



DRAFT MINUTES

Hambledon Parish Council
04 Mar 2024; 7.30pm; Hambledon Village Hall

PRESENT:

Cllr Encke (Chair); Cllr Mason; Cllr Silcock; Cllr Hand; & Cllr Clarke.

In Attendance:

Mrs Joanna Tester (Clerk); Cllr Lee (WCC; left 8.32pm); Cllr Wallace (WCC; left 8.32pm); Cllr Pearson (WCC; left 8.32pm); Jan Jarvie (FAG; left 8.32pm); and one member of the public.

Meeting started at 7.30pm

Item No.	Item	Discussion & Decision	Action
2246	Acknowledgements	Councillors paused and remembered in silence the contributions of all villagers who have passed away since the last meeting.	
2247	Apologies	Apologies received and accepted from Cllrs Lamb & Dyson. Apologies also received from Cllr Lumby (HCC).	
2248	Disclosable pecuniary interests	None.	
2249	Requests for dispensations	None received.	
2250	Public questions & comments	Standing orders suspended for maximum 10 mins. Questions/ comments as follows: • Representative from Hambledon History Group (HHG) updated councillors on planned D-Day 80 commemorative events for Hambledon: • Significant events have been organised elsewhere locally e.g. Overlord & Southwark Revival, and Portsmouth is a focus area for commemorations. • Therefore, HHG feels that Hambledon shouldn't be trying to outshine these events. • HHG hasn't so far spent a lot of time on researching WWII & is keen to focus more on timeline of WWII, esp. last year of the War and Hambledon's role throughout. Need to record details derived from memories of those alive at the time & info. in archives. • Would like to launch the project with a display in VH/Youth Hut. Installation of photos, displays, oral accounts etc. Peace-orientated approach. Harness ex-servicemen. Make accessible to future generations. To be timed with D-Day.	

2250 cont.	Public questions & comments cont.	Cllr Silcock advised the following: • Request was put out for someone to lead but nobody has volunteered. • £500 in the budget. • Overlord - Cllr Silcock has asked if they will drive through the Village. Meeting this Thurs 7th Mar and will let PC know if possible. Due to take place on the Bank holiday weekend; not D-Day weekend as such. HHG advised the following: • Would like to do event in Youth Hut. • Hambledonian article and several open houses are planned. • John Thornton is planning a war memorial music event in the YH (tbc). PCSO's Owen & Wheeler-Osman attended and reported that crime rates continue to be very low. Traffic speeding is the main complaint.	
2251	Resume standing orders	Agreed.	
2252	District councillor's report & questions arising	Report received from Cllrs Wallace & Lee (Appendix A). Cllr Lee commented as follows: • Landlines - worries about transfer, esp given that mobile phone reception is so poor in the Village. Fibre cable will be offered but residents will have to pay for it. • Meon Valley Transport Forum - thanks to Cllr Silcock for attending. Mins due this week. • Council tax to increase by 2.65% WCC element; 4.7% increase overall. Cllr Pearson commented as follows: • Biodiversity - already in WCC's plan. • Won't be at April PC meeting as will be in purdah due to elections in May.	
2253	County councillor's report & questions arising	Report received (Appendix B). Clerk to re-send info on HCC budget consultation to residents via Village e-mail.	Clerk
2254	Mins of previous meetings (12/02/24)	Agreed as a true record.	
2255	Clerk's progress report	Parish Lengthsman Agreement No update at the current time re schedule for 2024/25, although lead PC in the cluster has confirmed that the scheme will continue for the foreseeable future. Flooding @ bottom of Bury Lodge Lane - Clerk has asked Cllr Lumby to chase again (originally chased HH in Jan 2023 on behalf of the PC and HH confirmed that they would revisit the site with the intention of patching the affected area by the junction). Rattling manhole covers - Clerk has asked Cllr Lumby to chase again (ref Paula Edwards/Cllr Lumby correspondence June/July 2023). Village maintenance Contract has been drawn up but contractor does not currently have the necessary certification. Clerk & Cllr Clarke trying to resolve.	

