

Photo by Annie Spratt on Unsplash

# Burgess Hill

## BUSINESS PARKS ASSOCIATION

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The race to vaccinate the vulnerable and build up sufficient immunity in the population at large is well and truly on, while at the same time trying to stem the horrendous numbers of deaths and levels of infection. Hang on in there people!

To say it's a relief to know that the Burgess Hill GPs vaccination programme has started is no understatement. The links below are to MP Mims Davies' website and Facebook - both useful sources of information regarding the vaccination roll-out in Mid Sussex.

[Mims' MP website...](#)

[Mims Davies Facebook Page...](#)

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## Export & Import shipments becoming very problematic

The group of exporting members that have met regularly over the past several months met again this week. Several expressed frustration that instructions related to the UK / EU trade deal arrived so late in the year as to render making full preparations unrealistic, despite their best endeavours over recent months.

With the pandemic dominating the headlines, the very real physical logistical challenges and delays some businesses are experiencing is going under-reported in the media. Hauliers, including large international specialists, appear to not be coping - probably exacerbated by customers and suppliers across the UK and EU not fully understanding the new procedures they must follow. Certainly shipments via UK ports are struggling.

We have written to Mims Davies, MP to highlight three key areas of concern that our members believe need Government focus and greater transparency from the freight sector:

- While the trade deal provides for a six-month grace period for submitting certain full customs declaration, it appears hauliers or port operators aren't allowing for this. Why is this?
- The Government's CHIEF Import and Export control system is known to be very old and desperately needs revamping - the question by when?
- Without assurances to the contrary, businesses are concerned that the delays being experienced today will persist for many months. Is this understood adequately by the authorities and do they have the metrics to enable them to get to grips with the problems?

## Broader post Brexit news

It's not practical for either this newsletter or the news section on our website to try and convey the rapid flow of information coming out of Government at the moment on Brexit related news, but we will strive to highlight key headlines and provide some hopefully useful links.

Thanks to our colleagues at HPC for sharing a list of links they have found helpful as they have grappled with the challenges of importing and exporting post the end of the transition period - <https://www.bhbpa.co.uk/2021/01/14/useful-links-for-exporters/>

Other things to note:

- There are new processes for hauliers travelling to Ireland, whether heading to Northern Ireland or the Republic of Ireland from ports in Great Britain. HGV drivers using a Ro-Ro ferry service to the Republic of Ireland need to submit a Pre-Boarding Notification (PBN) to Irish Customs before you leave Great Britain - <https://www.revenue.ie/en/corporate/press-office/press-releases/2021/pr-010521-advice-hauliers-goods-gb-irish-ports.aspx>
- And before travelling to Northern Ireland, you'll need a Safety and Security (ENS) declaration and a Goods Movement Reference (GMR). To get a GMR you will need to have a GB EORI number and an XI EORI number and Register for GVMS
- <https://www.gov.uk/eori> and <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/register-for-the-goods-vehicle-movement-service>
- You can use the free Trader Support Service to generate and submit ENS safety and security declarations to HMRC. After submitting these, the Trader Support Service will provide you with the information you need to input into GVMS to receive authorisation to move goods. You can find out more about GVMS in GOV.UK guidance.
- <https://www.tradersupportservice.co.uk/tss> and <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/get-a-goods-movement-reference>
- As previously reported hauliers will need a valid negative COVID test before travelling to UK ports and a Kent Access Permit if using the Kent ports - <https://www.bhbpa.co.uk/2021/01/07/advise-for-hauliers-travelling-to-france/>
- The Government has provided details of actions that it says must be undertaken to ensure compliance – there's a Part A "key actions for businesses by topic" and Part B a top five actions for specific sectors - <https://www.bhbpa.co.uk/news/>

And finally, do please check out information on the Sussex Chamber of Commerce site, as that is a very useful reference point too.

## Association News

On a more cheerful and less complex note, we have had a good level of interest in the various BHBPA Board and new Steering Committee roles.

