



DRAFT MINUTES

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

PRESENT:

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

In Attendance:

Mrs Joanna Tester (Clerk); Cllr Lee (WCC; left 8.34pm); Cllr White (WCC; left 8.28pm); Cllr Wallace (WCC & HCC; arrived 8.16pm; left 8.34pm); Jan Jarvie (FAG); & one member of the public.

Meeting started at 7.31pm

Item No.	Item	Discussion & Decision	Action
2461	Acknowledgements	Councillors paused and remembered in silence the contributions of all villagers who have passed away since the last meeting.	
2462	Apologies	Apologies received from PCSO Wheeler-Osman.	
2463	Disclosable pecuniary interests	None.	
2464	Requests for dispensations	None received.	
2465	Public questions & comments	Standing orders suspended for maximum 10 mins. No questions were received from members of the public.	
2466	Resume standing orders	Agreed.	
2467	District councillor's report & questions arising	Report received (Appendix A). Additional discussion around the following: • Police and Crime Plan 2024–2028 has been approved. • Consultations. • Possibility of SDNPA introducing a significant fee for planning applications relating to habitable building for a new build on any land within the SDNP. WCC councillors to investigate. • Future landscape mapping - SDNP - residents will be able to use a mapping system to look at suitable locations for reusable energy systems. • Hedge-laying course - WCC councillors to send info to Clerk. • 12/11/24 Winchester info course to give more info the training courses currently on offer.	

2468	County councillor's report & questions arising	Report received (Appendix B). Additional discussion around the following: • Funding cuts. Highways maintenance - will have as much money as had last year, just coming out of different pots. Winter services will be looking at routes that are currently de-iced. May affect locally - Cllr Wallace to report back when info available. • Weed killing (Church Lane) - response from HCC 30/10/24 was that not responsible for this issue and has forwarded it to a third party for action. • Tracey Webb - may have been off work hence lack of response. Cllr Wallace to investigate.	
2469	Flood Action Group	Report received (Appendix C). Additional discussion around the following: • Southern Water 2024 Infiltration Reduction Plan (IRP) received from Nick Davies (new Stakeholder Engagement Manager for Hampshire, alongside Jess Hanman). • HCC management of BP & outlet ditch. JJ & cllrs discussed the content of JJ's Nov 2024 report. Concerns about wording of 2nd para under Risk 2 (... 'is nonsense...') regarding self-cleansing of BP. • Can JJ send Hambledon's flood risk assessment & plan to people who live just outside of the parish? Not at the moment as revised docs have not been approved by the PC. • Design spec of BP? Mildren will have it available. Cllr Clarke to look into. • Opportunity with new MP to arrange meeting - SW/PC/MP/ HCC & WCC councillors. • Paula Edwards has retired; looking for a replacement still - likely to be in place Dec/Jan. Would like to get this person to come to Hambledon for an on-site meeting.	Cllr Clarke
2470	Big Pipe & Outlet Ditch	Resolved: that the PC has considered if any further action is required regarding HCC maintenance of the Big Pipe and outlet ditch, and will proceed as follows: • Clerk to chase HCC action to clear the debris in the BP outlet ditch caused by the recent road traffic accident.	Clerk
2471	Mins of previous meetings (07/10/24)	Agreed as a true record.	
2472	Clerk's progress report	Parish Lengthsman Agreement - remaining visits for 2024/25: 08/11/24; & 06/02/25. Flooding @ bottom of Bury Lodge Lane - no update. Large puddle on pavement outside 13 West St/The Cross Tree - HH reported back 'no maintenance work required'. No update. 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 & 27/06/24. No response. New contact Jess Hanman (Stakeholder Engagement Manager). Site visit to look at damaged verges etc on Fareham Road conducted 06/09/24. 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 & re-submit.	

