

# Burgess Hill

## BUSINESS PARKS ASSOCIATION

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### Your BHBPA Newsletter

It may just be a figment of the imagination, but whereas most of the time we only get doom and gloom from the MSM, recently does there appear to be a general mood of greater positivity? Fleeting as this perception may prove to be, the positive news on the vaccination rollout is surely bringing much relief and hope regarding our 'way out' of the pandemic - and this is just so that we re-establish a greater sense of normality. It's somewhat grounding that most of us simply re-realised that it is actually the little things in life that we crave and miss the most - especially when they're taken away!

The same is probably true of this newsletter. Because the last twelve months or so have been so restrictive and dominated by a lot of serious news that has needed to be conveyed, there's not been so much fun or the sharing of light-hearted moments - that's just the way it is.



Recalling summer treats at Consort Frozen Food...

But hopefully, things will start to improve soon, as we all wait to hear what the PM has to say on Monday.

In the meantime, please remember this is your newsletter. It is about news from and for the local Burgess Hill business community. So, as and when you have something exciting going on at work, or you and your colleagues are just having a bit of a laugh (that's shareable) please let us know about it - [martyn@bhbpa.co.uk](mailto:martyn@bhbpa.co.uk)

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## Asymptomatic testing for 50+ employee businesses

The Government has boosted availability of rapid workplace testing, and firms can now register to order Coronavirus tests. And while we're on the subject of Covid-19, for more on Mid Sussex's vaccine rollout please refer to Mims Davies' website.

[More information on workplace testing...](#)

[Register for workplace testing...](#)

[Mims Davies website...](#)



**Social Media links** - if you enjoy this Newsletter and use Social Media, please do follow the BHBPA on Twitter. Also follow us on LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/bhbpa/>

**Meet the Locals** - we are told that many people read this Newsletter on a Friday over their mid-morning coffee. Hopefully it's nice to know you're not the only one! While you enjoy those few moments of quiet, do book out about fifteen minutes to also watch our interview with Steve Willis in our feature "Meet the Locals". You can either go to our Homepage or click the direct link below.

**Innovating stories** - our eclectic membership base is a fascinating collection of innovating

businesses. Indeed, many small businesses had to innovate throughout 2020 in order to survive. Our friend Jenny Weller at RRPT recently shared her story about some recent innovations. Please do help others to learn from your experiences around innovations in your workplace.

Meet Steve Willis on Vimeo...

Innovation at RRPT...

## Events for your calendar...



### International Women's Day

We celebrate International Women's Day on Monday 8th March when we host an event designed for people who want to reflect on how to face career and life challenges.

Our speakers are four successful local business leaders: Tamara Roberts, CEO of Ridgeview Wine Estates, Emma Cleary, director at Flexibility Matters, Aneela Rose, Head of PR at Rose Media Group and Tracy Humphreys is Principal Consultant at THR Consultancy. Four successful yet very different personalities.

Please encourage young adults (Sixth Formers +), and not such young adults, who want to pick up some tips for success. Register for this FOC event to be held over Zoom and come ready to ask questions: <https://www.bhbpa.co.uk/international-womens-day/>

### Mega March Hospice On-line Quiz

St Peter & St James Hospice and Friends of Sussex Hospices (FSH) invite you to have fun and enter their online Mega March Hospice Quiz. We know there are plenty of eager quizzers out there and hopefully many of you will want to take part along with colleagues as you compete for the winner's prize.

There will be a timed quiz for each week of March – so that's 4 weeks and 4 quizzes. You can enter on your own, in pairs or as a team with most questions in multiple choice format.



**St Peter & St James Hospice**  
*Hospice care in the heart of Sussex*

There's no entry fee although quizzers are invited to make a donation (£10ish) to the hospice of your choice or to FSH to benefit all the Sussex hospice care providers. To register follow the link: <https://www.friendsofsussexhospices.org.uk/mmhq-online/>

**Sussex Chamber of Commerce Affiliate Association Networking**

As previously mentioned, Sussex Chamber is organising an Affiliates Networking event on 24th March.

To book direct follow the link, although you can register via our Events page too.



Sussex Chamber link...

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7a Church Rd  
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www.travail.co.uk

**Sustainable Economics**



## EV charging?

We have received a small number of responses regarding the installation of Electric Vehicle charging points at work – albeit from some significant players on our estates.

Given the number of car manufacturers who are committed to 'going electric' in only a handful of years, EV charging is going to become a big issue! Perhaps a good way forward will be to discuss this matter with the Steering Committee and determine some next steps. We'll be back on this topic.

Email to register your interest in EV charging...

