



DRAFT MINUTES

Hambledon Parish Council
06 Feb 2023; 7.30pm; Hambledon Village Hall

PRESENT:

Cllr Encke (Chair); Cllr Silcock; Cllr Hand; Cllr Dyson; & Cllr Lamb

In Attendance:

Mrs Joanna Tester (Clerk); Cllr Wallace (WCC; left 8.07pm); Cllr Weston (WCC; left 8.07pm); Cllr Pearson (WCC; left 8.07pm); & Jan Jarvie (FAG). PSCOs Steph Wheeler-Osman & Owen Reeves (arrived 8.21pm; left 8.30pm)

Meeting started at 7.30pm

Item No.	Item	Discussion & Decision	Action
1862	Acknowledgements	Councillors paused and remembered in silence the contributions of all villagers who have passed away since the last meeting.	
1863	Apologies	Apologies received and accepted from Cllrs Mason, Quinn & Lumby.	
1864	Disclosable pecuniary interests	None.	
1865	Requests for dispensations	None received.	
1866	Public questions & comments	Standing orders suspended for maximum 10 mins.	
1867	Resume standing orders	Agreed.	

1868	District councillor's report & questions arising	Reports received from Cllrs Pearson; Wallace & Weston - see Appendix A. Updates received from Cllr Wallace, as follows: • Warm Homes initiative - worth sending info out to parishioners. Many pensioners may be able to qualify. Clerk to re-send info on FB and e-mail (ask recipients to pass info on to neighbours who may qualify but are not on distribution list); paper copy on PC noticeboard. Energy efficiency needs to be D - G (cost £50-£100 for an assessment; speak to Warm Homes people first). Updates received from Cllr Pearson, as follows: • New photo ID needed for (non-postal) voting. Info to be sent out to villagers again. Cllr Weston confirmed that she would not be standing for re-election this May, and thanked the PC for its support over the years.	Clerk Clerk
1869	County councillor's report & questions arising	Report received from Cllr Lumby - see Appendix B. Clerk to request any leftover money in County Councillor Grant Fund for this financial year, to start the fundraising for a new play area at SG.	Clerk
1870	Police/PCSO report	No report received. Cllr Encke has recently met with new PCSO. Very keen to get involved. Asked to be included in the distribution of The Hambledonian to keep up to date with events which may be useful to attend e.g. Lunch Club; Big Breakfast; Repair Cafe etc. Clerk to ask Tabitha Jay for copy of Hambledonian. Clerk to drop a copy over to Bishops Waltham Police Station. Clerk to send details of new PCSO to Cllr Lamb. When PCSOs Wheeler-Osman & Reeves arrived at the meeting they commented that there are no current crime trends. Scam info has been sent to Clerk. To send out to villagers.	Clerk Clerk
1871	Mins of previous meetings (09/01/23)	Agreed as a true record.	

1872	Clerk's progress report	Parish Lengthsman Agreement Final visit for 2022/23 due 20/02/23. Suggestions so far as follows: • Back Lane drain to be cleared. • Finger post signs (Rushmere, Park, Brook Lane/Chidden Lane, and Green Man junction) to be cleaned. Cllrs provided a further suggestion as follows: • Remove grit etc at the bottom of junctions e.g. Cams/B2150. Flooding @ bottom of Bury Lodge Lane - 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. Electricity Supply for Christmas Tree at The Gardens No update. (Reports & Issues) Rattling manhole covers - HH claimed that covers did not belong to them so handed over to SW. SW carried out a site visit, which the clerk was able to attend, but concluded that the all of the six rattling covers are owned by HH so the work has been passed back once more. On-going. Reports & Issues Bus stop signs @ Hook Vinney - trial continues of temporary sign at the B2150/Fareham Road junction. Playground inspections Risk assessment carried out Dec 2022 by Cllr Silcock & Clerk. Decided that wooden ramp repairs could be carried out by Cllr Silcock & surfacing repairs did not pose enough risk to warrant repair before surface being removed Spring 2023. Ava Recreation has carried some of the work on the junior swings. Swing seats have been replaced; bushes due to be replaced. Village maintenance Agenda item 1885. District Cllr's Report Road sweeping – Cllr Pearson chased & was told that IdVerde were due to do leaf clearance in Hambledon w/c 23/01/23 (subject to staff sickness etc). Clerk/ cllrs to confirm that this has been done & report back to Cllr Pearson if not. Carried out today. Lots of vehicles in the way due to no notice given. Report back to Cllr Pearson. Traffic & Pedestrian Safety WG Speed limit reminder - Clerk has collected the device and will be ordering the battery. Cllr Silcock & T&PSWG to decide where to first position device. Clerk to check with Swanmore PC if there are any restrictions on positioning. Reports & Issues Large puddle on pavement outside 13 West St/The Cross Tree - Clerk has reported to HH online but no response received to date.	Clerk
			Clerk
			Clerk

