

## Hampshire County Councillor Update 19

Christmas is almost here and it's been lovely to see the dark nights dispelled by the Christmas lights in Romsey. A brilliant turn out for the Romsey Winter Carnival. The organisers surpassed themselves with this year's Christmas light switch on and lantern parade. It was brilliant to see so many happy people in the town centre, I was there as always with family and friends and we had a fantastic time. Huge thanks to the brilliant Romsey Carnival committee for the organisation, to those who took part in the parade and most of all the volunteer stewards who kept everyone safe. I was pleased to donate some of my County Councillor grant to the cost of the lights once again.



A very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year to you and your loved ones.

Here's December's County Councillor update.

## Highways Information

### Greener Highway Repairs for HCC

You will by now know that I am beginning to get into trucks. Well, this is another exciting HCC Highways truck. It's our new concrete mixer which enables us to make concrete from the gravel and tarmac taken from previous road repairs and delivered to where we need it right across Hampshire.

The mixer's green credentials are further enhanced in that it is fuelled by low carbon hydrotreated vegetable oil (HVO) fuel.

Tackling climate change and recycling as much as possible touches everything HCC do, so we are always looking to innovate when it comes to the materials and resources used across highway maintenance activities. This is a further example of how we are striving to build in more sustainable and climate friendly methods in our operations.



And it's yet another way in which our award-winning Hampshire Highways Carbon Strategy is driving improvements towards meeting our target to be carbon neutral by 2050.

As a next step, Hampshire Highways will be conducting an assessment of clinker free cement for inclusion in the concrete mix. This emits only 180 kgCO<sub>2</sub>e in its manufacture compared to 900 kgCO<sub>2</sub>e emitted by the manufacture of traditional Portland cement. This will be another effective innovative solution to combatting the impacts of climate change.

### **Gritter Driver, the movie**

Yes, with winter upon us, the people behind the steering wheels of our salting lorries like 'Mr Slippy', 'Spread Sheeran' and 'Gritly come dancing' have had advanced driver training to make sure the vehicles are in the safest hands during icy conditions.

They sent me along to experience some of this training first hand and we made a little film about it, you can view that here:

<https://www.facebook.com/nickadamsking/videos/4104388799786280>

See where and when we salt at: <https://maps.hants.gov.uk/highwaysaltroutes/>

Report issues with salt bins or request a new one here:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/.../roadma.../severeweather/salting>

### **Making Bus journeys faster and easier**

I went to look at a bus stop in Portchester earlier this month....not any old bus stop, a shiny new one which allows buses to safely exit onto the Castle roundabout without causing them a delay.



The local bus company say it will reduce the travel time between Portsmouth and Fareham by as much as 5 minutes, extrapolate that out over the day and that's an extra couple of trips on the route.

It's part of a Transforming Cities travel initiative HCC Highways are rolling out across the Solent area over the next few years.

Making things easier for bus passengers - journeys around Portchester in Fareham will become more reliable thanks to a new scheme to improve priority for buses at Castle Roundabout on the A27.

This is the first scheme to be delivered as part of the South-East Hampshire Transforming Cities Fund programme. Together with our partners, we're working to increase opportunities for people to walk, cycle and use public transport for their local journeys.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/1122022A27TCFPortchester>

## **Redbridge Causeway Works**

You might have seen my post about the concrete repairs [Hampshire County](#) Highways are undertaking to the Redbridge Causeway last month.

Work is progressing well, and the next round of road and footpath closures have been announced running from New Year through to the end of March. So, here's a heads up about the works due in the early part of 2023:

### **Temporary Footway and Highway Closures Required to Carry Out the Redbridge Road Bridge Concrete Repairs**

**Test Lane – Closed from Tuesday 3 January until Friday 31 March**

The section of Test Lane beneath the A35 will be completely closed 24/7 to all traffic for the full duration of the works, including pedestrians, cyclists, and other non-motorised users. As the work involves high pressure water jetting and, due to the requirement to install both temporary load bearing props and a full access scaffold beneath the bridge, it will not be safe to allow pedestrian / cyclist access beneath the bridge, even during non-working hours. Separate signed diversion routes will be in place for both vehicles and for pedestrians, cyclists, and other non-motorised users (see attached plans). Signing will also be in place stating that local businesses are open as usual.

