

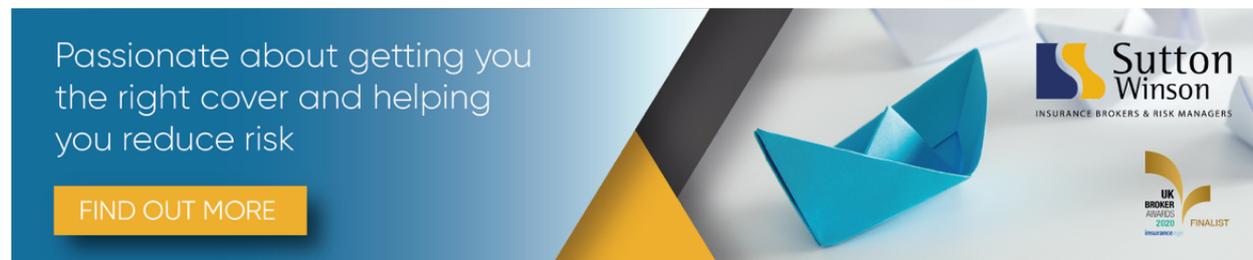
Burgess Hill

BUSINESS PARKS ASSOCIATION

The pandemic continues to dominate the Main Stream Media, even as the rollout of Covid-19 vaccination programmes gather pace in numerous countries. Across the pond Joe Biden became the 46th President of the USA, a step which bodes well for global issues like the pandemic and climate change. We certainly continue to be living through challenging times – albeit there are grounds for some optimism as we enter the 2nd half of winter.

We have also got news of our own, following the well attended Association AGM on Wednesday this week. There's a summary of the main points in this edition.

For the latest on the Mid Sussex vaccination programme...



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Sutton Winson
INSURANCE BROKERS & RISK MANAGERS

UK BROKER AWARDS 2020 FINALIST

New Board / New Steering Committee

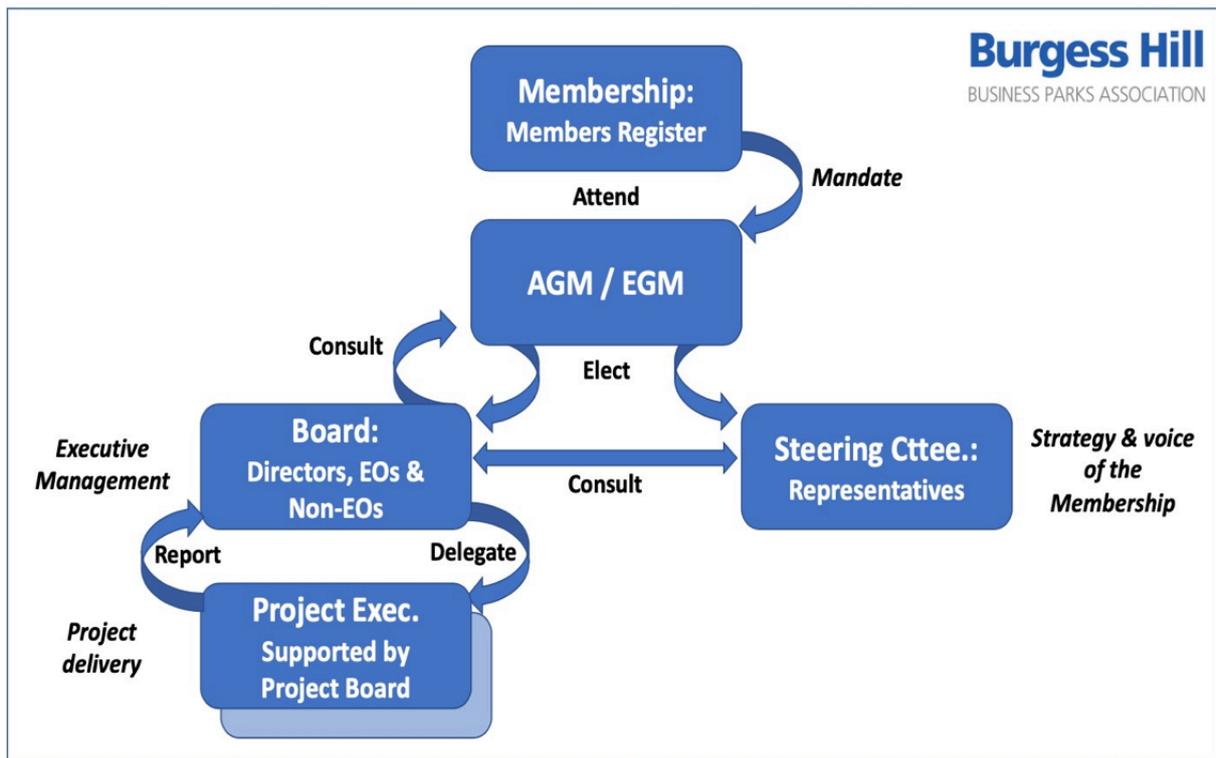
Outgoing Chair of BHBPA, Susan Fleet did a great job leading us through the Annual General Meeting held over Zoom on Wednesday. With the prerequisite quorum comfortably established we rattled through the business of the meeting very efficiently.