1873	Bank account	Bank balance - £64,749.77 (Cllrs have been provided with bank statement 152 (02 Jan 2023 to 01 Feb 2023)).	Clerk
1874	Application for grant from village bonfire organisers	Resolved: that the PC approves the grant application from the village bonfire organisers for £450.00 to enable repairs of the marquee and purchase of a new bbq.	Clerk
1875	Payment of accounts	Mrs J C Tester Clerk's salary (Jan 2023) £1016.92 NEST Clerk's pension (Jan 2023) £83.81 Hambledon VH Hall hire (Jan 2023) £20.25 [Post-meeting note: this should be £33.75 to include a FAG meeting 12/01/23.] Ava Recreation (Junior swings repair work) WORK NOT YET COMPLETED. Westcotec 2x batteries for portable speed signs £210.60 (THIS IS IN ADDITION TO THE PAYMENTS LISTED ON THE AGENDA) HALC Chairing skills course (Cllr Encke) £57.60 Moritz Flohr Tennis coaching (Jan 2023) £75.00 Sam Richie Tennis coaching (Jan 2023) £75.00	Clerk
1876	Planning applications	SDNP/23/00251/TCA - Rose Cottage, Speltham Hill, Hambledon, Hampshire, PO7 4SE. [NO OBJECTION BUT the PC requests that if approval is granted it should be on condition that a re-planting plan (as suggested in recommendation 5 of the arboriculture report) be drawn up and implemented within 24 months of the commencement of felling.]	Clerk
1877	Planning apps received after 31/01/23	None received.	
1878	Planning decisions	Noted, with the addition of no objection to SDNP/23/00100/TCA (Fairfield House) & SDNP/23/00172/TCA (5 The Terrace, Green Lane, Hambledon, Hampshire, PO7 4ST).	
1879	Better Streets WG	No report received.	
1880	Tennis WG	No report received.	
1881	Traffic & Pedestrian Safety WG	Cllr Silcock provided a report to cllrs in advance of the meeting. See Appendix C.	
1882	Play & Playgrounds Re-vamp WG	No report received.	
1883	Village Hall playground re0-vamp - Ava Recreation	Resolved: that the PC agrees that it is content with the playground equipment warranty information received from Ava Recreation and approves the placing of a formal order. Clerk to request info on plans.	Clerk
1884	Village Hall Playground Repairs	See Clerk's Report.	

1885	Village Maintenance	No update available.	
1886	Footpath 18 resurfacing	Resolved: that the Clerk makes contact with HCC Countryside Access & requests further info on grants & support available to assist with the resurfacing of fp 18. Cllr Hand & Jacqui Hand have volunteered to be path wardens for Hambledon.	Clerk
1887	Flood Action Group	Report received (see Appendix D). Further discussion as follows: • Pumping on Fareham Road is a ‘band aid’ not a solution. • All pumping of cellars etc has stopped except for two wells. • BP nearly reached full capacity a couple of times. • EA still plagued with industrial action. • All gullies cleared by Conway but late notice (less than 24 hours) was an issue. No warning for work today which resulted in some gullies being covered by parked vehicles which could not be moved in time. • Re SW issues - could Flick Drummond be asked to help escalate? • FAG has incurred no expenses to date. Questions to JJ: • Tankers on FR likely to be there for months on end? [Don’t know. Currently, taking all of the sewage from the village. Pumping station & piping up Well Hill will need replacing first. Conway have said clearing up of sewage is not their responsibility/won’t get paid for it if not asked to do it by SW.] • Cllrs Pearson & Weston advised to speak to the media to raise the profile. • Cllr Silcock suggested it might be better if Flick Drummond MP could be asked to make a site visit asap (this Fri or Sat) then to write to SW; Minister of Environment; and EA. If that doesn’t work then approach the media. Cllr Encke to contact asap. • Cc David Ingram (Environmental Health; WCC). • Cllr Weston advised that a Newtown & Soberton group have equipment to test for pollution in waterways & would be happy to assist if needed.	Cllr Encke
1888	Hambledon Greening WG	Report received (see Appendix E). Clerk to remind HG re current grants.	Clerk
1889	Coronation Party 2023 WG	Clerk and Cllr Silcock reported the following: • WG has met a few times. • Agreed that evening event (bar, bbq, bop) will be held at the VH on Saturday 6th May; afternoon event (Big Lunch; children’s games; bar etc) will be held in the Dettmer’s field on Sunday 7th May.	
1890	Annual Meeting of the Parish	Resolved: that the Annual Meeting of the Parish is held on Monday 22nd May 2023 subject to the main hall of the VH being available.	Clerk