2472 cont.	Clerk's progress report cont.	Damaged bollards at East St pinch-point - two of the three bollards have been replaced with narrow, non-reflective posts. Contact has been made with Tracey Webb (HCC) via e-mail & Tracey has taken measurements for the reflective strips during site visit with Cllr Silcock 25/09. Remembrance Sunday • Scouts to attend. Not Brownies etc this year. • School has been asked to send out notice re parade/service. • PC insurers have confirmed parade is covered for no additional premium. • VH booked. • Scouts to provide refreshments (?). Big Pipe outlet ditch - agenda items 2467 & 2468. 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. Useful/Emergency Info Leaflets - WCC Small Grant fund awarded £150. Clerk to take forward when time allows. Auto Speedwatch device - Hambledon Speedwatch data (from inception) was received July 2024 but probably not containing the detail required to compare with Ampfield data. Cllr Silcock to advise. [UPDATE: awaiting response from Tracey Webb; HCC.] Hambledon Walks Booklet - Cllr Hand is corresponding with Derrick Whapshott re demand for hard-copy booklets; & 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. Agenda item 2485. Brief update as follows: Cllr Hand has traced out the routes for all 13 Hambledon web page walks on OS maps and saved them for open access. Links have been added to the walk descriptions on the PC website. Route distances are inaccurate & need correcting. Tennis Court Notice Board - Cllr Clarke to update. [UPDATE: now ready. Clerk to enquire whether Lengthsman team are able to install.] Bench Repairs - awaiting update from JH regarding date for commencement of work. [UPDATE: waiting for dry weather. Clerk has asked if possible for the broken bench at the VH to be mended asap and the remaining - less urgent - work to be carried out when weather permits.	Clerk
2473	Insurance renewal	Resolved: that the PC has approved the recommended renewal quote from Hiscox Insurance Company Ltd for the period 01/12/24 to 30/11/25. The premium (including IPT and all fees) for the year will be £1,484.34 (cf £1,258.32 for 2023/24).	Clerk
2474	Bank account	Bank balance @ 04 Nov 2024 - £59,217.62 (Cllrs have been provided with bank statement 179, 01 Oct 2024 to 31 Oct 2024.)	

2475	Payment of accounts	Mrs J C Tester Clerk salary (Oct 2024) £923.50 NEST Clerk pension (Oct 2024) £75.14 Hambledon Village Hall Hall hire Oct 2024 £32.50 Biffa Recycling bin collection Oct 2024 £49.82 JH Tree Services Ltd Village maintenance Oct 2024 £375.00 Society of Local Council Clerks Annual subscription Dec 2024 to Nov 2025 £183.00 HMRC SDDS Clerk's tax & NI £97.68 X-Net Services Ltd E-mail accounts (.gov.uk) 2024/25 £60.00 K Knight Engineering Back Lane & Glidden Lane street names signs £2,060.00 K Knight Engineering East St & Brook Lane street name signs £2,060.00 K Knight Engineering Menslands Lane street name sign £1,030.00 AJG Community Schemes Insurance premium Dec 2024 to Nov 2025 £1,484.34 Lawn Tennis Association Registration 2024/25 £70.00 Moritz Flohr Tennis Coaching (Oct 2024) £90.00 Alfie Godwin-Hudson Tennis Coaching (Oct 2024) £30.00	Clerk
2476	Planning applications	• SDNP/24/03971/CND - Hambledon Vineyard, East Street, Hambledon, Hampshire, PO7 4RY. Variation of Conditions 2 (approved drawings); 4 (Schedule of Materials); 5 (Scheme of Soft and Hard Landscaping Works); 8 (External Lighting); 10 (Detailed Drainage Strategy); 11 (Tree Protection Plan), and; 13 (Travel Plan) relating to planning approval SDNP/16/03880/FUL [NO OBJECTION.] • SDNP/24/04242/HOUS - Cowslip Cottage, Green Lane, Hambledon, Hampshire, PO7 4SX. The replacement of an existing garage outbuilding with a new garage outbuilding of the same footprint. The removal of an existing conservatory and the installation of a new roof structure to protect a proposed terrace. [NO OBJECTION.] • SDNP/24/03819/HOUS - 1 Walnut Tree Cottages, Vicarage Lane, Hambledon, Hampshire, PO7 4RW. Installation of 1 heritage roof window to service bathroom and 1 sun tunnel to provide natural light to the internal staircase both to be installed to the rear roof of the property. The window would measure 55cm width and 98cm length. The sun tunnel would measure 35.56cm in diameter. Both external facings would be in black. [NO COMMENTS. TO BE LEFT TO THE PLANNING OFFICER.] • SDNP/24/03952/TCA - Rosecroft, East Street, Hambledon, Hampshire, PO7 4SA. [NO COMMENTS.] • SDNP/24/04161/TCA - Bower Mead, West Street, Hambledon, Hampshire, PO7 4RW. T1: red berried cotoneaster. Remove 2 over extended limbs on west and south side of the tree. Crown reduce rest of the crown by up to 1m to suitable growth points. Reason for works - to maintain the tree as it is encroaching on nearby structures and becoming too big for its location. [NO COMMENTS.]	Clerk

