



DRAFT MINUTES

Hambledon Parish Council  
06 Mar 2023; 5.30pm; Hambledon Village Hall

PRESENT:

Cllr Quinn (Acting-chair); Cllr Silcock; & Cllr Lamb

In Attendance:

Mrs Joanna Tester (Clerk); Cllr Wallace (WCC); & Cllr Lumby (HCC; arrived 5.57pm; left 6.08pm).

Meeting started at 5.31pm

Item No.	Item	Discussion & Decision	Action
1894	Acknowledgements	Councillors paused and remembered in silence the contributions of Stella Moon and all other villagers who have passed away since the last meeting.	
1895	Apologies	Apologies received and accepted from Cllrs Mason, Encke, Pearson & Hand.	
1896	Disclosable pecuniary interests	None.	
1897	Requests for dispensations	None received.	
1898	Public questions & comments	Standing orders suspended for maximum 10 mins. No members of the public in attendance.	
1899	Resume standing orders	Agreed.	

1900	District councillor's report & questions arising	<p>Reports received from Cllrs Pearson &amp; Wallace - see Appendix A.</p> <p>Updates received from Cllr Wallace, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community grants funding - any organisations in the village that might benefit? Clerk to send out via e-mail to villagers and Hambledon Connected.</li> <li>• Southern Water (SW) and Natural England have attended meeting at WCC - mainly about pumping waste water into rivers. Hambledon situation was raised by Cllr Wallace. Chose not to comment at the meeting but to respond by e-mail. SW is one of two water companies in the country that has the lowest rating. Environment Agency (EA) has reported SW failing across the board.</li> </ul> <p>Questions from HPC councillors as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anything else the PC can do? [Probably not at this stage. EA complaining that they can't fine the water companies enough. Need to give SW the chance to carry out what they've committed to doing.]</li> <li>• Cllr asked for clarification on recent e-mail re on-street parking. [HCC taking control back from WCC for on-street parking.]</li> <li>• Litter situation is terrible around the village, particularly on Well Hill. [WCC won't do anything. Consider 'Community Payback' scheme?]</li> </ul>	Clerk
1901	County councillor's report & questions arising	Report received from Cllr Lumby - see Appendix B.	
1902	Police/PCSO report	<p>PCSO Wheeler-Osman reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beat surgery last week seemed to be well received. Members of the public went specifically to the VH to talk to Steph - some just to introduce themselves and one came forward as a speed watch volunteer for the Denmead group. Lunch Club very accommodating and Steph &amp; her colleague in to chat to the members.</li> <li>• Will try to coordinate next beat surgery to line up with another club - probably the 'over 55s' on 21<sup>st</sup> June 1400-1500.</li> </ul>	
1903	Mins of previous meetings (06/02/23)	Agreed as a true record, with the correction of the final three item numbers from 1859-1861 to 1891-1893.	