1859	Reports & Issues	- AQUIND Interconnector - Royal Court of Justice has accepted the appeal by Aquind. The verdict means that the Secretary of State's (SoS) original decision to refuse the application was flawed and is quashed. Consequently, the matter now returns to the SoS for re-consideration. - Meeting with new Community Engagement Ranger (HCC Countryside Service) 27/01/23. Cllr Hand & Clerk to report. - Winchester District Association of Local Councils (WDALC) meeting 08/02/23 (via Zoom). - Murder Stone - Paul Bushell (SDNP Ranger) has contacted the PC asking for info on damage and possible restoration. Looking into possible funding from Historic England. - Steff Kent (Marstons) will be at The Vine 28th Feb to take questions from villagers. Marstons has asked for advance warning of questions. Clerk to inform villagers via FB and village e-mail. - Correspondence received from villager concerned about vehicles parking within feet of the Green Man junction and requesting that the PC petitions Highways to put double yellow lines on both sides of the the road junction within the 10 metre restricted zone. Councillors advised that the PC has a policy of no road markings (proven to slow traffic speeds and is in the Village Design Statement), therefore applying for yellow lines would be counter to this and would not be considered. In addition, Hampshire Police does not take action against vehicles parked on the footway. Councillors suggested reporting vehicle/s to the Police or, if they think that the owner is working on a neighbouring house, speak directly with the owner and/or householder.	Clerk
1860	Date/time of next meeting	Mon 6th Mar 2023 at Hambledon VH (Main Hall); 5.30pm (NOTE THIS CHANGE TO THE NORMAL START TIME).	
1861	Confidential matters	No members of the public were in attendance and no confidential matters were discussed.	

The meeting closed at 9.43pm

Signed:

Cllr Encke (Chair)

Dated:

Signed:

Joanna Tester (Clerk)

Dated:

APPENDIX A

WCC Report – February 2023
Cllr Frank Pearson

Further details for many of these notes may be found at the Winchester City Council website at www.winchester.gov.uk

- Reminder: you should have paid your 2023 license fee for your Green garden waste collection by now. (6th March deadline) £65 for the larger 240 litre bin, £43 for the smaller 120 litre bin. The Council will send a 'tab' to put onto your bin to ensure the 'crews' that you have paid.

