



DRAFT MINUTES

Hambledon Parish Council
09 Jan 2023; 7.30pm; Hambledon Village Hall

PRESENT:

Cllr Encke (Chair); Cllr Quinn; Cllr Silcock; & Cllr Hand

In Attendance:

Mrs Joanna Tester (Clerk); Cllr Lumby (HCC; arrived 8.02pm & left 8.59pm); Cllr Wallace (WCC; left 8.59pm); Jan Jarvie (FAG) & 2 members of the public.

Meeting started at 7.30pm

Item No.	Item	Discussion & Decision	Action
1832	Acknowledgements	Councillors paused and remembered in silence the contributions of Albert Spedding, Michael Burrridge, Muriel Heath and all other villagers who have passed away since the last meeting.	
1833	Apologies	Apologies received and accepted from Cllrs Mason, Dyson, Pearson & Weston.	
1834	Disclosable pecuniary interests	The following councillors disclosed personal interests in the following: Cllr Encke - member of the VH Committee (ref item 1845) Cllr Quinn - Church Warden (ref 1845) It was agreed that the above cllrs would not take part in any discussion related to the provision of funds within the 2023/24 budget for VH grounds maintenance/churchyard maintenance, respectively.	
1835	Requests for dispensations	None received.	
1836	Public questions & comments	Standing orders suspended for maximum 10 mins. One member of the public commented as follows: Ref VH grounds maintenance - requesting reinstatement of PC covering the entire cost of grounds maintenance. The VH is an important community asset. Only income is from hirers. Happy to continue having direct contact with C. Martin (the groundsman). The principle is what is important.	
1837	Resume standing orders	Agreed.	

1838	District councillor's report & questions arising	Report received from Cllr Wallace - see Appendix A. Updates received from Cllr Pearson, as follows: 1. The annual license fee for "Green waste collection" is now due. 2. I have made enquiries of the officers regarding 'street sweeping' of leaves and still after several weeks have not had a response. This is partly due to the 'office' having been closed over Christmas we only had an "emergency cover". 3. A couple of Parish Councils namely Itchen Abbas, and Avington have received funding grants (Crowd Funding, and WCC 'Greener Futures Fund) for solar panels on their village halls! I recall that you were looking for this. Other than these points there has been virtually no activity. Cllr Wallace received the following comments/questions from HPC cllrs: • Cllr Quinn requested that info on help for businesses to be sent to Hambledon Connected. • Warm Hub grant - could The Vine apply? [Cllr Wallace confirmed that his understanding is that any organisation can apply. Call HCC before applying to check.] Cllr Wallace confirmed the following ref WCC CiL - in general, parishes in the SDNP should be applying for the SDNP CiL, not WCC. However there are some exceptions e.g. electric vehicle chargers (people travelling into SDNP from Winchester District.) He is trying to set up meeting with WCC point of contact. HPC Cllr asked Cllr Wallace if the cost of HG setting up a hard plastics recycling bin might come under CiL? [Cllr Wallace confirmed that the fund is not designed for recurring payments, but might be considered if the application was for a one-off payment e.g. for costs for a certain period of time. Small grants scheme probably the same. Cllr Wallace to ask at meeting with WCC.]	Clerk
1839	County councillor's report & questions arising	Report received from Cllr Lumby - see Appendix B. Further discussion points as follow: • 20's plenty - Cllr Lumby confirmed that HCC's new policy on reduction of speed limits has been drafted and is currently under review. There are lots of criteria to be taken into account, incl. strategic road; country road; average speed (key starting point); police ability to manage it etc. • Murder Stone repair - any county councillor grant money available? [Possibly.] Heritage grants? [Tried & failed.] Nobody knows who owns the verge (not HCC).	
1840	Police/PCSO report	No report received. Cllr Quinn asked Cllr Lamb re Neighbourhood Watch. Could she act as a link with Police i.e. newsletters to villagers with crime prevention info? [Provisionally, yes. Will look into details. Clerk advised that info/advice would be better included in the Clerk's village e-mails rather than distributed separately.]	
1841	Mins of previous meetings (05/12/22)	Agreed as a true record.	

