

Burgess Hill Town Council

PRESS RELEASE

8 February 2022

New Petanque Rink Opens in Burgess Hill

Burgess Hill's new Pétanque Rink was officially opened on Tuesday 8th February by Town Mayor, Councillor Anne Eves and Mid Sussex District Councillor John Belsey, Cabinet Member for Environment & Service Delivery. They were joined by Town Councillors and members of the Burgess Hill U3A Pétanque Group.

The Burgess Hill U3A Pétanque Group has been working with the Town and District Councils to develop a rink at Fairfield Recreation Ground and was the first to enjoy a game or two on the new rink. Previously the Group has had to travel to Haywards Heath and Handcross to play so the new rink will enable them to develop the sport locally, making it much more accessible to casual players and the wider community.

Pétanque, also known as boules, is a highly accessible sport that can be enjoyed by all. The game originated in its current form in Southern France in the early part of the twentieth century and is now played in more than 50 countries worldwide, with thousands of players in the UK.

The new rink provides enough room for four games to take place simultaneously and is funded by a grant from Sport England and developer S106 contributions.

Burgess Hill Town Mayor, Cllr Anne Eves said, "I am delighted to see un petit coin de la France come to Fairfield Rec! It's high time we had our own rink here in Burgess Hill so that our townsfolk and players from surrounding villages won't have to go further afield to play this very accessible game."

Councillor John Belsey, Mid Sussex District Council's Cabinet Member for Environment and Service Delivery said "I am so pleased to see that a petanque rink is now here in Burgess Hill for all to enjoy. The availability and ease of access for players of all ages and abilities can only help but grow this great game in Burgess Hill and the nearby surrounding areas."

To book a piste at Fairfield Recreation Ground, contact Mid Sussex District Council on 01444 477379 or online at <https://www.midsussex.gov.uk/leisure-sport/sports-and-bookings/>





ENDS

For further comment contact Burgess Hill Town Mayor, Councillor Anne Eves on 07720 892180.

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