

Hampshire County Councillor Update 09

Hello

Here is my ninth update for residents of Romsey Rural, covering January 2022.

Highways Information

Hampshire Highways December update

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



Southampton Road, Romsey - roadworks

The roadworks along Southampton Road in Romsey should be finished by the end of next week (by February 11th), two weeks ahead of schedule.

Works to address flooding on the M271/Romsey Road roundabout

You'll have noticed that the works to address the flooding by Romsey Golf Club began last month, they are proceeding well and should be completed later this month.



Scouts Lane/West Dean Road, West Tytherley

The potholes along Scouts Lane and West Dean Road have finally been filled.

Cooks Lane, Lockerley

Work has been instructed to clear the mud from the road along the whole length of Cooks Lane, Lockerley using a digger before then the various defects and potholes are repaired. (This will not be resurfacing I'm afraid). The road will need to be closed for both pieces of work, so the necessary Traffic Regulation Orders are being prepared.

A27 – Sherfield English

I've been working on a number of issues with the A27 at Sherfield English, most particularly between the Graemar Lane junction and the Wiltshire border. The road has been inspected and identified as being in need of resurfacing, this has been scheduled for the next financial year, so hopefully sometime over the summer.

I have also asked for a safety inspection to be carried out of the Steplake Lane/A27 junction for safety purposes. There has been a suggestion the central island might be moved in this location. I'm afraid that isn't practical, but improved lines of sight and signage will hopefully help, I am pressing for both pieces of work to be completed.

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:

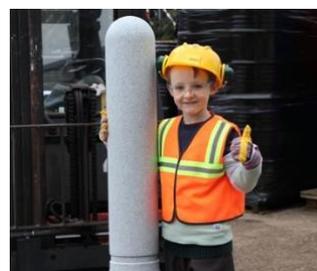
<https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/rightsofway/reportaproblem>

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.

Introducing carbon neutral bollards

Hampshire County Council are committed to doing all we can to tackle climate change. That's why, in a first for the UK, we are trialling low-carbon bollards.

These traffic bollards installed by Hampshire Highways are made from a plant-based biopolymer, derived from sugar cane.



This makes them lighter, easier to install, and because they replace concrete, they reduce the carbon costs of manufacture.

We're determined to play our part on the critical issue of climate change and carbon reduction and lead the way in sustainable construction.

Hampshire School Bus Consultation

If like mine, your little darlings catch the bus to school you may be interested in this consultation on proposed changes to Hampshire County Council's school bus arrangements.

The proposals include

- Increasing the use of pick-up and drop-off points;
- And, organising services to be able to transport children from more than one school on a single journey.



We would very much welcome feedback particularly from children and young people who travel to school using this service, as well as their parents or carers.

HCC would also like to know what schools and colleges think, as well as invite governors and residents living in the local communities around schools and colleges to take part in the consultation. Gathering people's thoughts and opinions is important and, alongside other factors, this will help to inform any final decision that is made.

The potential changes may affect pupils of all ages, attending both mainstream and specialist schools. The proposed changes could provide opportunities for mixing of pupils across different age groups, and those in mainstream and specialist settings. Additionally, the use of safe, co-ordinated pick-up and drop-off points could be increased for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

You can find out more and comment here:

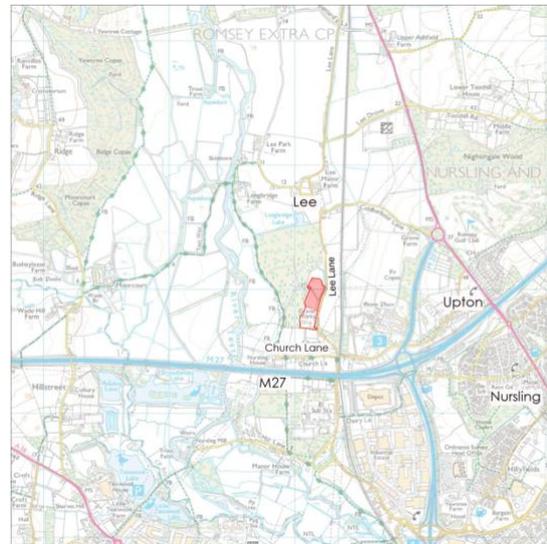
<https://www.hants.gov.uk/.../consultations/schooltransport>

Planning Application - Nursling Recycling Centre and Paint Ball site, Lee Lane

There is a new planning application for a proposed extension to Nursling Recycling Centre.

The application includes variations to existing site layout, erection of a new workshop building and the upgrade of parking arrangements at the adjacent paintball centre, the full site address is Nursling Recycling Centre, Lee Lane, Nursling Southampton SO16 0AD.

You can view the application and all the plans via this link:

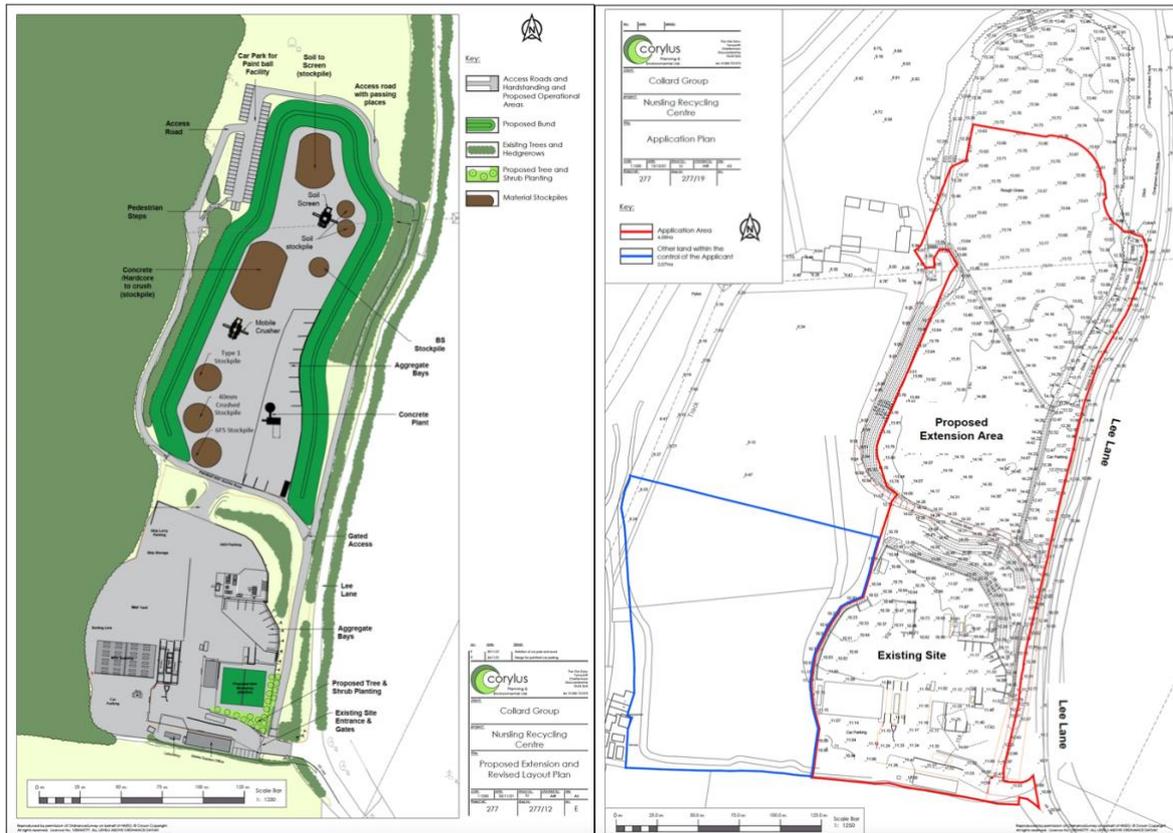


<https://planning.hants.gov.uk/Planning/Display/HCC/2021/0784>

(The link may take you to a cover page where you need to agree to the privacy policy before being taken to the plans).

You can also comment through the web portal or by emailing planning@hants.gov.uk. If you do make a comment please copy it to me too, Nick.Adams-King@hants.gov.uk

You can see the proposed plans below. My main concern at this point is the impact of any additional noise and also any increase in the amount of traffic, particularly heavy lorries, accessing the site.



Council Tax Discount from April

I'm pleased to report that Council Tax bills will be discounted by £150 this April - to help households that need it most with the rising cost of inflation.

The discount will apply to all households in Council Tax Bands A to D. Around 80% of all homes in England.

The Chancellor has also confirmed that local authorities will also receive a discretionary fund to help lower-income households in higher Council Tax Bands - and households in Bands A-D who are exempt from Council Tax.

I'll post more details on this as soon as I receive it.

Hampshire Plans for the Queens' Platinum Jubilee.

I mentioned last month the plans Test Valley Borough Council have this year, now Hampshire County Council have released details of plans to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Particularly pleased with the plan to plant trees. I've passed these details on to a couple of our parish councils already.

We're developing some exciting plans for Hampshire to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee this year, which will be just some of the many ways that residents and communities can come together and get involved in the commemorations and celebrations of Her Majesty's 70 years on the throne.

An outline programme of events – which feature activities at schools, Hampshire Library Service country parks (including Royal Victoria Country Park pictured), Sir Harold Hillier Arboretum and Gardens and even a commemorative 'Everest' rock climbing challenge at Calshot Activities Centre have been set out.



Among the proposals are a £500,000 initiative to create a living, environmental legacy to honour the Queen's 70 years on the throne. The aim is to help schools, organisations, individuals and communities to plant thousands of trees across Hampshire, which will contribute towards the Queen's Green Canopy project, and benefit people, wildlife and the climate, now and in the future.

Further details of our programme will be published as plans are developed. They include seed packs of red, white and blue wildflowers being offered to schools for children to plant; the hosting of 'The Big Jubilee Lunch' and a food festival celebrating diverse and Commonwealth foods; activities in libraries to create Jubilee scrap books and craft workshops to make bunting, flags, collages, and quilts – a project to create an e-book collecting memories from the past 70 years; a special concert, and a touring exhibition by [Hampshire Record Office](#).

Read more <https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/25012022jubilee>

County Councillor Grant Scheme

I've already agreed amounts that have gone to support Romsey Show, Romsey's Christmas Lights, Youth in Romsey, Nursling and Rownhams Parish Council for their recreation ground project, The Social Collective for their work to tackle social exclusion and loneliness in Abbotswood, St Leonard's Church in Sherfield English for their memorial bench and East Tytherley Parish Council for a defibrillator for the parish.

This month I have agreed a grant to All Saints Church, Awbridge towards a new cooker for their community lunches.

I'm working with a couple of other groups to provide funding for their projects, but still have a small amount of funding left in the budget which must be used by the end of February, so do please get in touch if you know of any local groups needing funding.

Getting About

Parish Council meetings have continued. I've attended meetings of Chilworth, Awbridge, Romsey Extra, East Dean, Sherfield English, Michelmersh and Timsbury and Lockerley parish councils since my last report.

Back to Hampshire County Council meetings in January too, where I have attended meetings of the Health and Adult Social Care committee, Corporate Parenting Board, Environment, Transport and Economy committee, Hampshire Road Safety Council and the HASC Community Funding working group.

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



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Caring for Romsey Rural