

## Hampshire County Councillor Update 07

Hello, here is my seventh County Councillor update for Romsey Rural, covering November and early December 2021.

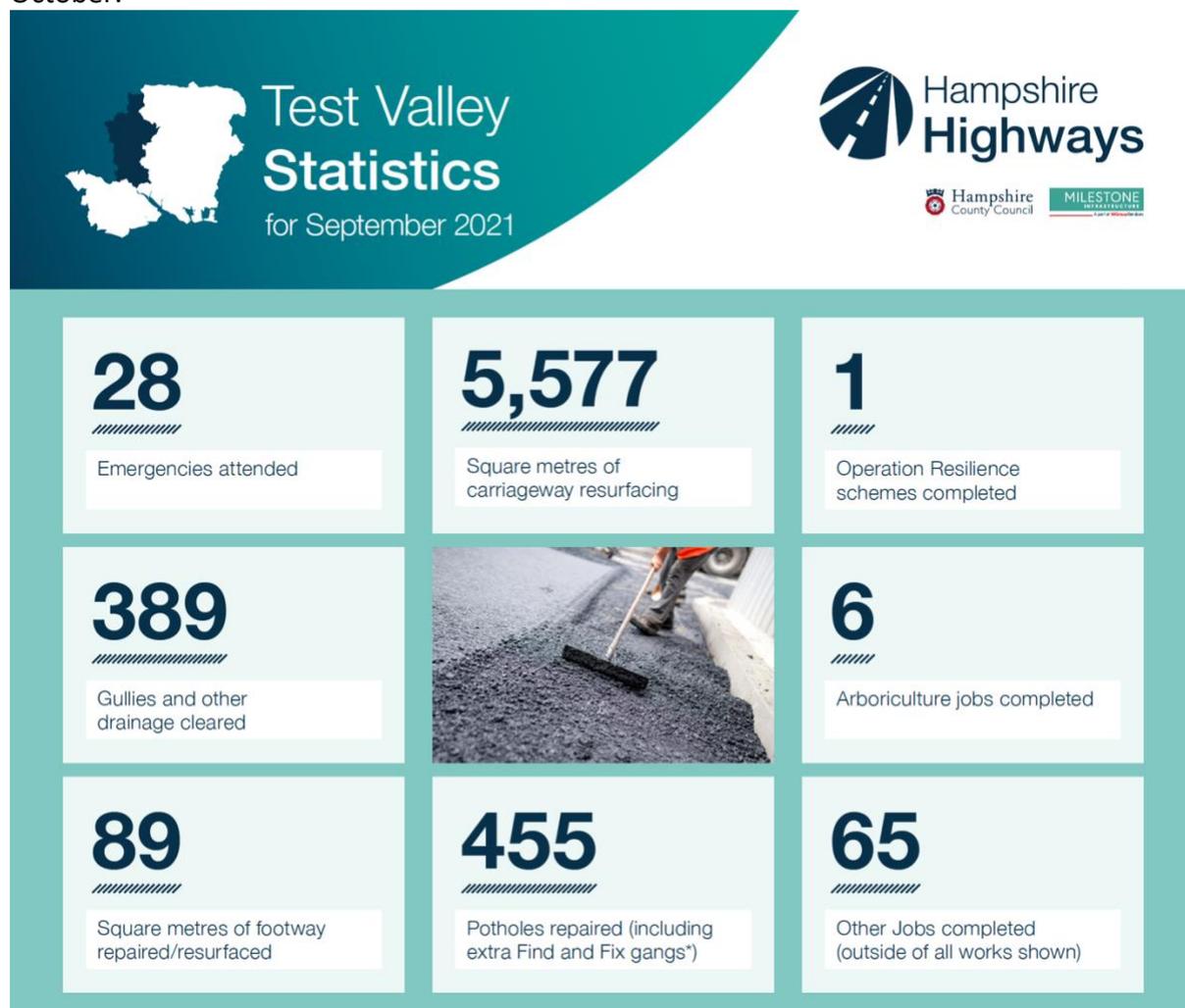
As the year heads towards its conclusion, I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you, your families and your loved ones a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year. Thank you for making me so welcome as your County Councillor and for help and support this year. I look forward to working with and for you further in 2022.



## Highways Information

### Hampshire Highways October update

Here's the latest update from County Highways detailing their work in Test Valley during October.