**Eastbound A35 - Lane 2 – Closed from Monday 9 January until 17 February**

The right-hand lane of the eastbound A35 carriageway will be closed from the approach to the Totton on-slip until the start of the off-slip to Redbridge Roundabout. This is necessary to remove the traffic loading from the south side of Redbridge Road Bridge while repairs are carried out to the underside of the bridge deck directly beneath. It is essential that this traffic lane remains empty 24/7 for safety until the areas of freshly applied repair concrete have reached the required strength.

**Eastbound A35 - Lane 1 – Closed from 17 February until Friday 31 March**

Once the repairs to the south side of the bridge have been completed, work will switch to the north side. The left-hand lane of the eastbound A35 carriageway will then be closed from the approach to the Totton on-slip until the start of the off-slip to Redbridge Roundabout. The Totton on-slip will be narrowed / shortened and will merge with the single lane of eastbound A35 traffic in the right-hand lane. As for the preceding Lane 2 closure, it is essential that the lane remains empty 24/7 for safety, until the areas of freshly applied repair concrete below have reached the required strength. Signs will be placed in any closed lanes to explain this.

Both the Totton on-slip and the off-slip to Redbridge Roundabout will remain open throughout the works, as will the north footway of Redbridge Causeway.

## Localised flooding

The rain last month was pretty torrential. Thankfully it's been less constant in the last week.

That's led to localised flooding, most particularly the instance below by the railway bridge at the junction of Stanbridge Lane and Old Salisbury Lane in Awbridge.

I've reported this one and HCC Highways have identified a blocked gully which needs unblocking, that's booked to coincide with a road closure which is due in the next few weeks.

In the meantime, if you are aware of spots where water is still standing then do please report them here:

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

We can then investigate and ensure the cause is dealt with.



## Verge re-wilding

Hampshire Highways are trialing re-wilding of our rural wide verges there. This trial is being done with a view to improving biodiversity and will be monitored over a two year period.

More sites are being added over the next few months. None very local to us yet, but I hope we can add some next year. Will be great to see how well the trial works and would be even better in my opinion if we can improve biodiversity through re-wilding of the verges where the growth will not impact road visibility.



## Junction Improvements in Nursling and Rownhams

Hampshire County Council have begun the formal consultation for the proposed changes to the Redbridge Lane/Romsey Road/Bakers Drove junction.

The proposal sees intelligent traffic lights installed which will link to new lights to be installed at the junction of Romsey Road with Horns Drove and Nursling St.

The traffic lights at the two junctions will be linked to one another to ensure traffic flows along Romsey Road and that there is safe access from the side roads.

You can find out more about the proposal here:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/.../transportschemes/redbridgelane>



- **Changes are required to A3057 Redbridge Lane / Bakers Drove and Nursling Street / Horns Drove junctions to accommodate the impacts of local development.**
- **Designs have been developed and Hampshire County Council wants to hear your views on how these changes can help to:**
  - **Improve traffic flow;**
  - **Provide safer pedestrian crossing facilities;**
  - **Improve access to local schools and public transport;**
  - **Limit environmental impacts from the works;**
  - **Improve journey time reliability.**

Please use the link below or the QR code to complete the feedback form. Closing date 8 January 2023.

<https://bit.ly/A3057-junction-improvements>

Request a paper copy by calling 0300 555 1388\*  
Email [engagement.feedback@hants.gov.uk](mailto:engagement.feedback@hants.gov.uk)



\* 0300 calls are usually included in most landline and mobile call packages and if not, cost no more than calls to normal home or business landlines.

## Hampshire Highways figures for October

Here's the Hampshire Highways update for October:

# Highways Maintenance Newsletter

October 2022



Hampshire Highways' commitment to reduce carbon emissions and mitigate against the impact of climate change has achieved national industry recognition as, this month. Hampshire Highways' Carbon Strategy, which aligns with the County Council's ambition to be carbon neutral by 2050, won the Environmental Sustainability Award as well as the Special Merit Award in this year's Highways Industry Awards. The Special Merit Award is a particular achievement in that it

was one that we hadn't entered and is selected by our peers in the industry.