- Some will be aware that for the next general election there will be new constituency boundaries. Central Meon Valley Ward will be within the new Winchester Constituency; it is likely that the 'Shedfield villages' will also be in Winchester while Whiteley will be in a new Hamble Valley Constituency. Wickham and Southwick will be merged into a new Fareham and Waterlooville County Constituency. It is hoped that that new constituency will be named "Forest of Bere".
- There are local elections on Thursday 6th May, two days before Coronation Day. For the first time a PHOTO I.D. will be needed before you are given a ballot paper. Details of this are beginning to emerge. You will need to have one of the following
 - A passport;
 - Driver's license;
 - A Student PASS card – proof of age;
 - Biometric immigration document;
 - Ministry of Defence Form 90 – (Defence Identity Card);
 - National Identity card issued by an EEA state.
 There will be a 'private booth' for those who wear a burka.
 If the 'returning officer has doubts as to whether the document is genuine, or someone else's, or the photograph is not clear, then you will not be given a ballot paper.
 It will be possible to obtain an identity document that includes your photo if you do not have a passport, a driver's license, or a PASS card you may apply for a Voter Authority Certificate before 17.00 hrs on Tuesday 25th April.
- Applications for a "temporary road closure" for a "King's Coronation street party" are invited by WCC and Hampshire Highways are invited to begin now. Closure date is Friday 3rd February 2023. You may also apply to hold your celebration party on a public open space. APPLICATION FORMS TO BE FOUND ON THE WCC website. Swanmore Parish Council has already announced that they will have a party celebration on Swanmore Recreation Ground – Sunday 9th May.
- REMINDER the "Cost of Living Support and Information" may be found on the City Council website eg Housing support; Money, benefits, and bills; food/clothing; Energy; Wellbeing support; Cost of Living Grant Scheme; and Information for Organisations.
- Winchester is to benefit from the £1 million UK Shared Prosperity Funding. Between now and 2025 the money will be used to support the fund's three priorities "Community and Place", "Supporting Local Businesses", and "People and Skills". WCC has already started to consult with 'partners' and 'stakeholders' to determine which projects and activities will be funded.
- A £300,000 pot of funding opens for communities in the Winchester district this money is part of the community infrastructure levy. Parish councils and community groups are being invited to submit bids to support new or improved facilities that will benefit local residents and help tackle the pressure of extra development. The money is available to wholly or partly fund projects without improve such things as walking cycling, active travel, education, sport and leisure facilities, health and cultural facilities and for example solar panels on the village hall.
- Your Council has published a "Carbon Neutrality Roadmap" to record the way forward to "carbon neutrality" in Winchester City, and District. An accompanying paper CAB3386 WCC's Carbon Offsetting Policy. Both may be found via the website.
- Further consultation is taking place about the suggested 20mph speed limit within Winchester, and the District market towns and villages. As HCC is taking part it may be assumed that this includes the other Hampshire Local Authorities as well. Cynics might suggest that in some situations to go faster is impossible, but in some areas eg "School Zones" it might be a distinct advantage in terms safety for our children.
- Recently the Winchester Local Plan managers introduced "Local Design Codes". These will be used to guide building designs, as well as suburban development including "green architecture". Village Design Statements that have been produced by Parish Councils and Town Councils may need to merge into this.

- The City Council passed a motion arguing against the granting of future “drilling for fracking” licenses. As ‘minerals’ are a County matter it is hoped by the majority of Council, that they will take note.

Cllr Frank Pearson
30th January 2023.

WCC Report – February 2023
 Cllr Malcolm Wallace

Going Greener Faster

- **Carbon Neutrality Open Forum** – 6:30pm, on Wednesday 8 February 2023 – The council is holding an Open Forum on the Carbon Neutrality Roadmap as we seek to reduce emissions in our district. To register for the event, go to: [Carbon Neutrality Open Forum: A Carbon Neutrality Roadmap for Winchester Tickets, Wed 8 Feb 2023 at 18:30 | Eventbrite](#)
- **HCC Minerals & Waste Plan** – Winchester City Council has responded to this consultation and has raised an objection to the continued inclusion of oil and gas development in the plan following the resolution proposed by Cllr Wallace at the Council meeting on 18-Jan.
- **Homes** – Residents can apply for grants of up to £25,000 for energy efficiency improvements to their property under the [Warmer Homes](#) program:

o The programme is open to homeowners and private rental tenants, and covers a range of measures from insulation to heat pumps and solar panels.

o 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.

o UPDATE – The **on-gas scheme is expected to close at the end of March 2023**, so get your applications in quickly! The off-gas scheme is continuing.

- **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** – From 1st January until 31st March 2023 single fares will be £2 or less. The £2 bus fare cap scheme has been launched by the Department for Transport and the government’s Help for Households initiative. Stagecoach and National Express are among the companies introducing the single fare limit in England.