## Proposals for improved crossings on the A36

I've held a productive meeting with the planning team at New Forest National Park and Cllr Charles Payne from Wellow Parish Council exploring ways to improve crossing points on the A356, most particularly at the Blackhill/Whinwhistle Rd and Maury's Lane junctions.

The National Park are making a submission to National Highways to press for these works, so I am hopeful of some movement on these long intractable issues.

## Southampton Road, Romsey - roadworks

The roadworks to allow for the construction of the new cycle path along Southampton Road have now been suspended until after the New Year. The suspension has been put in place to ensure no disruption to local businesses or those travelling to see family and friends in the lead up to, and over, the Christmas and New Year holidays.

## Salt Bins

A reminder that the [Hampshire County Council](#) salt bins are full throughout the area, they are there for community use, so feel free to use them during icy weather.

Thousands of bins like this one are filled with salt across Hampshire for community use throughout winter. They're used by neighbours on public roads and pavements and can be particularly useful to 'join up' salting from the main road, carried out by our Hampshire Highways salting vehicles, to smaller access roads, or on the pavements.



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Spreading a small amount of salt from the community salt on the pavements or smaller access roads not covered by highways crews can make a big impact on frozen and icy surfaces. One tablespoon of salt (20 grams) is sufficient to treat one square metre of road or pavement surface.



I've made requests for new bins at Casbrook Fields in Michelmersh and Timsbury and for both the roads and the perimeter foot/cycle path at Abbotswood.

I've also reported damaged bins in Wellow and Lockerley. If there is anywhere else where a new bin is needed, one needs repair or if their salt level is low please let me know and I can make the necessary arrangements.

Find a map of community grit bins, request a grit bin refill or a replacement for a damaged grit bin online at <https://www.hants.gov.uk/.../roadma.../severeweather/salting>

