

Hampshire County Councillor Update 13

I hope you have enjoyed the Jubilee festivities of the last few days. It was great to see so many of our communities come together to put on events. I was lucky enough to attend some of them, more of that at the end of this report.

I told you last month that a new leader of Hampshire County Council was about to be chosen. Cllr Rob Humby, who is the councillor for Bishops Waltham was selected at a meeting last month. In creating his new cabinet Rob has asked me to take on the role of Cabinet Member for Highway Operations. Potholes are now officially all my fault! It's a challenging but exciting and interesting role and I look forward to working with the highways team.

Highways Information

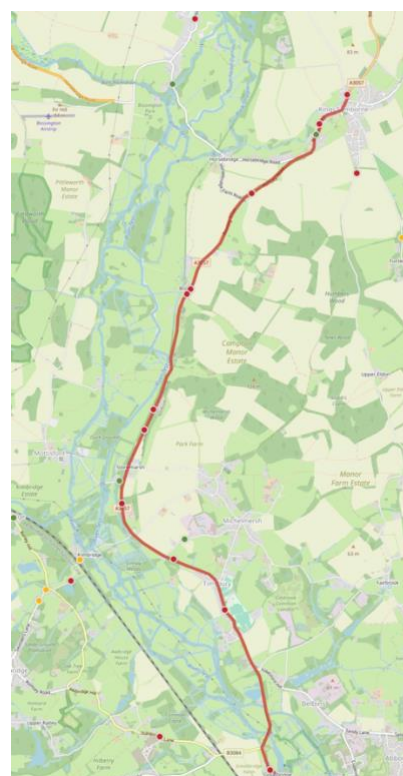
A3057 Resurfacing

An update on the resurfacing of the A3057 between Greatbridge and Kings Somborne.

As part of Hampshire County Council's programme to make Hampshire's roads more resilient to the effects of extreme weather and heavy traffic, we will be undertaking carriageway resurfacing and repairs at various locations along the A3057, between Greatbridge House, near Romsey, to Cox Drove Hill in King's Somborne.

The works have been programmed as follows:

- **_Preparatory Works** – start Monday 13th June 2022 and will last for up to 4 weeks – works will be undertaken using **Temporary Traffic Lights** from 09:30 to 16:00hrs during the day (to 15:00hrs when working in King's Somborne) and 20:00 to 06:00hrs during the night – Mon to Fri
- **_Carriageway Resurfacing & Repairs** – starting Monday 11th July 2022 and will last for up to 7 weeks – works will be undertaken using **Road Closures** from 20:00 to 06:00hrs each night – Mon to Fri.



In order to undertake the works safely it will be necessary to close the road in phases. Whilst there is an allowance within the time periods shown above for delays, there may be times when we have to postpone works at very short notice; based on the latest weather forecasts, this can occur just prior to works commencing.

We will always look to provide up to date information wherever we can, but sometimes these last minute decisions can be difficult to relay to the travelling public in a timely manner. **When we can, any significant changes to the scheduled dates will be made clear on the yellow sign boards located at the works limits.**

Residents in close proximity to the works will receive a letter to inform them they may experience some noise disturbance overnight. We are aware of the issues created by night working and will endeavour to keep noise levels reduced whenever possible.

In order to help us to complete the work as quickly as possible, please ensure that no vehicles are parked on the road in the vicinity of the works.

For residents located within the traffic management for the road closure or traffic lights set-up, vehicular access to and from their property cannot be guaranteed during working hours. Do contact a member of the workforce on site in advance and should you need to have access to or from your property and they will be able to advise if they can accommodate your request. Pedestrian access will be available at all times.

The surfacing operation uses a separate bitumen layer in addition to the new asphalt carriageway surface. In order to avoid potential injury or damage, please do not walk across the carriageway during the works unless directed by a member of the workforce.

Thank you for your co-operation and if you need more information regarding these works, you can using any of the options below.

OneNetwork - <https://one.network/?tm=GB128175976>
email - roads@hants.gov.uk
call - 0300 555 1388

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.

Disturbance from motorbikes in Lords Wood, Chilworth/Rownhams

I've been made aware of complaints about motorbikes and mopeds in Lords Wood between Chilworth, Rownhams and Lordshill, most particularly by the local TVBC councillors, Terese Swain, Mike Maltby and Phil Bundy.

I have therefore been talking to [Hampshire County Council](#) Rights of way team to see if there is anything we can do to address the issue. Unfortunately, this is an issue the footpath team often come across. How do you stop motorcycles without impairing the use of the route by legitimate users? Sadly, there is no easy answer.

HCC do not have legislation to allow a gate to be erected across a restricted byway. Bollards are not the answer and the only thing the footpath manager can suggest here is to vastly improve the signage so that the Police can enforce it. At either end we have our standard Restricted Byway waymarks, but HCC recommend we install the type pictured below.