The Carbon Strategy Report 2020-2024 – sets out what adaptations are needed to the highway network as changes in the climate bring more intense, heavy rainfall and periods of hot weather. It details how we will reduce carbon emissions in all day-to-day operations including maintenance works, energy use in buildings and depots, vehicles and

fuel – all with regular and robust measurement. The Strategy report is a clear commitment that climate change considerations will form part of Hampshire Highways' every operational and technical decision; and outlines how the service will continue to explore innovations and opportunities, invest in lasting change, and continually monitor and review the reductions in carbon emissions that the Highways service already achieves in order to identify where further improvements can be made.

## Countywide Statistics for September 2022

**387**

Emergencies attended

**7,456**

Square metres of carriageway resurfacing

**14**

Operation Resilience schemes completed

**20,737**

Gullies and other drainage cleared

**5,283**

Square metres of surface dressing and micro asphalt

**210**

Arboriculture jobs completed

**5,489**

Square metres of footway repaired/resurfaced

**6,535**

Carriageway defects repaired (including potholes)

**596**

Other Jobs completed (outside of all works shown)



# Test Valley Statistics

for September 2022



Please note that the figures quoted accurately reflect the highway maintenance activity carried out in each district area during the previous month. The scale of activity is generally based on a combination of cyclical work (routine), local demand/need (reactive), and the utilisation of asset management principles (planned), rather than a simple distribution across the 11 district areas. This means that the level of activity will vary from district to district each month so the monthly figures should not be compared on a like-for-like basis. Over the course of a typical financial year, maintenance activity will be relatively proportionate across the Hampshire local authority area, recognising that the size of each district area varies.

**37**



Emergencies attended



**418**



Gullies and other drainage cleared



**25**



Arboriculture jobs completed

**17**



Square metres of footway repaired/resurfaced

**1,983**



Carriageway defects repaired (including potholes)

**44**



Other Jobs completed (outside of all works shown)



## 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 chase for you**

## Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan

Providing minerals (sand, gravel etc) to enable development and building in Hampshire is an important function of the County Council and is vital for economic development in Hampshire.

Equally, the County Council has to provide infrastructure and sites for the disposal of waste, and consequently sites need to be considered for this.

So, just as there is a Local Plan for housing, the County Council creates a Minerals and Waste Plan for the County area along with Portsmouth and Southampton cities.

A new iteration of the plan has just been published for consultation. I should stress at this point that all of the sites put forward are NOT sure to be developed. You can see the full plan here:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/minerals-waste-update>

The consultation runs until 31st January.

### Local Sites – Important!

The Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan update has two local sites proposed for gravel and sand extraction; The Triangle bordered by Ryedown Lane, Gardeners Lane and the A3090 dual carriageway and Dunwood Fruit Farm on the A27 at Sherfield English.

Both have been recommended for development before, and both have been rejected for very good reasons. Once again they have been included in the plan and it is important that local residents have their say.

The sites under consideration are in the graphics below. I have concerns about both which I have listed below. If you agree with me that they are inappropriate sites for mineral extraction, I would urge you to respond to the consultation to ensure your voice is heard. The consultation runs until 31st January and you can send your comments to: [hmwp.consult@hants.gov.uk](mailto:hmwp.consult@hants.gov.uk). Alternatively, you can log them on the HCC website here: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/minerals-waste-update>

The sites are:

#### THE TRIANGLE, RYEDOWN LANE

The Triangle is the piece of land at the top of Pouncefoot Hill, bounded by Gardeners Lane, Ryedown Lane and the A3090 dual carriageway.

The site was originally included in a 1998 version of the plan, was then refused permission in 2001 and that refusal was upheld by the Planning Inspectorate in 2003.

There are numerous concerns with the site. Highway concerns immediately come to mind. Gardeners Lane, Ryedown Lane and their junctions with the dual carriageway are entirely inappropriate for lorry traffic in my view. There are also potential issues with hydrology and what might happen to water displaced by any quarrying activity in this location.