Can we please ask members, if you haven't

as yet, to register to attend the AGM which is on **Wednesday 20th January at 4pm** over Zoom. We appreciate AGMs aren't necessarily the most riveting of occasions but it is very important that we have at least 10% of the membership in attendance so as to form the necessary quorum.

We will issue the Zoom details and the list of folks who have allowed their names to go forward via a Members bulletin prior to the AGM itself.



[Register for the AGM...](#)

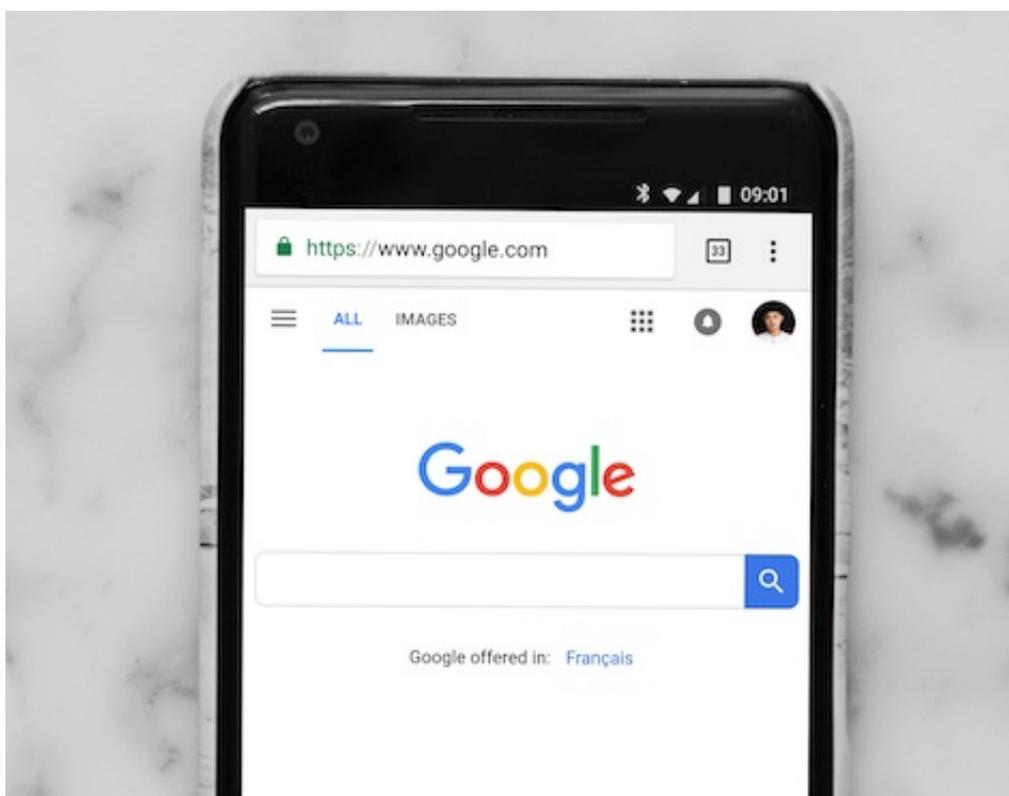


Photo by Charles Deluvio on Unsplash

## Here's a new thing for you to consider...

No not Google as such, but the new BHBPA website which is coming along. Specifically, we're planning three new focused features that we will refresh on a fairly regular basis – say every month or so – which members may want to consider contributing to.

First, there will be a "Meet the Locals" feature, where we talk to a local business leader and find out more about them and their business. Initially, this will be presented as a recorded Zoom call.

Second, because there's nothing as exciting as the launch of a new product or a piece of innovation, we plan on sharing the excitement and energy that goes along with doing 'something new'. So think ahead and let us know about your new product releases.