If there is no reduction in the use of the route by motorcycles after the new signage, HCC would also look at installing cameras as a deterrence.

At the southern end of the Restricted Byway, beyond the start of the path there is a line of gates and barriers at the edge of the housing estate (marked yellow in the map below). This is within the Southampton City Council area – there are clear gaps that have been made on either side of the barriers with evidence bikes are using it. The Police have been informed and both Romsey and Southampton police have agreed to patrol more frequently.



Hampshire Local Transport Plan consultation

[Hampshire County Council](#) are asking for your views on how transport should develop over the next 27 years up to 2050.


Hampshire's new Local Transport Plan has been published. You can view the detail and make comments upon it here:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/localtransportplan>

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

A New Local Transport Plan for Hampshire

Closing date: 26 June 2022



Tell us what you think of our vision for future transport and travel infrastructure to 2050. If adopted, it will affect the way we all travel around the county for work, education and leisure.

We have opened a consultation on the draft Local Transport Plan (LTP4) and your views will be important in the development of the final version to be approved by the County Council.

The 12-week consultation runs until 26 June 2022 and you can read the information pack and complete the response form on our website via the button below.

FIND OUT MORE AND TAKE PART IN THE CONSULTATION

On street electric charging survey

I know there is much interest locally in on street charging for electric cars. Hampshire County Council and Test Valley Borough Council are keen to support residents / visitors to Test Valley who choose to use Electric Vehicles (EVs) as a more environmentally friendly alternative to traditional petrol and diesel cars.

HCC have installed some charge points across the county and are investigating the possibility of installing publicly available charge points in on-street locations to increase the numbers and connectivity of the EV network. Please fill out the following survey to help HCC identify where demand is greatest.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx...>

HCC are currently only collating information to inform their strategy, but requests are being recorded for subsequent installation, subject to technical feasibility and budget.

Do please complete the survey, the greater the response the clearer it is to HCC that there is interest locally.


Help from HCC for those struggling with cost of living pressures


If you are struggling with the cost of food and utility bills – help is available. Our Children's Services team have provided a list of useful sources of support for families in Hampshire who are experiencing financial difficulties:





Immediately available support:



 For food Support: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/.../communitypantries>
Pantries also have a supply of food vouchers for eligible families. Please also visit the Family Information and Services Hub <https://fish.hants.gov.uk> for other food support.

 Utility bill Support: Please contact your local Citizens Advice for help with fuel costs - <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/.../contact-us/contact-us/>

 Please also check out our previous grant funded community schemes - <https://www.hants.gov.uk/.../communitygrants> - to see which local organisations are offering immediate support.

 Exceptional Housing Support: Contact your local District or Borough Council for support with housing costs.



Many local organisations, charities and community groups are also offering support. Details about what is on offer, including foodbanks, can be found on our directory:

<https://fish.hants.gov.uk/kb5/hampshire/directory/home.page>



More support is coming soon:

- Food vouchers from district and borough councils will be available in the next month.
- More community food and utility bills support projects – details will be published on the connect4communities website:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/.../communitygra.../communitygrants>

- Holiday Activity and Food Schemes are running across the summer holidays – details will also be published on the connect4communities website:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/.../hol.../holiday-activities-hants>

- Discretionary grants for schools, colleges and early years settings will be available from 27 June.

For more information about the connect4communities programme see:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/.../childr.../connectforcommunities>

Homes for Ukraine – Local Response

I'm answering very many questions from local families hosting Ukrainian refugees, so I hope it is helpful to share some of the updated information I've discovered in the last few weeks:

- Free Bus passes for refugees

Free bus pass travel within the wider Hampshire area will be available for Ukrainian refugees arriving in the county as part of the Government's Homes for Ukraine scheme over the summer, following an announcement.

The Local Authority is in the process of finalising arrangements with the county's three major bus operators - Stagecoach, First Bus and Bluestar – with the scheme due to launch shortly.

Full details of the scheme will be announced in the coming days, with information shared with sponsors and guests in due course.

- Free school meals for Ukrainian children

Government guidance states that additional funding will be provided to councils for education services for Ukrainian children arriving via the Homes for Ukraine scheme. Further guidance on when councils will receive this funding is expected soon.

As an interim measure, HCC has asked schools to step in and provide immediate assistance to Ukrainian families, including providing free school meals. Schools have been asked to collate any expenditure so that we can reimburse it out of the funding that Government will provide for education services. Many schools assist families with filling in the form for free school meals.

- The £350 payment to sponsors

HCC will start writing to sponsors from this week requesting further information required to process the £350 payments to sponsors.

Following publication of guidance on 29th April from the UK Government on administering payments to sponsors, it is intended that the £350 payments will commence from the end of May, subject to the required payment infrastructure being fully operational by that date.