Susan explained that new Articles of Association - aligned with the new Constitution as approved in November 2020 – need to be accepted by 75% of the Membership. The 'old' Board also proposed a minor change to the Constitution, so as to make the Marketing Officer role an advisory one, and not burden the roleholder with the full fiduciary duties of being a director. The proposed change was approved by the necessary majority and a first amendment version of the Constitution will be posted on to our website ASAP.

On Thursday, Martyn issued emails to all members seeking "confirmation" for the adoption of the new Articles. Our thanks to those who have already responded.

The main business of the AGM was appointing the Board and Steering Committee to flesh

out our Governance Model – as per the Constitution.



Following brief introductions, and a 'show of hands', the following folks were appointed:

Board Roles:

- Chairperson – Mark Jackson, HPC
- Chief Executive – Martyn Carr
- Finance Officer – Matt Needham, Galloways
- Marketing Officer – Steve Powell, Fresh Display
- Directors: Susan Fleet, Lea Graham, David Shore, Time24 and Jaffer Lokhandvala, e-mpower.it

Steering Committee Roles:

- Local Authority – Cllr. Stephen Hillier, MSDC
- Small firms: Wayne Forster, Ebiss and Stephen Skinner, Turbine Tools (deputised by – Linda Skinner)
- Medium firms – Piers Bonnett, Wellesley Wealth Advisory
- Large firms – Peter Lamb, Edwards
- Victoria Biz Pk – Nick Broom, PVL (deputised by – Emily Darnell)
- Sheddingdean Biz Pk – Steve Willis, SWT

In the coming days, Mark, Martyn and Matt (no jokes about 3M please) will be registered as directors with Companies House. Susan, David and Jaffer have all agreed to stay on for a while as directors in order to provide continuity and a smooth transition.

We appreciate that while some of the names will be well known to many, others are less familiar. So, in the coming weeks we'll include some introductions for those not at the AGM.

In closing this update about the AGM, we want to give particular thanks to Susan for her commitment, unrelenting support and her numerous successes as Chair - who can forget the hugely popular Awards Evening in 2019. Numerous people contacted Martyn after the AGM to pass on their thanks and gratitude for a job well done and commented specifically on Susan's warm, kind and considerate manner. Thank you Susan.

Some of our Members need a bit of well-timed support

TSPProfessional

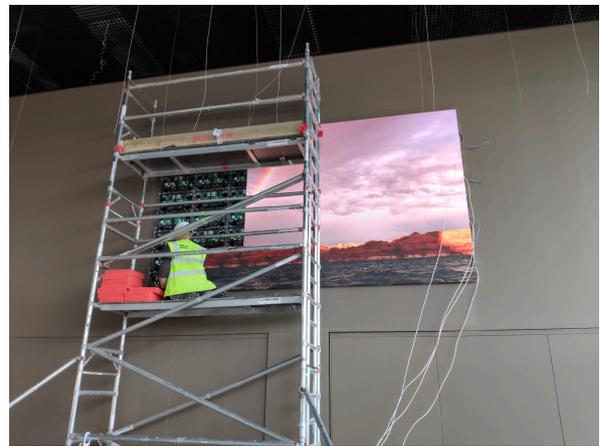
SOUND + LIGHT

Like many companies TSPProfessional have been hit hard by the pandemic. As events were cancelled their hire department lost all its business which represents 20% of sales.

Installation work has also been hit very hard as new enquiries for audio visual projects have been mothballed or cancelled. They did manage to keep staff busy on outstanding planned projects as the initial lockdown was removed, however that work is now nearly complete, and so shortly staff will have to be furloughed unless there are some new installation projects.

A few BHBPA members have given TS Professional some valuable work, for which Keith and the team are very grateful. If there are other members with Audio-Visual requirements in 2021 which might even be brought forward, Keith would be very pleased to hear about it.

Please do contact Keith with any enquiries on keithupton@tsprofessional.co.uk or 01444 233030 option 1.



Paper Plus Diversifies During Pandemic

Of course it's been a tough year elsewhere too. For example, businesses that focus on supplying schools have been hit hard.



[Email PaperPlus](#)

[PaperPlus website](#)

Since the pandemic started BHBPA member PaperPlus, whose core business is supplying schools, has been working with local business expanding its range of essential supplies to include PPE & Janitorial supplies. In fact this has allowed the family run business to survive, and the team really appreciate the support received from other local business.