2476 cont.	Planning applications cont.	- SDNP/24/04025/TPO - 1 New Villas, Green Lane, Hambledon, Hampshire, PO7 4SY. T1- Ash - Tree to be felled. T2- Ash - Tree to be felled. T3- Ash - Tree to be felled. All 3 trees are showing signs of Ash Dieback, trees will require climbing and dismantling due to the proximity to other TPO trees preventing a straight fell. [NO COMMENTS.] - SDNP/24/04153/TCA - The Cottage, West Street, Hambledon, Hampshire, PO7 4SN. Tree 1 Hornbeam crown reduce back to previous pruning points 2m. Tree2 Copper Beech crown reduce back to previous pruning points 1.5m. Tree3Hornbeam crown reduce back to previous pruning points 2m. All works to manage trees in location and safe guard long term health of the trees. [NO COMMENTS.]	
2477	Planning apps received after 29/10/24	SDNP/24/04594/TPO - Street Record, The Maltings, Hambledon, Hampshire. Under TPO 1243, both Lime Trees T1 & T2 have both recently been inspected by Technical Arboriculture, a professional expert on tree health. Sadly T1 has been found to have present fruiting bodies of a decaying fungus Kretzschmaria Deusta, along with degradation of a significant buttress root on the north side (B2150 & Dwelling side). [NO COMMENTS.]	
2478	Planning decisions	Noted, with the addition of: SDNP/24/03074/FUL - Weaverlands, West Street, Hambledon, Hampshire, PO7 4SN. Retrospective planning permission for the continued use of outbuilding as ancillary domestic accommodation. Approved.	
2479	BASS WG	No report received. Discussion on the following point as follows: - progress temporarily stalled due to absence of HCC officer advising/authorising work; - Clerk to ask Droxford PC Clerk for details of spec & manufacturer/installer of Droxford village entrance gates; & - Cllr Silcock to hopefully have three comparable quotes ready for consideration at the Dec PC meeting.	Clerk Cllr Silcock
2480	Tennis WG	No report received this month. Clerk advised the following: Meeting with Alice Goodwin-Hudson Wed 06/11/24 to discuss any issues with IT, 2024/25 request for subs, DBS checks etc.	
2481	Play & Playgrounds Re-vamp WG	No report received. Clerk commented as follows: VH surface/equipment cleaning completed w/c 23/09/24.	Clerk
2482	Replacement junior swings/surfacing at the Village Hall	Resolved: that the PC has discussed the potential to replace the junior swings and corresponding safety surfacing, and instructs the Clerk to appoint Ava Recreation. Specification as follows: - Vinci Play 2-seat swing in stainless steel - Heras fencing; waste removal & disposal (existing swing & rubber tiles); & welfare costs included - Black wet pour safety surfacing £6,935 + VAT total	Clerk