1842	Clerk's progress report	Parish Lengthsman Agreement Final visit for 2022/23 due 20/02/22. Work completed Dec 2022 as follows: • Back Lane drain • Cleared tree overhanging stile near Mill Down House • Cleared leaves on pavement near VH • Removed saplings by flint wall on West St (near OBC); not able to clear remaining vegetation due to parked vehicles • Not able to lift drain cover outside 13 West St to clear drain Flooding @ bottom of Bury Lodge Lane - appears to have been swept at the beginning of August but has not solved the issue. Re-surfacing may be the only option. Clerk has sent photos to Cllr Lumby and asked him to follow up with HH. Clerk chased Cllr Lumby 06/01/23. Cllr Lumby is chasing. Electricity Supply for Christmas Tree at The Gardens No update. Reports & Issues Rattling manhole covers - I latest update from HH is that an engineer was on site 25/10/22 but could not locate the issue. Karen @ HH to speak to the engineer and report back to the Clerk. Clerk to chase before 09/01/23. Cllr Wallace to send Southern Water contact info to Clerk. Reports & Issues Bus stop signs @ Hook Vinney - trial continues of temporary sign at the B2150/Fareham Road junction. Playground inspections Playground repairs 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 asked to investigate integrity of the junior swings for £225 + VAT. Waiting for an update. Chased 06/01/23. Village maintenance Agenda item 1855. District Cllr's Report - road sweeping Clerk awaiting advice from Cllr Pearson re contact name and e-mail address. Chased 06/01/23. District Cllr's Report - CiL funding Clerk has spoken to HG - info given and help offered if required. Submission date has since been extended to 03/03/23.	
1843	Bank account	Bank balance - £65,931.72 (Cllrs have been provided with bank statement 151 (05 Dec 2022 to 01 Jan 2023)).	Clerk
1844	Financial reports & statement Q3 2022/23	Resolved: that the PC approves the financial reports & statement Q3 2022/23.	Clerk
1845	Budget & precept for 2023/24	Resolved: that the PC approves the budget for 2023/24 (a copy will be made available on the PC website) and agrees upon a precept of £49,907.00 for this financial year. Cllrs noted thanks to Cllr Silcock and Clerk.	Clerk

1846	Payment of accounts	Mrs J C Tester Clerk's salary (Dec 2022) £1016.92 Mrs J C Tester Reimbursement for MacBook Air M1 £886.50 Mrs J C Tester Expenses (Dec 2022) £22.25 NEST Clerk's pension (Dec 2022) £83.81 Hambledon VH Hall hire £20.25 Defib Store Ltd (defib pads) £90.00 HMRC (Q3 NI) £tbc Ava Recreation (Junior swings investigation work) £270.00 NTC TS Tenacity (Donation for Remembrance parade band services Nov 2022) £100.00 Hambledon Scout Group (Donation for Remembrance services Nov 2022) £100.00 Moritz Flohr Tennis coaching Dec 2022 £105.00 Sam Richie Tennis coaching Dec 2022 £245.00 Mrs J C Tester Reimbursement for LTA registration 2022/23 £120.00 Mrs J C Tester Reimbursement for court padlock. £21.48	Clerk
1847	Planning applications	SDNP/22/03825/FUL - The Lambing Yard Church Lane Hambledon Hampshire PO7 4RT. Full and permanent planning application for the importation, storage, screening, blending and transfer of inert soils and the storage of bark, manure and compost. ‘Hambledon Parish Council has reviewed the documentation submitted by the applicant and is strongly and unanimously of the view that it changes none of the fundamentals that led to the PC’s OBJECTION to the application. All previous grounds remain as submitted by the PC. ‘The PC has no confidence in the applicant’s assurances regarding shielding and screening planting, since planning conditions regarding screening in the previous two temporary permissions were not honoured. ‘Hambledon Parish Council OBJECTS to the application on grounds already stated and requests that planning permission be refused and there be no grant of yet another temporary permission.’	Clerk
1848	Planning apps received after 03/01/23	SDNP/22/05926/HOUS - Bittles Lodge Fareham Road Hambledon Waterlooville Hampshire PO7 4QW. Ground floor side extension to provide accessible bedroom with ensuite accommodation for disabled resident. [NO OBJECTION.]	
1849	Planning decisions	Noted	