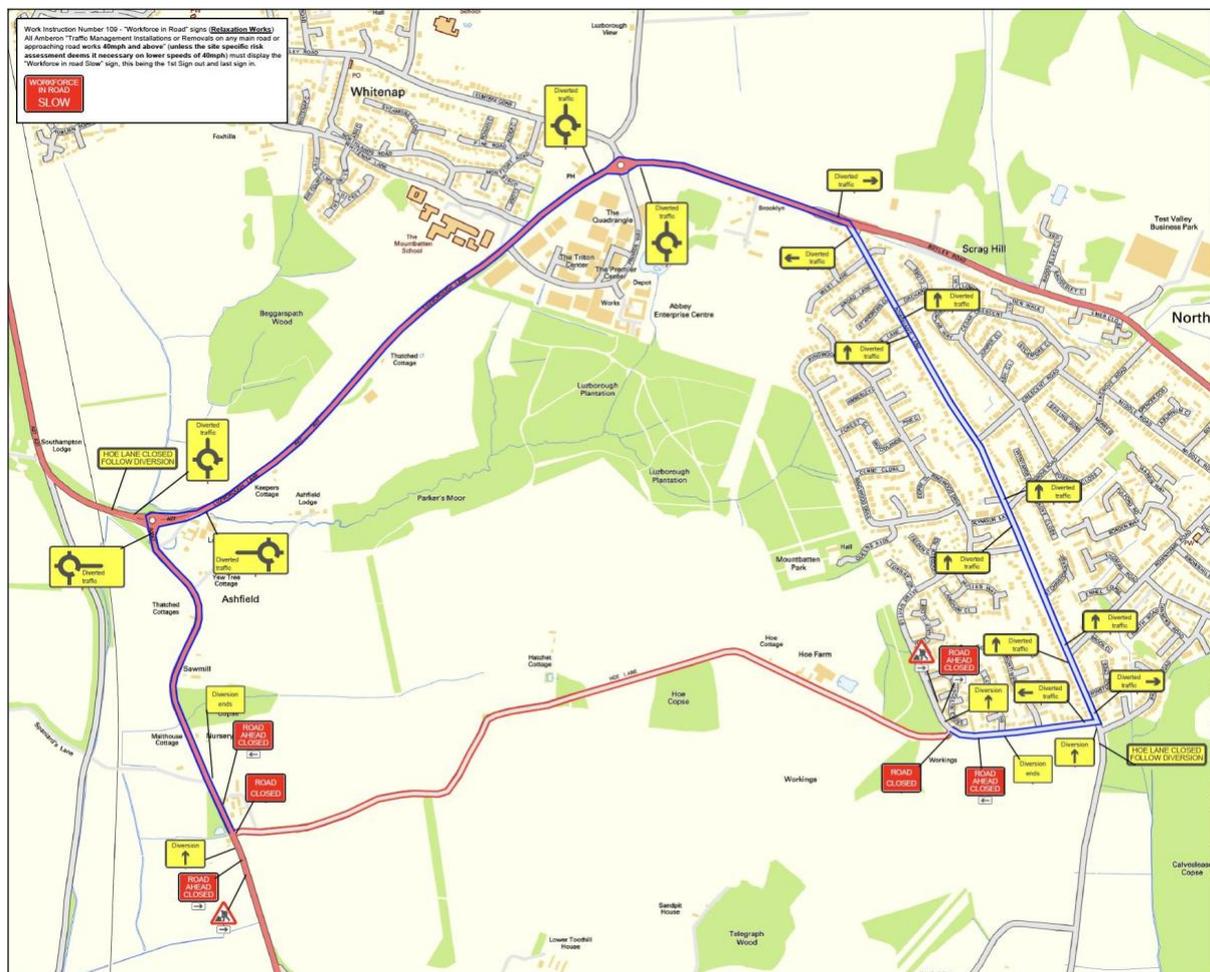
## Closure of Hoe Lane

Hoe Lane is being closed from Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December to allow for work associated with the new housing development there. The closure will last for 16 weeks, until early April 2022.

The works will include drainage, kerbing and surfacing to both the main road and informal passing areas.

Due to the nature of the works in this narrow lane, a road closure will be required to carry out the works safely. Vehicular and pedestrian access to properties in Hoe Lane will be maintained except for a short duration when surfacing works will be carried out.

A plan showing the road closure proposals is below. If there are any delays which mean a longer closure I will let you know.



## **Road Repairs**

### **Works to address flooding on the M271/Romsey Road roundabout**

I have been working to ensure a solution is found to the flooding that affects the exit from the M271 roundabout onto Romsey Road, Nursling by Romsey Golf Club.

I'm grateful to Hampshire Highways who have prepared a scheme to replace the collapsed pipework around the roundabout, clear all the blocked gullies and clear and re-grade the existing ditch to ensure the water flows freely.

The scheme is currently programmed to start in March 2022.

### **Flooding at Romsey Rapids entrance**

An update on the flooding at the entrance to the rapids. Soil percolation tests are currently being undertaken at the site to identify whether a new soakaway can be constructed to help with the issues.

### **Under Road drains connecting ditches**

Having had some complaints in the more rural areas about blocked drains running under roads to connect ditches on either side of them. These drains are now cleared on a reactive basis and no longer rodded as a matter of course.

If you become aware of a drain which may appear blocked, particularly where it causes a flooding issue from the ditch on one side of the road, then please let me know and I will report it in for clearance.

### **Other Highways Issues**

Local roadworks have included repairing the cattle grid at the Blackhill Road/A36 junction and road repairs to Butts Green, Lockerley, Canada Road in West Wellow and Greatbridge Road north of Romsey. I'm continuing to chase repairs to Tanners Lane, Wellow, Old Salisbury Lane and Lee Lane in Romsey Extra, Dean Road, W Tytherley, Stanbridge Lane in Awbridge and drainage issues on Manor Lane in Lockerley.

### **Reporting Highway Problems**

Links to report road issues are here:

Potholes: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/potholes>

Tree/hedge problems:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/treehedge>

Flooding/drainage issues:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/flooding>

Pavement problems:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/paving>

Problems with rights of way:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/rightsofway/reportaproblem>

**When reporting an issue, you'll be sent an email confirming a reference number for the report. If you would like me to follow this up for you then do please forward that message to me and I will add a comment as County Councillor, which should hopefully bump it up the priority list.**

### **County Councillor Grant Scheme**

I've already agreed amounts that have gone to the Romsey Show, Romsey's Christmas Lights, Youth in Romsey and Nursling and Rownhams Parish Council for their recreation ground..

This month I have also made grants of £250 to The Social Collective Project who help tackle social exclusion and loneliness in Abbotswood and £625 to St Leonard's Church, Sherfield English for their memorial bench project.