BHBPA members are often involved in contributing to the wider community, whether that's charitable work, developing people or just have fun as teams of people. Let us celebrate the things that have been uplifting in your business activities by sharing them on our website.

In fact, we'd love to hear about your plans for 2021, or indeed some notable successes from 2020 that you might like us to feature be they new products or community contributions. And do let Martyn - [martyn@bhbp.co.uk](mailto:martyn@bhbp.co.uk) - know if you are up for featuring on our "Meet the Locals" section.

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## MSDC information

Grants are still available and just because you've had a grant before, it doesn't mean you are not eligible for another, or indeed potentially multiple grants now.

If you have any enquiries, please contact us at [businesssupport@midsussex.gov.uk](mailto:businesssupport@midsussex.gov.uk).

[More information...](#)



The Council's Planning department are inviting individuals, landowners, developers and site promoters to put forward sites to be considered through the forthcoming update to the Strategic Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (SHELAA).

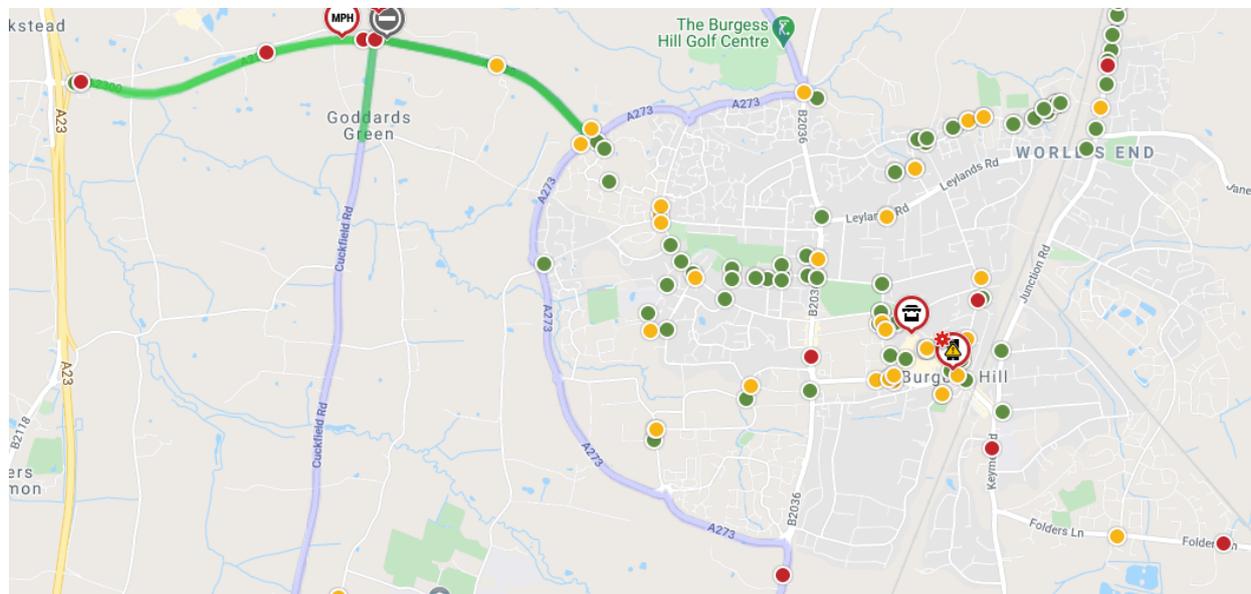
The SHELAA will be a crucial piece of our evidence base for the District Plan Review which is now underway. Sites must be submitted to the Council using the online submission form on the Council's SHELAA webpage - <https://www.midsussex.gov.uk/planning-building/strategic-housing-and-economic-land-availability-assessment/>

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## Roads Update

The number of planned red-dot roadworks seems to be back to its typical level as of next week. We understand from Southern Gas Networks that the complete closure of Mill Road due to additional gas main repairs will finish on the 15th, to be replaced by multi-way lights. The whole piece of work in Mill Road remains due for completion by the 27th.

