



DRAFT MINUTES

Hambleton Parish Council  
02 Sept 2024; 7.30pm; Hambleton Village Hall

PRESENT:

Cllr Encke (Chair); Cllr Silcock; Cllr Clarke & Cllr Daly (left the room 9.02pm; returned 9.16pm).

In Attendance:

Mrs Joanna Tester (Clerk); Cllr Lee (WCC; left 8.08pm); Cllr Wallace (WCC & HCC; arrived 8.15pm; left 8.50pm) & Jan Jarvie (FAG).

Meeting started at 7.32pm

Item No.	Item	Discussion & Decision	Action
2401	Acknowledgements	Councillors paused and remembered in silence the contributions of Richard Clarke and all other villagers who have passed away since the last meeting.	
2402	Apologies	Apologies received and accepted from Cllrs Hand & Lamb.  Apologies also received from Cllr White (WCC) & PCSO Steph Wheeler-Osman; & for arriving late to the meeting from Cllr Wallace (WCC & HCC).	
2403	Disclosable pecuniary interests	Cllrs Daly declared an interest in item 2416, relating to SDNP/24/03162/HOUS, and will therefore not comment or vote on this planning application.	
2404	Requests for dispensations	None received.	
2405	Public questions & comments	Standing orders suspended for maximum 10 mins. There were no members of the public in attendance.	
2406	Resume standing orders	Agreed.	
2407	District councillor's report & questions arising	Report received (Appendix A). Additional discussion around the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) consultation.</li> <li>• WCC Local Plan consultation.</li> <li>• SDNP Local Plan consultation - running in parallel with WCC LP but circa 2 years behind.</li> <li>• Consultation opening regarding new secondary school in Whiteley.</li> <li>• Community grants - details to follow.</li> <li>• Deadline for switch to digital landlines has been delayed to 2027.</li> <li>• Infrastructure needs addressing before more houses built.</li> </ul>	

2408	County councillor's report & questions arising	<p>Report received (Appendix B). Additional discussion around the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Future Services consultations - meetings start next week. Decision Oct 14th 2024. Cuts will only go part of the way in tackling the deficit. Three main issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 18% cut in real-terms funding</li> <li>• Adult services costs have risen significantly</li> <li>• Costs for special-needs children's services have risen significantly (due to changes in policy etc.)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Rob Humby has stepped down from HCC. Bi-election in Bishops Waltham division likely to take place soon.</li> <li>• Live-Labs 2 Project starting soon. Lower energy requirements therefore more eco-friendly. Cllr Wallace will try to arrange for the team to come out and talk to the PC about the project.</li> <li>• Ditch at BP outlet - FAG remains concerned despite recent work by HCC removing silt from the BP outlet. Why was the PC not notified? Cllr Wallace has chased them about ditch bank issues but not heard back. Will chase again. EA has to sign off work undertaken by HCC.</li> <li>• Who are HCC's partners for Solar Together group-buying scheme? Cllr Wallace to find out.</li> </ul>	
2409	Flood Action Group	<p>Report received (Appendix C). Additional discussion around the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Succession planning &amp; support for JJ. Currently, good support for urgent help, especially on East St.</li> <li>• First meeting of FAG will be beginning of Oct.</li> <li>• Last Wed - silt being removed from BP at OFTR end (estimated at 17 tonnes).</li> </ul>	
2410	Mins of previous meetings (01/07/24)	Agreed as a true record.	
2411	Clerk's progress report	<p>Parish Lengthsman Agreement Remaining visits for 2024/25: 08/11/24; &amp; 06/02/25.</p> <p>Flooding @ bottom of Bury Lodge Lane - no update.</p> <p>Large puddle on pavement outside 13 West St/The Cross Tree. HH reported back 'no maintenance work required'. No update.</p> <p>WCC work at The Gardens. Work has been completed. Awaiting road name sign from JK Engineering (due to be completed w/c 26/08/24).</p> <p>Southern Water issues - meeting took place 26/04/24. Draft report sent 01/05/24 to councillors and SW attendees. No response from SW. Chased 29/05/24. No response. Chased 27/06/24. No response. New contact appears to be Jess Hanman (Stakeholder Engagement Manager). Awaiting clarification re possible site visit to look at damaged verges etc on Fareham Road. [UPDATE: meeting this Friday, 2pm.]</p> <p>Flooding on road near Kings Rest - reported to HH 13/10/23. Response 'could not locate defect'. Likely that they visited when there was no road flooding but didn't look into the cause of previous flooding. Suggest wait for next flooding, take photos &amp; re-submit.</p> <p>Damaged bollards at East St pinch-point - two of the three bollards have been replaced with narrow, non-reflective posts. Contact name of Tracey Webb (HCC) has been provided by Cllr Wallace. Clerk has made contact &amp; provided photo of bollards &amp; DfT advisory notice (29/08/24). Awaiting response. [Cllr Wallace confirmed that Tracey has obtained reflectors and will be in touch to arrange fitting.]</p>	