2483	Hambledon Greening WG	Report received (Appendix D).	
2484	Map modification request - bridleway	Resolved: that the PC agrees upon a response to HCC Countryside Services' consultation regarding an application for the route from Old Mill Lane at Scotland Farm to Dog Kennel Lane at Scotland Cottage (DMMO 1108) to be recorded as a bridleway, as follows: NO OBJECTION. Clerk to respond.	Clerk
2485	Walks booklets	Resolved: that councillors have received an update from Cllr Hand regarding walks booklets, and approve the following recommendations: • no hard-copy booklets to be produced (no clear demand); • full details to remain on PC website (including addition of links to OS maps); and • updates to be sorted by Cllr Hand and Clerk (with assistance of the Walking Group if they would like to be involved).	Cllr Hand/ Clerk
2486	Identifying barriers to walking and cycling	Resolved: that the PC agrees upon a response to HCC's engagement feedback survey aimed at identifying issues with accessibility and connectivity for walking and cycling, as follows: To be delegated to Cllr Silcock who will draft a response & e-mail to other cllrs for consideration. To be submitted once approval received from all.	Cllr Silcock
2487	Remote Attendance and Proxy Voting	Resolved: that the PC agrees upon a response to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government consultation on enabling remote attendance, and proxy voting at local authority meetings, as follows: • Remote attendance could pose significant IT challenges. • Objection to proxy voting as it appears to be contrary to the laws regarding predetermination. Much more detail required in order to make an informed decision.	
2488	Reports & Issues	None.	
2489	Date/time of next meeting	• Mon 2nd Dec 2024 at Hambledon VH; 7.30pm.	
2490	Confidential matters	No members of the public were in attendance.	
2491	Clerk's salary 2024/25	Resolved: that councillors have approved the increase (including back-pay from April to Nov 2024) in the Clerk's salary for 2024/25 as per the Local Government Services pay Agreement for 2024/25.	
2492	Co-option of PC Members	Resolved: 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 Dec 2024 PC meeting.	Clerk

The meeting closed at 9.30pm

Signed:

Cllr Encke (Chair)

Dated:

Signed:

Joanna Tester (Clerk)

Dated:

Launch of the New Police and Crime Plan 2024–2028

The Commissioner's new Police and Crime Plan 2024–2028 was formally approved by the Police and Crime Panel on 18 Oct and was officially launched on 1 Nov. The Commissioner's priorities for the next four years are based on feedback from an extensive public consultation, with over 10,300 residents contributing their views to help shape policing in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. Key areas include increasing police visibility and engagement, tackling business and retail crime, addressing rural crime, targeting serious violence and its root causes, improving road safety, and reducing anti-social behaviour. You can read or download the Police and Crime Plan More Police, Safer Streets 2 at <http://www.hampshire-pcc.gov.uk/commissioner/police-crime-plan>.

Introducing the Business Growth Factory

Winchester City Council is launching a new programme to help entrepreneurs, early-stage startups and small to medium sized businesses across the Winchester district boost their growth and innovation. The Business Growth Factory, will run in partnership with IncuHive to provide businesses with crucial skills such as the ability to identify target markets, effectively manage finances and make successful investment pitches. Free of charge thanks to the UK government through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. If you know of any businesses you think would be interested and would like to share more information email: Business Engagement Manager Alison Woods (awoods@winchester.gov.uk) who can provide you with promotional postcards to handout. To find out more visit: <https://www.winchester.gov.uk/news/2024/oct/new-initiative-to-boost-growth-and-innovation-for-winchester-district-businesses>