1850	Better Streets WG	Cllr Silcock reported to cllrs in advance of the meeting as follows: • A bollard at The George was damaged. The driver of the van involved has been in touch with the Clerk (thanks due to John Thornton) to sort out funding for a replacement. The Clerk can update with the latest. • John Thornton (still on BS WG) and I have discussed BS vis a vis the Budget. In general, there are some BS projects yet to be completed (see BS Fund - c£7k+ committed/expected) but future projects will be closely aligned with changes that arise from the T&PSWG work including East Street and Lotts/OFTR Corner. In addition: • the obvious internal project remaining is The Gardens. John [Thornton] initially budgeted a nominal £15k for that, then WCC seemed to want to take it over but nothing has happened. This needs to be discussed. We would also need to budget for some professional maintenance • the other outstanding issue is the fingerposts at Three Corners. One sort of resolved itself by being blown over but the other is still undecided. Slight issue with HCC and it might be that we just abandon the whole thing, but not yet.	Clerk Cllr Silcock
1851	Tennis WG	No report received.	
1852	Traffic & Pedestrian Safety WG	Cllr Silcock reported to cllrs in advance of the meeting as follows: ‘No further progress to report since December. I am hoping to arrange a meeting with Hugh Lumby and the WG so that we can get an update on HCC's decision on 20's Plenty before looking at our strategy for next steps.’ In addition, it was reported that Swanmore PC has kindly offered one of its now unwanted speed limit reminders free of charge (new battery will be required at a cost of circa £100). Cllrs unanimously agreed that this would be of huge benefit and gave the Clerk permission to purchase the new battery.	
1853	Play & Playgrounds Re-vamp WG	No report received. Cllrs Quinn & Silcock have visited a local playground (Fareham) installed by Ava Recreation & are content with the installation workmanship. The equipment was from a different supplier (Kompan) but the recycled plastic materials similar to the Vinci equipment. Clerk advised that no contract would be drawn up or signed until receipt of satisfactory info on the warranty but, if possible, a provisional date in April 2023 for installation would be agreed with Ava recreation.	Clerk

1854	Village Hall Playground Repairs	The Clerk reported the following: Ava Recreation carried out an assessment of the junior swings at the VH 09/01/23 and have reported the following: • The bushes on the swing are worn and require replacement - quote for the work has been given: £425.00 + VAT • There is small movement in one of the legs where it enters the top casting. Suggestion is to monitor this for further movement. • Both seats are damaged and could do with being replaced at some point. They aren't dangerous but are deteriorating, cost to change while changing bushes will be £148.60 + VAT. [Nb new equivalent swings likely to cost in the region of £3k + installation + VAT. Cllr Silcock advised that he has one new swing seat in storage, hence only one other will be required. The Clerk advised that Ava Recreation had confirmed that this would reduce the cost by half.] Cllrs approved this expenditure (to come from Playground Revamp fund).	
1855	Village Maintenance	No further response from two interested parties who made contact after the advert placed in The Hambledonian. Cllr Hand has a possible contact & will discuss in due course.	
1856	Flood Action Group	Report received (see Appendix C). Further discussion as follows: • Whitedale Farm sensor has gone down. Jan Jarvie (JJ) has written numerous times to the Environment Agency (EA); eventually given contact details for Tom Woods. Informed JJ that strike/industrial action currently underway which is causing disruption. Next meeting planned for 23/01/23. Village may be flooded by then. JJ asked Cllr Lumby if he was aware of similar issue within HCC [not currently aware]. JJ is testing wells daily. Currently no water in cellars. FAG members have been given specific properties to look after - to help e.g. with checking pumps working okay. Highest risks - foul drainage & priority electricity. JJ has written to Southern Water & is awaiting a response. Southern Electric have said that priority electricity is not available despite assuring some years ago that it would be. The Vine well is at very high risk of flooding. H&S issue very important (i.e. don't get injured whilst down in a cellar). JJ to give Clerk something to send out to villagers via. e-mail. Not possible to obtain the floodline list kept by EA. JJ would like a large village map to be made available in an emergency situation to help services & volunteers etc. Cllr Silcock suggested What3Words references could be put onto the village map.	
1857	Hambledon Greening WG	Report received and published on the PC website (Appendix D).	
1858	Coronation Party 2023 WG	The WG is due to meet this week - date/time tbc.	