2411 cont.	Clerk's progress report cont.	<p>Two more bollards (on opposite pinch-point) have been run into and damaged. Reported online to HH. These have been concreted back in. Remove from report.</p> <p>Remembrance Sunday - agenda item 2427.</p> <p>Big Pipe outlet ditch - e-mail sent to HH (via Cllr Lumby) re condition of ditch banks. Paula Edwards advised that Geotech team have already conducted site visit; report to be provided to PC idc. Chased 29/05/24.</p> <p>Blocked gullies opposite OFTR - reported to HH online (build-up of debris inhibiting drainage of water spilling out of SW manhole covers). Response was that the issue was SW's and had been passed on.</p> <p>Useful/Emergency Info Leaflets - WCC Small Grant fund awarded £150. Clerk to take forward when time allows.</p> <p>SDNPA CIL Funding - CiL application submitted. Brief details as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £24k.</li> <li>• To cover 50% of stage 1 costs of BASS proposed measures (entrance gates; planting; HGV access signs; speed limit signs; &amp; associated HCC traffic orders).</li> <li>• Outcome not expected until autumn 2024 earliest.</li> </ul> <p>[UPDATE: application has not been successful. Remove from report.]</p> <p>Annual playground inspections -annual playground inspection report - copy sent to JH Tree Services. Work has been completed. Remove from report.</p> <p>Auto Speedwatch device - Hambledon Speedwatch data (from inception) has been requested from Group. Awaiting response.</p> <p>Hambledon Walks Booklet - advice has been requested from Derrick Whapshott re demand for hard-copy booklets; &amp; indication of whether Walking Group would be able to help with walking the routes and checking that existing info (on PC website) is still accurate. Awaiting meeting - Cllr to volunteer to take the lead.</p> <p>Tennis Court Notice Board - Cllr Clarke to update. [UPDATE: purchase in progress.]</p>	
2412	Conclusion of audit	<b>Resolved:</b> that the PC approves the annual return, including the external auditor certificate for y/e 31/03/24.	
2413	Bank account	<b>Bank balance @ 30/06/24 - £39,223.59</b> (Cllrs have been provided with bank statements 175, 02 July 2024 to 01 Aug 2024; and 176, 02 Aug 2024 to 01 Sept 2024.)	
2414	Grant Application - Hambledon VH	<b>Resolved:</b> that the PC has approved a grant request from Hambledon VH for £640.00 to assist with grounds maintenance. (Amended from £600.00 on the agenda.)	Clerk

2415	Payment of accounts	<p><b>Mrs J C Tester Clerk salary (July 2024) £923.50</b></p> <p><b>NEST Clerk pension (July 2024) £75.14</b></p> <p><b>Mrs J C Tester Clerk salary (Aug 2024) £923.50</b></p> <p><b>NEST Clerk pension (Aug 2024) £75.14</b></p> <p><b>Mrs J C Tester Expenses - printer paper £5.00</b></p> <p><b>Hambledon Village Hall Hall hire July 2024 £32.50</b></p> <p><b>Biffa Recycling bin collection July 2024 £49.82</b></p> <p><b>Biffa Recycling bin collection Aug 2024 £49.82</b></p> <p><b>JH Tree Services Ltd Additional work at VH play area £185.40</b></p> <p><b>JH Tree Services Ltd Village maintenance July 2024 £375.00</b></p> <p><b>JH Tree Services Ltd Village maintenance Aug 2024 £375.00</b></p> <p><b>BDO External audit for 2023/24 £378.00</b></p> <p><b>Ava Recreation Ltd Stewarts Green play equipment £30,000.00</b></p> <p><b>Nigel Foster Expenses for EV Hambledon Greening event at The Vine June 2024 £25.15</b></p> <p><b>Nigel Foster Expenses for Hambledon Greening - plans of Glebeland (Savills) £52.55</b></p> <p><b>JAF Graphics Ltd Children Playing safety sign £51.00</b></p> <p><b>Arthur J Gallagher Insurance Brokers Ltd Additional premium for SG play equipment £47.73</b></p> <p><b>Moritz Flohr Tennis Coaching (July 2024) £80.00</b></p> <p><b>Alfie Godwin-Hudson Tennis Coaching (Aug 2024) £60.00</b></p> <p><b>(note: this is an amendment to the listing on the agenda of £20.00)</b></p> <p><b>Moritz Flohr Tennis Coaching (Aug 2024) £20.00</b></p>	Clerk
2416	Planning applications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SDNP/24/03074/FUL - Weaverlands, West Street, Hambledon, Hampshire, PO7 4SN. Retrospective planning permission for the continued use of outbuilding as ancillary domestic accommodation. [NO OBJECTION. However, the PC is keen to see conditions in place that ensure that the outbuilding remains ancillary to the main house and is at no point allowed to become an independent, self-contained dwelling.]</li> <li>• SDNP/24/03162/HOUS - 3 Park Farm Cottages, East Street, Hambledon, Hampshire, PO7 4SB. Proposed demolition of single storey utility room and the construction of a two storey rear extension containing a utility room and bathroom and a single storey orangery. [NO OBJECTION.]</li> <li>• SDNP/24/03222/HOUS &amp; SDNP/24/03223/LIS - The Cross Tree, West Street, Hambledon, Hampshire, PO7 4SN. Remedial work, work to existing windows &amp; doors, work to improve environmental sustainability, and single storey rear extension and alterations (including partial garage conversion) to Grade II listed house. [SUPPORT.]</li> <li>• SDNP/24/03316/CND - Teglease Farm House, Teglease Farm Lane, Hambledon, Hampshire, PO7 4TE. Variation of condition 2 of planning application SDNP/21/06389/FUL. [NO OBJECTION.]</li> </ul>	

