

MINUTES

EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

MINUTES of a MEETING of the EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL held at COUNTY HALL, LEWES on TUESDAY, 27 MARCH 2012 at 10.00 am.

Present Councillors Barnes, Belsey, Bennett, Bentley, Birch, Daniel, Dowling, Elkin, Ensor, Fawthrop, Field, Freebody, Freeman, Gadd, Glazier, Healy, Heaps, Howson, Hughes, Jones, Kenward, Lambert, Livings, Lock, Maynard, O’Keeffe, Pragnell, Reid, Rodohan, Rogers OBE, Scott, D Shing, S Shing, Simmons, Sparks, Stogdon, St Pierre, Stroude, Taylor, Thomas, Thompson, Mrs Tidy, Tidy MBE, Tutt, Waite, Webb and Whetstone.

60. Minutes of Last Meeting

60.1 RESOLVED - to confirm the minutes of the meeting of the County Council held on 7 February 2012 as a correct record.

61. Apologies for absence

61.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Harris and Ost.

62. Chairman's Business

SEAN NOLAN

62.1 The Chairman announced that after serving as an officer of the Council for eleven years Sean Nolan had decided to leave his post at the end of the current financial year. On behalf of the County Council the Chairman thanked Sean for his guidance and support since 2001 and wished him and his family all the very best in the future. Other members also paid tribute to the contribution Sean had had during his time at the Council.

CHAIRMAN'S ACTIVITIES

62.2 I have attended a number of engagements since the last County Council meeting including: visiting the Highway teams and going out with a gritter lorry in the Forest Row and Maresfield area, visiting the Gizmo DIY Theatre in Hastings, the mobile Library and mobile office and Rotherfield St Martin where I gave a talk on my year in office, attending the South Downs National Park Sustainable Communities event in Hampshire, the launch of the Herstmonceux Science Centre shuttle bus and the launch of the Uckfield Business awards at the East Sussex National Golf Centre. The Vice Chairman attended the East Sussex String Festival Concert at the Winter Gardens, Eastbourne and visited St Mary’s Wrestwood Children’s Centre in Bexhill and undertook a number of other engagements on my behalf.

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PRAYERS

62.3 The Chairman thanked Father Paul Jennings for leading the prayers before the Council meeting.

PETITIONS

62.4 The Chairman informed the Council that immediately before the meeting he had received petitions from members as follows:

Councillor Rodohan	- calling upon the County Council to investigate the issue of speeding in Kings Avenue, Eastbourne and consider the introduction of a one way system
Councillor Whetstone	- calling on the County Council to reduce the current speed limit from 40 mph to 30 mph on the A267 through Mark Cross

63. Questions from Members of the Public

63.1 There were no questions from members of the public.

64. Declarations of Interest

64.1 There were no declarations of interest.

65. Reports

CALLOVER

65.1 The Chairman of the County Council, having called over the reports set out in the agenda, reserved the following paragraphs for discussion:

Cabinet	- paragraphs 1 and 2
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NON-RESERVED PARAGRAPHS

65.2 On the motion of the Chairman of the County Council, the Council ADOPTED those paragraphs in the reports of the Committees that had not been reserved for discussion.

66. Cabinet Report – Reserved paragraphs

66.1 Councillor Jones moved the reserved paragraphs of the Cabinet's report.

66.2 The motions were CARRIED after debate.

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67. Questions from County Councillors

ORAL QUESTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS

67.1 The following members asked questions of the Lead Cabinet Members indicated and they responded:

Questioner	Respondent	Subject
Councillor Rogers	Councillor Bentley	Creation of dementia friendly communities in East Sussex
Councillor Thompson	Councillor Elkin	Consideration of 20 mph speed limits outside schools
Councillor Lambert	Councillor Jones	Involvement of the voluntary and community sector in future planning processes
Councillor Birch	Councillor Belsey	Child poverty needs assessment and production of Child Poverty Strategy
Councillor Daniel	Councillor Maynard	Publication of findings of CPO enquiry in relation to the Bexhill to Hastings Link Road
Councillor Whetstone	Councillor Maynard	Council's policy regarding the display of the names of sponsors of school crossing patrols on uniforms
Councillor Rogers	Councillor Glazier	Role of Health and Wellbeing Board and opportunity for councillors to put questions to the Chairman
Councillor Whetstone	Councillor Maynard	Council's Policy for clearing branches from the highway and how far back from the highway trees/shrubs had to be cut back.

