

County Councillor's Report to Parish and Town Councils June 2020

So this is the view we have all had of each other for the last few weeks! Meanwhile, Councils at all levels have had to change standing orders and adapt to online meetings. I have to say that in many cases, attendance has improved, meetings have been more focused but the simplest things can become complicated for those not able to cope with the technology. If your council is not fully up to speed with this, I can put you in touch with another who may be able to help?



Thank you again to everyone who has been helping to keep their community informed and supported in the last three months

New online services such as Dance classes for young people, Compassion Calls, Hand in Hand etc are being developed and advertised. Meanwhile, for those recently out of shielding, there may be new challenges. Please continue to refer any requests for help that your local group cannot cover to the County's number from 9am to 5pm daily : 0333 370 4000 to be signposted to help for yourself or someone else you are concerned about.

Hampshire Together: Health Services in this area. : I recently attended a presentation about the new proposals for delivery of the HHFT's Health Trust services. The Engagement Team are happy to lead presentations to support the consultation which is online or they can send out paper copies. There are several strands of the work currently progressing, starting with initial engagement in June /July 2020, an options Analysis in Oct 2020, aiming to present a planning application in the Spring of 2021, with a view to building in 2025 or earlier.

If you'd like a presentation to your Council and residents please contact the team on engagement@hhft.nhs.uk This is available to other groups in your area too, so please pass this on to anyone who may be interested.

Footpaths are getting more use: you will have been asked if there are paths that need more attention. Contact Elliott.rowe@hants.gov.uk or Anny.sullivan@hants.gov.uk for direct HCC attention to cutting etc.

County Care Homes :There has been a great deal reported about deaths in care homes. The County council owns and runs several including Westholme which includes Nursing facility for severely ill but stable patients who require 24 hour nursing care. The numbers of deaths per home are not being reported, despite several FOI requests, but it is estimated that care home deaths are almost double the usual rate (194 versus 100 at the time of asking).

Schools have been open during lockdown but are now welcoming back pupils from non vulnerable families and non key workers. Early years settings are back too, but without the financial support that schools receive. Please be aware of this- Voluntary Aided pre -chools are charities and cannot risk debt: they may be asking for a grant to stay open!

Road closures and road problems are still prominent in my inbox. I am happy to receive copies of all of your complaints to follow through later in June , but currently most of the teams seem to be actively involved in re configuring town centres ready for the 15th June re-opening of the High Streets.

Please keep your play areas closed: despite requests from some councils, these cannot be opened yet.

Cllr Jackie Porter

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Report to Parishes June 2020



There have been many proposals to allow safer shopping and improve facilities for cycling and walking. These can be seen at <https://hantscovidtravelmap.commonplace.is/comments>

Please support those you agree with, and add your own suggestions.

You will see the pavement markings in Alresford to remind pedestrians to keep their distance, and the shops have taken steps to make us as safe as possible. The public lavatories have been open throughout lockdown.

New Alresford have also applied for M3 LEP funding to provide further space for pedestrians and eateries in the town, and hand sanitation points in car parks, success, or not, will be known by 23rd June.

Despite the various measures to help businesses we can all see that many jobs will be lost and some businesses will fail. Funds do exist to help those that are in financial distress locally, and the contributions have been generous, but the local economy will suffer.

<https://www.winchester.gov.uk/business/covid-19-support> is still the most concise and accessible source of advice and support.

Increase in Fly Tipping

There has been a noticeable and regrettable increase in fly tipping since lock down started. The closing of waste re-cycling centres has no doubt added to the problem.

It is easy to go on line and report fly tipping on the WCC website and there is a very useful app available which can be downloaded <https://www.winchester.gov.uk/waste-recycling/flytipping>

This allows the location of dumped materials to be easily recorded and passed to the council. Describing accurately a location in a remote country lane is not particularly easy, but the app helps, signal permitting.

If WCC is already aware of the dumped waste, there should be a sprayed yellow 'W'. Leave the material as you find it, not only can there be toxic items dumped, but also there is frequently various types of evidence that allow the culprits to be successfully prosecuted.

Waste Recycling Centres have now re-opened although with a restricted service and with the requirement to arrange a pre-booked time, but only for car owners. This seems rather unjust on pedestrians, who can only drop off a fraction of what might be fitted in a car, and will be travelling there by the greenest possible means. We are addressing this unfairness at HCC.

If you do not have an email address you can book by phoning 02380 179 949, week days only.

Margot Power 01962 734167

Russell Gordon -Smith 01962 733219