2416 cont.	Planning applications cont.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SDNP/24/03534/LIS - 2 West Street, Hambledon, Hampshire, PO7 4RW. It is proposed to install the Ohme Pod EV Charging Unit... [NO OBJECTION.]</li> <li>• SDNP/24/03127/TCA - Sawyers Lodge, Menslands Lane, Hambledon, Hampshire, PO7 4SR. T1 Yew Tree - crown reduce up to 2 meters to suitable growth points on over extended parts of the canopy. Crown raise up to 3.5m up from ground level. Create clearance and remove overhang away from building. Reason for work - the tree is within close proximity to the house and this will maintain the tree and stop further encroachment over the building. G1 Conifers and Yew - Reduce height in 2 x coniferous trees on right by around half in height approx 6 meters. Reduce height in 1 x small yew tree on left by approx one third in height down by approx 2.5m. Reason for Works - to allow more light into the bottom of the garden and vegetable patch. These trees were originally a hedge that has not been maintained in a very long time so they are now trees. This will convert them back to a large hedge. [NO COMMENTS.]</li> </ul>	Clerk
2417	Planning apps received after 27/08/24	SDNP/24/02312/FUL(Amended) - Bat And Ball, Hyden Farm Lane, Clanfield, Hampshire, PO8 0UB. Timber pavilion and Indian sandstone paving. [NO OBJECTION.]	
2418	Planning decisions	Noted.	
2419	BASS WG	No report received & no verbal updates given.	
2420	Street name signs - JK Engineering	<b>Resolved:</b> that the PC has approved the increase in cost per sign from £600.00 to £1030.00 (due to proportionate increases in costs of materials and overheads etc. since the price was agreed in 2021).	
2421	Tennis WG	No report received this month. Clerk advised the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FL has handed over responsibility of managing coaches &amp; ClubSpark admin (to the Clerk as an interim measure).</li> <li>• No volunteers have yet come forward to take on the running of the court hence, in the absence of a safeguarding-trained and DBS-checked co-ordinator, councillors agreed that children's coaching should be put on hold until this can be rectified. Clerk to inform coaches and Village of this decision. To be re-considered at the Oct PC meeting.</li> </ul>	Clerk
2422	Tennis court maintenance & repairs	<b>Resolved:</b> that the PC has considered the report from the Clerk regarding recommended court maintenance and repairs, and approves the following work to be undertaken in the spring, 2025: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Surface cleaning, binding &amp; repairs, &amp; colour coating: circa £3k. Clerk to seek two further quotes and book best value for money.</li> <li>• Purchase of net: currently £181 + delivery (Vermont 3.5mm DT Championship Tennis 42ft ITF Regulation Net; Amazon)</li> </ul>	Clerk
2423	Bench repairs	<b>Resolved:</b> that the PC waits for a response from Hambledon Manshed members regarding repair of the bench in the VH grounds, and routine maintenance work on two benches in the VH grounds and three within/around the tennis court. If they agree to take on the work, then the PC will cover all material costs. If unable to do the work, the Clerk is authorised to accept the quotation of £408.00 + VAT received from JH Tree services.	Clerk