1904	Clerk's progress report	<p><b>Parish Lengthsman Agreement</b> Final visit for 2022/23 took place 20/02/22. Clerk has asked for an update on whether scheme is continuing. No response to date. [UPDATE: RP Gardening has contacted all PCs within the cluster to ask for preference on structure of timetable for 2023/24 as rising costs have made it impossible to offer five half-day visits by two workers per year. Options as follows: 1) five half days but with only one worker; and 2) four half days with two workers. Cllrs have indicated that option 2 is preferable &amp; Clerk will respond to Lead Parish.]</p> <p>Future work - removal of debris on West St, B2150 (Beech Cottage down to Snowdrop Cottage).</p> <p><b>Flooding @ bottom of Bury Lodge Lane</b> - Cllr Lumby has chased on behalf of the PC and HH has confirmed that will revisit the site with the intention to patch the affected area by the junction. However, it is unlikely that this work will be completed before the next financial year.</p> <p><b>Electricity Supply for Christmas Tree at The Gardens</b> - no update.</p> <p><b>(Reports &amp; Issues) Rattling manhole covers</b> - no update.</p> <p><b>Reports &amp; Issues Bus stop signs @ Hook Vinney</b> - trial continues of temporary sign at the B2150/Fareham Road junction.</p> <p><b>Playground inspections</b> Wooden ramp repairs have been carried out by Cllr Silcock. Ava Recreation has yet to complete the work on the junior swings (replacement of bushes).</p> <p><b>Village maintenance</b> Agenda item 1917.</p> <p><b>District Cllr's Report Road sweeping</b> – Clerk has reported back to Cllr Pearson that advance notice is needed for residents to move road-side vehicles. Remove from report.</p> <p><b>Traffic &amp; Pedestrian Safety WG Speed limit reminder</b> - batteries received. Clerk in contact with HCC re restrictions on placement &amp; necessary paperwork etc.</p> <p><b>Reports &amp; Issues Large puddle on pavement outside 13 West St/The Cross Tree</b> - no update.</p> <p><b>Footpath 18 resurfacing</b> Clerk has submitted an online grant enquiry. Community Engagement Ranger (Megan Cledwyn) has been in touch &amp; site meeting arranged for 31/03/23.</p> <p><b>Police/PCSO report</b> Clerk has arranged for a copy of The Hambledonian to be left in Church for the PCSO to collect. To be removed from report.</p>	Clerk
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1904 Cont.	Clerk's Progress Report cont.	<p><b>VH Playground Re-vamp - Ava Recreation</b> Site plans have been sent to VH Committee. No response to date. Start date still planned for 27/03/23. Pre-start-date on-site meeting currently being arranged (w/c 06/03/23). Written confirmation of final plans &amp; figures received 06/03/23 - to be checked asap. Opening event? Add into Coronation weekend celebrations?</p> <p><b>Annual Meeting of the Parish</b> VH main hall not available until 8pm on Mon 22nd May. Clerk awaiting confirmation from cllrs that Tues 23rd May is ok as an alternative date. VH has been provisionally booked. Clerk to advertise.</p>	Clerk/ Cllr Quinn  Clerk
1905	Bank account	<b>Bank balance - £63,335.69</b> (Cllrs have been provided with bank statement 153 (02 Feb 2023 to 01 Mar 2023).	Clerk
1906	Clerk's Pension Re-enrolment	<b>Resolved:</b> that the PC approves the re-enrolment of the Clerk in the NEST pension scheme & authorises the Clerk to submit a re-declaration of compliance to The Pensions Regulator.	Clerk
1907	Review of Statutory Documents	<b>Resolved:</b> that the PC approves the reviewed Standing Orders, Financial Regs and Risk Assessment.	Clerk
1908	Payment of accounts	<p>Mrs J C Tester <b>Clerk's salary (Feb 2023)</b> £1016.92  NEST <b>Clerk's pension (Feb 2023)</b> £83.81  Hambledon VH <b>Hall hire (Feb 2023)</b> £20.25  Datacenta <b>Renewal of .gov.uk domain for 2023 &amp; '24</b> £150.00  Mr D Tester reimbursement for marquee parts £156.89  (1st instalment of grant to Bonfire Organisers)  Moritz Flohr <b>Tennis coaching (Feb 2023)</b> £20.00  Alfie Goodwin-Hudson <b>Tennis coaching (Feb 2023)</b> £140.00</p> <p><u>The following are in addition to those payments listed on the agenda:</u></p> <p>Solo Press £36.79  <b>500 x A5 HG flyers for upcoming Hambledonian (advertising dates and getting more supporters).</b></p> <p>Biffa £434.45  <b>Annual payment for HG hard plastic recycling bin @ VH; fortnightly collection.</b></p>	Clerk
1909	Planning applications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SDNP/23/00802/LDE - Hill House Harrow Gate Lane Denmead Hampshire PO7 6FQ. The erection of a building in excess of 4 years and the conversion to use for residential purposes C3. [This is not landscape lead &amp; not in accordance with the SDNPA's Policy SD25, which has caused other applications supported by the PC to be refused on both application &amp; appeal.]</li> </ul>	Clerk
1910	Planning apps received after 28/02/23	None received.	
1911	Planning decisions	Noted, with the addition of the following: SDNP/22/02858/FUL - The Nook - APPROVED	
1912	Better Streets WG	Cllr Silcock combined BS and T&PS WG reports (see item 1914, below).	