1859	Reports & Issues	- Bollard at George House was run into by a van 14/12/22 and will need replacing. John Thornton has requested a quote from JK Engineering, and the Clerk has made contact with the owner of the van who at present is amenable to covering any costs incurred. - Grant application to the South Western Railway Customer and Communities Improvement Fund for playground re-vamp was unsuccessful. - Tax base for Hambledon for 2023/24 is 514.28 (cf 519.94 for 2022/23). - Hampshire Climate Change Community Action event - The Arc, Winchester, SO23 8SB 01/02/23, 14.00-16.00. - SDNPA has agreed a change to the Local Plan Review Timetable, (aka Local Development Scheme). The decision was also taken to incorporate the Shoreham Cement Works Area Action Plan into the Local Plan Review Process. - WCC Community Grants Webinar - Tuesday 17 January 2023, 09.30-10.30 - information session for Parish Councils on the council's community grant schemes. - Resident has reported large puddle on pavement outside 13 West St/The Cross Tree, which appears to be due to height/camber of the pavement in relation to the drains. Clerk has reported to HH.	
1860	Date/time of next meeting	Mon 6th Feb 2023 at Hambledon VH (Main Hall); 7.30pm.	
1861	Confidential matters	This item was moved to become the first item of the meeting (& non-confidential). Resolved: that the PC co-opts Verity Lamb as a PC member. Clerk to inform WCC and send new Cllr info. [	Clerk

The meeting closed at 9.39pm

Signed:

Cllr Encke (Chair)

Dated:

Signed:

Joanna Tester (Clerk)

Dated:

APPENDIX A

Parish Update – January 2023

Cllr Malcolm Wallace (mwallace@winchester.gov.uk)

Going Greener Faster

- The New Year is a great time to start taking action on climate change. Challenge yourself to make one change to help reduce your carbon footprint. Next month, make another change, and so on. Lots of small actions can add up to making a big difference.
- Survey – Results from the Council's 2022 survey found that 85% of residents said that climate change is important to them and 50% said that are more concerned about the impact of climate change now than 12 months ago. The most supported initiatives included: provide more facilities for recycling (59%), initiatives to insulate and keep homes warm (59%) and increase the use of renewable energy (58%).
- Homes – Residents can apply for grants of up to £25,000 for energy efficiency improvements to their property under the [Warmer Homes](#) program:
 - 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.

o The current scheme closes at the end of March 2023, so apply ASAP!

