

Hampshire County Councillor Update 12

I was elected a year ago this month as your County Councillor, it's been an enormously rewarding experience, sometimes frustrating, fascinating and rewarding in equal measure.

The County Council is about to gain a new leader, so it will be interesting to see what change that brings for both the organisation and for the way in which the County interacts with both residents and councillors. Good luck and best wishes to Cllr Keith Mans who steps down after three years as the leader of the County.

Highways Information

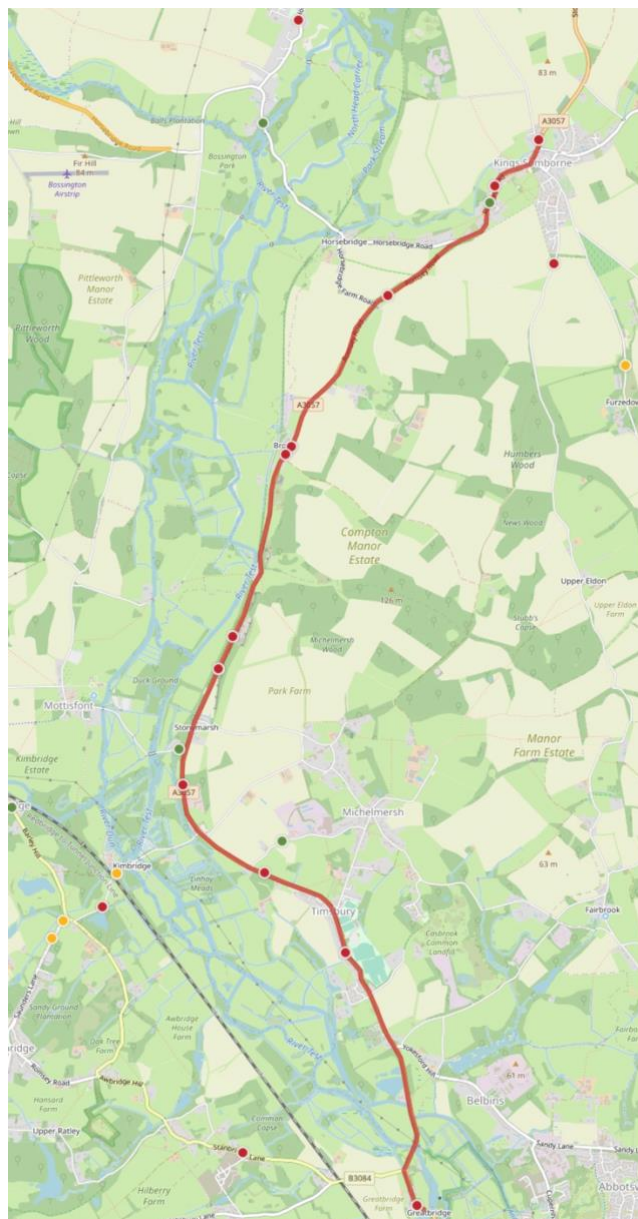
A3057 Resurfacing

I've been asked a number of times about the state of the A3057 Greatbridge/Stockbridge Road north of Romsey. Particularly the sections through Brook and between Timsbury and Romsey.

I've been chasing for repairs to be carried out, as has my neighbouring County Councillor, [Cllr David Drew](#).

I'm pleased to tell you the whole stretch of the road from Kings Somborne to Greatbridge (just north of the old World of Water site) is being resurfaced.

The work starts on July 7th and is due to run until August 13th. It'll take place overnight and the road will be closed between 8pm and 6am throughout this period. There will of course be access for those who live along the road.



Improvements to Bakers Drive/Romsey Road/Redbridge Lane junction in Nursling.

HCC has announced a consultation on their proposals to improve the Bakers Drive/Romsey Road/Redbridge Lane junction in Nursling.

The proposals involve the installation of traffic lights which will be linked intelligently to those at the Bakers Drive/Nursling Street junction.


It started on the 25th March, and ended on the 22nd April. Sadly though they didn't advertise it particularly well, including not telling me about it either.

I've therefore asked for late submissions to be allowed and am posting the details here. If you have comments do please email them to major.schemes@hants.gov.uk and also copy me in, Nick.Adams-King@hants.gov.uk.

Details of the scheme are in the graphics below.


A3057 Nursling Junctions Improvement Scheme

3. Scheme Proposals – Nursling Street / Horns Drive



Key Points:


- Junction improvement required as part of Redbridge Lane (Fen Meadows) and Rowham's Lane planning approval
- Current proposed option straightens alignment meaning "left out" and "right in" to Bakers Drive can operate in one signal phase significantly increasing efficiency
- Pedestrian crossing points introduced to improve safety and access to bus stops, and local schools
- Intelligent Traffic Signals will link with Horns Drive junction to prioritise traffic flows along the A3057 corridor
- Incorporation of vehicle activation and bus priority technology



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A3057 Nursling Junctions Improvement Scheme

4. Scheme Proposals – Nursling Street / Horns Drive



Key Points:

- Targeted modifications to improve existing junction efficiency
- Link with Bakers Drive junction to prioritise traffic flows along the A3057 corridor
- "Stop Lines" moved closer to A3057 to reduce delays and improve efficiency of operation
- Proposed localised widening of side roads and improved visibility
- Incorporation of vehicle activation and bus priority technology



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Renewal of pedestrian crossing on Botley Road, N Baddesley

The pedestrian crossing on the A27 Botley Road in North Baddesley, close to the Rownhams Lane junction, is both old and now rather tired.