1913	Tennis WG	No report received.	
1914	Traffic & Pedestrian Safety WG	<p>Cllr Silcock provided a report to cllrs in advance of the meeting, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• T&amp;PSWG is meeting with SDNPA on Monday 6 March at 1030 (so a short report will be available from that) and with HCC on 15 March. Both officers are being asked for advice on what we can sensibly do to encourage motorists to travel safely through Hambledon.</li> </ul> <p>Further updates from Cllr Silcock were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting with SDNPA - currently writing a booklet/guide for villages on how to change environment to improve traffic flow. Hambledon issues were explained on walk around village. Will send draft of booklet to PC. Should give ideas &amp; estimate of costs. Cheriton PC are starting work. Liss has SDNP signs - 'school' and 'drive slowly' etc. Clanfield - tree planting currently happening.</li> <li>• Meeting with Martin Wiltshire (HCC) booked for 15/03/23. Landscape-lead. Should then be better informed on how best to proceed.</li> <li>• Combine BS and T&amp;PS WGs? To be on the agenda for April 2023 PC meeting.</li> <li>• Clerk to ask John Thornton for an update on progress with the final tranche of street name signs.</li> </ul>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
1915	Play & Playgrounds Re-vamp WG	No report received.	
1916	Village Hall Playground Repairs	See Clerk's Report.	
1917	Village Maintenance	No update available.	
1918	Flood Action Group	<p>Report received (see Appendix B).</p> <p>Cllrs offered a vote of thanks to Jan Jarvie &amp; all the FAG members and other helpers for their hard work during the flood season.</p>	
1919	Hambledon Greening WG	Report received (see Appendix C).	
1920	Coronation Party 2023 WG	<p>Cllr Quinn reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Village walks being organised.</li> <li>• WI will not be holding a cake sale.</li> <li>• Vigil service to be held in Church evening before the Coronation.</li> <li>• Next WG meeting to be organised for next week or week after.</li> </ul>	
1921	Coronation Celebrations Advertising	<b>Resolved:</b> that the PC approves the expenditure of up to £200 towards printing costs for the Coronation celebrations centre-page spread in The Hambledonian. This will include advertisement in the Apr/May edition and thanks/photos in the Jun/July edition.	Clerk

1922	Reports & Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Pollinator Networking Session on Saturday 29th April 2023, 10am – 1pm at the Horndean Jubilee Hall, Crouch Lane, Waterlooville PO8 9SU.</li> <li>• Cllr Lumby has very kindly approved a County Councillor grant of £500 towards the Stewarts Green Playground fund.</li> <li>• HMRC have conceded that charges for local authority sports facilities are a non-business activity and outside the scope of VAT. [For Hambledon, this means that there is no need to become VAT registered due to the additional income from tennis activities.]</li> <li>• The Government have increased the £25,000 threshold for Contracts Finder to £30,000 from 21<sup>st</sup> December 2022. This puts us back to the position where it is effectively contracts over £25,000 plus VAT (rather than £25,000 including VAT) are advertised.</li> <li>• AQUIND - The Secretary of State (SoS) for Energy Security and Net Zero has today issued a letter calling for information on the following four areas: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Details on what connection capacity exists at the Mannington sub station near Ringwood.</li> <li>2. The North Portsmouth Coastal Defence Scheme.</li> <li>3. An update on the French Licences and Consents</li> <li>4. An update on any new Environmental information that would require re working the environmental assessment and or habitats regulations assessment. This includes if there are any new projects that should be included in the assessments.</li> </ol> </li> </ul> <p>The deadline for responses is 2359hrs on 31 March 2023.</p>	
1923	Date/time of next meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mon 3rd Apr 2023 at Hambledon VH (Main Hall); 7.30pm.</li> </ul>	
1924	Confidential matters	No members of the public were in attendance and no confidential matters were discussed.	