- Business Support – There are currently LOTS of funding opportunities available to help businesses with the transition to net zero, including:
 - o Winchester Council is working with Meercat Associates to offer free support for businesses in the Winchester district to help begin their transition to net zero, with access to grant funding to assist financial investments. BEIS Industrial Energy Efficiency Accelerator provides funds for companies willing to implement low carbon technology
 - o Clean Growth Fund invests in early-stage UK companies seeking investment capital for low carbon activities
 - o Gigabit vouchers give up £3,500 for businesses to install high speed internet in rural areas
 - o Green Economy allows SMEs to buy and sell low carbon products and services to other businesses
 - o Industrial Energy Transformation Fund gives ‘high energy use’ businesses matching funds up to £30M for feasibility studies, efficiency measures and decarbonisation deployment
 - o Workplace Charging Scheme gives businesses up to £350 per socket (up to a total of 40) to install electric vehicle charge points
 - o The government’s Boiler Upgrade Scheme gives up to £6,000 for small businesses to install a heat pump or biomass boiler
 - o Get a business rate exemption on solar panels, heat pumps and other renewable equipment
 - o The government’s Environmental Land Management schemes provide funds for sustainable farming practices and land recovery
 - o EM3 Growth Hub provide advice on funding, growth and sustainability
- 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

- Community Support for Ukraine (information and help) – For latest information see: [Winchester City Council pledges support for Ukraine - Winchester City Council](#)

- Coronation Street Parties – Get your applications in quickly if you want to close a road for a Coronation street party! Due to the significant number of submissions we’re expecting, applications for Coronation Party road closures are invited to begin now and they need to be submitted at least 12 weeks in advance so we can be confident of getting the legal process completed in time for the event, therefore the final date for submissions is Friday 3rd February 2023. Applications after this date will be accepted, but we cannot guarantee being able to process them in time. See: [Temporary road closure for events - Winchester City Council](#)

Funding Opportunities

- 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)

APPENDIX B

Hampshire County Councillor Report January 2023

1. Happy New Year

I hope that everyone had an enjoyable Christmas break. With 2022 and all it brought now firmly behind us, let's hope for a more successful year ahead, my very best wishes for 2023.

2. Schools news

The deadline for school place applications is **15th January**. Hampshire County Council is urging parents of children due to start school in reception year or move to year 3 in a junior school in September 2023 to indicate three school preferences on their application. Over the last six years, 98 per cent of parents secured a school place for their child at one of their three preferred schools, with between 90 and 93 per cent being offered a place at their first preference school. Online guidance can be found on the Education and Learning pages on the County Council's website.

3. Roads update

The new traffic signals at Parkway Roundabout, Whiteley are due to be switched on next week on Tuesday 10th January. Please be aware that the signals will be operating on temporary timings over the next 4-6 weeks as the final elements of the work on Whiteley Way are completed. The switching on of the signals will see lane markings and stop lines installed and enable the removal of the bulk of the cones and give way signs on the roundabout, which I’m aware are still causing some concern.

In more general terms, finishing activities to complete the works will be ongoing across the scheme during January and February. Works to Junction 9 on the M27 are principally complete, with only night time working on the westbound offslip to install sign foundations and kerbing still ongoing, and the junction is fully open to traffic during daytime hours. Works are continuing on Whiteley Way to complete the installation of drainage and the vehicle restraint barrier. At long last, we should now see the principal capacity benefits of the scheme beginning to be realised.

Elsewhere in the area, there has been some progress on the installation of the average speed cameras on the A32 and the A272 in the vicinity of the West Meon Hut, although not quite as quickly as had been hoped. On the plus side, the contract has been awarded and more detailed survey work has been carried out that will focus on the last details of the engineering necessary to get the installation started. There are, however, some challenges with getting electrical power to some of the camera locations – delays with SSE has also caused substantial delays.

Since the beginning of 2022, Hampshire Highways has repaired around 41,000 carriageway and footway defects, including potholes, and cleared nearly 39,000 gullies and other highway drainage assets to reduce the risk of flooding.

4. Minerals and Waste Plan update consultation

A reminder that the consultation on changes to Hampshire's Minerals and Waste Plan closes at the end of this month, at 17:00 hours on **Tuesday 31 January 2023**. The consultation allows residents to comment on local sites that have been identified for minerals extraction and transportation. Sites for waste processing, recycling and disposal facilities are also indicated in the Plan. The proposed updated plan and the response form can be found at www.hants.gov.uk/minerals-waste-update. As before, my advice is to study the plan carefully for proposals for your area and respond accordingly.