2255 cont.	Clerk's progress report cont.	Speed limit reminder - device & batteries to be passed to Cllr Clarke for storage. Large puddle on pavement outside 13 West St/The Cross Tree HH reported back 'no maintenance work required'. Clerk has asked Cllr Lumby for assistance. WCC work at The Gardens Cllr Lamb has contacted WCC but no response to date. [UPDATE: correspondence received. Main points as follows: • Scheme was requested by tenants (but no indication of when consultation was carried out); • Work would have been done soon after consultation but WCC requested electricity point on paved area moved by SSEN which hasn't been done. [Clerk's note: this was back in 2022; SSEN were content to assist but were awaiting info from WCC's electrical contractor regarding flat plate & funding.]; • WCC will be starting work soon & will be sending update to tenants; • Requested details of residents who have expressed concerns re the plan so that they can contact them directly to discuss; and • Grit bin will be moved to the top of the close not close to the bus stop area on West St.] Southern Water issues letter to Environmental Health (copied to HPC cllrs; HCC & WCC Cllrs; & Flick Drummond MP) sent 19/09/23. Cllr Lee has been liaising re media coverage etc. Jan Jarvie to update cllrs. Flooding on road near Kings Rest Reported to HH 13/10/23. Response 'could not locate defect'. Likely that they visited when there was no road flooding but didn't look into the cause of previous flooding. Clerk has asked Cllr Lumby if he is able to assist. Damaged bollards at East St pinch-point Reported to HH online 06/11/23; enquiry reference number 21698987. Apparently, 'works completed' in Nov 2023. However, the solution appears to be traffic cones which is not a satisfactory long-term solution. Clerk has asked Cllr Lumby to assist. Remembrance Sunday Cllr Silcock to update re TS Tenacity's availability. Cllr Encke to add note in July Hambledonian article re everyone welcome to join parade. Need to have bugler even if band not available. D-Day 80 (06/06/24) History Group held an Open House meeting 11/01/24. Cllr Silcock to provide update during agenda item 2271. Training requirements Clerk & Cllrs Hand and Encke attended planning training with Steve Tilbury 01/02/24. Cllrs to consider training needs for 2024/25. County Councillor Grant Scheme for SG play area - grant application submitted for £1k. Cllr Lumby has advised that circa £500 likely to be approved as remaining funds now limited. [UPDATE: £507 has been confirmed.] Planning decisions SDNP/23/03064/HOUS (5 Park Farm) planning permission has been checked & it is confirmed that the garage was removed from the proposal & is not part of the planning consent. No further action required. Hampshire Minerals & Waste Plan (HMWP) Cllr Clarke provided feedback as follows: 'Upon review of the information given, these policy statements have been written, understood and responded to appropriately as is reasonably practicable to protect Hambledon and its countryside.' Comments have been submitted online.
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2256	Bank account	Bank balance @ 01/03/24 - £52,281.39 (Cllrs have been provided with bank statement 168, 02 Feb 2024 to 01 Mar 2024.)	
2257	Review of standard PC documents	Resolved: that the PC approves the revised Standing Orders, Financial Regs, and Risk Assessment. Clerk to publish on PC website.	Clerk
2258	Payment of accounts	Mrs J C Tester Clerk salary (Feb 2024) £923.50 NEST Clerk pension (Feb 2024) £75.14 Hambledon Village Hall Hall hire (Feb 2024) £40.50 Biffa Waste Services Ltd [Direct Debit set up for hard plastics recycling bin @ VH.] Feb 2024 £49.82 Alfie Goodwin-Hudson Tennis Coaching (Feb 2024) £60.00	Clerk
2259	Planning applications	SDNP/24/00780/HOUS - Breamore Lodge, West Street, Hambledon, Hampshire, PO7 4RW. Infilling of existing overhang and insertion of dormer window to the rear. [No objection.]	Clerk
2260	Planning apps received after 27/02/24	None received.	
2261	Planning decisions	Noted.	
2262	FAG WG	Report received (Appendix C). Jan Jarvie reported the following: • Two notices have been sent to flooders; another could possibly be necessary by the end of this week. • Still not enough feedback from flooders. EA needs to know this info so can chart against levels during previous floods. • Edited list of who still willing to be a volunteer. • Updated risk register - three new significant risks incl. poor condition of outgoing trench from OFTR (eastern edge of ditch is looking poor; roots, hedge etc appearing in ditch) • Cllr Lee asked if collapse of the ditch was imminent. [Not known. Soil currently very heavy as saturated. HH won't accept that there is an issue.] • Could be 30 tonnes of silt inside Big Pipe [Butler family, tenant farmer & HH - met when BP went in & agreed that HH would take responsibility over the ditch. Subsequently, has disputed this. HH own ditch further down. Failing to carry out riparian responsibilities.] • HH need to accept responsibility. Cllr Lumby to be asked to take forward by getting in touch with HH and ask for clarification of situation. Cllr Encke & Clerk to produce draft copy. WCC cllrs to be copied-in. • Then, what are they going to do about the issues? • Check land registry to identify ownership of ditch etc. • WCC cllrs will chase SW report which was promised 05/01/24. Chased twice already. • Resident on Fareham Road has reported back to EA that pumping activity appeared to have reduced & flooding around their property has worsened.	Clerk/ Cllr Encke Clerk