Pension Credit Coffee Mornings

The Tenancy Sustainment Team are hosting a series of Pension Credit coffee mornings to help anyone eligible for pension credits to make applications. The nearest venues for our area are Bishops Waltham on 5th November and Wickham on 11th November. For more detail and precise times and locations see: <https://www.winchester.gov.uk/housing/what-s-on-housing-events-and-activities> Alternatively, there is the **Winchester City Council Community Hub**, where people can chat to the officers about any issues relating to benefits, housing and wellbeing and receive informal guidance around the cost of living. This takes place **every first Monday of the month (2.30p.m.- 4.30 p.m at Wickham Community Centre, Mill Lane, Wickham.**

Consultations**Playing Pitch Strategy and Sports facilities needs assessment - closes 30th November 2024**

Winchester City Council are currently in the process of undertaking a comprehensive review of outdoor sports pitches and indoor sport facilities to inform future priorities. The Council have commissioned Continuum Sport and Leisure Ltd to develop these documents on our behalf.

The purpose of the consultation:

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 survey: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WCC_PPS_SFNA_Parish

Community Insight questionnaire

Winchester City Council are running a short survey, in partnership with Temple Group, to gather feedback from residents across the district that will help shape the new Community Wellbeing and Resilience Strategy.

https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=qvePhv458Em1uaEdROB_EvHJtx1Y-BBJorpImjkSigFUMFRaTTJYNUwyTE1TSEZWnk5QUUISTUk1Uy4u&route=shorturl

Skills Training**Essential Digital Skills for residents - ongoing to end of Jan 2025**

The aim is to tackle digital exclusion and support the basic digital skills of the Winchester district residents, which in turn supports the district's overall skills and increases employability. The scheme will support and

train basic digital skills to the district's residents, such as booking GP appointments and keeping in touch with friends and family online. Free to Winchester district residents - funded by UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

<https://employers.workadvisor.co.uk/workadvisor-training/essential-digital-skills-training/>

Retrofit Skills for Businesses and Communities

Winchester City Council recently launched two new completely free retrofit skills programmes, in partnership with Hampshire County Council. [Retrofit 101](#) is a two-hour online course on the fundamentals of retrofit, whilst a more in-depth two-day course will give attendees an [NOCN level 2 Award](#) in Understanding Domestic Retrofit. To book: email skills@hants.gov.uk

Home Energy Efficiency opportunities:

The following offers advice and support. But please carefully check eligibility for grants as they will depend on the type of home and your circumstances.

- [The Energy Saving Trust](#) . Guidance for the type of insulation for properties..
- [GB Insulation Scheme](#) – eligible if the property has an [energy performance certificate \(EPC\)](#) of D to G and is in Council Tax bands A-D in England.
- [Energy Company Obligation \(ECO4\) scheme](#) - supports energy efficiency measures for homes in fuel poverty.
- [Warmer Homes/HUG2](#) - Warmer Homes provides fully funded insulation, solar panels and other energy efficiency measures for owner-occupiers and private renters living in low-income, off-gas households. The scheme is supported by Winchester City Council and is available until March 2025.

Up-coming Councillor Surgeries:

- Hambledon - 8th November 10 a.m.-11/30 a.m. The Vine Inn
- Droxford - Jan/Feb 2025 tbc.

APPENDIX B

Hampshire County Councillor Report Nov 2024

Cllr Malcolm Wallace (malcolm.wallace@hants.gov.uk)

Hampshire Future Services – Tips & School Crossing Patrols saved, but cuts elsewhere

There has been lots in the press about the budget challenges being faced by Local Authorities across the country. In Hampshire, 2025/26 is a tipping point for the County Council as financial forecasts indicate it will be unable to balance the budget through the implementation of savings. Since the period of austerity began following the financial crisis in 2008, the Council has faced regular Government funding cuts, whilst at the same time dealing with rapidly increasing demand for social care (adults and children), school transport and special educational needs provision. The challenge of delivering more services with less funding has been further compounded by upward pressure on costs, in part from higher inflation. Earlier this year a public consultation was held which invited people's views on 13 proposals to reduce and change some local services to help the County Council deliver savings towards the £175 million recurring budget gap that the County Council faces from 2025/26 onwards. The final decision on changes to Hampshire Services were made at October's Cabinet meeting, and whilst school crossing patrols and Household Waste Recycling Centres (including Bishop's Waltham tip) are saved, cuts have been made to passenger transport along with cuts in 10 other areas. Even after making all these cuts, the Council is reporting the need to drawdown on reserves in 2025/26 and every year thereafter until a funding solution is found.

