

ENVIRONMENT AND BIO-DIVERSITY

Brightling Environmental Group

Dark Skies Accreditation –

Letter from David Field representing 6 parishes sent to High Weald Joint Advisory Committee asking for their support.

To do: Brightling lighting policy required – stating that although we do not presently have street lighting if in the future we were to acquire some it would align with the High Weald National Landscape (HWNL) Management Plan 2024-29 under policies D1 and D2 and with the HWNL Dark Skies Technical Advice Notice.

Events -Warmer Brightling II on 14 October – about 30 attended.

Night Flyers Walk on 16 October – Postponed to 2026

Rare Bees Resilience

Expression of interest for Park View land to be considered has gone to Michelle Pletsch of GroundWork South who is planning the project for Rother. She will decide if the area is suitable for particular bee species. If it is then an application needs to be made early 2026 and a management plan created.

There is money available for capital funding – contractors, fencing, plants etc but not for doing the actual work and it needs to be volunteer led. Expectation is for it to run for 10 years plus. The land would not be restricted for that single use, although other activity should not impact on the habitat. BEG have expressed interest.

Sussex Nature Strategies launch

I attended the webinar on Monday 3 November. You can read the Nature Recovery plans and take part in the [survey](#) until 26 November.

<https://yourvoice.westsussex.gov.uk/lnrs-east>

There will be one Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS) for East Sussex, Brighton & Hove and one for West Sussex.

The [interactive map](#) is useful as you can drill down onto the area of Brightling.

https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/34c16447fd654766a80592b5ec1f2a5a/page/Page?view=Map-Layers#data_s=id%3AdataSource_3-199855aafcd-layer-51%3A14

It should help focus any action we might take or encourage residents to take to relevant projects. Large areas in Brightling have been highlighted as of particular importance for biodiversity and the creation of new habitats, these include gill woodland, wood pasture and

parkland. We should check if other parish councils adjacent to us are planning projects – it makes sense to coordinate and collaborate.

The Rare Bees resilience project would also directly support the Sussex Local Nature Recovery strategy and Natural England's Threatened Species Recovery Actions.

Himalayan Balsam – no further information from BEG.

FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS

Public Rights of Way course 13 November – not able to attend.

Parish Byways walks -

Sunday 19 October 10am – Darwell Woods – reservoir. 11 people walked. Tree blocking the footpath, footpath sign fallen down and lack of footpath sign reported.

Walks will continue in 2026 and a Wild flower one is to be arranged for May/June 2026.

Reported November

Ref 251190211 MOU/11/2 - footpath sign needed here

Ref 25116225 BR1/30/1 - footpost sign fallen over

Ref 251179308 – BAT1/1 tree fallen onto path

Ref 251114138 – BR1/14/1 stile unsafe

All completed:

Ref 250924842 (46301) - footpath BRI/16/1 path cleared

Ref 250961232 (46296) – Footpaths BRI/14/1 and BRI/14/2 - cleared.

Ref 250923786 (46295) - Footpath BRI/14/2 - cleared

WELCOME PACK

Nothing new.

Deer information to be added if agreed.