

Burgess Hill Town Council Annual Town Report 2024/25

For a Better Burgess Hill

An introduction from the Mayor

I would like to start the Annual Report by thanking my predecessor, Cllr Janice Henwood for performing her Mayoral duties so well over the past two years. I am honoured to follow her and to be elected as Mayor of our Town of Burgess Hill.

Over the past year the Town Council have strived to deliver quality events and services to the townspeople, some of which have been lifechanging for the participants. I speak of our partnership with the Lions to deliver prostate cancer testing, cholesterol, blood sugar and blood pressure checks. Some attendees have been referred to GPs for further investigation. Our feedback is that in some instances cases have been caught quickly as a result and we are proud to help with that.

Along with the health events, the staff arrange and deliver a vast number of family events, trails, fetes and activities for residents during the year, some we work with other groups and organisations too. We were recently asked what would happen if the Town Council were not here, the answer is that our town would be a lot poorer in activities and community support. We are continuing with the project to extend the Burial ground, ensuring space is available for decades to come. Our Help Point resolves enquiries and helps residents to make sense of often bureaucratic letters and forms that are needed, as well as reporting defects to Mid and West Sussex amongst many other queries.

The Town Council finances are in good shape, a summary is contained later in this report. We have continued to support local groups and are committed to supporting the refurbishment of the Park Centre to bring this building firmly back in to Community Use.

I look forward to being your Mayor for the next year and meeting many of you as we go through the civic calendar.

Councillor Stuart Condie
Town Mayor 2025/26



The Help Point

Burgess Hill Town Council's Help Point is a friendly 'One Stop Shop' for local government enquiries in West Sussex.

The team aim to answer your questions directly or point you in the right direction. They also put together the monthly Burgess Hill Blog, highlighting what's on in town. You can read it on the Town Council website. Alternatively, pop into the Help Point and chat to the lovely staff team who can provide this information to you.

2025/2026 Council Meetings

Monday 7 July
Monday 29 September
Monday 24 November
Monday 26 January
Monday 2 March

Council meetings are held in the Council Chamber, unless otherwise stated. Members of the public are welcome to attend and meetings are also live streamed

Town Events and Projects

The Town Council continues to deliver a full events programme to provide entertainment for our residents. During Council year 2024-2025, FREE children's activities were held in school holidays and the Wowzer Wednesday programme continues around the sandpit in Church Walk.

Annual Carers event for adults was held in March providing pamper treats. Tea parties for our senior residents and those socially isolated continue to be enjoyed. To ensure you know about the activities available please do sign up to our mailing list to be the first to know what is going on!

Folders Meadow Play Area - Burgess Hill Town Council has revamped the play area at Folders Meadow. The new equipment includes a basketball/kickabout net, an inclusive seesaw, interactive play panels, a new piece of gym equipment and a zipwire.

Financial Summary

2024/25 Budget Analysis

The town council's budgeted revenue expenditure (including transfers to reserves and projects) for the year amounted to £1,196,551 with a total of £1,054,366 being funded directly by residents through their council tax. The Council is pleased to announce that a surplus will be achieved which will be reinvested to provide future services for the community.

The annual charge for services levied by the town council for a Band D property in Burgess Hill for the 2024/25 financial year was £82.13. The town council can announce the charge for the forthcoming financial year, 2025/26, sees a modest increase of £10.06 per annum (84p per month / 12.2%) to £92.19.

Revenue Budget: Income and Costs £000s

Where the money comes from:	2024/25	2025/26
Council tax payers (Precept)	£1,054	£1,198
Partner income (MSDC/WSCC)	£47	£48
Hire of Council facilities	£10	£7
Burial Ground income	£36	£36
Interest On Balances	£21	£26
About Town magazine	£4	£1
Other	£24	£24
Total Income	£1,196	£1,340

Where the money is spent:

Help Point Services	£136	£133
External Services (Grnds Maint, Burial, Allot')	£342	£434
Community Engagement & Events	£216	£245
Provsn for Community Facilities & Projects	£111	£129
Civic, Planning + Econ Dev.	£120	£127
Total Direct Services	£925	£1068
Support Services	£183	£185
Insurance, Business Rates, Utilities etc	£88	£87
Total Revenue Expenditure	£1,196	£1,340

Council Tax - Band D rate per annum	£82.13	£92.19
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Council Reserves at the 1 April 2024 £000s

General Reserve	£261
Earmarked Reserves	£895
Total Reserves	£1156

Town Council Employees	24/25	25/26
Full-time equivalents	Bud Act 17.2 16.7	Bud 17.1

Public Notice: Under sections 20(2) and 25 of the Local Audit & Accountability Act 2014, Accounts and Audit Regulation 2015 (SI 2015/234, it is reported the accounts for year ending 31 March 2025 for Burgess Hill Town Council have been duly audited by the District Auditor, Moore.

Community Grants Awarded

£16,518 in community grants were awarded:

Mid Sussex Active	£400
Sussex Chorus	£700
Girlguiding Burgess Hill Division	£396
Neighbourly Care	£500
St Edwards Wives	£500
Burgess Hill Heritage and Histor Society	£500
Burgess Hill Pantry	£700
Burgess Hill & District Bereavement & Friendship Group	£250
Weald Classic Vehicle Club	£500
Windmills Opportunity Playgr	£200
Central Sussex Rotary	£500
The Sussex Harmoniser	£500
4Sight Vision	£750
Community Transport Sussex	£2,400
Ariel Community Theatre	£750
Burgess Hill Heritage and History Society	£500
Home-StartCHAMS	£250
Kangaroos	£250
Marle Place Wanderers	£1,000
MSOPC	£1,000
Respect Youth Club	£501
Spire Computer Help	£96
Summerhaven	£500
Sussex Chorus	£500
Weald Classic Vehicle Club	£500
Escape Youth Club	£1,375
St John's Church	£500
Total	£16,518

Councillors' Allowances Claimed for the council year May 2024 - April 2025

Annual Allowances are paid under the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) Regulations 2003

Adam White	£1,337
Andy Stowe	Nil
Anne Eves	£1,337
Bob Foster	£1,337
Brenda Williams	£1,337
Cedric De Souza	Nil
David Eggleton	Nil
Diane Black	£1,337
Graham Allen	£1,165
Janice Henwood	£2,002
John Orchard	£1,337
Jon Gardner	£1,337
Matthew Cornish	£1,337
Matthew Goldsmith	Nil
Mohammad Hossain	£1,337
Peter Williams	Nil
Robert Eggleston	Nil
Simon Hicks	£1,337
Stuart Condie	£1,337
Tofujjul Hussain	£1,337

Total allowances claimed £19,208

Half annual payments are paid 6-monthly in arrears in November and May
Members Travel and Subsistence Claimed: None as at 30/04/2025