2263	Village Flood Action Plan	Resolved: that the PC approves the revised Village Flood Action Plan. Clerk to add to PC website once Cllr Mason has finished a couple of amendments (Jan Jarvie needs time to look at).	Cllr Mason/ Clerk
2264	BASS WG	Report received (Appendix D). Cllr Silcock commented as follows: • Cllr Encke to draw attention to BASS article in PC article in Hambledonian. • At the Annual Meeting of the Parish - better graphics on display; more accurate costings etc. • Circa £20k for the TRO to enable 20mph speed limit changes (contact at HH is Andy Sweeny). Cllr Silcock to ask Cllr Lumby to justify these huge costs. • Cllr Silcock to provide Cllr Clarke with a scope of works to enable a comparable private contractor quote to be sought.	Cllr Silcock/ Cllr Clarke
2265	BASS Article for The Hambledonian	Resolved: that the PC receives and approves the BASS article intended for the April/May edition of The Hambledonian.	
2266	SDNPA CIL Funding	Resolved: that the PC agrees on the following project for the 2023/24 round of the SDNPA CIL funding: • BASS WG ‘wish list’. • Cllr Silcock to give Cllr Clarke a scope of works. • Cllr Silcock & Clerk to then work on the CiL application.	Clerk/ Cllr Silcock/ Cllr Clarke
2267	Tennis WG	No report received this month.	
2268	Play & Playgrounds Re-vamp WG	Stewarts Green play equipment - the Clerk reported the following: • Indicative quotes received for clamber stack and basket swing (separate figures for mulch vs artificial grass surfaces) from Ava Recreation, Redlynch, & Sawscapes. • Consultation with SG residents - four responses to date - none particularly supportive of the design proposed, therefore Clerk to speak to suppliers re possible alternatives to allow a wider consultation to be carried out at Hort Soc Spring Show 23 Mar. Images of three different designs and/or combinations of pieces of equipment to be displayed & residents given the opportunity to ‘vote’ for their favourite option. Decision to hopefully be made at April PC meeting. • £507 received from Cllr Lumby’s HCC County Councillor grant fund.	Clerk
2269	Hambledon Greening WG	Report received (see Appendix E).	
2270	Village Useful & Emergency Info Leaflets	Resolved: that the PC has reviewed the draft text for the (useful) info leaflet and actions required are as follows: • Few additions/amendments required before being configured using Canva. • Work on emergency leaflet text to begin asap. The Clerk informed cllrs that the WCC District Small Grant Scheme has been applied to based on costs of circa £200 for 500 copies of each. Cllrs unanimously agreed that funding could come from PC budget if no grant awarded.	Clerk