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](#)

Events

- **Enchanted Light Garden** – Winchester City Council is pleased to announce that Abbey Gardens will become a magical Enchanted Light Garden from the 11th February until 5th March. Access to see the lights is free of charge, the best time to see the lights will be as night falls. On the 18 and 19 February the lights will be complemented by free interactive entertainment. Walkabout artists will dazzle with their light performances at certain times throughout late afternoon and early evening. To find out more see: [Enchanted Light Garden - Visit Winchester](#)
- **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 on our website: [Voter Identification Requirements - Winchester City Council](#)
- **Community Support for Ukraine (information and help)** – For latest information see: [Winchester City Council pledges support for Ukraine - 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.
- **Warm Hubs Grant** – Grants of up to £5,000 are available from Hampshire County Council to develop and host warm hubs where people can gather together this winter. See: [Hampshire groups invited to apply to Leader's Community Grant Scheme to create warm hubs this winter | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](#)

WCC Report – February 2023

Cllr Vicki Weston

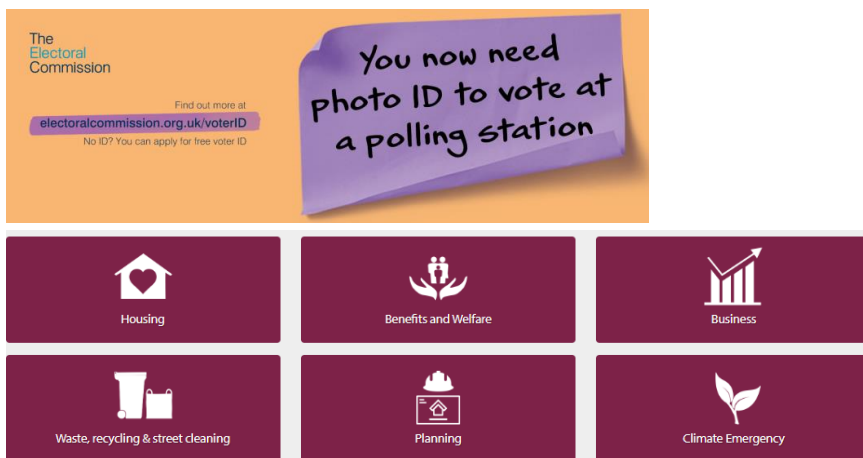
I will be standing down as a District Councillor at the May elections this year. It all started for me with a campaign for 30 mph limit through our villages and soon I found myself as a District Councillor at Winchester City Council. It was one of my initial successes as we were one of the first villages to have the village 30 scheme implemented. and soon I found myself as a District Councillor at Winchester City Council.

For 16 years I have represented residents from Swanmore and Newtown and then when the boundary changes came in Hambledon, Droxford and Waltham Chase for which has been both a pleasure and a considerable task to ensure that the interests of all our community are heard at Winchester City Council. Having also been Cabinet member and deputy leader for 3 different leaders at WCC has helped give me the knowledge and insight to share useful advice on so many matters, reporting incidents and commenting on planning applications when requested.

I will continue to be on the Parish Council and supporting the Newtown & Soberton Community Group

PHOTO ID WILL BE NEEDED TO VOTE IN THE MAY ELECTIONS

The UK Government has introduced a requirement for voters to show photo ID when voting at a polling station - but only certain photo ID can be used to vote in the local elections taking place on Thursday 4 May 2023. You can find the list of acceptable forms of photo ID on our website and what to do if you don't have one of those. The website will be updated with the latest information from the Electoral Commission when it is received. for more information <https://www.winchester.gov.uk/>



Are you up to speed with Bonfire legislation?

For more information check the WCC pages <C:\Users\vlwes\Downloads\BonfiresLeaflet.pdf>

Bonfires contribute to overall poor air quality and the particles they produce are harmful to your family and your neighbours, as well as local wildlife. If you do have a bonfire, make sure you're following burn clean regulations, and please check for local wildlife 🦫 and ensure you're not near any properties. If you're trying to get rid of excess garden waste, please remember you can also sign up for garden waste collections via WCC website. www.winchester.gov.uk/waste-recycling/garden-waste-collection-sign-up You can find out more about the Environment Centre's clean air initiative here www.environmentcentre.com/the-environment/clean-air

The Law

Under the provisions of the Environmental Protection Act 1990, smoke caused by bonfires may be a statutory nuisance and the City Council has powers to take action against those who create a nuisance or allow it to happen. Private individuals are also able to take their own action by complaint to a magistrates' court.

Bonfires which are on land near to roads and causing an inconvenience or a danger to passers-by can also be an offence under the Highways Act 1980.