## Forests the size of tennis courts

Apparently there are hundreds of tiny forests being planted in towns and cities around the world, which is amazing, AND the Government has announced funding for twelve of them in the UK.

This sort of thinking is really important as we wrestle with climate change – a challenge Bill Gates recently said was far more complex than dealing with Covid-19!

We'd love to hear from any businesses who want to create something similar - a BHBPA micro forest perhaps?

BBC News article...

Our colleagues at MSDC have recently issued their new look Business Bulletin which introduces the Economic Development team and the Council's Economic Recovery Plan. We also know that the Council are committed to producing a Sustainable Economic Strategy during Spring 2021, which we look forward to participating in and sharing.

In the meantime, our thanks to MSDC for their continued support in the form of the Annual Grant and Micro Business Grant - the latter helped fund our new website!

MSDC Business Bulletin - Spring 2021...

## Measures to remember

As we approach Budget day on 3rd March, it'll be nearly a year since the Chancellor's first Budget which included his initial Coronavirus measures.

Of course, these escalated pretty quickly into a huge package of support, which no-one could have predicted!



Our friends at On-the-Spot tax have collated into one place what happened and more importantly what's still current and might be available for you. Check the link and please feel free to contact Paula Tomlinson if you have questions - [paula@onthespottax.co.uk](mailto:paula@onthespottax.co.uk)

**ARG Round 4 now open!** - our friend Kevin Stewart at MSDC is officially on leave this week, but he still found time to write in to say that while the 3rd round of discretionary Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) closed at midnight on Monday 15th February 2021, the Council proceeded to then open Round 4 immediately. And Kevin also reminds us that businesses

can make one application each round...

[On The Spot...](#)

[MSDC Business Grants...](#)

## Government News

**Brexit support** - our good friend Carolyn Bentley has written to highlight some additional support available via the Coast to Capital Growth Hub in the post EU transition period, although as Carolyn says, at the moment this goes up to the end of March only.

**Short-term ECMT permits announced** - the Trade and Cooperation Agreement between the UK and EU allows for a UK haulier to undertake unlimited bilateral (point-to-point) journeys to and from the EU, and unlimited transit journeys through the EU to a non-EU country (though a permit may be required for your final destination).

**HMRC's latest Talking Points** - can be found on our website plus details of upcoming Talking Points webinars for you to book on to.

[C2C Growth Hub...](#)

[ECMT Permits...](#)

[HMRC Talking Points...](#)



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## Regarding our TROs

Our thanks to Cllr Andrew Barrett-Miles for his ongoing support along with WSCC Highways regarding BHBPA's Traffic Regulation Order submissions. We think we may have an easier way forward (albeit there is a bit of a funding issue) for us to pursue as an Association.

As Andrew explained to us, the key issue that impacts most TROs (such as applications for double yellow lines) is dealing with objections. Hopefully, we won't get many raised as the benefit is for our business community. Martyn will discuss further with Nick Broom, our Victoria Business Park rep, early next week – suffice to say, we'll keep you posted.

## Free Business Skills Gap Training

Our friends at the University of Chichester wrote in to highlight that members can access a new range of short courses (all completely free) recently launched to help businesses fill a skills gaps.

The courses are led by the Innovation South Virtual Campus and are hosted online to provide safe tuition and cover key areas such as digital marketing, competitor analysis, and IT skills including software development and cyber security.



[More information on new courses...](#)

You might also be interested in **Networking & Advice Training** delivered as part of the WSCC Recover and Rise Programme on 25th February.

[Recover & Rise training...](#)

## What is flexible working best practice - post pandemic?

Our friends at Flexibility Matters invite you to their 18th March 10am-1pm event with keynote speaker Marisa Williams of PwC.

Also supporting the session will be:

- Dagmar Albers of Pfizer
- David Blackburn Chartered CCIPD FSCS
- Jessica Hornsby of Thales
- Richard Pollins of DMH Stallard and
- Liane Richardson of Thakeham Group



[Implementing Flexible Working best practice - post pandemic...](#)

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## Closing Remarks

We held our first Board Meeting of 2021 this week. Mark Jackson, Matt Needham and Martyn have all now been registered as directors at Companies House and the new Articles of Association, as aligned with the Constitution, have been submitted too. Our thanks to Nick & Nuria at DMH Stallard. Next week sees the first meeting of our new Steering Committee.

BTW although we are still working to fully resolve the glitch on the website regarding Newsletter Signups – I am pleased to say new subscribers can sign up again.

As the Beast from the East II has retreated, so the sense that Spring is just around the corner is more and more palpable. The days are definitely getting longer and the quality of the daylight is changing – hurrah! – even if summer holidays are still very uncertain. All fingers crossed for Monday's briefing from Downing Street.

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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