2424	Play & Playgrounds Re-vamp WG	No report received. Clerk commented as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stewarts Green play equipment - completed.</li> <li>• Tarmac/tiles under junior swings &amp; some play equipment at VH requires cleaning/moss treatment. Quote received from Absolute Cleaning - £325 + VAT. PC <b>resolved</b> that this quote should be accepted &amp; the work carried out asap.</li> </ul>	Clerk
2425	Hambledon Greening WG	Report received (Appendix D).	
2426	Portrait of HM King Charles III	<b>Resolved:</b> that the PC agrees to store the portrait of HM King Charles III in the Meeting Room of the VH, given that the VH Committee has formally requested that it is not displayed permanently in the VH.	
2427	Remembrance Sunday	<b>Resolved:</b> that the PC has agreed upon plans for Remembrance Sunday Nov 2024 as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cllr Clarke, and Clerk (via resident), both to continue pursuing leads for a bugler.</li> <li>• Tenacity marching band unable to attend this year.</li> <li>• Even if no bugler/band available, Scout procession will still take place from VH to the War Memorial, as per previous years.</li> </ul>	Cllr Clarke/ Clerk
2428	Reports & Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Correspondence received from resident regarding poor mobile phone coverage in the Village. Clerk contacted Danny Chambers MP. Response as follows: ‘Dr Chambers has written to the Minister at the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology to urge action to improve signal and speed up full fibre broadband installation. We are waiting for their reply.’</li> <li>• Correspondence received from resident regarding HCC’s policy on using chemical weed-killers along the road edge on Church Lane. Clerk has written to Cllr Wallace (HCC) to ask for clarification as to whether residents could take this on and use non-chemical methods. Awaiting response.</li> </ul>	
2429	Date/time of next meeting	• Mon 7th Oct 2024 at Hambledon VH; 7.30pm.	
2430	Confidential matters	No members of the public were in attendance.	
2431	Co-option of PC Members	<b>Resolved:</b> that the Clerk should, given that no new applications for the vacant position have been received, re advertise and place on the agenda for the Oct 2024 PC meeting.	Clerk

**The meeting closed at 9.47pm**

**Signed:**

**Cllr Encke (Chair)**

**Dated:**

**Signed:**

**Joanna Tester (Clerk)**

**Dated:**



**Winchester City Council (WCC) - New Local Plan**

Local Plans are a key component of the planning system. They shape how land use and places will change and develop in the future. Since the adoption of the previous Winchester Local Plan, there has been a range of new evidence to support the development of a new plan. The new Local Plan is an opportunity to set out a new vision and framework for future development of the district (which lies outside the South Downs National Park) up to 2040. Feedback from the new draft Local Plan public consultation (Regulation 18) in Autumn 2022 has now moved our emerging new [Local Plan](#) to the next phase of the process - Proposed Submission Local Plan (Regulation 19). An earlier date for the [Cabinet Cttee on 19 August 2024](#) means our Reg 19 Plan can be consulted on and submitted for examination prior to any changes which may arise as a result of the government's new consultation into proposed changes to the National Planning Policy Framework. To register to speak at the Cabinet Cttee meeting please [complete this form](#), or contact WCC democratic services team on 01962 848 235 by 5pm on Tuesday 13 August. The papers for this meeting will be published on Friday (9 August.) The draft Local Plan (Reg 19) will then go to Full Council on 28 August 2024 before a final public consultation that closes on 13 Oct 2024. These events are a further two opportunities for the public to comment on the draft Local Plan before its mid-Nov submission to the Secretary of State for a Local Plan Examination. The aim is for the adopted Local Plan to replace the current Local Plan in advance of any new Planning requirements from the current National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) consultation (see below).

**National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) consultation**

The Government is currently consulting on the National Planning Policy Framework. It covers aspects such as revising the standard method for calculating housing need, broadening the definition of brownfield land, supporting clean energy, and identifying grey belt land amongst several others. [You can read more on their website](#) The consultation closes at 11.45pm on Tuesday 24 September 2024 - [visit their website to see how to respond](#).

**South Downs National Park Local Plan review**

The process has commenced to update the current SDNP Local Plan. It runs on a completely different timetable to the Winchester Local Plan review.

Please see the PID (Project Initiation Document) for consultation under our [Key Information & Project Documents](#).

Please see links to SDNP surveys below:

- [Surveys for the scope of the local plan](#)
- [Youth surveys from 13 – 25-year-olds](#)
- [Map Contributions](#)
- [Key issues and documents contributions](#)

It's important to give SDNP your views by completing the surveys linked above in order to help shape development in the South Downs, both for residents that live in the Park, and visitors that enjoy its amenities and benefits. Survey will take 10 to 15 minutes. Please also share this message with as many people as possible. The current consultation on the scope of the plan and how people want to be involved closes on 16 September. There will be a further consultation of the first draft of the plan early next year.