WRITTEN QUESTIONS PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 44

68.2 A written question was received from Councillor Tutt for the Lead Member for Children's and Adults' Services. The answer is attached to these minutes.

68.3 The Lead Member for Children's and Adults' Services responded to a supplementary question for the purposes of clarification.

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69. Notice of Motion

69.1 The following motion was moved by Councillor St Pierre and seconded by Councillor Freeman:

East Sussex County Council notes that there is insufficient scrutiny of current hydraulic fracturing (or fracking) operations in the UK and as a consequence these operations risk irreversibly polluting fragile water resources and established nature and tourism resources.

East Sussex County Council notes that fracking potentially has other undesirable impacts on rural areas including significant HGV movements and risk of seismic events.

East Sussex County Council acknowledges that exploration of unconventional fossil fuel may undermine the economic rationale for investing in a clean energy future.

Accordingly the Council resolves to: (a) agree to note the temporary suspension of drilling for shale gas in Lancashire; and

(b) request that members of the Planning Committee receive a briefing on the potential impacts of fracking prior to any planning application in relation to fracking being considered.

69.2 The following amendment was moved by Councillor Maynard and seconded by Councillor Mrs Tidy.

~~To delete the words [East Sussex County Council notes that there is insufficient scrutiny of current hydraulic fracturing (or fracking) operations in the UK and as a consequence these operations risk irreversibly polluting fragile water resources and established nature and tourism resources.]~~

~~East Sussex County Council notes that fracking potentially has other undesirable impacts on rural areas including significant HGV movements and risk of seismic events.~~

~~East Sussex County Council acknowledges that exploration of unconventional fossil fuel may undermine the economic rationale for investing in a clean energy future.]~~

To insert the words [ESCC acknowledges that there are significant public concerns over the process of hydraulic fracturing (fracking). Members of this council and members of the public should be properly and fully informed once the evidence base is established.]

Accordingly the Council resolves to: (a) agree to [insert] [support the temporary suspension of fracking] [delete] [note the temporary suspension of drilling for shale gas] in Lancashire [insert] [pending evaluation of the evidence that is being obtained and considered by Government]; and

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(b) request that members of the ~~[delete] Planning Committee~~ [insert] [County Council] receive a briefing on the potential impacts of fracking prior to any planning application in relation to fracking being considered.

69.3 The following amendment was moved by Councillor O’Keeffe and seconded by Councillor D Shing.

East Sussex County Council notes that there ~~[delete] is insufficient scrutiny of current~~ [insert] [are significant public concerns over] hydraulic fracturing (or fracking) operations in the UK and as a consequence these operations risk ~~[delete] irreversibly polluting fragile water resources and established nature and tourism resources~~ [insert] [a number of pollution and environmental damage events for which there is evidence elsewhere.

Members of this Council and members of the public should be properly and fully informed once the evidence base is established]

~~[delete] [East Sussex County Council notes that fracking potentially has other undesirable impacts on rural areas including significant HGV movements and risk of seismic events.~~

~~East Sussex County Council acknowledges that exploration of unconventional fossil fuel may undermine the economic rationale for investing in a clean energy future.]~~

Accordingly the Council resolves to: (a) [insert] [support] ~~[delete] [agree to note]~~ the temporary suspension of [insert] [fracking] ~~[delete] [drilling for shale gas]~~ in Lancashire [insert] [pending evaluation of the evidence that is being obtained and considered by Government]; and

(b) request that members of the ~~[delete] [Planning Committee]~~ [insert] [County Council] receive a briefing on the potential impacts of fracking prior to any planning application in relation to fracking being considered.