5. Tree planting

Trees play an important role in carbon sequestration. As part of the commitment to reach Net Zero by 2050, HCC has produced a Tree Strategy and has committed to facilitate the planting of at least one million trees in Hampshire. The Hampshire Forest Partnership has been set up as the public delivery mechanism for this strategy; its aim is to bring together the public and third sector across Hampshire, as well as residents, businesses, schools and the wider community.

Part of the strategy is to plant mini forests across Hampshire, using a technique developed by a Japanese ecologist, Dr Miyawaki, which encourages faster growth and more successful establishment of the trees, as well as a greater number planted, greater biodiversity and carbon sequestration.

More information can be found at <https://www.hants.gov.uk/thingstodo/hampshireforestpartnership>. The council is also encouraging parishes and residents to suggest locations for mini forests and other tree planting. If you have any local suggestions, please also email the team at treeplanting@hants.gov.uk

6. Keeping homes warm

As more people feel the impact of rising energy costs and increasingly cold weather, Hampshire County Council is reminding those struggling to heat their homes that help is available. Residents can call the 'Hitting the cold spots' phone line for advice and guidance, from temporary heating and first-time central heating to arranging home visits and sourcing boiler repair funding. To access these services, call the team on 0800 804 8601 (lines are open from 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday). The phone advice line is open to all Hampshire residents. Some services have eligibility criteria, and the advisors will discuss the best possible solution for each caller. More information can be found online.

Councillor Hugh Lumby

Meon Valley Division

Overview

On the 30th of December 2022, we received the first official Flood Warning Alert from the Environment Agency (EA), setting in motion the pre-flooding actions for the Flood Action Group (FAG). The key drivers of the notification are:

“In Hambledon, groundwater is above average and rising. If as much rain falls as predicted over the New Year period, from mid-January 2023, minor groundwater flood impacts could be possible in Hambledon. It is just possible that cellar flooding could affect a small number of properties on Lower West Street in Hambledon. There remains uncertainty in the weather forecast and it is still possible cellar flooding will not occur. However, it is still possible average rainfall through January or February could generate minor groundwater flooding later in January or February 2023.”

With this formal notice, the FAG has commenced the pre-planning preparations as a matter of some urgency, as we have a lot of experience in Hambledon. The planning requirements are quite extensive at the point of start-up of activities, and this has commenced including getting emails out to all of the members of the FAG, and scheduling a meeting to pull everything together in quick time.

Our main gauge for planning is a prediction for the possible on-set of flooding, using the rising aquifer levels against the established trigger points as set by the EA, of 59.9M for BHD, and 55M for Whitedale. As of 1st January 2023 the readings were:

30/12/21 BHD 46.870 AOD Whitedale 39.902 AOD (last year)

01/01/23 BHD 55.690 AOD Whitedale 47.868 AOD +8.82M & +7.97M

The differences between 2021 and 2023 are significant, along with the rate of rise over the past three days from the 29th of December, being +4.14M at BHD and +2.51M at Whitedale. Additionally, we have four “first responders” on Lower West Street, who will report on any water ingress into their cellars. We will now closely watch the rates and measures over the coming days in our forecasting, which could lead to increased speed in our planning, and possibly holding an emergency meeting. We remember the 2014 scenario, where there was no worry on the 31st of December 2013, but flooding started rapidly by the 8th of January.

We must add a note of caution, however. Since the last FAG Report for December, when we raised concern over changeover issues with the EA, no follow-up information has been received after several attempts with emails and phone calls. As of this writing (02/01/23), there are further signs of apparent chaos within the EA functions, and their internet sites, many of which are “not available.” We have also experienced holes in the updates for the Shoothill bore reports at Whitedale. We will continue to request information and data from the person identified as our point of contact, Damen Funnel.