**The meeting closed at 6.33pm**

**Signed:**

**Cllr Quinn (Acting-chair)**

**Dated:**

**Signed:**

**Joanna Tester (Clerk)**

**Dated:**

**APPENDIX A**

**WCC Report – March 2023**

Cllr Frank Pearson

**WCC Report – March 2023**

Cllr Malcolm Wallace

**Community Grants Funding Fayre & Training** – Below are upcoming events to support not for profit organisations with their fundraising. All events and training are free to attend and open to organisations who support residents of Winchester district. Please forward to organisations in your parish who may benefit.

- Winchester Funding Fayre, Friday 17 March 2023, 08:30-15:30 at Winchester Vineyard Church – An engaging day with fundraising experts to help groups access funding through presentations and workshops. Funders such as the National Lottery and Hampshire and IOW Community Fund will be speaking, and workshops will cover different aspects of the fundraising mix. There will be plenty of opportunity to network including a voluntary sector market stall area and lunch provided by Munch CIC. More details and sign up here: Winchester Funding Fayre Tickets, Fri 17 Mar 2023 at 08:30 | Eventbrite
- Workshop - Financial Stability, Wednesday 8 March 2023, 10:00-11:30, Online – This 90- minute online session will help organisations to develop a financial strategy to secure their charity’s future. It will cover topics such as identifying key risks and diversifying income. More details and sign up here: 1111 Winchester Funding Fayre - Financial Stability (Join our Online taster session) - Training - Community First (cfirst.org.uk)
- Workshop - Attracting and Recruiting Volunteers to help with Fundraising, Tuesday 14 March 2023, 10:00-11:30, Online – Volunteers are vital to many charity operations. This 90 minute online session will cover topics such as how to attract volunteers to help with fundraising and recruiting, managing and training volunteers. More details and sign up here: Winchester Funding Fayre - Attracting and Recruiting Volunteers to help with Fundraising (Join our Online taster session) - Training - Community First (cfirst.org.uk)

### Going Greener Faster

- Homes – Residents can apply for grants of up to £25,000 for energy efficiency improvements to their property under the Warmer Homes program. From end of this month, the scheme is only open to off-gas properties i.e. a property where the main heating source is not mains gas. The programme is open to homeowners and private rental tenants, and covers a range of measures from insulation to heat pumps and solar panels. To qualify for the grants your home must currently have an EPC rating of E, F or G (limited funding is available for EPC D rated properties), and either you have a total household annual income of less than £30,000, or you receive a specified means-tested benefit. See Warmer Homes - Winchester City Council for further details.
- 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
- Travel by Bus – The £2 bus fare cap scheme has been extended to 30 June 2023. Stagecoach and National Express are among the companies introducing the single fare limit in England. See: £2 bus fare cap to be extended and bus services protected with new funding - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

### Events

- Local Plan – A summary of the recent consultation and engagement for the Regulation 18 Local Plan consultation will be the subject of a meeting at Winchester City Council next week (8 March). There were more than 3400 individuals and organisations who gave feedback on several different policies within the plan and the next stage will be for officers to fully analyse all the feedback and to decide if changes and adjustments should be made to the Plan as a result.
- New Voter ID for Elections – The UK Government has introduced a requirement for voters to show photo ID when voting at a polling station – in most cases your usual ID, such as drivers’ licence or passport – (even if expired and is still a good likeness) is acceptable. You can find the full list of acceptable forms of photo ID in the attached flyer.
- Community Support for Ukraine (information and help) – For latest information see: Winchester City Council pledges support for Ukraine - Winchester City Council Cost of Living Support
  - 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