69.4 The following amendment was moved by Councillor Daniel and seconded by Councillor Webb

~~[delete] [East Sussex County Council notes that there is insufficient scrutiny of current hydraulic fracturing (or fracking) operations in the UK and as a consequence these operations risk irreversibly polluting fragile water resources and established nature and tourism resources.~~

~~East Sussex County Council notes that fracking potentially has other undesirable impacts on rural areas including significant HGV movements and risk of seismic events.~~

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~~East Sussex County Council acknowledges that exploration of unconventional fossil fuel may undermine the economic rationale for investing in a clean energy future.]~~

[insert] [ESCC acknowledges that there are significant public concerns over the process of hydraulic fracturing (fracking). Members of this council and members of the public should be properly and fully informed once the evidence base is established.]

Accordingly the Council resolves to: (a) agree to [insert] [support the temporary suspension of fracking [delete] [note the temporary suspension of drilling for shale gas] in Lancashire [insert] [pending evaluation of the evidence that is being obtained and considered by Government]; and

(b) request that members of the [delete] [Planning Committee] [insert] [County Council] receive a briefing on [delete] [the potential impacts of] fracking prior to any planning application in relation to fracking being considered.

69.5 On the motion of the Chairman the Council meeting was adjourned for 10 minutes.

69.6 At the request of Councillor O’Keeffe and with the consent of Councillor D Shing and the Council the amendment proposed by Councillor O’Keeffe was withdrawn.

69.7 The Council considered the amendment proposed by Councillor Daniel. The amendment was accepted by Councillors Maynard and St Pierre and the following was therefore CARRIED:

ESCC acknowledges that there are significant public concerns over the process of hydraulic fracturing (fracking). Members of this council and members of the public should be properly and fully informed once the evidence base is established.

Accordingly the Council resolves to: (a) agree to support the temporary suspension of fracking in Lancashire pending evaluation of the evidence that is being obtained and considered by Government; and

(b) request that members of the County Council receive a briefing on fracking prior to any planning application in relation to fracking being considered.

THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 12.30 pm

The reports referred to are included in the minute book

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WRITTEN QUESTION PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 44

1. Question by Councillor Tutt to Councillor Elkin, Lead Member for Children's and Adults' Services

Would the Lead Member for Children's Services please provide a detailed list of all temporary/mobile classroom facilities in East Sussex schools together with the dates that such 'temporary' facilities were installed?

Answer by Councillor Elkin

Please see the attached table, which details a full list of temporary/mobile accommodation at ESCC maintained schools (ie excluding Academies and Foundation Trust schools), together with the dates of installation of each mobile/temporary facility. This list provides a snap-shot of the current position in many respects, as provision has been made in the 2012/13 capital programme to replace or refurbish a number of the temporary classrooms. Feasibility studies are currently in progress to determine the detail of the investment required. In addition, for several of the Primary schools other permanent solutions are also being progressed.

Additional/Supplementary Information

- It should be noted that across ESCC maintained Primary schools there are some 1,248 classrooms, of which 70 are temporary/mobile accommodation, which equates to only 5.6% of the total number.

NB - Table shows 106 total spaces, however 36 are not classrooms (staff rooms, libraries, group rooms, nurseries etc) and have been excluded from the calculations above

- In relation to ESCC maintained Secondary schools, there are some 1,306 teaching spaces (including specialist spaces such as science labs, music rooms, Design Technology rooms and halls). Of these 51 are in temporary/mobile accommodation. This equates to only 3.9% of the total number.

NB - Table shows 54 total spaces as 3 are not teaching spaces (2 offices, 1 site manager)

Quality of Temporary Accommodation

- Temporary/mobile accommodation installed as part of the CSD Temporary Accommodation Programme from 2010 onwards is required to incorporate significant improvements to energy performance as part of the "total refurbishment" process to meet Building Regulations 2010 standards. As part of the asset management plan, a significant proportion of existing stock is used with substantial refurbishment; typically including increased insulation, new double glazed windows, low energy lighting, water saving features and BRE Green Guide rated materials. Further sustainability measures may also be selected on a project specific basis, such as air source heat pumps, additional tree planting and

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landscaping and rain water collection butts. The standard of accommodation now being provided is therefore good.