A summary of the decisions is below, and more detail can be found online: [Cabinet decides on County Council services for the future](#)

- Highways maintenance budget cut by £7.5M (anticipated to be offset by increases in funding from other sources)
- Highways winter service treatment routes to be reviewed & updated; anticipated savings of £1M
- Passenger transport funding cut by £587,000 (subject to a final review)
- Cuts to school crossing patrol deferred
- Charging introduced at rural countryside parking sites with 20 or more spaces
- Street lighting nighttime (switched off) hours extended
- No closures of Household Waste Recycling Centres
- Hampshire County Council grant schemes withdrawn
- Hampshire Cultural Trust grant reduced by £600,000 from April 2027
- Homelessness Support Services funding to end in March 2026
- Non-statutory adult social care grants withdrawn
- Non-statutory reduction in adult social care charges withdrawn
- Library stock budget reduced by £250,000 per year

I have already spoken with some of the residents and organisations in our area who are directly affected by these cuts, but please feel free to contact me with any queries.

New Hampshire County Councillor elected for Bishops Waltham

Jonathan Williams has been elected as the new County Councillor for the Bishops Waltham division following the retirement of the local authority's former Leader, Councillor Rob Humby.

Formal Consultation on Proposed Relocation of Henry Cort Community College in Fareham to a new site in North Whiteley

Hampshire County Council will launch a formal consultation on Friday, 8 November 2024 on a proposal to relocate The Henry Cort Community College in Fareham, to a new site in North Whiteley from September 2027. The consultation will be published on [Hampshire County Council's website](#) and run until Friday, 13 December 2024. Forecasts show that the ongoing development of the Whiteley area will result in demand for between 900 and 1,200 secondary school places. A new secondary school in North Whiteley is planned to meet the anticipated need for school places across the whole of the Whiteley area, once the development is complete. While clearly needed to meet future demand, the delivery of the new school in North Whiteley would also have a significant impact on The Henry Cort Community College in Fareham, which currently takes pupils from across the Whiteley area. As more families in Whiteley are anticipated to move their children to the new school in North Whiteley from September 2027, it is anticipated that Henry Cort would see a corresponding reduction in its pupil numbers, and consequently in its funding from Government, which is allocated on a per-pupil basis. This in turn would lead to a reduced curriculum, staffing recruitment and retention difficulties, an impact on children's educational outcomes, significant financial challenges - and ultimately, an untenable future. Earlier this year, the County Council informally consulted with the public on potential options to reduce the impact of the new school on Henry Cort. Following careful consideration of the feedback received, and the various implications for the wider education offer in Whiteley and Fareham, the County Council will now open a formal consultation proposing that Henry Cort is moved to the new North Whiteley secondary school site from September 2027. If finally agreed, this would not mean that Henry Cort would close but that it would be moved, in its entirety, to the new site. Should the relocation of Henry Cort ultimately be agreed, this would entail various changes to local catchment areas and admissions arrangements. These would be subject to separate consultations thereafter, in line with standard process.