- Local – In addition Winchester Council has launched a website providing information on local resources: Cost of living support and information - Winchester City Council
- Grants for Organisations – Winchester Council has also launched a new Cost of Living Grant scheme aims to help organisations that are supporting people in the Winchester district who are experiencing difficulties due to the rising cost of living. To apply see: Cost of Living Grant Scheme - Winchester City Council Funding Opportunities
- UK Shared Prosperity Fund – Winchester district is set to receive a £1 million boost thanks to funding from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. Between now and 2025 the money will be used to help pay for projects that support the fund’s three priorities: Community and Place, Supporting Local Business, and People and Skills. Details on how to apply should be in the next Parish Briefing.
- CIL – Time to prepare your CIL funding applications for WCC! Bids need to be submitted between January and March each year. Note: It’s likely that funding will be prioritised towards WCC Objectives including Going Green Faster. For example, this could include projects that support the District Cycle and Walking Infrastructure. See: Apply for CIL - Winchester City Council
- Small Grants Scheme – The WCC District Small Grant Scheme provides one-off grants of up to £1,000 to local voluntary/not-for-profit groups and organisations for one-off expenditure on projects, equipment and other items to help organisations to do more, reach more people, or provide better services. They can apply at any time, with decisions made every three months. See online for details: District Small Grants - Winchester City Council
- Rural Fund – WCC has been allocated a grant for capital projects in the market towns, villages and rural areas of Winchester district in FY2024 & FY2025. The indicative investment plan is split between net zero/climate mitigation projects, community infrastructure projects, culture, arts & tourism development, and green spaces enhancement. See WCC November Parish Briefing for details.

## APPENDIX B

## Hampshire County Councillor Report March 2023

### 1. 2023/24 budget approved

Hampshire County Council’s £2.6bn spending plans for 2023/24 have been approved, as set out in my report last month. Its council tax precept for the financial year beginning 1 April 2023, will increase by a total of 4.99%, of which 2% will go specifically towards adults’ social care, in line with Government policy. This equates to an annual charge of £1,460.25 for a Band D property – an increase of £69.45 per year or approximately £1.34 a week. Leader of the County Council, Councillor Rob Humby, said: “Each year, the County Council is tested to the limits in continuing to deliver a balanced budget, which is required by law. Planning for this upcoming financial year has been no different, and we have had to navigate further intense pressures resulting from the cost-of-living crisis, inflation and workforce pressures which are pushing up costs, and growing demand in key areas such as social care for the most vulnerable children and adults in our communities – which far outweighs available Government funding.

“We are also acutely aware of the very difficult decisions Hampshire residents face in their own household budgets to make ends meet, but reluctantly, in order to help deliver a balanced budget for 2023/24, we have no other choice but to increase the council tax precept. This is a decision we have not taken lightly. But even after this increase, we are still left with a £50.8 million shortfall in our revenue budget which we will have to fill using our reserves – built to buffer this and next year’s anticipated budget shortfalls.”

### 2. New school in Whiteley for children with severe learning difficulties

Its great news that Hampshire County Council’s application for a new special free school in Whiteley has been provisionally approved by the Department for Education (DfE). The application will now move to a second stage and, if finally approved, will pave the way for a new 125-place, co-educational school for 4-16 year olds with Severe Learning Disabilities. At the time of the implementation of the SEN Reforms in 2014, HCC was supporting around 5,000 children with special educational needs; the figure is now 15,000 children. The increase will generate £37m of vital extra income towards the delivery of crucial, high



performing services to the people of Hampshire in 2023/24, and still means that Hampshire has one of the lowest council tax precepts of any county in England. Land has been made available and feasibility work is currently ongoing. The plans will now proceed to the second stage of the application process, which will see academy trusts invited to apply to sponsor the school. I have called on Winchester City Council to amend its draft local plan to reflect the proposed use (the last draft showed this as residential).

### **3. School admissions**

More than 97 per cent of parents in Hampshire have been offered a place for their child at one of their three preferences for a secondary school in September 2023, with 90 per cent offered a place at their first preference school. The County Council received 15,400 on-time applications this year – an increase of 418 applications compared to the number received for places in September 2022 (14,982). Parents and carers who have not secured a place at one of their preferred secondary schools this year are urged to please visit HCC's [website](#) for advice and guidance on their options. Offers for primary schools are due to go out to parents on 17 April 2023.