APPENDIX B

Hampshire County Councillor Report February 2023

1. £2.6bn spending programme for 2023/24

Hampshire County Council's spending plans for 2023/24 are to be considered this month by the cabinet and then by full council. The plans total £2.6bn and cover the hundreds of services delivered by the council to its 1.4 million residents, including supporting its most vulnerable children and adults. The capital budget proposals will also be considered, with building and infrastructure projects totalling £645.3m over the next three years to be approved. The proposed three year programme includes:

- £175m investment in new and extended school buildings to provide school places for children in Hampshire, delivering a further 4,393 school places and giving a total of 18,874 new school places by September 2025.
- £142m for structural maintenance and improvement of roads and bridges.
- £103m of Integrated Transport Plan schemes including £58m of schemes focused around walking and/or cycling improvements.
- £100m to address condition-based enhancements to schools.
- An additional £0.3m funding towards the County Council's Flood Risk and Coastal Defence Programme as part of HCC's response to the challenge of climate change.

There are two particular related points for us. First, there is commitment to pushing ahead with the Botley bypass, which should provide much needed relief, especially around Curdridge. Secondly, it is expected that the site for the new secondary school in Whiteley will be made available this summer. The new school, with 900 places, is expected to be ready for the start of the 2027 academic year. There are also proposals for a possible new SEND school on the site of the old Cornerstone School in Whiteley.

2. 20 mph review

The review of the criteria for 20 mph speed limits within Hampshire has progressed to the next stage following last year's consultation and the work of a County Council Task and Finish Group. A report has been produced recommending a series of changes which will make it easier for communities who want reduced speed limits to promote speed reduction schemes and seek the introduction of lower limits. The proposals will now be considered further before progressing to full Cabinet for approval in June.

The proposals will be of interest to many parishes and I look forward to discussing potential local impacts with parishes and interested residents over the next few months, as the new policy becomes clearer.

3. Roads

The bad weather we have all experienced this month has provided many challenges to Hampshire Highways, especially from blocked drains, flooding and potholes. Even though the weather has improved recently with the water tables falling, the overnight freezing temperatures have exacerbated the pothole situation with many more now appearing, and particularly in the rural areas. Service demand across the highways service remains extremely high with demand far exceeds capacity at the present time and consequently all work is having to be prioritised so that the highest risk issues are repaired first. This includes the use of temporary 'infill' repairs to remove major potholes, these can then be addressed on a longer lasting basis later. Some parishes have commented that some pothole filling appears to be sub-standard and this is the reason. The outlook for this month is also unfavourable, with the Met Office suggesting that the weather is likely to be unsettled, with the potential for more periods of stormy conditions - potentially similar to those we experienced in February 2022 - and some further colder/ wintry spells. One of the priorities now is therefore ditch and grip clearance to help alleviate surface water flooding and ice problems in at risk areas; Hambledon is one of the priority areas here. Please do continue to report highways issues online. A reminder that the number to call in emergency is 0300 555 1388 (0830-1700) Monday to Friday, or outside officer hours, 101.

4. Drain cover thefts

Road users across Hampshire are being urged to be vigilant after a recent spate of drain cover thefts - leaving deep openings in the road surface which could cause a potential hazard to drivers, pedestrians and cyclists, and also result in significant expense to council taxpayers. To report a missing cover, please call the number given above or report it to the police online at <https://www.hampshire.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/>

5. Increased police numbers announced

The Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire and Isle of Wight, Donna Jones, has presented her budget plan for the years 2023-24. She had previously pledged to increase police numbers by 600 and is on track to recruit these by the end of March this year. Her new budget has added an additional 50 officers to these numbers, to be funded through the police precept of council tax.

6. County councillor grants

The deadline for applications for my County Councillor grant budget is 28th February. I have provided support this year to various projects, from jubilee celebrations in West Meon, Meonstoke and Whiteley to playground improvements in Hambledon, support for community groups in Waltham Chase and a grant for the new pavilion in Shedfield. Do let me know if there any schemes locally you would like me to support, I do have some money left.