Green Light for Development of M27 All-Way Junction at Wickham

Hampshire County Council has announced that the M27 Junction 10 development is full steam ahead following the completion of formal funding agreements with Buckland Group, the developer of Welborne Garden Village, and Homes England. The County Council is delivering the scheme, working closely with National Highways, and has appointed VolkerFitzpatrick as the contractor. The estimated completion date is late 2026. The construction of the £100m+ upgrade will support the development of Welborne delivering a new motorway underpass and three new slip roads to the west of the existing M27 Junction 10, creating an 'all moves' junction for the first time since the M27 was built. A new dual carriageway will also be built to link the new slip roads to the existing road network. Most of the construction work for the scheme will be on land away from the existing public highway to minimise disruption. However, to ensure that key elements of the work can be carried out safely, there will be some temporary impacts for road users. There is currently reduced capacity on the A32 north of the M27 and south of the Knowle roundabout, with one lane open in each direction. This arrangement is expected to stay in place until early 2026. Over the Christmas period in 2025, a new underpass will be installed under the M27 just west of the existing A32 overbridge. The underpass will be pre-constructed as a concrete box on land next to the M27 and then slid into position using an innovative 'boxslide' engineering approach, significantly shortening the construction time and reducing disruption to motorway users. This will require a full closure of the M27 between Junction 9 and 11 over the 2025 Christmas week next year when traffic levels are lower. Closure dates and travel advice will be provided in advance of this important phase of the scheme once the work plans are finalised.

Grants Available to Local Organisations to help Hampshire go Smokefree by 2030

As part of Hampshire County Council's drive to reduce the harm caused by smoking in local communities, a series of grants are to be awarded to the county's district and borough councils, as well as to voluntary, community, and social enterprise organisations, to help people quit smoking for good. With around 4,500 Hampshire residents dying each year, and a further 8,600 admitted to hospital due to smoking related problems, the County Council's Smokefree programme includes collaborations with local GPs, hospitals, social housing and adult social care providers to boost referrals into the county's free, expert-led quit smoking service - Smokefree Hampshire. The programme also includes outreach efforts, to engage with people who traditionally do not seek help from formal quit-with-support services. The grant programme, with a total of up to £550,000 for district and borough councils and £300,000 for community groups, will be funded from the Local Authority's ring-fenced Public Health grant. This now includes new designated funding from the Government announced in October 2023 to create a smoke-free generation and make smoking obsolete. The grant

application process and timelines will be published shortly. Any local council or community organisation who wishes to register early interest is asked to email PublicHealthHampshire@hants.gov.uk in the first instance.

Home Energy Efficiency Opportunities

The following offers advice and support. But please carefully check eligibility for grants as they will depend on the type of home and your circumstances.

- [Energy Saving Trust](#) – Guidance for the type of insulation for properties
- [Great British Insulation Scheme](#) – Eligible if the property has an energy performance certificate (EPC) of D to G and is in Council Tax bands A-D in England
- [Warmer Homes](#) – Warmer Homes provides fully funded insulation, solar panels and other energy efficiency measures for owner-occupiers and private renters living in low-income, off-gas households. The scheme is available until March 2025.

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. More details are available on the County Council website. The 2023/24 County Councillor grant scheme is open until 29 February 2024.

APPENDIX C

FAG Report Nov 2024

Overview

We are now at the stage of the flooding season where the early monitoring points can be tracked against the previous year, and start to indicate the beginning of any possible variations and trends. There is a slight difference from last year's readings, but with the present weather situation levels remain flat (see update from the EA).

31/10/23	BHD 44.900 AOD	Whitedale 35.565 AOD
29/10/24	BHD 43.540 AOD	Whitedale 34.839 AOD

Remember that dramatic changes can rapidly occur, so keep checking the Shoothill Gauge Map site to remain on top of the data as we head towards the onset of Winter conditions.

Environment Agency

We have been in touch with Tom Woods of the EA, who provides the following information: "There are no groundwater flooding impacts expected imminently in Hambledon. If the period from the end of October through to November is very wet (similar to last year), then we could see those initial flooding impacts towards the end of November or in early December. But, if average or below average rainfall is recorded during this period, then the risk of flooding impacts moves to later during the winter period. I can't be any more accurate at the moment, it will very much depend on how much rain is recorded in the next 2 to 4 weeks. As we know, the situation can change quickly in Hambledon.