General Background/Guidance on Use of Temporary Accommodation for Temporary Increases in Pupil Numbers

- The use of temporary accommodation has also been a conscious strand of our capital planning strategy; firstly in order to reconcile statutory requirements and policy to available resources, this is the most cost effective approach in the short and medium term. And secondly, as the forecasts indicate that in some areas pupil number increases will not persist into the long-term, it would be a false economy to invest in permanent solutions at this time.

- At times of pupil growth, the Council uses a two-staged approach to meet its statutory duty to ensure the sufficient supply of school places across the County. For short term 'bulges' in pupil numbers the Council will use temporary accommodation to ensure it can react quickly to provide additional places in areas of pressure. Using temporary accommodation is a recognised way of providing additional places in the short term and it provides a valuable and flexible resource to enable the Council to fulfil its obligations. If the 'bulge' becomes a longer term trend, the Council will consider providing additional permanent accommodation, subject to its compliance with statutory guidance and funding being available through the County Council's Capital Programme. Whilst the Council's wish would be for every child to be educated in permanent buildings, it is important to establish that there is a long term demand for additional places before extra permanent accommodation is provided. This is to reduce the risk of additional permanent capacity exacerbating viability issues in times of low pupil numbers.

- It is generally accepted that not all unfilled places in a school are surplus places, but that some margin of capacity is necessary to allow parental choice, given that there will be volatility in preferences from one year to the next, and to allow for differences in the size of individual cohorts. National guidance (historically provided by the Audit Commission) suggests that between 5 and 10% surplus should be maintained in an area to facilitate parental preference and allow for a margin of error in the pupil forecasts.

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ESTABLISHMENT	School Type	NUMBER OF BUILDINGS	DESCRIPTION OF BUILDING	NUMBER OF SPACES	TYPE OF SPACE	DATE OF INSTALLATION
All Saints CE Primary School, Bexhill	Primary	1	Double	2	General Teaching	1995
Battle and Langton CE Primary School	Primary	1	Double	2	General Teaching	2000
Battle and Langton CE Primary School	Primary	1	Single	1	General Teaching	January 2004
Battle and Langton CE Primary School	Primary	1	Single	1	General Teaching	1998
Battle and Langton CE Primary School	Primary	1	Single	1	General Teaching	August 2011
Bourne Primary School	Primary	1	Single	1	General Teaching	August 2011
Broad Oak Community Primary School	Primary	1	Single	1	General Teaching	2000
Broad Oak Community Primary School	Primary	1	Single	1	General Teaching	2000
Broad Oak Community Primary School	Primary	1	Single	1	General Teaching	1994
Chantry Community Primary School	Primary	1	Single	1	General Teaching	August 2010
Chantry Community Primary School	Primary	1	Single	1	General Teaching	1993
Crowhurst CE Primary School	Primary	1	Double	2	General Teaching	August 2010
Dallington CE Primary School	Primary	1	Double	2	General Teaching	August 2003
Denton Community School	Primary	1	Double	2	Group & Extended Sch	1996
Ditchling (St Margaret's) CE Primary School	Primary	1	Single	1	General Teaching	August 2009
Dudley Infant School	Primary	1	Single	2	General Teaching	1990
East Hoathly CE Primary School	Primary	1	Single	1	General Teaching	August 2005

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East Hoathly CE Primary School	Primary	1	Single	1	General Teaching	August 2004
Etchingham CE Primary School	Primary	1	Triple	3	General Teaching	1998
Firle CE Primary School	Primary	1	Double	2	General Teaching	Refurb 2011
Firle CE Primary School	Primary	1	Single	1	General Teaching	Refurb 2011
Hamsey Community Primary School	Primary	1	Single	1	General Teaching	Aug 2004 (new)
Hamsey Community Primary School	Primary	1	Single	1	General Teaching	2010
Hankham Primary School	Primary	1	Double	2	General Teaching	1996
Hellingly Community Primary School	Primary	1	Double	2	General Teaching	1995
Hellingly Community Primary School	Primary	1	Single	1	Music	1995
Herne Junior	Primary	1	Double	2	Staff & Group	2005
Herne Junior	Primary	1	Double	2	General Teaching	2005
Herne Junior	Primary	1	Double	2	General Teaching	2005
Heron Park Community Primary School (former Highfield)	Primary	1	Large Single	1	Nursery	Refurb 2011
Holy Cross CE Primary School	Primary	1	Single	1	Parent/Group Room	1988
Iford & Kingston CE Primary School	Primary	1	Double	2	General Teaching	1994
Jarvis Brook School	Primary	1	Single	1	Nursery	1987
Jarvis Brook School	Primary	1	Double	2	General Teaching	1987
Manor Primary School	Primary	1	Single	1	Group/Music	Pre 1974*
Manor Primary School	Primary	1	Single	1	SEN - ASD Facility	Refurb Feb 2010
Mayfield CE Primary School	Primary	1	Single	1	General Teaching	01.08.2004 (refurb 2011)