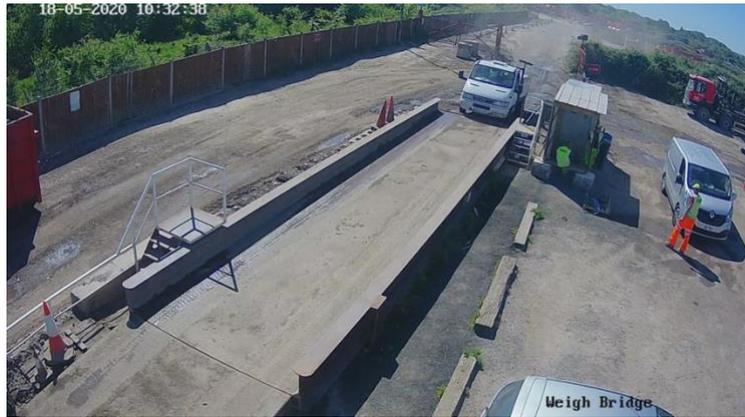
### **Another TVBC fly-tipping conviction**

I'm pleased to tell you about another successful prosecution for TVBC, not quite fly tipping, but related.

A man claiming to work for Test Valley Borough Council, causing the authority to be billed for disposing of his waste, has been given a suspended prison sentence and ordered to pay almost £2,000.

Dominic Lane, 23, of Fairbairn Walk, Chandler's Ford, visited a waste transfer station ten times, leaving more than eight tonnes of mixed waste between April and May last year during the national Covid-19 lockdown.

At the site, Mr Lane would claim he was working on behalf of TVBC and asked staff at the transfer station to bill the authority, fabricating an order number. His lies went further, claiming he had been told by the council to collect and dispose of fly-tipped waste, with regular operatives being deployed elsewhere due to the pandemic.



However, what Mr Lane didn't realise is that the council was eventually billed for the waste, meaning an investigation was launched, while working with the waste transfer station. He was then identified as the person responsible.

Mr Lane, who is already on an electronic tag and curfew over Christmas after fly-tipping in May last year along Highwood Lane, Romsey, was given a 17-week prison sentence, suspended for two years. He was also ordered to pay £1,949.10 to the waste transfer station.

This level of deception, claiming to work for a local authority, is absolutely ludicrous, and I am pleased that there is now a prison sentence hanging over the head of the person responsible.

Having previously been in court recently over fly-tipping, these charges and prosecutions highlight the fact that we take every case very seriously, and have an extremely good record of prosecuting successfully.

Fly-tipping, fraud, operating without a licence and other crimes of this nature are simply not worth it. We will always investigate and we will prosecute.

The advice always stands that residents paying to have waste removed should check that the user has the correct licence via the Environment Agency website. We are also on hand to offer advice by calling our team on 01794 57700 or 01264 368000.

### **Christmas and New Year Bin Collections**

TVBC's brilliant teams will be working normally on the two bank holidays after Christmas weekend, so usual bin collections in the week between Christmas and New Year (27th December - 31st December).

They will be taking a well-deserved holiday on Monday 3rd January, so collections a day later than normal that week, including a Saturday collection on January 8th.

Normal collection day		Revised collection day	
Monday	3 January 2022	Tuesday	4 January 2022
Tuesday	4 January 2022	Wednesday	5 January 2022
Wednesday	5 January 2022	Thursday	6 January 2022
Thursday	6 January 2022	Friday	7 January 2022
Friday	7 January 2022	Saturday	8 January 2022
Normal collection day		Revised collection day	
Monday	27 December 2021		Collection as normal
Tuesday	28 December 2021		Collection as normal
Wednesday	29 December 2021		Collection as normal
Thursday	30 December 2021		Collection as normal
Friday	31 December 2021		Collection as normal

### County Council Activity

In terms of County Council activity in the last month, I meetings of the Health and Social Care Committee, and of the Committee’s working groups looking at proposals for savings in the areas of homelessness and voluntary sector support. I’ve also attended a meeting of the Economy Transport and Environment Committee, looking at proposals for on-street electric car charging points.

### Getting About

Parish Council meetings have continued. I’ve attended meetings of Chilworth, Awbridge, Romsey Extra, West Tytherley, Frenchmoor and Buckholt, Nursling and Rownhams and Lockerley parish councils since my last report.

### Contact

Do please get in touch if I can ever be of any help. For those of you using social media, I post very regular updates on many local issues including roadworks and planning applications on my Facebook page here: [facebook.com/nickadamsking](https://facebook.com/nickadamsking)



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Caring for Romsey Rural