Hugh Lumby

APPENDIX C

Traffic & Pedestrian Safety WG Report to Hambledon PC

At the last PC meeting Hugh Lumby kindly agreed to meet with the WG to discuss the latest situation with HCC's survey on 20's Plenty and next steps. He had already briefed the PC. The WG met with Hugh on 13 Jan at the OFTR. Present were Deborah Paul, Laura Plaisted and myself.

Hugh brought us up to date with the situation regarding HCC's recent questionnaire about the possibility of having a 20mph limit on roads in Hampshire villages. They had expected about 700 replies and received nearly 9,500. Opinion arising from the survey was divided equally on the proposal to introduce 20MPH limits across the county. The first stage of discussions had taken place in committee and it would now be circulated to the Council and Local councillors. A decision was not expected before April.

Jo Walker had previously suggested we could volunteer Hambledon as a guinea pig for a trial 20mph scheme. Hugh suggested that Hampshire CC had no spare money for a scheme and he didn't think we would qualify should such a scheme be instigated. He suggested we approach Martin Wiltshire at HCC for advice on how we can make changes in the village to help reduce the speed of traffic. He said a grant is available for trees and shrubs which could be planted on wide verges on approach roads to the village thus giving the appearance of narrowing the road. This information has already been passed to Hambledon Greening by the Clerk.

I have contacted Martin Wiltshire who suggested that Andy Smith, whom we know from the past, might be better for this task. I have told Martin that we are not seeking advice on speeds and road engineering but landscaping. I wait to hear back.

I have also set up a meeting with Alex Pringle of SDNPA on 2 March. It would be good to get two views before we commit to any expenditure on consultancy.

Finally the Clerk has collected the Speed Limit Reminder from Swanmore PC. She and I need to establish what rules need to be followed before we decide where to start siting the device.

Chris Silcock

APPENDIX D

FAG WG Report to Hambledon PC 06/02/23

Overview

As of this writing, we are now in about the mid-point of the 2022/23 Flooding Season episode. All the properties on the Flooding List have now had water in their cellars, but so far the height has not required pumping, save in a few cases. The wells that have a potential for over-flowing, have also been managed without pumping-out. The Flood Action Group (FAG) believes the current experience is about 25% the size of the 2014 occurrence, which accounts for the slack period we are now in. The measures taken at the Broadhalfpenny borehole continue to be somewhat spurious as there is an issue with the computer, however, we are satisfied that the readings at Whitedale Farm are correct, and going down very slowly at this time. There were only a few problems at the start, the majority of which were associated with preparation activities, where new property owners were inexperienced and forced into rapid reaction. The FAG helped with the learning curve, very well supported by villagers who'd been there before themselves.

By far the greatest aspect at this point, is our biggest risk; the catastrophic failure of the Foul Drainage System. This continues to cause extended problems for the village as a whole as we predicted and warned, leading to street closures, and the need to clean-up the mess in the wake of Southern Waters' late reaction, and very late treatment of the symptoms without reaction to the basic cause. (See below)

Big Pipe Resilience System – The system has been working hard in dealing with the surface and run-off water during this flooding event, but requires further effort in planning and managing a few important aspects centered around ongoing maintenance. An enormous amount of water has passed through the BP over the last few weeks, near to its present capability limit, with minimal pumps running, operating in a state with unnecessary restrictions to flow. As we have been continually indicating, the silt and detritus extending an unknown distance up stream inside the pipe, and down to the "dam" at the end of the catchment basin, is blocking its capacity. The problems are created by not performing appropriate maintenance at the right time. The BP bore and Catchment Basin were not being cleared due to access problems by subcontractors, that have never been properly taken into account. The opportunities for shifting the build-up during dry times were ignored, as it wasn't in the pre-determined HCC schedule, and gullies were cleared a month before the leaves started to fall. The system as a whole must be based on reaction to changing circumstances and not on fiscal planning or availability of resources. There still remains a requirement to ensure the system meets its design specifications to ensure there is no risk of flowing around the pipe, rather than through it. We've heard the unqualified excuse that it was over designed in the first place, which from recent observations is preposterous.

We had a presentation from experts (including a geologist) provided by HCC back in 2019, clearly stating a gabion or other type of retaining structure, was needed at the site of the foot bridge to prevent erosion. Owing to further procrastination, there's not much left of the ditch bank to shore up – we wonder what the present HCC management team has in their plan for the potential closure of the B-2150.