2271	D-Day Commemoration	Resolved: that the PC approves the plan for D-Day commemoration in the Village as per the updates provided by the HHG in item 2250.	
2272	Reports & Issues	• Southern Parishes meeting 06/03/24 (1pm; Durley Memorial Hall) - Rob Humby (Leader, HCC) and Roz Chad (Deputy Leader, HCC) will be in attendance to discuss potential impact of proposed HCC cuts to services. • Great British Spring Clean (village litter-pick) planned for Sat 09/03/24. • Biodiversity Metric and Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) is now part of our planning regime. As of 12/02/24, developers in England are now required to deliver 10% biodiversity net gain when building new housing, industrial or commercial developments. England has become the first country in the world to make biodiversity net gain (BNG) a legal requirement. Introduced through the Environment Act, it is designed to ensure that development projects are planned and built in a way that will have a measurable, positive impact on biodiversity and natural habitats. • King's official portrait has been ordered. Delivery due by end of April. • The Chair has been approached by the manager of The Vine regarding placement of directional/advertising signs.	
2273	Date/time of next meeting	• Mon 8th Apr 2024 at Hambledon VH; 7.30pm. Cllrs Hand & Mason gave apologies.	
2274	Confidential matters	No members of the public were in attendance. No confidential matters were discussed.	

The meeting closed at 9.26pm

Signed:

Cllr Encke (Chair)

Dated:

Signed:

Joanna Tester (Clerk)

Dated:

APPENDIX A

WCC Cllrs Wallace & Lee Report Mar 2024
Cllr Malcolm Wallace (mwallace@winchester.gov.uk)
& Cllr Danny Lee (dlee@winchester.gov.uk)

NEW TOPICS

Flooding - Southern Water

Council received a briefing from Southern Water explaining their ongoing work to reduce storm overflow releases by finding new and innovative solutions to deliver infrastructure that's more resilient and adaptable. Southern Water established a Clean Rivers and Seas Task Force in November 2021, and the team has ambitious targets to meet the challenges.

The Task Force is responsible for delivering six pathfinder projects over the next two years, as well as delivering a regional plan to reduce storm overflows between now and 2030. To achieve these targets, the Task Force is establishing strong partnerships across the region. No direct pathfinder projects were identified for the Central Meon Valley.

The flood situation in our area was raised again. The briefing team indicated they would follow-up on progress.

Phase out of Landline

At recent Councillors' surgeries, the issue of the shutdown of the current Landline telephone system currently planned for Dec 2025 was raised as a high concern.

The phase out of Landlines means a switch to digital voice as the old system is reaching end of life. Whilst the new digital system would deliver a step improvement in the amount of data that can be transferred across the network, it is more prone to power outages.

A battery back-up will be available (if requested) all be it with a limited duration.

Communications will not work if the problem is further along the communications chain e.g. at the telephone interchange. Moreover, if power is lost to an area, not only will all the landline communications go down, but also all mobile phone communications as mobile phone towers are powered, and most do not have a battery back-up. Therefore, without clear mitigation plans there will be increased risk of total communications loss in an area following a power outage.

Confirmation of what steps the Council is taking to mitigate this risk in our emergency preparedness plans plus what solutions might be available for poor or no mobile network coverage is now being sought. Solutions are required for both Emergency plans and for community peace of mind for access to blue light services for health and well-being reasons.

Meon Valley Transport Forum

Forum completed on 28th Feb.

Common issues and concerns prompting some collaborative actions identified. Minutes of meeting to be shared first week in March with Parish Council Transport leads.

ON-GOING TOPICS

Hampshire

- **Future Services Consultation** – Hampshire County Council has launched a public consultation inviting people to provide their views on the future of some local services, as part of steps by the Authority to help meet a £132 million budget shortfall by April 2025. Locally, the proposed changes could include: closing the Bishops Waltham recycling centre; withdrawing funding for community transport services; removing all bus route subsidies; cutting the Concessionary Travel Scheme for older and disabled residents; reducing the school transport service; and postponing highway drainage improvements, which could increase the risk of flooding. The consultation is open until 31-March.