The site is prominent, it is above Romsey, the likelihood of disturbance for the wider area as a result of noise and vastly increased lorry movements is considerable.

The site is adjacent to historic woodland and to the homes along Gardener's Lane. The ecological disturbance would be huge.

#### DUNWOOD FRUIT FARM, SHERFIELD ENGLISH

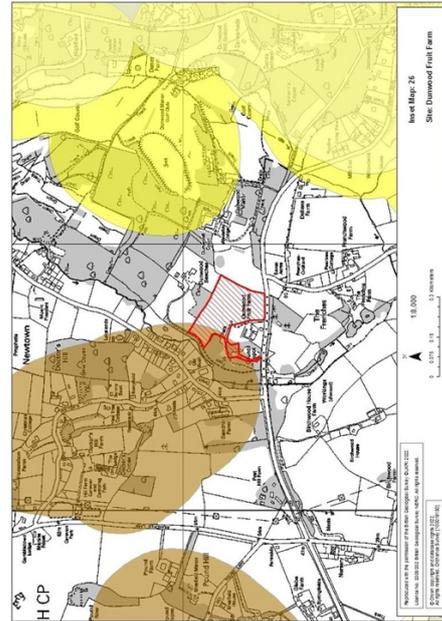
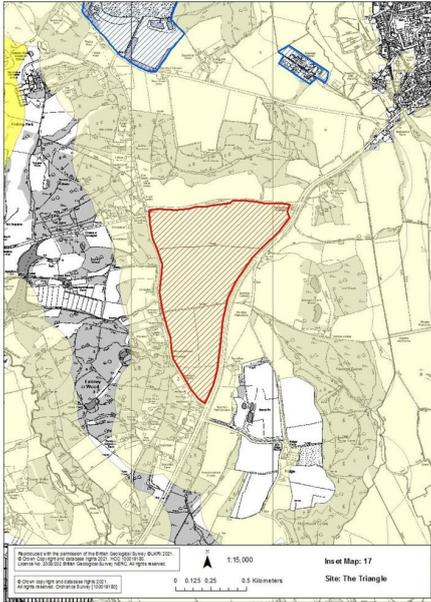
The second site under consideration is Dunwood Fruit Farm which is on the A27 between the Newtown Lane and Frenches turnings.

The proposal is for gravel and sand extraction on land behind the farm, access would be gained by a new road created along the route of the existing footpath to the south of the former chipping depot.

Again, highway concerns are considerable here. Disturbance to the residents of Newtown lane nearest to the site would be unacceptable.

The public footpath would be disrupted, but perhaps most importantly the landscape character and ecological balance of this important area, (situated as it is close to protected environmental sites) would be irreparably damaged.

Do please contact me if you need any further information or help.



## TVBC Cost of Living Grant Scheme - Update

You might remember that in October [Test Valley Borough Council](#) agreed to set aside £50,000 to support local groups and community organisations.

So far there have been 17 awards distributing over £22,000 to local organisations.

If you know a not-for-profit organisation or group who would be interested in the Cost of Living Grant, please recommend they contact the Community Engagement Officer for the relevant ward to confirm the eligibility of the organisation and project:

[www.testvalley.gov.uk/CEOfficers](http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/CEOfficers)

For more information about the Test Valley Borough Council Cost of Living Grant visit:

[www.testvalley.gov.uk/costoflivinggrantscheme](http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/costoflivinggrantscheme)