### **4. Parish lengthsman scheme**

The County Council's parish lengthsman scheme has been maintained for the coming financial year. The scheme funds a local 'lengthsman' to carry out straightforward and low risk maintenance activities on footways, highways, and rights of way. The work mainly involves jobs that can have a big impact, such as ditch clearing, hedge cutting and sign cleaning. The scheme has since been successful in giving 186 local parish and town councils an opportunity to prioritise and deliver their own small scale highway maintenance works that will be of high value locally.

### **5. Grants to fight rural crime**

The Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, Donna Jones, has announced a fund to award grants to help tackle rural crime, supporting initiatives to reduce rural crime or support victims. The application window closes at 2pm on Friday 21 April 2023 and successful applications will be announced in mid to late May 2023. Applications can be made at <https://www.hampshire-pcc.gov.uk/safer-together/funding/apply-for-funding>.

### **6. Consultation on post-16 transport policy**

The County Council has launched its annual consultation on the Post-16 Transport Policy. This policy outlines the provision of transport for young people over the age of 16 with special needs or disabilities, who require additional support to access education or training suitable to their needs. The consultation includes an opportunity to comment on the proposed increase in the parental contribution by 27.1%, in line with the increased costs of running the service. This increase is being driven by national driver shortages, a limited number of transport operators on the market, and an increase in fuel prices. Families in receipt of income-based free school meals and certain means-tested benefits will not be required to pay an annual charge. The consultation will run for a period of six weeks until 11:59pm on Sunday 2 April, please visit the [Hampshire County Council website](#) for details.

The Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, Donna Jones, has announced a fund to award grants to help tackle rural crime, supporting initiatives to reduce rural crime or support victims. The application window closes at 2pm on Friday 21 April 2023 and successful applications will be announced in mid to late May 2023. Applications can be made at <https://www.hampshire-pcc.gov.uk/safer-together/funding/apply-for-funding>.

Councillor Hugh Lumby, Meon Valley Division

## **APPENDIX C Overview**

## **FAG WG Report to Hambleton PC 06/03/23**

As of this writing, we are now nearing the end of the 2022/23 Flooding Season, which has stretched beyond our usual time frame due to the changes in weather conditions. The need for cellar and well pumping was

fairly low, but the volume of water that flowed through the Big Pipe was the highest to date, and nearly exceeded its capacity. The big problem during this season, however, was the catastrophic failure of the sewerage system to handle the amount of escaping effluent due to dilapidated piping allowing surface and groundwater inundation. The result was raw sewerage being released in many directions over the countryside under high pressure. This phenomenon has been our number one risk since the 1994 event, and Southern Water has been well aware of the long-term problems, but have done nothing to correct the defects, and continue to ignore their responsibilities with any sense of urgency. There has been no follow-up of the remaining damage and debris to date, and no sign of a plan for a permanent fix. The pressure on Southern Water must be stepped-up by whatever means possible to avoid continuing repeats of this disgusting situation.

During the recent flooding, a huge amount of water flowed through channel making further erosion inevitable. Consequentially, another one of our significant risk areas has worsened due to the continuing deterioration of the outflow ditch banks downstream from the headwall, which is now a worry on both of its sides. This has been an outstanding issue with Hampshire County Council since 2019, when they had an inspection of the ditch by qualified people, who determined that shoring-up of the section at the foot bridge was necessary. Since that time, no action has been taken, and our survey last week shows heavy sloughing, earth slippage and loss of hedging on the Eastern side, with larger gaps appearing in the vegetation. We must again put pressure on the HCC to do a proper job of inspecting the entirety of the ditch from the headwall down to Hook Vinney by recognized experts. We have requested copies of reports on the outcomes of various examinations, but no technical reports have materialized, just “no worries” described in emails. We are now recording this topic as our third biggest risk to track as the probability and impact of having to close the B 2150 is major.