Grants

- **Free Low Carbon Assessments for Winchester District Businesses** – Winchester Council is working with GEP Environmental to offer local tourism and creative businesses a free carbon footprint assessment and bespoke carbon reduction action plan to identify interventions to reduce energy, water, waste, and transport emissions, whilst highlighting funding opportunities. For full information go to: [FREE low carbon assessments for tourism and creative businesses - Visit Winchester](#)

Going Green Faster & Help with Cost of Living

- **Homes** – Residents can apply for grants of up to £25,000 for energy efficiency improvements to their property under the [Warmer Homes](#) program. Homes who are likely to be eligible to receive support:
 - are low income, are off the gas grid and have an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) between D and G
- **Energy bills and protecting the environment**
 - Paying bills, Keeping homes warm and Energy Efficiency Advice - see [Energy - Winchester City Council](#)
 - More information about keeping warm and well at home - from 'The Hampshire Environment Centre' - enquiries@environmentcentre.com or by phone 0800 804 8601
- **National** – A new website has been launched that provides information on Government support that is available: [Help for Households - Get government cost of living support](#) – see also (www.gov.uk)

- **Local** – In addition, Winchester Council has launched a website providing information on local resources: [Cost of living support and information - Winchester City Council](#)
- **The Great British Insulation Scheme**
 - Government scheme to enable households to add insulation to their homes to make them easier to heat for less. The scheme is aimed at two main groups:
 - Those living in homes with an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rating D-G and within council tax bands A-D
 - Householders receiving qualifying benefits and living in homes with an EPC rating of D or below.
 - More information: [Great British Insulation Scheme \(ECO+\)? - Energy Saving Trust](#)
- **Hampshire Forest Partnership (HFP) - create a local forest plan for your parish**
 - **HFP** - set up so communities can get involved in caring for woodlands and planting more trees. Also setting up a focus group of partners to collaborate with HFP to deliver projects.
 - If you are interested in joining our partnership - email treeplanting@hants.gov.uk
- **Shoots Along the Routes - Trees to follow roads and create green corridors.** Free trees to landowners and land managers to create over 630 kilometres of new green networks across the county.
 - For further information contact Kate Morgans, Principal Landscape Architect, via email kmorgans@winchester.gov.uk or phone 01962 848 069.

Business

- **Business Support** – There are currently LOTS of funding opportunities available to help businesses with the transition to net zero. See: [Support for sustainable businesses - Winchester City Council](#)
- **Businesses or sole traders** in Winchester district can keep up to date with topics from funding, events, and information. Sign-up at: [Winchester Business Bulletin - Winchester City Council](#)
- **Networking** - [Business Networking - Winchester City Council](#)

Groups

- **Community Support for Ukraine (information and help)** – For latest information see: [Winchester City Council pledges support for Ukraine - Winchester City Council](#)
- **Climate Groups** – There's a range of sustainable groups and organisations within the Winchester district at: [Climate groups - Winchester City Council](#)

APPENDIX B

HCC Cllr Hugh Lumby Report

Mar 2024

1. **County Council Budget Consultation** I talked about the ongoing consultation on the County Council's future services in my last report. That consultation is seeking Hampshire residents' views on proposals to change and reduce some local services and help the Authority address a £132 million budget shortfall faced by April 2025. You can read more about the consultation here: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/aboutthecouncil/haveyoursay/consultations/future-services-consultation> A reminder about the areas covered by the consultation - road maintenance and winter gritting, public transport, street lights, school crossing patrols, parking charges at rural countryside car parks, homelessness support, library stocks levels, adult social care contributions, grants for voluntary and community organisations, funding to Hampshire Cultural Trust and changes or closures of local Household Waste Recycling Centres. Many people have already responded. The consultation runs until **the end of the month** so if you have not responded yet, I do encourage you to take part. This affects us all. A number of people have emailed me with thoughts - again, do still reply to the consultation or email the thoughts to the Council's Insight & Engagement Unit on insight@hants.gov.uk.
2. **HCC budget 2024-25** The County Council's budget for the next financial year has been approved by council. This budget covers £2.6 billion of public spending on the ongoing delivery of important local services to Hampshire's 1.4 million residents. From 1 April 2024, Hampshire County Council's portion of council tax will increase by a total of 4.99%, of which 2% will go specifically towards adults' social care and supporting the county's higher numbers of older people and adults with complex needs and disabilities – in line with Government policy. This equates to an annual charge of £1,533.24 for a Band D property – an increase of £72.99 per year or approximately £1.40 a week. The increase will generate an extra £39 million of vital income towards the delivery of crucial services to the people of Hampshire in 2024/25, and still means that Hampshire has one of the lowest council tax precepts of any county in England. Even with this increase, there is still a significant gap in the budget which will be filled from reserves – dedicated funds set aside specifically to address such shortfalls. The County Council also approved the spending of £880.6