PaperPlus carries a large number of PPE essentials in stock including Covid test kits, sanitiser and masks & dispensers - all available by arranged collection or delivery. There's even a free box of biscuits with any order over £50! Call 01444 238050 or use the links for more details.

Coast to Capital Growth Hub is here to help

The Coast to Capital Growth Hub works closely with Government and Local Councils to support business innovation, productivity and growth.



Karen Tyrrell
Growth Relationship Manager
Coast to Capital Growth Hub

Karen.Tyrrell@c2cbusiness.org.uk
07747 554378

The Growth Hub is funded by Government to provide the local SME community with impartial support services, advice and investment to drive regional economic growth as well as strategic leadership, helping to build resilience against the economic impacts of factors like COVID-19 and Brexit.

The team supports long-term growth, using a variety of proven business tools plus access to grants, networks, mentoring programs, 1-2-1 support, local events and a range of business analysis tools. For more details contact Karen Tyrrell, our local Growth Relationship Manager.

Having problems with freight shipments?

We've all seen the headlines about fresh food exports getting snarled up and ruined at UK or EU ports. We also recently reported how freight is becoming problematic to some of our own members who trade with the EU.

Jonathan Alderman, a Business Analyst at Coast to Capital has been tasked to bring together as much information as possible to arm Ministers with essential facts and data so as to get things sorted ASAP.

If your business is struggling in this area, drop Martyn more details at martyn@bhbp.co.uk – and all BHBPA members are welcome to join the interest group who regularly meet to discuss the challenges, with the next set for 16th February at 2pm.

News received from central Government

This section has emerged as a regular feature, but for sure don't regard it as exhaustive or fully comprehensive. Nonetheless, you may wish to be aware of the following points.

First, HMRC has announced some new **"Talking Points"** webinars which will be of interest to accountancy and tax advisers: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/help-and-support-for-agents#live-webinars>

Second, it seems the issuing of new **Driver Qualification Cards (DQC)** to professional lorry and bus drivers has hit a snag related to 'validity dates'. DVSA apologises for any inconvenience, and is now automatically sending out DQCs with updated validity dates to all drivers who qualify.

Gentle reminder...

As reported, the new BHBPA website is coming along and hopefully will be ready to launch

fairly soon. Please do contact Martyn if you wish to appear in the "**Meet the Locals**" feature.

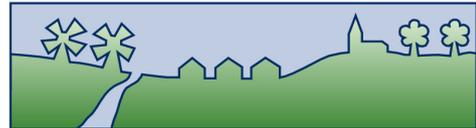
Alternatively, if you are launching new products and services this year we'd love to hear about it. And lastly, do think about sharing your uplifting stories - whether that's something charitable or just having a good buzzy time at work.

Mid Sussex District Council News

Burgess Hill Place & Connectivity Programme

The first package of main works to deliver town-wide walking and cycling improvements is progressing well with over 1.2km of works completed or near completion and a further 1km under active construction.

By the end of 2021, it is anticipated that around 10km of safe, direct and attractive walking and cycling routes will have been created or improved.



MID SUSSEX
DISTRICT COUNCIL

More on the Place & Connectivity Programme...

Grants

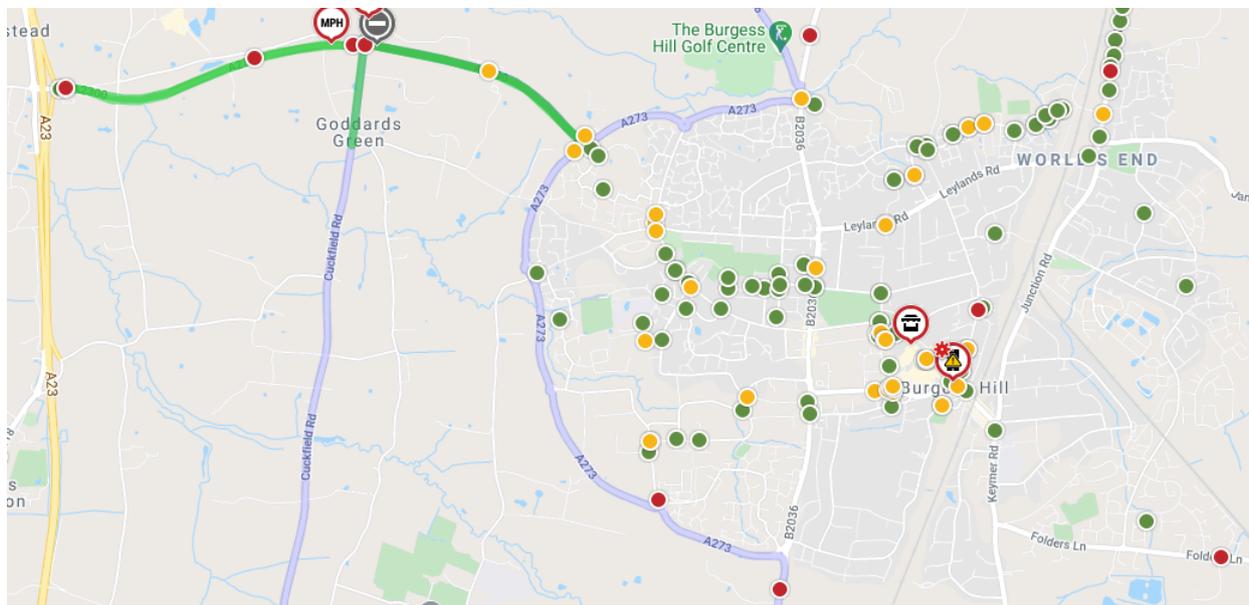
Nearly 200 delegates attended this week's webinar on grants led by Cllr Jonathan Ash-Edwards, leader of MSDC and Kevin Stewart, Revenue & Benefits Unit Leader. The event was recorded and is accessible here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UOTnHmMYwuc>

