

I would like to inform you that a Highways Steward attended the location earlier today to carry out an inspection. Following this visit, I have prepared and issued a letter outlining the findings and confirming the matters agreed upon within the scope of the planting licence.

Please be assured that the concerns raised are being addressed appropriately, and correspondence has been initiated with the parties to whom the planting licence was issued.

Kind regards

Andy Tuck

Assistant Area Highway Manager – Eastern Area Economy, Infrastructure & Environment – Highways, Transport and Planning West Sussex County Council

Location: Eastern Office, Jobs Depot, Pookbourne Lane, Hickstead, West Sussex, BN6 9HD **Contact: Internal:** 25162 | **External:** +44 (0)330 2225 162 | **Mobile:** +44 (0)7546

763656 | E-mail: Andy.Tuck@westsussex.gov.uk

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pid you know you can follow West Sussex Highways on Twitter? @WSHighways

We've launched our new website

www.westsussex.gov.uk

From: Jacquie Russell < Jacquie.Russell@westsussex.gov.uk>

Sent: 29 October 2025 13:12

Cc: Andy Tuck <Andy.Tuck@westsussex.gov.uk>; Gemma Wallis

<Gemma.Wallis@westsussex.gov.uk>; planninginvestigations@midsussex.gov.uk

Subject: RE: COS 31/10 Protest

Dear XX

I can see that you have copied in West Sussex Highways who I understand carried out a site inspection this morning. I will therefore allow them to respond directly to you on this matter although I do not anticipate that this will conclude prior to the event.

Meanwhile I can confirm I have been advised that the late request for additional hoarding just north of the main entrance has now been revoked and I have asked that Sussex Police and myself are given a copy of the communication to the Church of Scientology notifying them of the revocation in the event there is any dispute during the forthcoming event.. This revocation enables you to stand at this location which I understand was agreed between yourself and Sussex Police recently.

Regards

ΑT

Jacquie

From:

Sent: 29 October 2025 12:53

To: Jacquie Russell < <u>Jacquie.Russell@westsussex.gov.uk</u>> **Cc:** Andy Tuck < <u>Andy.Tuck@westsussex.gov.uk</u>>; Gemma Wallis

<Gemma.Wallis@westsussex.gov.uk>; planninginvestigations@midsussex.gov.uk

Subject: Re: COS 31/10 Protest

EXTERNAL

Dear Jacquie,

I have just been sent a photograph, taken this morning of a fence which has now been installed on the public verge, in front of the new holly bush on Saint Hill Road directly opposite the entrance to the Church of Scientology. This is in direct contravention of their new Planting Licence, and presents a risk to road users and pedestrians due to its proximity to the highway.

As far as I am aware, this is an illegal structure and there is no planning permission or permits for such a fence to be installed on this piece of Highways-owned land. As such, I have copied in MSDC Planning in case it is a matter for them to deal with?

As you may remember, last year Scientology had erected a 130ft fence behind the hedge, which they were subsequently ordered to remove.

This is blatant disregard for the local authority, and presents an immediate risk to life for anybody who is walking up that road, and would be unable to escape oncoming traffic in the event of an accident.

Kind regards









On 28 Oct 2025, at 16:53, Jacquie Russell < <u>Jacquie.Russell@westsussex.gov.uk</u>> wrote:

Dear XX

Thank you for your email.

Having spoken at length with Sussex Police on this matter I can confirm they are of the view that attendees travelling from the northern end of Saint Hill Rd would use the entrance opposite Rockwood Park to access the church grounds and therefore they could not see the need for the additional hoarding to be positioned on the northern side of the entrance to the church as nobody would be using it.

As I was not aware of the request to extend the hoarding, I have made further enquiries and it would appear that the request for hoarding on the northern side of the main church entrance was a late request that had been granted via the network management team which had unfortunately bypassed due process. I understand that Sussex Police had previously agreed with you that the area circled in red below would be the safest position for you to stand. This is the area where the additional hoarding was requested. Given Sussex Police had already agreed the location with you, I asked that this late request for additional hoarding be revoked and I

am advised that this has now been done and the church have been advised accordingly.