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Meridian Primary School	Primary	1	Single	1	Extended Schools	2009
Meridian Primary School	Primary	1	Single	1	Extended Schools	2009
Motcombe Community School	Primary	1	Double	2	General Teaching	1995 (refurb 2010)
Netherfield CE Primary School	Primary	1	Single	1	General Teaching	2001
Netherfield CE Primary School	Primary	1	Single	1	Staff Room & Library	2001
Netherfield CE Primary School	Primary	1	Single	1	General Teaching	2004
Ninfield CE Primary School	Primary	1	Double	2	General Teaching	1995
Northiam CE Primary School	Primary	1	Single	1	Nursery	1993
Pashley Down Infant School	Primary	1	Single	1	General Teaching	2004
Pashley Down Infant School	Primary	1	Single	1	General Teaching	August 2008
Pells CE Primary School, Lewes	Primary	1	Single	1	Nursery	1999
Plumpton Primary School	Primary	1	Single	1	General Teaching	1993
Plumpton Primary School	Primary	1	Double	2	General Teaching	2006
Punnetts Town Community Primary School	Primary	1	Large Single	2	General Teaching & Group	January 2003
Robsack Wood Community Primary School	Primary	1	Double	2	General Teaching	1994
Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, Hastings	Primary	1	Single	1	General Teaching	?
Sedlescombe CE Primary School	Primary	1	Single	1	General Teaching	Refurb 2008
Shinewater Primary School	Primary	1	Double	2	Community Room	1989
Shinewater Primary School	Primary	1	Double	2	Group	1998
Sidley Community Primary School	Primary	1	Double	1	Nursery	1991
Sidley Community Primary School	Primary	1	Single	1	Resources	August 2004

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South Malling CE Primary School	Primary	1	Double	2	General Teaching	August 2004
St Andrew's CE Infants School, Eastbourne	Primary	1	Single	1	General Teaching	Refurb 2011
St Mary Magdalene's Catholic Primary School, Bexhill-on-Sea	Primary	1	Single	1	Group	1991
St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Crowborough	Primary	1	Single	1	Nursery	Pre 1974*
St Marks School, Hadlow Down	Primary	1	Single	1	Group	?
St Peter's CE Primary School, Chailey	Primary	1	Single	1	Library	Pre 1974*
St Peter's CE Primary School, Chailey	Primary	1	Double	2	General Teaching	Refurb Aug 2010
St Peter's CE Primary School, Chailey	Primary	1	Single 5 Bay	1	Nursery	August 2010
St Peter's CE Primary School, Chailey	Primary	1	Single Timber	1	General Teaching	Refurb Aug 2010
St Thomas a Becket Catholic Infant School, Eastbourne	Primary	1	Double	2	Nursery	1990
St Thomas a Becket Catholic Junior School, Eastbourne	Primary	1	Double	3	Music	Pre 1974*
Stafford Juniors School	Primary	1	Double	2	General Teaching	July 2011
Wadhurst CE Primary School	Primary	1	Single	1	General Teaching	Pre 1974*
Wadhurst CE Primary School	Primary	1	Single	1	Nursery	Pre 1974*
West Rise Junior School	Primary	1	Double	2	General Teaching	2002
Willingdon Primary School	Primary	1	Single	1	Group	Pre 1974*
Willingdon Primary School	Primary	1	Single	1	SEN	Pre 1974*
Willingdon Primary School	Primary	1	Single	1	Group	Pre 1974*
Total Pri		76	Total Pri	106		
SECONDARY SCHOOL		-	-	-		