MSDC also have an updated the Business Grants website.

MSDC Grants website...

Roadworks next week

Several new 'red dot' roadworks for next week. Please take note of the works planned for 28th January near **Charles Avenue** - it is not completely clear where this will take place but it is a busy and tight route for HGVs already.



From	To	Road	Traffic Control
5th Nov	27th	Ongoing - Mill Road & Crescent Road	Multi Way Lights
11th	29th	Valebridge Road	2 Way Lights
25th	29th	Folders Lane	2 Way Lights?
25th	26th	London Road, Hassocks	Multi Way Lights
27th	29th	London Road, Hassocks	2 Way Lights
27th	27th	Isaacs Lane	2 Way Lights
28th	28th	Junction of Charles Avenue	2 Way Lights?

Community Highway Scheme update

Honestly this is not forgotten – at least not by us. A follow-up chaser was sent to WSCC Highways on Thursday as we'd still not heard back from last week's!



Check out what training is available

Obviously, the pandemic is a really frustrating and difficult time. Yet people are not always fully occupied, and so this might be a good time to get yourself or your people some extra training. Indeed, there's a lot available in this arena.

Members enjoy a discount on training - with Sussex Chamber of Commerce who provides a wide range of high quality training courses across the Sussex region. There's set courses and tailored training too.

Our friends at Sussex Chambers also wrote to point out that **East Sussex College** is on a mission to support the local workforce and local employers in 2021. The college has pledged £1million to help retrain and upskill people in Sussex following the Coronavirus pandemic.

Whether you are looking to train new staff or provide CPD for existing staff, Sussex Skills Solutions (part of East Sussex College) is here to help businesses succeed. To find out more and see the full course range follow the link or enquire via Grasp@escg.ac.uk

And finally, as previously reported, West Sussex County Council is behind the **Top tips for businesses to survive...and grow...training**. Topics can be tackled a piece at a time through a series of webinars with subjects including: SEO, Social Media, Google Analytics, PR & Brand Visibility and Google Adwords - all musts for any business needing to improve its marketing.

Sussex Chambers
training...

East Sussex College...

Top Tips webinars...

Later Life Care Service Support for Families launched

MHA Carpenter Box Financial Advisers have teamed up with Legal & General to provide individuals and families across Sussex with help and guidance covering later life care, which has become more challenging as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The L&G Later Life Care service provides help on finding a suitable care home, looks at funding options and offers advice on support at home.

MHA Carpenter Box Senior Financial Planning Manager Gill Lynes, an accredited member of the Society of Later Life Advisers (SOLLA), explains: *"Making arrangements for later life care, and understanding how this can be funded, has always been a complex process. Choosing suitable care has become even more problematic in recent months in part because of the restrictions governing visits to care homes. However, with our guidance, individuals and their families can make sound decisions appropriate to their current circumstances while planning for the future."*

More information...



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Into cricket? BHCC wants your input!

Our friends at BH Cricket Club are always ambitious to improve, which includes the key area of coaching. You may be interested to know that their Coaching Survey for 2021/22 is now open, and your input is being sought – it'll only take 5 minutes, so if you are into cricket...

[BHCC's Coaching Survey...](#)

Supporting those who support us

A local gent striving to raise funds to help support some of our local heroes working in ICUs wrote into us. Please take a look at the Just Giving page and do what you can to support the effort as you see fit.

[Just Giving page...](#)

Closing Remarks

This was a big week for our Association. I am delighted by the number, calibre and enthusiastic response we have had to filling our new Board and Steering Committee roles.

Next week Mark Jackson, our new Chair and I will be catching up and we'll look to communicate some next steps ASAP. Very much looking forward to our next chapter as the Burgess Hill Association for local business.

Have a lovely weekend.



Questions, comments or contributions to share? Please email martyn@bhbp.co.uk

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