To confirm, hoarding will be in place on the south side of the entrance to the church for highways safety reasons and will provide a specific walkway for attendees into the church grounds. For information, it is not considered unreasonable by Highways for church officials to prohibit access to anyone other than church attendees in the southern walkway.

With respect to the planting issues you have raised, I can advise that Highways will be in attendance tomorrow to review the planting and deal with your concerns with respect to any licensing breach should this be apparent.

Hopefully this clarifies the position.

Kind regards

Jacquie





From:

Sent: 28 October 2025 15:04

To: Jacquie Russell < jacquie.russell@westsussex.gov.uk >

Subject: Fwd: COS 31/10 Protest

EXTERNAL

Hi Jacquie,

I am hoping you may be able to provide some clarity as I am yet to receive a response from Highways, and have received conflicting messaging from Sussex Police with regards to Scientology's alleged extension to their hoarding licence.

They claim it has been extended so as to include the northern portion of the verge by their entrance to their property, and it sounds like we are being advised to conduct our demonstration up by Rockwood Park.

If the licence has indeed been extended, this would result in an unlawful and disproportionate restriction on our freedom of assembly and rights to protest as protected under ECHR.

Are you able to confirm the nature of the final agreement that has been reached with the COS and provide a map of the exact location(s) where hoarding has been approved for the duration of this weekend's event, please?

Many thanks and kind regards



begin iorwarded message.

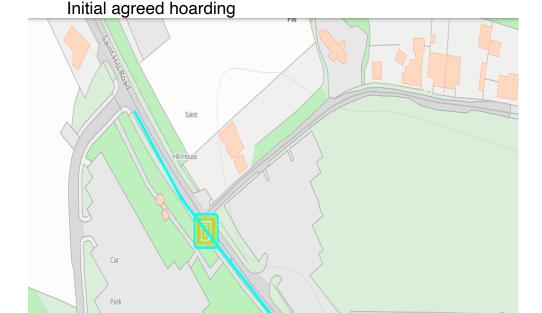
From: "Oakley, Ryan CO326" < Ryan.Oakley@sussex.police.uk >

Date: 28 October 2025 at 13:32:41 GMT

To: Subject: COS 31/10 Protest

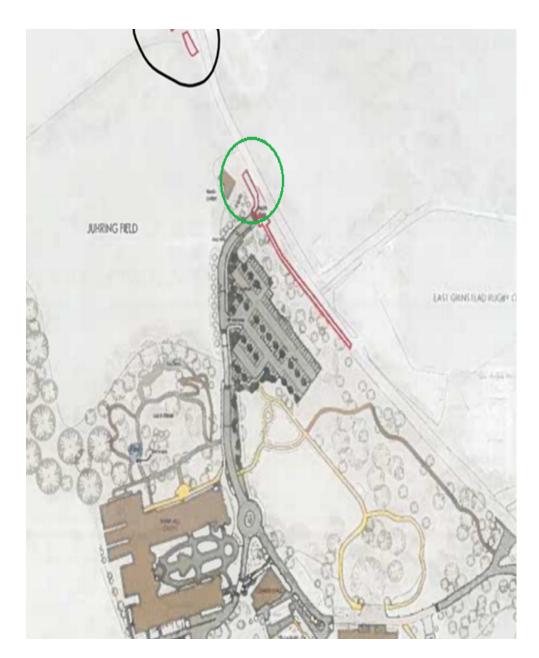
 $Hi \times \times$

Thank you for your emails updating me on the plan. I have been speaking to West Sussex Gov and Highways regarding the agreed hoarding. Its been a bit confusing uncovering what has been agreed and the discrepancies.



Further agreed hoarding in black. There is query over what I have highlighted in green and discussed with highways today who have agreed this has no requirement to be added. Any pedestrians coming from Rockwood will use the black entrance and therefore this is the suitable place to protest as we discussed during our visit. I will confirm with you once highways have all agreed but as it stands this is currently what I feel is reasonable. I am yet to tell COS but will inform them prior to the event.





Kind regards,

Ryan

PS Ryan Oakley CO326 Mid Sussex NPT I West Sussex Division Sussex Police

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