



Henfield Community Partnership – Directors’ Annual Report for Henfield Parish Council

Introduction

The HCP AGM held on 3 September marked the completion of the second year for the current, and re-elected, Executive Team working together. Having laid strong foundations in the first year, the team has continued to develop how Henfield Community Partnership (HCP) incubates, empowers, and supports the local community — individuals, groups, and businesses — to share resources and co-create a vibrant, sustainable village.

How HCP Has Activated Community Engagement:

Encouraging participation, ownership, and leadership

- Hosted a **Volunteering Evening** on 27 February 2026 at Henfield Leisure Centre, attended by over 30 organisations and more than 50 members of the community.
- Participated in the **Henfield Community Action Day** on 18 April 2026 at Henfield Youth Club/Kingsfield.

Facilitating collaboration and resource-sharing to maximise collective impact:

- Worked closely with **Horsham District Council** (Economic Development and Voluntary Support Services Teams).
- Hosted a **Fundraising Workshop** in November 2025 for local clubs, groups, and societies.
- Partnering with **Henfield Parish Council**, focusing on the Village Centre initiative throughout the year.
- Completed an **audit of community buildings** and began implementing recommendations.
- Collaborated with **Red Oaks** to deliver community events including Carers Café, Dementia Care sessions, Business Networking Breakfasts, My Future Care and Community Singing.
- Supported Citizens Advice, Horsham Matters and Horsham Wellbeing to help residents of Henfield

Supporting innovative ideas and initiatives that address evolving community needs:

- Worked with volunteers and **Henfield Electric Car Company** to provide transport to Swains Farm Shop (further venues being explored).
- Support for **Computer Club** during Get on Line Week (w/c 19 Oct) including specialist presentations in Henfield and Southwater.
- Continued support for, **Bump to Baby Plus**, and **Access Henfield**.
- Helped establish **Henfield Sci-Tech - interactive sessions** for 10-18 year olds to encourage interest in STEM
<https://www.henfieldcommunity.org.uk/volunteer/organisation-role-cp47l-xea5k-8xw2y>

Promoting financial sustainability:

Through fundraising, sponsorship, and grant support:

- **Henfield Bowls Club** received funding to improve toilet facilities and now exploring solar panels with the help of SH2030..
- **Henfield Youth Club** secured support for [insert project details].

Acting as a catalyst for inclusive community culture:

- Connected **Access Henfield** with HDC's Economic Development Team to roll out the **Snowball Community App** (<https://company.snowball.community/>).
- Worked with **Henfield Leisure Centre (HLC)** to establish **indoor adaptive Kurling**, a new low-impact sport.
- Worked with HDC Wellbeing Team and HLC to hold a **Carers' Day** - 9th September 2026 (attended by 38)

Supporting HPC's 2026 'Year of Village Centre':

- Conducted a **High Street survey** completed by 500 residents and numerous visitors. Results shared September 2026 with a plan to facilitate workshops for volunteers willing to take forward initiatives.
- Continued the **Coffee on the Kerb** initiative, now a regular event held on the second Saturday of each month, that continues to go from strength to strength.
- Supported residents' application to HDC for Buy Local, Gift Happy Christmas Grant

Strengthening Clubs, Societies, and Groups:

- Launched the **new HCP website**: [henfieldcommunity.org.uk](https://www.henfieldcommunity.org.uk) which now includes a volunteer hub to match volunteers with opportunities:
<https://www.henfieldcommunity.org.uk/volunteer>
- Distributed a **monthly newsletter** featuring events and updates from Henfield's clubs and organisations: [July–August 2026 edition](#)
- Updated the **Best Practice Guide** for local charities and clubs: [HCP Best Practice Guidelines – Jan 2026](#)

Immediate Plans for the coming months:

- Support the **Winter Warm Ups week** at Henfield Leisure Centre w/c 12th October 2026 <https://www.henfieldleisurecentre.co.uk/events/winter-warm-ups>
- Create a **Community Mosaic** to be positioned on an external wall of Henfield Hall.
- Explore updating and publishing on the new website a **local history book** created by a Henfield resident; Highlighting places of interest and local walking routes.
- Support **Trustees of Community Buildings** in fulfilling governance responsibilities, through guidance, signposting, and training; it is hoped an autumn event will be an opportunity to bring trustees together and discuss and work on common challenges.
- Expand the **local resources section** of the HCP website with practical information and links for residents and visitors.
- Facilitate workshops for those volunteering in further exploring and activating **suggestions from the recent High St Survey**.

Closing Remarks

As our tagline reminds us, *we are stronger together*. The HCP Executive Team extends heartfelt thanks to all volunteers who help make Henfield a thriving, resilient community. We are proud of the relationships built and the continued support received from **Horsham District Council** and **Henfield Parish Council**.

Ann Donoghue

Chair, Henfield Community Partnership

On behalf of the HCP Executive Team

30 September 2026