Have you got any events you would like to see SDNP Planners at? Any queries? – please contact [planningpolicy@southdowns.gov.uk](mailto:planningpolicy@southdowns.gov.uk)

**Update to waste services**

There are some changes to waste and recycling rounds and bins collections planned for Autumn 2024. These are to improve the service, make it more efficient and to get ready for the future waste collections that have to be implemented by 2026. The launch of the new routes will be on 7th October. New bin collection calendars and letters informing residents of the changes will be sent out w/c 9th September. The one new electric waste collection vehicle will be used on different routes, as part of a District wide trial. We will be notified when it will be in our area.

## **Playing Pitch Strategy and Sports Facilities Needs Assessment**

Winchester City Council are in the process of reviewing and updating our Playing Pitch Strategy and Sports Facilities Needs Assessment to inform future priorities until 2040 and support the emerging Local Plan 2020-2040. The Council have commissioned Continuum Sport and Leisure to develop these documents on our behalf. The purpose of the review and update is:

- 1) To identify the extent to which the quantity, quality, location, and accessibility of sports facilities in the district meet the needs of the community.
- 2) To identify and prioritise any required investment that will address existing and future deficiencies in sport/leisure provision.

The first phase of this work is to consult with clubs, parishes and facility providers regarding their sports provision alongside undertaking site visits to inspect facilities. This initial phase of work will conclude in December so that work crosses over between the summer and winter sport seasons. Consultees will be contacted directly by continuum on behalf of the council. The updated reports will be available from Spring / Summer 2025. For any further information, please contact Laura Jones, [ljones@winchester.gov.uk](mailto:ljones@winchester.gov.uk)

## **Cultural Strategy update**

Having attended a recent Makers' Market in Droxford, it is hoped we can set up a focus group meet-up of local creatives with Wendy Wyatt, creative business consultant from Winchester. We can discuss how the cultural strategy could help creatives in the Meon Valley. Some local village halls are keen to try and make more use of their spaces so we hope to share ideas on how we can improve access to the arts in our villages. Culture and creativity consultation is on-going until the end of the year: <https://winchester.citizenspace.com/economy-and-arts/creativity-in-winchester/>

## **'Spaces of Sanctuary' training**

There is EDI training available from Winchester City Council for community-minded businesses and organisations (including parish councils) to join the 'Spaces of Sanctuary' project.

Providing a space of sanctuary allows people to access support and guidance where they will be treated with respect and without prejudice.

To find out more, email: [communities@winchester.gov.uk](mailto:communities@winchester.gov.uk)

## **Residents' Survey**

Winchester City Council are working with independent researchers [Lake Market Research Ltd](#) to carry out a doorstep survey of 1,600 residents across the district. The survey is all about gathering our residents' opinions of the council and our services, as well as the area where they live and what they think we should focus on improving in the future.

Interviewers will be out in the district asking residents for their views between 10 July until 8 September 2024. They will also be running a separate Young Persons' survey where people aged 18 to 24 will be interviewed to understand their views and opinions about the district.

## **Grants**

Go Greener Faster- opens on 1<sup>st</sup> August

To support not-for-profit organisations to act in response to the climate emergency. Grants of between £5,000 and £10,000 are available and organisations are required to secure a minimum of 25% of the total project cost in match funding from other sources. A webinar is running on 1st August at 11a.m. to help prospective applicants learn about the application process:

<https://www.winchester.gov.uk/grants-for-not-for-profit-organisations/go-greener-faster-grant>

District Small Grant Scheme information

The grant scheme mentions a one-time expenditure on projects aimed at reaching more people and trying something new.

The Grant Scheme will close for applications on 28 February 2025, or earlier if it's fully allocated.

<https://www.winchester.gov.uk/grants-for-not-for-profit-organisations/small-grant-scheme>

## **Police and Crime consultation – closes 19<sup>th</sup> August**

The Police and Crime Commissioner, Donna Jones, is continuing to call on residents to help inform her next Police and Crime Plan. The document will set the strategic direction for Hampshire and Isle of Wight



Constabulary for the next four years until 2028. The PCC launched the public consultation for the new plan on June 10 and it will close one month from today on August 19. The survey has already received 4,020 responses from members of the public. <https://www.hampshire-pcc.gov.uk/>

## APPENDIX B

**Hampshire County Councillor Report Sept 2024**  
Cllr Malcolm Wallace ([malcolm.wallace@hants.gov.uk](mailto:malcolm.wallace@hants.gov.uk))

### **Solar Together – HCC’s Group Buy Scheme for Solar Energy**

The solar energy group-buying scheme enables residents to invest in solar panels for their homes, fitted by pre-vetted installers, to reduce reliance on the national grid and lower their energy bills, as well as boost local renewable energy generation.

Through Solar Together, over 28,400 solar panels have already been installed in Hampshire – it is estimated that these installations alone will reduce carbon emissions by 59,205 tonnes over 25 years – equivalent to taking over 32,600 cars off the road during the same period.

