

## County Councillor report to Town & Parish : September 2022

### The state of the roads and 20mph

Every year a National Highways Transport Survey is carried out to assess the public view of highways across the country. You often make your views known to me- this is your chance to take part! Go to [www.hants.gov.uk/transport/nht-surveys](http://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/nht-surveys)



### County Councillor Grant scheme- funds for 22-23

HCC operates a local grant scheme through your County Councillor : some has already gone to your communities, but I still have some funds left for the 22-23 year. If you know of an organisation who could benefit from a grant for a specific reason, contact me or go to this link for details: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/community/grants/grants-list/county-councillor>

### School transport

Young people in your area may be paying £1000 a year for a Stagecoach season ticket to Peter Symonds. I have taken this up with school transport at HCC, but they say it is a commercial decision. If your students want to join in the 'reduce it' campaign led by a resident, then they should please write to [Edward.hodgson@stagecoachbus.com](mailto:Edward.hodgson@stagecoachbus.com) and copy me too. Thank you Please continue to direct other general Ukraine queries to me too.

### Lower carbon living:

From today, HCC has joined other councils to offer **15% off cloth reusable nappies** -just go to [www.hants.gov.uk/wasteandrecycling/smartliving/reusable-nappies](http://www.hants.gov.uk/wasteandrecycling/smartliving/reusable-nappies) for details! You can also join a rent a nappy scheme to try before you buy.(For the baby obviously!) Details on the smart living page of [hants.gov.uk](http://hants.gov.uk)

After a difficult start the first time (supplier issues created delays) , the **HCC Solar Together scheme** was offered again until 27<sup>th</sup> September. It is an opportunity to be part of a bulk buy scheme for solar panels. Go to [www.hants.gov.uk/solartogether](http://www.hants.gov.uk/solartogether) for more details

### Local Plan and Licensing (I add this in as WCC Cabinet Member for Place and the Local Plan)

There is a current consultation on taxi fares (this reflects increased wage and fuel costs : there have been no previous changes for at least ten years). This will have been communicated via WCC too. The Draft (reg 18) Local plan will go put to consultation on the 2<sup>nd</sup> November to 14<sup>th</sup> December. The preferred response method is via the citizenspace website- details are in the consultation. If you have any queries, please contact [Afox@winchester.gov.uk](mailto:Afox@winchester.gov.uk) or me direct.

*Cllr Jackie Porter 07973 696 085 jackie.porter@hants.gov.uk*

*Jackie's County Corner for October is on my website*

### Kings Worthy

- Ecogen plan still not finally approved or rejected. Planned to issue a decision has been delayed as Ecogen want to offer another resolution to the County Council's reasons for refusal.
- HAB work ongoing: now awaiting a paper from WCC officers and Legal.
- Paths to Burntwood: review of little used paths at HCC. This one is at risk: I'd appreciate your views.
- Expecting legal agreement for DMMO 1180 within one month.
- HCC has made an announcement to respond to the Andover Road petition led by KBRA.
- National Highways is consulting on a new plan: expecting to submit DCO late 22/early 23

### Alresford

- Arle Path: the work has been agreed at HCC : contractors now due on site in Summer 2023
- West Street widening: design & planning work has been transferred to a direct HCC employee
- Service Road LTN, Alresford: currently not funded for more than £30K: meetings ongoing.
- Bishops Sutton path: I have taken this up again at HCC to ensure this is not forgotten.



## City Councillors Report for August 2022



### **Parking**

Hampshire County Council plans to take over on street parking in Winchester Council area has been deferred again, until September 2023. Perhaps letters from parish councillors, thank you Bighton, were persuasive. Perhaps the implementation just before an election was seen as a bad idea. Or both?

The 20-minute free limit is to be implemented in Lymington this month; we expect to hear of the impact on local shops in due course.

### **Cost of Living**

Although many are suffering already the full impact will not be felt until the cold weather. Targeted support is likely to be directed to those in receipt of benefits.

Please encourage all those that are worried about the cost of living to check if they are entitled to benefits. The results are confidential, this is one of the easiest sites to use.