Round	Organisations	Projects	Award values	Total awarded
1 24/10/22	Harrow Way Community School	<b>Breakfast Club</b> Towards the cost of providing free breakfasts for more pupils	£1,000	3 awards £3,000
	Romsey Cancer Support Centre Jane Scarth House	<b>Warm Space</b> Creating a warm space for patients and families where they can also receive support	£1,000	
	Freedom Centre Community Hub	<b>Warm Space</b> Creating a warm space with free food, drinks, activities and support for residents	£1,000	
2 31/10/22	The Mountbatten School	<b>Winter Breakfast Project</b> Towards the cost of providing free breakfasts for all pupils through the winter months	£585	4 awards £6,585
	Romsey Royal British Legion	<b>Warm Hub</b> Providing a warm space including free food, drinks and activities such as games and films	£1,000	
	Citizen's Advice Test Valley	<b>Caseworker</b> To fund a Caseworker at the Foodbank to provide extra support to residents	£2,500*	
	Andover Foodbank	<b>Caseworker</b> To fund a Caseworker at the Foodbank to provide extra support to residents	£2,500*	
3 08/11/22	Yellow Brick Road Projects	<b>A Warm Welcome</b> Towards the cost of creating a warm space where young people can also receive support	£1,000	3 awards £4,400
	Smannell Field School	<b>Breakfast Club</b> For ingredients to provide pupils with free nutritional breakfasts and snacks at school	£1,000	
	St Mary's Church	<b>Debt &amp; money management support</b> Helping provide free debt and money management support to residents	£2,400	
4 16/11/22	The Mark Way School	<b>Warm Winter Packs</b> Providing pupils and families with winter essentials during the colder weather	£1,000	5 awards £5,220
	Baby Necessities	<b>Bed Poverty Campaign</b> Providing Moses baskets, cots and beds for babies in need of these essentials	£1,000	
	Romsey Library – Hampshire County Council	<b>Chat About Sessions</b> Providing a warm space with free activities for those seeking support and company	£720	
	Unity	<b>Cost of Living Support Outreach</b> Running outreach sessions which provide support and information to residents	£1,500	
	Youth Options	<b>Winter Essentials</b> Warm winter clothes for children who would otherwise not have these	£1,000	
5 23/11/22	Romsey Community Services Ltd	<b>Christmas Cracker 2022</b> Fresh food provisions during the fortnight over the Christmas and New Year period	£2,000	2 Awards £3,000
	Andover Churches Together	<b>Blue Monday</b> Providing food packages for the families of a number of Primary Schools in Andover	£1,000	
<b>Total awarded to date</b>			<b>£22,205</b>	<b>17 awards</b>

## TVBC refuse trucks advertise Sustainable Warmth Grants

Our refuse trucks are helping us spread the message that support is available this winter.

Government-funded Sustainable Warmth grants are designed to support those households most impacted by rising energy bills. Residents can check if they are eligible here:

[www.hampshire-applications.co.uk](http://www.hampshire-applications.co.uk)



## Hampshire County Council Annual Climate Change Report

My colleague, the brilliant [Cllr Jan Warwick](#) looks after the Climate Change brief at [Hampshire County Council](#) and has produced an update on the County's work this year.

Work continues across Hampshire and in community projects to tackle climate change.

Here with just a few examples is Cllr Jan Warwick, Executive Member for Climate Change and Sustainability.

An update on the progress we've made during our Year of Resilience to strengthen Hampshire against the impacts of [#ClimateChange](#), and some of the work we've done with communities to reduce carbon emissions, can be found in our latest Climate Change Annual Report. <https://www.hants.gov.uk/climatechangeaction2020-21>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SlwEQGjtodA>

## Bird Flu

From November 7<sup>th</sup>, ALL keepers of poultry and captive birds are once again required to follow additional strict measures.



## County Councillor Grants

I've used almost all of my grant pot for this year already. Grants this month went to West Tytherley Community Shop toward a new freezer, Awbridge and Michelmersh & Timsbury Parish Councils toward a new Speed Indicator Device, Romsey Extra Parish Council toward a dropped kerb in Whitenap Lane, and Wellow School toward their forest school initiative.

## Getting About

I've been travelling around the County to view highway works, in North Waltham, Chandlers Ford, Portchester, Twyford and Eastleigh

Additionally, I've been along to Parish Council meetings in Wellow, East Dean, Nursling & Rownhams, Chilworth, Romsey Extra, West Tytherley, Sherfield English, Lockerley, Awbridge and Michelmersh & Timsbury

## 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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## **CLLR NICK ADAMS-KING**

Caring for Romsey Rural