We need to have a proper funded plan (or any sort of a written 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.

Southern Water Sewerage – This item is at the top of our Risk Register, and will continue to remain so for the foreseeable future. It is not just for Hambledon, but for the length and breadth of Hampshire, as well. The elderly fiber composite piping is disintegrating at an escalating rate, vast amounts of groundwater are entering the system blowing off manhole covers, and raw sewerage is being spread in every direction, pressurised by the inundation. Quite simply, it appears that SW's only options are to deal with the aftermath and not the real source of the problems. This leaves us with the necessity of continuing to plan our flood resiliency efforts to take into account further road closures, over-pumping at Bury Lodge, and possibly in the main streets with Betsey pumps, along with the very unsanitary remains of effluent. Threats are not the answer, long term maintenance requirements must be recognized, planned and reported on. We can easily come up with our ideal expectations, but we must be realistic and accept this cannot be delivered by SW.

FAG Update – A meeting of the Hambledon FAG was held on 12th January to discuss our flood defences past, present and future. We had a full agenda of items to cover since the last experience nine years ago, with a number of issues since requiring a change of emphasis with the completion of the Big Pipe, new property owners, and additional focus on our main risks. Samples of our document set were presented to make people familiar with established directives, and the records that are maintained. We made good progress on parsing-out specific areas for individual FAG members, and back-ups, along with a review of the larger flooding properties, and some of the vulnerable owners. The discussion also gave us a chance to get to know each other, and the capabilities we share in providing assistance as the current situation evolves. A list of suggestions and actions was captured, along with confirmation of better communication links, and other volunteers that may be available.

On the 24th of January, we met with Stuart Fox, Head of Emergency Planning and Resilience, People and Organisation. Stuart was very much involved with the flooding in 2000/1, working virtually every day until the end. Our purpose for meeting with him was to go through our present approach to the issues and risks unfolding at this time, including the major ancient and ongoing concerns we have with Southern Water. He understands the magnitude of their failings, and the fact that their priorities don't suit our requirements. We currently include him in the loop on these matters, but he said that due to the overwhelming amount of correspondence the HCC receive, he has asked that we deal with him direct.

Finally - We hope we are now on the back side of this flooding season, but the EA is warning us that there could still be problems ahead with the climate changes we are facing. The FAG will continue to maintain a careful watch on the situation, and adjust our plans and responses accordingly. If you have any comments or suggestions, please get back to me.

Respectfully Submitted by
Jan Jarvie
Flood Action Group

APPENDIX D

Hambledon Greening Working Group: Monday Feb 6th 2023

Repair Café:

- We had an extremely successful Repair Café in Hambledon on Jan 21st. Statistics are not yet available but we had a steady stream of repairs brought in by Hambledonians and several from Denmead. We had 11 repairers on site and 5 helpers who were kept busy all morning. A very positive community experience!
- The next RC will be at Denmead on Feb 18th and on March 18th it will be in Hambledon again with slightly restricted hours of 9.30-12pm due to a wedding.
- 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:

- The collection held in the church on Jan 21st worked well and provided a warmer venue for volunteers.
- The next collection on Feb 18th will be back in the Village Hall car-park.
- HGC are keen to progress the idea of having a Biffa bin in the village for recycling hard plastics. We will ask the Village Hall if a site can be found there. It would cost between £4-500 for an annual contract for a 1100 litre bin and would be a twice-monthly collection. It would be funded initially by HGC though we will look for further sources of funding.

Retrofit:

- Alasdair McKenzie continues to take thermal camera images of residents' homes as requested, to help them identify areas where heat is escaping. We have received several very positive comments from residents, grateful for the insight into heat loss which the thermal images reveal.

Food and Food Waste

- Plans to hold a public meeting in March on Food Waste have had to be cancelled but we are now going to use the May 13th Greening Fair to promote this new topic, with stalls on composting, local produce, veg growing, WinAcc's Food Waste Action group etc.
- We also plan to conduct a Google survey of our supporters (and through village newsletters) to gauge interest in topics such as composting, a plant-based recipe book, allotments and veg growing. This will give us insight into what interest there is in these topics and who might be willing to support future initiatives.
- Belinda Johnson will be working with the school on composting methods including wormeries.

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

Dr Penny Mahon (secretary of HGC)