co.uk/">https://www.savewestofifield.co.uk/</a> and other documents related to our objections are

here: <a href="https://www.savewestofifield.co.uk/documents">https://www.savewestofifield.co.uk/documents</a> (the draft EIA responses are particularly relevant for the application).

Thank you for your ongoing support

Fenella Maitland-Smith

savewestofifield@gmail.com

https://www.savewestofifield.co.uk/

https://www.savewestofifield.co.uk/

Fenella Maitland-Smith savewestofifield@gmail.com

#### **RUSPER CHURCH 200 CLUB**

Thank you to all those people who continue responding to the request for new members. The Rusper Church 200 Club is one of the continuing forms of income to our lovely church during these challenging times. You can continue to help by joining the 200 Club or buying additional shares. All the details about the Rusper Church 200 Club including past winners, the Rules and an Application Form, are on the Church's web-site at <a href="www.rusperchurch.org.uk">www.rusperchurch.org.uk</a> under "THE CHURCH IS YOU" tab. Just print off and complete the Application Form and then either e-mail it to me at <a href="johnmjory@gmail.com">johnmjory@gmail.com</a> or send it to me at: Elsinoro, Horsham Road, Rusper, Horsham, RH12 4PR. Many thanks to all of you who have been regularly contributing to enable us to make a significant contribution towards the running costs of the Church over the past few years.

The result of the latest draw is:

		July 2025	
1 <sup>st</sup> Prize - £200	119	Carrie J	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize - £75	190	Craig D	
3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize - £50	99	Geoffrey P	

John Jory

#### **EDITORS**

Please remember to let the editor <u>underlined</u> below have all items for the September 2025 edition by 14 August 2025.

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	fionalear@btinternet.com	<u>1</u>
John Jory	Elsinoro, Horsham Rd johnmjory@gmail.com	07887 804223
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#### Please contact:

Treasurer – John Jory. For donations towards the cost of publishing the Rusper Parish News. These can be made by bank transfer to - Sort Code: 30 94 41 Account Number: 00007348 Account Name: PCC RUSPER – MAGAZINE.

Advertising and Editorial Manager - Sue Matthewson (871266) (sue.matthewson@btinternet.com)

General Enquiries - Judy Butler (871845) (raybenbutler@gmail.com)

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