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Chailey School	Secondary	1	Double	2	General Teaching	1999
Chailey School	Secondary	1	Double	2	General Teaching	Refurb 2003
Chailey School	Secondary	1	Single	1	Site Manager	1998
Chailey School	Secondary	1	Double	2	General Teaching	2005
Claverham Community College	Secondary	1	Double	2	Offices	Pre 1974*
Claverham Community College	Secondary	1	Double	2	General Teaching	1990
Claverham Community College	Secondary	1	Double	2	General Teaching	Pre 1974*
Claverham Community College	Secondary	1	Double	2	General Teaching	Pre 1974*
Claverham Community College	Secondary	1	Double	2	General Teaching	2002
Claverham Community College	Secondary	1	Double	2	General Teaching	2005
Heathfield Community College	Secondary	1	Single	1	General Teaching	1998
Heathfield Community College	Secondary	1	Double	2	General Teaching	1998
Heathfield Community College	Secondary	1	Double	2	Science Lab	1995
Heathfield Community College	Secondary	1	Double	2	General Teaching	1995
Helenswood School (Lower)	Secondary	1	Single	1	General Teaching	1993
Helenswood School (Lower)	Secondary	1	Double	2	General Teaching	1993
Helenswood School (Lower)	Secondary	1	Single	1	General Teaching	2004
Helenswood School (Lower)	Secondary	1	Single	1	General Teaching	2003
Helenswood School (Upper)	Secondary	1	Single	1	General Teaching	2003
Helenswood School (Upper)	Secondary	1	Double	2	General Teaching	1995

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Robertsbridge Community College	Secondary	1	Double	2	General Teaching	2010
The Bishop Bell Church of England School	Secondary	1	Single	1	Science Lab	2000
The Cavendish School	Secondary	1	Single	1	General Teaching	1989 (Refurb 2010)
Uckfield Community Technology College	Secondary	1	Double	2	General Teaching	2003
Uckfield Community Technology College	Secondary	1	Double	2	General Teaching	2003
Uckfield Community Technology College	Secondary	1	Single	1	General Teaching	Sept 2003
Uckfield Community Technology College	Secondary	1	Single	1	General Teaching	August 2009
Uckfield Community Technology College	Secondary	1	Double	2	General Teaching	2011
Uplands Community Technology College	Secondary	1	Single	1	Science Lab	1998
Uplands Community Technology College	Secondary	1	Single	1	Science Lab	August 2004
William Parker School	Secondary	1	Double	2	General Teaching	2008
Willingdon Community School	Secondary	1	Double	2	Music	1993
Willingdon Community School	Secondary	1	Double	2	General Teaching	2001

Total Sec	33	Total Sec	54
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SPECIAL SCHOOL

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Cuckmere House School	Special	1	Double	2	General Teaching	2000
Cuckmere House School	Special	1	Double	2	General Teaching	1996
Cuckmere House School	Special	1	Double	1	General Teaching/Office/Library	Refurb - Aug 2005
Glyne Gap School	Special	1	Double	2	General Teaching	

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Grove Park School	Special	1	Double	2	General Teaching	1989
Grove Park School	Special	1	Double	2	General Teaching	August 2005
Hazel Court School	Special	1	Double	2	Specialist teaching for pupils with extreme learning conditions	1989
Saxon Mount School	Special	1	Double	2	General Teaching	2009
Saxon Mount School	Special	1	Double	2	General Teaching	2009
St Mary's School, Horam	Special	1	Double	2	General Teaching	August 2009
The Lindfield School	Special	1	Single	1	General Teaching	Refurb 2011
The South Downs Community Special School East	Special	1	Double	2	General Teaching	1989
The South Downs Community Special School West	Special	1	Single	1	Health Service - Physiotherapy	1990 (Refurb 2010)
Total Spec		13	Total Spec		23	
TOTAL		168	TOTAL		260	

*Pre 1974 = Timber Framed, pitched roof buildings that do not require planning consent