million over the next three years on capital programmes to help boost jobs and the local economy, the quality of the environment and contribute towards the County Council's commitment to tackling climate change. This provision for Hampshire's infrastructure, including more school places, improving roads and bridges and investing in the fabric of Hampshire's older people's social care estate, is one of the largest in the country, and brings the County Council's four-year total investment in the fabric of Hampshire to £1.4 billion, providing a huge boost to the local economy through jobs, skills and construction.

3. **Transforming in-house care for older people** I have referred previously to the proposed changes to how the County Council operates its in-house care homes for older people. The plan is to focus on specialist nursing and complex dementia care, as well as short term pre and post-hospital support, to better meet the needs of the county's ageing population. These plans have now been approved, comprising a £173 million investment programme. It will increase the overall number of beds available to local people from 900 to 1,000, within a reduced network of 13 homes. Approving these plans secures the long-term future of our in-house homes ensuring they remain in the Authority's ownership – in stark contrast to the many other local councils who have sold their homes in recent years.
4. **New Local Transport Plan approved** The County Council's new local transport plan (known as LTP4) has been approved. Its aim is the boost economic prosperity, reduce carbon pollution and help promote healthy lifestyles and build stronger communities over the next ten years. It is guided by two principles, widening the choice of travel options that people can use and providing a transport system that puts people first and creates high quality places.
5. **County councillor grants scheme** Thank you to everyone who applied for grants from the County Councillor grant scheme before its close on 29 February. I was able to support a diverse range of projects from across the division this year, including helping the coronation party and new Christmas lights switch on in Whiteley, supporting works to the village hall in Waltham Chase and the youth club at the Methodist Church there, a grant towards the Cricketers Pond renovation in Curdridge, help refurbishing the war memorial in Swanmore, contributions towards goal posts in Droxford and play areas in Hambledon, support for the film club in West Meon and new signs and a telephone kiosk in Woodlands.

Councillor Hugh Lumby, Meon Valley Division

APPENDIX C

BASS WG Report Mar 2024

Dear all

I attach a DRAFT article for the next Hambledonian. The aim is to inform Villagers where work has got to, get them engaged in/discussing the issue now before a more extensive 'exhibition' of plans etc. in the days leading up to the APM in May.

The article will be a centrefold in the magazine (deadline 7 March) - Jo has told Tabitha Jay that the PC will pay the cost (from BASS funds). Murray Mahon and John Thornton will insert some photos and mock-ups to illustrate the words. The WG is broadly content and comments have been incorporated already.

Please would you be prepared to discuss tomorrow any changes to the text that you think should be made.

Teresa: I suggest for your piece in the magazine:

There is a special piece in this issue covering work by the Beautiful and Safer Streets (BASS) WG. It summarises where they have got to and options/plans that are being explored. BASS will be one of the two main topics at the Annual Meeting of the Parish in May. Before then there will be a more extensive exhibition as part of wider consultation in the Village. Do please start to think about this important matter and give us your feedback.

In other news:

I attended the Central Meon Valley Traffic Forum, recently established by District Cllrs Danny Lee and Malcolm Wallace. Hugh Lumby attended. Soberton, Swanmore, Droxford, Waltham Chase and Shirrell Heath attended together with a Sustrans rep from HCC. No HCC/SDNPA reps covering roads attended...

Other parishes are experiencing similar problems although in some cases the effects are worse (more speeding, more lorries etc.). I came away feeling we had the best of it.

I picked up one very useful pointer: Swanmore has acquired for £700 a small speed tracking device (size of a fat book) called **AutoSpeedWatch** (<https://store.autospeedwatch.org>) which captures both speed data and photos of vehicles (daylight). They use it to gather data selected data on persistent miscreants which is then forwarded to the Police: the Police can then target their speed vans accordingly (NB: prosecutions can only follow a Police data-capture although letters can be sent to drivers based on this device). I envisage this being used as part of our speed reduction measures.

It may be that there are areas in which arises can work together, if only to lobby HCC.