Headwall, Catchment Basin and Ditch – To date, no maintenance activities have been witnessed in any of these areas. The biggest issue with the system is the lack of clearance of the Catchment Basin in light of the flood warnings, and the effect this has on our planning and risk management activities. An Email will be sent to HCC Highways asking for an update on their schedule, along with another reminder on the requirement for the capacity of the Big Pipe (BP) to cope with 200+ pumps being online, which remains untested.

Environment Agency

We are assuming the EA is being affected by the holidays, frustratingly contributing to delays in response. We need to confirm our communication routes and linkups work ASAP, and will await further news as it evolves during the coming week, which we will report on when advised.

Scheduled Activities for the FAG – The current focus is centered around reviewing and updating our processes and procedures in preparation for a possible escalation of the flooding threats. This will include our document sets:

Agenda for 12/1/23

Flood Action Plan (FAP)

Risk Register and Management Plan

Properties Pumping Master List
Property Owner Checklists
Emergency Contact List (urgent requirement – need owner)* Vulnerable Residents List
List of Volunteers

There will also be some new preparation elements:

Create an overall map of Properties flooding/pumping (need owner) Establish and populate a WhatsApp site for Flooding information (in hand) Detailed instructions and checklists for setting-up the flood room Advertise needs for more volunteer help Special consideration must also be directed to the problem of available resources from Hampshire County Council, fire, police and ambulance services

*The Emergency Contact List will require a degree of digging as so many of our original names are gone. There will have to be a high level of diplomacy in some cases due to reluctance to provide information, and in some cases there just won't be the available resource. When we were flooded in the past, we used to be nearly at the top of the list of villages that need fast reaction in flooding circumstances. The list needs to include the following as a minimum:

Southern Water, flooding of mains foul sewers resulting in: inundation, leaks of piping in and out, over-pumping (Bury Lodge Station) and use of Betsy pumps on main streets
Scottish and Southern Electricity (interruption of supply)

British Telecom
Emergency Planning Office (HCC)

Finally, we are currently in the “warning phase” of the EA alert, and with a bit of luck, the risks may pass us by. Any questions or clarification should be directed to myself, via email, telephone, or a gentle knock on my door.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jan Jarvie
Chairman, Flood Action Group

APPENDIX D

Activity has been reduced over the Christmas period but the HGC Committee is meeting again on Jan 9th when more plans for the year will be put in place.

Repair Café:

o Next Repair Café in Hambledon will be Jan 21st, from 10-1pm. As always, there will be regular alternating cafes in Denmead and Hambledon on a monthly basis: Denmead Feb 18th; Hambledon March 18th etc.

o A sewing skills and repairs demonstration/workshop will be held in the final hour of the 21st, led by Jenny Corbin and Christine Dunkley.

Recycling and LGV:

o The final visit of the Little Green Van on Dec 17th was sadly cancelled due to illness but the recycling collection went ahead and we received recycling from several residents.

o The next one will coincide with the Repair Café and we plan to hold it at the church so that both repair and recycling will be at the same venue for everyone's convenience. There has been no alternative found for the LGV

Retrofit:

o We have received one application from a pre-1900 Hambledon home for the WinAcc and HGC funding towards a WinAcc Retrofit Plan. The arrangements for the Plan are going ahead and WinAcc will invoice HGC for the money we are providing. It seems unlikely at this point that we will receive interest in a post-1900 home.

o Alasdair McKenzie continues to take thermal camera images of residents' homes as requested, to help them identify areas where heat is escaping.

Phase 3 of the Greening Campaign: Food and Food Waste

o Plans to hold a public meeting in March to coincide with Food Waste Action Week (March 6-12th) are still to be confirmed since Sam Watts, leader of WinAcc's Food Action Group, is unavailable.

o She is looking into coordinating a wider Winchester response to the FWA Week and we await further news on this. In the meantime, we have included a list of relevant websites on food waste in the next Hambledonian.

We are grateful as always for the support of the Parish Council. Dr Penny Mahon (secretary of HGC)