Those interested need to register online at [www.hants.gov.uk/solartogether](http://www.hants.gov.uk/solartogether) by 18 October for a free and without obligation quote.

### **Life’s Better by Bike**

To help encourage people to get around on two wheels, the County Council has created a one-stop-shop website with everything you’ve ever wanted to know about cycling in Hampshire.

The new website ([www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/publichealth/lifesbetterbybike](http://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/publichealth/lifesbetterbybike)) has lots of useful content for seasoned cyclists as well as anyone new to cycling, with information on:

- journey planning,
- bikeability courses – to help develop your confidence to ride on the road,
- dedicated cycling routes in the countryside,
- access to cycling groups, where you can meet likeminded people,
- inclusive cycling options for people with disabilities, and
- top tips to help new cyclists get started.

### **Outstanding Rating Continues for Hampshire’s Children’s Services**

Children in Hampshire continue to benefit from strong and effective services that make a positive difference to their lives. This is one of the key headline findings from Hampshire County Council’s latest full Ofsted inspection, which has rated its Children’s Services outstanding for the second consecutive time since 2019

In a consistently positive report, Ofsted has described the timely and robust practice of social workers and other practitioners who ensure that children are kept safe and that they and their families receive appropriate and effective support to meet their individual needs. The news comes following a recent outstanding Ofsted rating for Swanwick Lodge, the County Council’s secure children’s home which provides safe and specialist support for the most vulnerable children and young people.

### **Make attendance top of the ‘back to school’ checklist for 2024/25**

Rates of school attendance have continued to improve in Hampshire but as with other local authority areas across the country, they remain below the levels typically seen before the Covid-19 pandemic. Latest figures show that 93.4% of sessions were attended by Hampshire pupils in the 2023/24 school year compared to 95.5% in 2018/19, the last full school year before the Covid-19 pandemic.

Educational specialists advise that attending school every day, unless unwell, is best for children to ensure that the solid foundations for their future education and employment can be laid. It is also one of the best ways of supporting a child’s mental and physical health.

### **Hampshire’s Country Parks win prestigious Green Flag Awards once again**

Lepe, River Hamble, Royal Victoria, Queen Elizabeth, and Staunton Country Parks have all once again regained Green Flag status for their excellent facilities and amazing outdoor spaces.

The Green Flag Award scheme, managed by environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy under licence from the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government, recognises and rewards well-managed parks and green spaces, setting the benchmark standard for the management of green spaces across the United Kingdom and around the world. Each of Hampshire’s five country parks offers something unique:

- Lepe Country Park on the coast of the New Forest offers a café and visitor centre boasting views of the Solent and Isle of Wight, a sensory garden and fantastic coastal and countryside walks.
- Queen Elizabeth Country Park, near Petersfield, is Hampshire's biggest Country Park with more than 2,000 acres of woodland and downland – it has an emphasis on outdoor pursuits, offering a range of attractions for

cyclists. The park's visitor centre has been recently transformed to include a bigger restaurant, more welcoming entrance, and outdoor sheltered area.

- Royal Victoria Country Park sits on the shores of Southampton Water, near Netley. The refurbishment of its historic Chapel, the only remaining part of what was once the world's largest military hospital of its time, provides a popular historic attraction for visitors. The park also now also boasts a restaurant serving hand-made pizzas, in an historic restored building.
- River Hamble Country Park, near Bursledon, offers a wide range of walking, cycling and horse-riding routes in the woods and along the banks of the River Hamble. The Barn visitor hub includes a café, outdoor play for all ages and trails for families.
- Staunton Country Park, near Havant, offers the perfect venue for keen walkers, cyclists and anglers. The Country Park has a visitor centre where you can discover all about the history of the Country Park and a tearoom in the Victorian Coachhouse. The Regency landscape has been restored with follies, exotic trees and shrubs, and a beautiful walled garden.

### **HCC's Latest Figures show 37% Increase in Annual Road Repairs**

An unprecedented number of potholes and road defects have been fixed across a 12-month period, according to the latest figures from Hampshire County Council. From April 2023 to April 2024, 180,909 repairs were delivered, marking a 37 per cent increase. Councillor Lulu Bowerman, the County Council's Cabinet Member for Highways and Waste said: "We understand that potholes remain a significant concern for Hampshire's residents, impacting daily journeys and overall satisfaction whether travelling to work, school, running a business or enjoying all our county has to offer. "One year ago, we allocated an additional £22.5 million to tackle this issue and make our roads stronger. This two-year investment is enabling us to deploy more resources dedicated to promptly fixing potholes, addressing the damage caused by cycles of wet and freezing winter weather. Our latest figures show that repairs have increased by 37 per cent, compared to the previous 12 months\*, demonstrating that this investment is paying dividends.