Hopefully this helps for now. We will likely send an initial Groundwater Briefing Note in the next couple of weeks – but this is mainly due to particularly high levels in other locations in Hampshire. I'm happy to send another email update to you towards the end of November, if you would find that useful."

The review of the current trigger points for BHD and Whitedale are being reviewed by the Environment Agency, and may be adjusted to reflect new data and feedback from the weather agencies.

EA Update on 30/10/24: "As promised in my previous email. Here is an update at the end of October. We've had mostly dry weather since the last email with just

3 mm of rain recorded at Worlds End in 13 days. There has been a very small response during this time. Groundwater levels at Whitedale Farm have risen by 70 cm since my last email and would be considered around average for this time of year.

The good news is that we've currently got very little rain in the forecast over the next 10 days so groundwater levels may rise slightly but there is no risk of imminent flood risk. Long range forecasting is difficult but the Met Office are currently suggesting a return to more unsettled weather may occur during the middle of November. I am not planning on sending a Groundwater Briefing Note until we see a return to more unsettled conditions and groundwater levels start responding more quickly. I'll also send you an email update when that happens."

Maintenance of Defences - Risk Updates

Risk No 1) Flooding of roadways and properties with sewerage contamination; to date, the FAG has not received any further information on Southern Water's proposals for remedial action on their Sewerage Systems,

so we must therefore assume their earlier plans presented some months ago will continue to remain a problem for the 204/25 Flooding Season.

Risk No. 2) As the FAG reported last month, a number of overdue maintenance activities were undertaken on the flood defences around the bottom of West Street by the owners, Hampshire County Council (HCC) and Hampshire Highways. However, as a car careered off the B 2150 on the fourth of October, a significant amount of damage was caused to the East side of the outflow drainage ditch. A large portion of the bank close to the tarmac, has broken away, along with the hedge and its root system, now lie at the bottom of the ditch, blocking the flow. This incident was reported to HCC Highways, and an Enquiry was raised on 08/10/24 by the HPC (No. 21764703). In the absence of any positive response, there is some doubt as to when and if any repairs are to be scheduled.

It has been stated by a person at HCC that maintenance is not required for the Big Pipe as it has been designed to be “self cleaning,” which we believe is nonsense in the extreme. According to other HCC subcontractors, there is still about 80 tonnes of silt and debris remaining in the BP following the last attempts to get it shifted. There has also been a suggestion the removal of the clutter from the car incident will not be addressed until Spring of 2025.

Note – this situation raises the threat level of risks associated with the ditch, and further possible blockages downstream past Hook Vinney, necessitating the need for follow up on a more urgent basis.

Support for the Flood Action Group

As is our normal remit, the FAG will continue to monitor the adequacy of the defence measures throughout the flooding season, and provide information to the HPC and the village via emails, notifications to flooders, and the Hambledonian. And we invite suggestions and support from all friends and residents of the village, especially when the need arises.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jan Jarvie, Flood Action Group

APPENDIX D

HAMBLEDON GREENING WG REPORT Nov 2024 Dr Penny Mahon (Secretary of Hambledon Greening Campaign)

Repair Café and Recycling:

- The last Repair Café on October 19th was a great success, with 12 items repaired and 25 assorted blades sharpened, raising £80 from very generous donations. A great morning of volunteering and socialising over free tea, coffee and home-made cake. Next Repair Café in Denmead is Nov 16th and in Hambledon, Jan 18th 2025. There will be no Repair Café in December.

Biodiversity:

- HGC committee member Alasdair McKenzie attended the recent Parish Pollinators meeting in Itchen Abbas on Oct 19th and reported on the churchyard and its biodiversity. He will be doing a survey of the churchyard for their information.
- We are continuing preparation of our section of the business plan re the use of North Glebeland.

Retrofit:

- On the back of our successful surgery in March 2024 on the retrofitting of historic and other homes in Hambledon, we have contacted three of the individuals who came to see if they are available for another. We are aiming for February or March 2025 but no date yet agreed on.

We are grateful as always for your support.