CIL FUNDING: I regret I haven't been able to progress this but is next on my to-do list. I aim to offer SDNPA a list of projects with some costs (Gates/Speed changes I know) and see what they might offer us.

Best wishes

Chris

APPENDIX D

FAG Report Mar 2024

Overview

February 2023 was the driest in the last thirty years, and this February will probably be listed as the wettest. The current Flooding Season for 23/24 is a candidate for being the longest in terms of remaining pump “ready” for an extended period of time, with the EA Flood Alerts remaining in-place awaiting the receding of the high aquifer levels. Both BHD and Whitedale have passed the flood tripping points twice during this month, and including the one we had last February marks three events in 12 months (another record). Taking the ongoing sewage problems and the un-maintained state of the Big Pipe and its components into account, will make our resilience planning for the 24/25 season more of a challenge. However, editing and final release of the Flood Action Plan (FAP) for the website is well in hand, which will give us a good start.

One of the important aspects of the FAP document set is the Risk Register, containing some new line items to address. Not the least of which is the future situation regarding communication links, with the proposed loss of the landlines in the village, and the risks of power failures, which will result in a shut-down of the internet. This is already a concern of many residents who are anxiously awaiting a solution to losing contact with emergency services, relatives and friends.

Liaising with the Environment Agency

The FAG continues to have weekly exchanges with the EA to keep pace with the live situation. Thankfully, they have been persuaded to change the wording of the “groundwater incursion” used in their alerts to - *“Sewerage system impacts will be occurring throughout the village.”* There is currently no schedule as to when the alerts might be lifted with the rapidly changing conditions.

Actions for March

At the top of the major items in our planning for the next season is keeping the focus on Southern Water to address their sewerage failures, even though there is little hope of seeing a result in 2024. A large factor of importance to us is for the Hambledon Parish Council to maintain pressure on Hampshire County Council to deal with their maintenance problems attendant to the Big Pipe. Shifting the silt and detritus from the inside of the pipe itself, the catchment basin and the ditch, is a significant project requiring a joined-up plan that is weather and resource driven. The size of the required effort cannot be overstated, and needs to get on the HCC agenda as a matter of great urgency.

We remain firmly in the 2023/24 flooding season, so most of the FAG tasks remain within our watching brief, including close contact with the EA, tracking the weather profiles, the aquifer levels and any requests for assistance, along with maintaining the records. We are currently preparing our input for the next Hambledonian, which will address the possible changes for property owners to consider looking ahead to the next flooding season. With the current experiences and observations, the FAG continues to request as much

feedback from residents as possible to keep everyone in the picture, and be able to monitor the trends and concerns.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jan Jarvie
Flood Action Group

APPENDIX E

Hambledon Greening Report Mar 2024

Repair Café:

- The next Repair Café will be held in Hambledon Church on March 16th 2024 from 10-12pm along with our recycling station.
- The Denmead and Hambledon Repair Café AGM will take place at 7pm on Monday April 8th at Denmead Community Centre.

Recycling:

- Future event: A presentation on waste and recycling in the district led by Campbell Williams (Lead of Environment Services, W.C.C.) in the Village Hall. Date is likely to be in late May after local elections. This has been facilitated by Cllr Malcolm Wallace.
- We would invite a wider audience to include other eco-groups in the area such as Denmead Greening, Sustainable Droxford, the Swanmore/Waltham Chase WeCan group and C.A.N.S. (Climate Action for Soberton and Newtown). This would also allow us to meet members of these other groups and share good practice.

Retrofit:

- The WinACC event held on Saturday March 2nd from 10-1pm in the Village Hall was advertised widely to those with older and listed buildings in the village and further afield. The slots are filling up so we hope for a good turnout. As of this report, we do not have precise numbers for and reviews of the event so will report in April.

Biodiversity:

- Sue Crossley has now been in touch with Lee Hulin of the National Trust and he has given us 4 areas on Speltham Down where we could focus our efforts - butterflies, bats, birds and plants. We will be considering what activities might be of most interest to the village community in our next committee meeting.

We are grateful as always for your support.

Dr Penny Mahon (secretary of Hambledon Greening Campaign)