"With unprecedented volumes of potholes being reported to us, Hampshire isn't alone in facing the challenge of keeping local roads in a good condition. The impact of colder, wetter winters takes a heavy toll on the roads, and higher costs due to inflation means that every year we must make our budget stretch further – for example, it now costs the taxpayer around 44% more to repair a pothole. "Over the summer months, our highways teams will continue to make the most of the money we have available, and the generally drier, warmer days to support our priority focus on fixing large numbers of potholes, applying surface treatments to smooth our highways, and undertaking road maintenance on larger stretches of road across the county." Road defects and potholes can be reported to the County Council's highways team online or by using the OurHants app, downloadable from a mobile phone's app store.

### **Funding for Completion of Botley Bypass Agreed**

In July, Hampshire County Council's Cabinet agreed to increase the scheme budget by more than £16 million. The additional funding is needed to meet the significant rise in construction and materials costs due to inflation as well as to allow for further adjustments to be made to the final scheme design to address challenging ground conditions that were discovered during the preparation stage. The final phase creates a new road from Winchester Street (eastwards), crossing the River Hamble to a new roundabout at the A334/A3051 junction. New and improved footways and cycleways will be provided as part of the project. Construction is expected to begin in spring 2025 and be completed in 2027.

### **Next Step for Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan**

At its meeting on 18 July the full County Council approved the submission of Hampshire's Minerals and Waste Plan's Partial Update to the Government Planning Inspectorate for scrutiny.

Examination of the Plan is the final stage of the plan making process. The Planning Inspectorate's examination will include public hearings to discuss the issues raised, through representations. This can involve people participating through written representation or appearing at the hearing(s).

#### *Why a Minerals and Waste Plan is needed for Hampshire*

Having an up-to-date Plan in place is the best way to ensure that minerals and waste operations fully consider the character and special qualities of Hampshire and will not adversely impact communities or the local environment. Not having an up-to-date Plan in place would make Hampshire vulnerable to having sites imposed by Government planning inspectors, losing the opportunity to ensure locally relevant matters are considered when sites come forward for minerals or waste development. The Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan is evidence-based and is in line with national planning policy. The local policies contained within the Plan guide the decisions that each of the five minerals and waste planning authorities make when determining planning applications for minerals extraction or waste infrastructure and operations.

#### *Identified sites are subject to local planning permission scrutiny*

Any site identified in the final Plan still requires operators to apply for permission in the usual way, taking account of all the environmental considerations and assessing the impact on the local community and area, including undertaking consultation with stakeholders. Land identified would be released only if it is needed,

and the planning application fully satisfies the stringent criteria and other tests set out in the Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan.

### **Grant Opportunities**

Several grant opportunities have just re-opened:

#### **• Leader's Community Grants**

- The purpose of the scheme is to fund one-off, time limited projects which provide community benefit and help local communities thrive; and help local organisations become financially self-supporting and not reliant on public sector funding.
- Applications can be made for over £1,000 up to a maximum of £25,000 and may be for activity costs, a specific project and/or capital costs.
- Scheme is NOT open to parish/town councils or commercial organisations

#### **• Rural Communities Fund**

- The Fund provides support under the following four areas:
  1. Climate Change Resilience (to include Flood Alleviation)
  2. Countryside
  3. Rural Economy and Business (to include Rural Retailers)
  4. Other – we are keen to support other projects or initiatives that will help build community resilience and/or encourage self-help in rural areas
- Typically fund up to a maximum of £5,000 as part of a match-funded scheme

#### **• Parish and Town Council Investment Fund**

- The priority of this fund is to support partnerships between local communities and the County Council. It will provide pump priming investments to pilot new schemes which respond to local needs and the growing pressure on County Council Services.
- There are three primary areas available for investments:
  1. Capital Funding: £1,000 to £30,000 for schemes which enhance existing or provide new infrastructure and equipment to support a local community, including energy efficiency grants
  2. Meeting local needs: Usually for investments of £1,000 to £30,000 in schemes that enable local communities to be more resilient. For example, schemes which encourage 'neighbourliness' in tackling social isolation or in the management of community assets.
  3. Training: Investments up to £10,000 provide appropriate training in the local community.

#### **• County Councillor Grants**

- Groups and organisations can apply for funding for both revenue (one-off) and minor capital projects. Revenue grants should generally be used to support short term project related costs.
- It is expected that the grants will benefit a wide range of groups/activities: for example, vulnerable children or adults, young people, facilities for older people, community facilities, parish councils (but only for specific projects), schools' minor traffic or safety works, local environment projects, and community safety.
- The 2023/24 County Councillor grant scheme is open until 29 February 2024.