1) Big Pipe Resilience System – As we last reported, the system has been working hard in dealing with the surface and run-off water during this past flooding event, but the experience with the enormity of water being handled points to a focused review of the management of the system, and a clear understanding of future maintenance requirements. We don't believe it's too much to ask for a face to face meeting with HCC to discuss their forward plans, and for us to provide first-hand knowledge of what we feel needs to be done, along with how we can help. As we mentioned before, we need to have a properly funded plan from HCC to raise our confidence in their ability to make good on their promises, and manage the maintenance requirements, along with specific progress reports to give us confidence in their approach. Verifiable results must be a mandatory goal.

2) Southern Water Sewerage – This item has been at the top of our Risk Register for a very long time, and will continue to remain so for the foreseeable future as we're under no illusion of them taking any action in providing a cure. They have no sense of responsibility or urgency as we represent a low priority in this arena. We hope to hear back from Flick Drummond MP, on her efforts to make some progress at a higher level, and, as a consequence of her departure from post, we expect she will be in a position to hand the effort over to another suitable MP. It is vitally important for the HPC and the FAG to focus the spotlight on repair of damages and clean-up efforts by SW as rapidly as possible to lessen the anxiety felt by affected villagers.

3) FAG Update – At this time the threat of further rises in the aquifers is small, with all of the indicators looking encouraging. The Environment Agency is still erring on the side of caution, and advising sudden shifts in weather conditions could change the picture over the coming months due to climate fluctuations. We continue to provide information to those who want to move back into their cellars, along with a few checklists to serve as reminders for stowing their gear in a proper manner. We plan to have a few wash-up meetings to discuss our experiences from the recent flooding activities, and to invite suggestions as to how the FAG responses could be improved. We remain most grateful to the responses we've had from villagers lending a hand to vulnerable residents over the last few weeks, and we're always eager to gain some new recruits to join us in developing our resilience efforts.

Finally – If the news and weather reports are anything to go by in these “changing times,” vigilance will be maintained by the members of the FAG to stay prepared, as advised by the EA. If you have any comments or suggestions, please get back to me.

Respectfully Submitted by  
Jan Jarvie  
Flood Action Group

## **APPENDIX D**

## **Hambleton Greening Working Group: Monday Mar 6th 2023**

### Repair Café:

- We had an extremely successful Repair Café in Denmead on Feb 18th with 21 items repaired and 13 that were totally unrepairable. The AGM will be held on 25th April.
- The next RC will be at Hambleton on March 18th.
- We will be holding a bicycle maintenance workshop for the final hour on March 18th and the primary school is keen to advertise this.

### Recycling:

- HGC are still keen to progress the idea of having a Biffa bin in the village for recycling hard plastics. The Village Hall committee has been approached but is yet to confirm whether we can site the bin on the premises.

### Greening Campaign initiative:

- Terena Plowright, head of the national Greening Campaign, has approached Hambleton and Sway, two of the longest-running GCs, to lead a new initiative on Climate Adaptation devised by Dr Peter Walton FRGS, part of the team that developed the UK Climate Impacts Programme at Oxford University.
- Terena writes: ‘The Greening Campaign is the only programme working with communities that is including Adaptation as a tool to support communities to understand future climate impacts. We are developing a programme and would like to work with Hambleton and Sway communities to find out what would be useful.
- ‘Adaptation is understanding the challenges that Climate Change is likely to bring a community, discover the impacts via the projections as to the climate and weather issues. This could be more floods, disease, even something as simple as more ticks carrying illness. If we can understand the impacts on our community, we can plan ahead.
- ‘In the future we would like Peter to teach members of the community to use the UKCIP toolkit, have a better understanding of measures that can be taken to protect the community, and better understand the new climate we are likely to live in. To understand and be prepared gives us time to adapt.’
- I have sent this information to Paul Quinn and asked that he raise it with the PC, who would hopefully support such an initiative. Terena suggests an initial public meeting with Dr Walton (who would speak via Zoom) sometime in April.

We are grateful as always for the support of the Parish Council.

Dr Penny Mahon (secretary of HGC)