<https://benefits-calculator.turn2us.org.uk/>

### **Station Approach Winchester**

Although we don't live there, we all use the Station area of Winchester at some point or another, and the area for re-development includes the Cattle Market Car park. A newsletter is being sent to over 5,000 homes near to Station Approach to set out details of how to contribute ideas and all information will be available on the Council's website at the start of August.

Two consultation events are also planned in the Autumn. The first is on Thursday 15 September from 2-7pm, outside the main entrance to the station, and the second on Saturday 24 September from 10 – 2pm in a market stall on the high street. The consultation will run for twelve weeks, concluding on Friday 21st October 2022.

Please give your views at <https://winchesterstationapproach.co.uk/>

### **Public Toilets.**

A considerable effort has been going on to improve the standards of the public toilets belonging to WCC, in both the short and long term. Discussions are going on with the external contractor, responsible for cleaning and minor maintenance in regard to the quality of their work. For longer term improvements, The British Association of Public Conveniences has completed an assessment of all eleven of the facilities belonging to WCC and will be providing a report very soon. The WCC Estates Team is commissioning full condition surveys of the buildings of all eleven facilities for underlying problems. From these two studies an improvement programme and costs will be produced. On a more local note: The ladies in the Alresford public toilets will be out of commission for some more weeks. Unfortunately drains below the floor need to be taken up and replaced. This involves breaking into the tiled and concreted floor, neither a quick nor easy task.

### **Missing Bins**

For a number of reasons, on some rounds bin collections have been carried out by replacement crews. Although the crews have detailed maps and notes, crews can miss bins, particularly brown bins and glass bins, if the collection points are up side streets or other locations off set from the larger roads. Please



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report these as soon as you can. If you have a problem with the on-line reporting, please use Russell's email below.



Margot Power 01962 734167

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**CLLR FIONA ISAACS**

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I Feel I cannot start my report this month without acknowledging the extremely sad new about HRH Queen Elizabeth II. Her grace, dedication to duty and service to our country and her people was an inspiration and this beloved Queen will be missed worldwide. May she rest in peace.

**Market Town Meeting**

I was pleased to attend a meeting with officers and key portfolio holders for Economy and climate change from Winchester City Council along with some members of New Alresford Town Council, on key issues raised by residents and businesses along with discussions on how to improve certain things key to our Market town moving forward.

Topics raised were -Parking issues esp on a Thursday, the lack of parking enforcement from WCC. This is hopefully being rectified as recruiting for interim enforcement officers is now finally taking place. All agreed that the enforcement has been less that ideal. Discussions for more cycle parking and I raised the issue again of the old stump being present. This is now going to be removed to help prevent anymore residents falling.

Broad street and West street were also discussed with regards to the plans and how things could be moved forwards.

**Parking** - The Proposed Dean Car Park is planned for September public consultation (informed now 28th September at the light room on the dean) with a view for submission to planning by year end. I also asked what plans and provisions were being made with the lease for The Station car park due in 18months again and only signage going in now 18 months later . This is being looked into.

**PublicToilets** - Officers confirmed that the cleaning contractors had been issued a default notice and that Estates had commissioned to refurbish the toilets. I am sure everyone will welcome this news.

**Grass Cutting Issues** - I raised the issues of this that the town had experienced over the last 2 years along with feedback from businesses and residents. Many were unhappy and felt the town had not looked such a mess EVER. I also informed officers and portfolio holders that I had been asked by some residents to formally represent their request for removal of these project areas in some places due to on going issues.

**Residents issues**

**Poor service from the repairs team** - I had been disappointed to learn that many council residents had experience poor service from contracted repairs teams. I have resolved many and the rest are being dealt with and monitored. As I sit on Business and Housing I am passionate about ensuring that the Council are also held to account for when services are less than planned. I am please that officers feel that this also the case and are keen to resolve these matters quickly.

**Green Bin collection issues** - A disabled resident contacted me in desperation for getting their bin collected as they had missed it 3 times. Having difficulty in getting through to the department was one of these issues along with others. I was applauded that this case had been raised 6 weeks prior and still not been dealt with. I arranged for the bin to be emptied the next day . Please let me know if anyone else is having issues.