More details about each of these grants is available on the County Council website.

## **APPENDIX C**

## **FAG Report Sept 2024**

### **Overview**

We are rapidly approaching the 2024/25 Flooding Season with the review of the previous 23/24 history so far, and what the Hambledon Pariah Council (HPC) would like to see included within our planning activities. The main headline is the widening scope of the Flooding Season due to the changing weather conditions over a full year cycle, and not just the usual four months focus. We've had record rain fall totals, high wind velocities, tropical storms, and the unpredictable effects of climate change. However, we can take pleasure in the reviewing the data since 2014, as there has been no appreciable pumping out required since that last encounter ten years ago. It does look as though the installation of the Big Pipe (BP), along with the large number of new gullies has made a difference. However, the Flood Action Group (FAG) will still need to provide information on the possible measures required by villagers with the emerging changes and any surprises. This will be included in the piece for the Hambledonian, which will appear in the middle of the former "Flooding Season." The FAG will continue to provide the periodic updates to the Properties that Flood, and maintain contact with the Environment Agency (EA), and other information agencies, along with regular monitoring of the aquifer levels that serve as one of the warnings of probable sewerage problems.

### **Risks – Our Planning Dependencies**

There has been some activity with regard to the maintenance of flood defences associated with the BP and its attached systems. Hampshire County Council (HCC) has employed a contractor (Conway) to remove some of the silt and debris from the pipe and the catchment basin, as reported by the manager of the Old Forge Tea Room (OFTR). This was described as hauling away over 17 tons of material. Portions of this effort required

conning-off sections of the B 2150, causing distress to the business as there was no parking available. As of this writing there is still a great amount of material in the bottom of the catchment basin; the dam and ditch remain almost totally blocked with the untouched build-up of earth and vegetation; the banks have not been cleared; the hedge along the B 2150 is still over-grown, and the verge has had no attention, even though HCC has the onerous to keep it clear as its owner. Insofar as the OFTR understands, no further effort is forthcoming. This needs to be followed up by the HPC as a matter of urgency given the slow speed of HCC and their lack of maintenance updates.

There has been the usual paucity of information from Southern Water with respect to published promises, scheduled maintenance or upgrades to the sewerage systems, and the Bury Lodge Pumping Station. From the available predictions for 2025 and 2026, funding appears to be unavailable to correct the ongoing failures, and the reports from OFWAT are very discouraging, as well.

Please feel free to contact the FAG with questions, recommendations or your thoughts as to how we can better serve the village, and support the HPC.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jan Jarvie, Flood Action Group

## **APPENDIX D**

### **HAMBLEDON GREENING WG REPORT Sept 2024 Dr Penny Mahon (Secretary of Hambledon Greening Campaign)**

#### **Repair Café and Recycling:**

- There was no Repair Cafe in August. The next one at Denmead is Sept 21<sup>st</sup> 1-4pm and the next in Hambledon is October 19<sup>th</sup>, 10-12pm.

#### **Retrofit:**

- We are building a good list of people willing to come and speak about their solar panels for our 'speed-dating' event in The Vine on Wednesday Sept 25<sup>th</sup>.
- We are discussing the possibility of another retrofit surgery for historic homes after the success of the one run in March. Penny will be writing to 2 of the speakers from that session and suggest a date early in 2025 for another surgery.

#### **Biodiversity:**

- We now have a new National Trust Area Ranger for Nature Recovery looking after Speltham Hill called Sophie Bradfield. She has kindly offered to come to our Greening Fair with some volunteers to present information on their new project 'Reimagining a Hampshire Estate' and will be encouraging people to join them in tree-planting this autumn. We are also in the process of selecting another date for a further flora survey of Speltham Down in late September.
- We are currently preparing our section of the business plan re the use of North Glebeland.

#### **WeCAN event:**

- Penny attended the WeCAN celebration event on 11<sup>th</sup> July in Winchester and did a brief presentation using six A3 posters that have been designed as a focus of our achievements over the past year. Those have been added to the revamped WeCAN Knowledge Hub. It was good to meet other eco-groups to share good practice. The new SDNPA climate officer Sara Osman did a presentation and wants to contact and support all WeCAN groups. She will be attending the Hambledon Greening Fair to find out more about what HGC is doing.

#### **Hambledon Summer Show:**

- HGC had a stall as usual at the Summer Show with a focus on recycling. Several new supporters were encouraged to sign up. We now have 141 villagers on our mailing list.

#### **Greening Festival: Sat Sept 14<sup>th</sup> (2-5pm)**

- Plans for the Festival are shaping well and HGC and Hambledon Eco-Church have gathered together a wide range of participants. We warmly invite all Parish Council members to come along and see what is on offer!

We are grateful as always for your support.