There are changes afoot that may affect what is accessible to public users of the One.Network website such that our ability to provide the Road Update may be compromised. Apologies in advance if that proves to be the case.



From	To	Road	Traffic Control
5th Nov	27th	Ongoing - Mill Road & Crescent Road	Multi Way Lights
11th	29th	Valebridge Road	2 Way Lights
14th	18th	London Road, Hassocks	2 Way Lights
19th	19th	London Road, B/H	Multi Way Lights
19th	19th	Keymer Road	2 Way Lights
21st	21st	Folders Lane	Stop & Go Boards

**Community Highway Scheme update** - this has not been forgotten, we promise, with a chaser sent to WSCC Highways earlier this week!

## Top tips for businesses to survive, and grow...

A new programme, supported by West Sussex County Council and run by Creative Bloom, Shake It Up Creative and Rume2 is now up and running.

Topics covered include goal setting and business planning, plus critical digital skills like social media, Google Analytics and Search Engine Optimisation.

Creative Bloom, Shake It Up Creative and Rume2 all have significant experience in helping to develop local businesses.

# RECOVER & RISE DIGITAL TRAINING

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JANUARY 2021

Register...

## How to hold "Without Prejudice" conversations

Negotiations and conversations often take place under the 'without prejudice' principle, when say either an employer or an employee wants to settle a dispute so that the employee can leave the company easily and quickly. Often the dispute is then settled with a settlement agreement.

In this hour long webinar, scheduled for **Thursday 21st January at 10am**, our friends at Sherrards Law will take you through how to manage 'without prejudice' or 'protected conversations' with staff members, and how to best protect the employer.



Register below or email Sarah at [sarah@sherrardslaw.com](mailto:sarah@sherrardslaw.com)

More information & registration...

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## New opportunity at PVL

PVL are adding to their team and are looking for a Technical & Quality Manager.

The successful candidate will be a motivated, quality driven, customer focused individual to join their Production Team.



**HIGH VISIBILITY MARKINGS**

[Job description & further details...](#)

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On the subject of jobs and vacancies, our friends at Sussex Chamber of Commerce sent us details about a site called [www.lovelocaljobs.com](http://www.lovelocaljobs.com)

At the moment lovelocaljobs are offering a 50% reduction to their prices so that businesses can advertise a vacancy to local jobs seekers for £45.00.



[Click here to access the discount...](#)



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## Introducing Hidden County!

Our friends at Sussex Living have something exciting to share...

...from Monday 18th January they're launching "Hidden County", a brand new membership service full of exclusive content about the county we call home, including new hidden features, recipes, event invitations, competitions, exclusive vouchers and offers, and much, much more!

In week one you could win a new 40" TV and an Amazon echo, register for our online

wellbeing event, and enjoy a four week baking or photography course for free!

Best of all it's absolutely FREE to sign up to.



Hidden County Sign Up...

And, as a thank you for joining, they'll also give you access to their exclusive digital e-magazine, New Year, New You for 2021!

Set to launch next Monday, readers can sign up now to get access as soon as the launch opens. It's time to make the most out of Sussex - Welcome to Hidden County!

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## Closing Remarks

As I was assembling this edition during Thursday, I was aware that I wasn't really sure how to close off. It's been a bumpy old week what with anxieties about Covid and post Brexit freight, and my mood was not lightened by the fact I twinged my back the other day.

Suffice to say, having had the chiropractor clicked me about late on Thursday, the pain in my back is lessened. For sure I am looking forward to next week's AGM. I am also confident we are going to see a serious ramping up in the scale of vaccination jabs, even if I am less optimistic about a rapid improvement on the freight haulage front.

I hope to see as many of you as possible on-line at the AGM, in the meantime, have a lovely weekend.

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Questions, comments or contributions to share? Please email [martyn@bhbpa.co.uk](mailto:martyn@bhbpa.co.uk)

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