Payments will be made monthly, in arrears, and will commence once all relevant home visit checks have been completed and guests are in situ. Sponsors will be required to inform the County Council when sponsorship arrangements have ceased or if circumstances change.

Ukraine Connections

From 25 April 'Ukraine Connections' groups begin in several Hampshire libraries. The sessions offer a welcoming space for Ukrainian guests to meet and find out more about HCC services, begin to meet others socially and to find out more about life in their new temporary home.

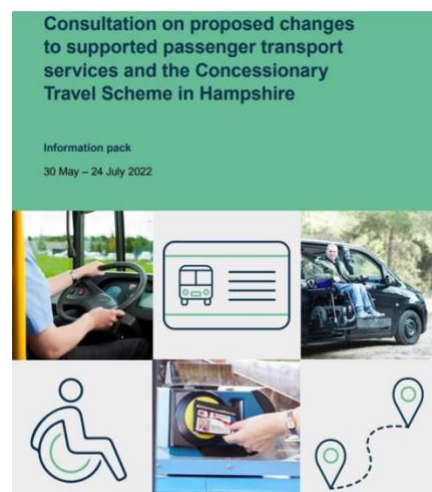


Supported Passenger Transport/Concessionary Travel Scheme Consultation

Hampshire County Council are proposing changes to County Council funded local bus and community transport services, and to the Concessionary Travel scheme enhancements they fund in Hampshire.

The eight-week consultation closes at midnight on 24 July 2022.

For more detail about the proposals and how they could impact service users and bus pass holders; and to access the online response form, please see the Passenger Transport consultation webpage on our website hants.gov.uk: <https://hampshirecc.welcomesyourfeedback.net/s/PT2022>



If you know anyone who does not use the internet or requires the information in an alternative format, please advise them to call: 0300 555 1388 (calls from a landline are charged at local rates).

Public Art commission to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee

It's timely to tell you about the Platinum Jubilee public art project which has been commissioned by [Test Valley Borough Council](#). The project is to provide two pieces of public art, one each for Romsey and Andover, paid for by developer contributions specifically collected for local public art projects.

TVBChas announced the winner of its platinum jubilee public art commission - and it's set to go to a familiar face.

Amy Goodman, who created the spectacular Romsey War Horse for the War Memorial park, will create two new artworks for the north and south of the borough to honour the Queen's 70 years of service to the people of the United Kingdom, the Realms and the Commonwealth, as well as the monarch's connections to Test Valley.

The designs will be revealed later in the year but will be 'sister' sculptures featuring Her Majesty. They will be placed in central locations in Romsey and Andover and will be unveiled in early summer 2023. The specific locations will be announced closer to the time.

Amy said: "I was shocked and overwhelmed to be given this great news. I certainly wasn't expecting both. The pressure will be on for me to create two fitting yet distinctive statues that really complement each other. It will be such an honour to sculpt Her Majesty."

Amy's other sculptures include the Florence Nightingale and Gurkha memorials in Aldershot, Arborfield Horses, Pegasus and Bellerophon for the 16 Air Assault Brigade and The Aldershot Airborne Soldier.

Mayor's Jubilee Card Competition

Also on the theme of the Jubilee. This is the brilliant design chosen as the winner of [Test Valley Borough Council](#)'s Mayor's Jubilee card competition.

Fantastically well done Pippa Lyons from North Baddesley!



County Councillor Grant Scheme

The 2022/3 County Councillor Grant scheme starts this month.

I've already agreed to support two schemes locally, to help establish a Youth Club in Wellow and also for Wellow Scouts who are starting a Squirrels group. I'm also going to be ring-fencing an amount towards upgrading our local speed indicator devices.

If you have a scheme deserving of funding do please let me know.

Getting About

The last Parish Assembly of the Spring was on May 25th in Sherfield English. Additionally I've been along to Parish Council meetings in Chilworth, East Dean, Nursling and Rownhams, Michelmersh and Timsbury, Melchet Park and Plaitford, Lockerley and Awbridge.

It was great too to get out and about over the Jubilee holiday to see so many different community events. The flower festival at All Saints Church, Awbridge was fantastic, it was great to see the brilliant work of Nursling Men's Shed at their open day and I was honoured to be asked to say a few words at the opening of the Alison Finlay Memorial Garden during the Chilworth Jubilee Fete.

Alison was the mainstay of her community for very many years. The chair of the Parish Council, Chilworth's TVBC representative and integral to so many other parish groups and activities. Her public spirit, kindness and dedication was unsurpassed and her sudden death in 2020 was a shock to very many people.

The dementia-friendly garden created in her honour is a fitting tribute to Alison, delivering on a plan she had long harboured for this piece of ground adjacent to the village hall and Chilworth village green.



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