Therefore HCC are undertaking a complete refurbishment of the site. Work will commence on 28 April and will last for approximately 3 weeks, there are going to be temporary lights put in place while the work is being carried out..

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.

Road Safety Campaigns

Two road safety campaigns being supported by the County Council to tell you about.

Free Child Car Seat Checks

As part of [Hampshire County Council](#)'s road safety work, they are offering free child car seat checks at Morrisons' car park in Totton next Tuesday, May 10th, from 10am - 2pm.

Other events are being held further afield, at

Morrisons, Basingstoke, RG21 8BJ – Thursday 19th May, 10am – 2pm

Sainsburys, Liphook, GU30 7TW – Wednesday 11th May, 10am – 2pm

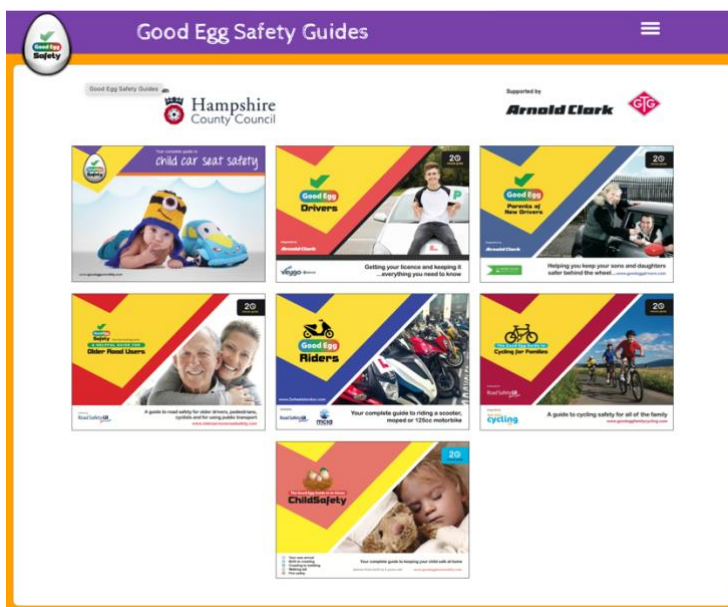


The poster features a photograph of a man securing a baby in a red car seat. The background is purple with yellow text. It includes the 'Good Egg Safety' logo in the top left corner. The main heading reads 'Have your child's seat checked for FREE'. Below this, it lists the date and time: 'Tuesday 10th May 2022 10am - 2pm'. The location is 'Morrisons Car Park' at '1 Spruce Dr, Totton, Southampton SO40 8AD'. The website 'www.goodeggcarsafety.com' and social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube are also present. At the bottom, logos for Hampshire County Council, Road Safety GB, iam RoadSmart, and Arnold Clark are displayed.

Good Egg Safety Guides

Hampshire County Council have also created digital road safety guides to complement the new Highway Code. There are a range of subjects including ones for older road users, moped and motorcycle riders, cycling for families and for the parents of new drivers (with that looming next year for me and our 16 year old, I found that one particularly useful).

You can access them here:



The screenshot shows the 'Good Egg Safety Guides' website. It features a purple header with the 'Good Egg Safety' logo and a navigation menu. The main content area displays a grid of seven guide thumbnails: 'Child Car Seat Safety', 'Good Egg Drivers', 'Parents of New Drivers', 'Good Egg Older Road Users', 'Good Egg Riders', 'Cycling for Families', and 'Child Safety'. Each thumbnail includes a title, a brief description, and a '20' icon. The website is supported by Hampshire County Council, Arnold Clark, and GFC.

<http://hampshire.goodeggsafety.com>

Halterworth School and Romsey's School Crossing Patrols

One of the roles for a County Councillor is to visit the schools in my division. So, it was lovely to go to Halterworth school to talk about their concerns and hear of their aspirations for a Forest school.

The team were also telling me about their struggle to find a replacement crossing patrol person.

In fact, there are three locations in Romsey where crossing patrol people are needed. Surely there must be someone out there happy to take on these vitally important roles? The locations needed are in Halterworth Lane, Botley Road and Cupernham Lane.

The link to the job adverts for each is here:

<https://careers.newjob.org.uk/.../Romsey.../504968901/>

<https://careers.newjob.org.uk/.../Romsey.../670662301/>

<https://careers.newjob.org.uk/.../Romsey.../529767001/>

In fact there are a number of vacancies across the County, if you know of people elsewhere who might be interested the full list of crossing jobs available is here:

https://careers.newjob.org.uk/HCC/search/?createNewAlert=false&q=School+Crossing+Patrols&optionsFacetsDD_customfield2=&optionsFacetsDD_department=&locationsearch=

Do please share this post around. Let's try and find some new lollipop people to help improve our children's safety.

Homes for Ukraine – Local Response

The local response to the Homes for Ukraine scheme has been fantastic, it's been brilliant to hear of so many Ukrainian families finding sanctuary with local people.

An update on a couple of aspects:

HCC Community Grants to help support Ukrainian refugees

I've had a range of different queries on ways that the County Council can support Ukrainian refugees who are joining communities across the County.

HCC's Leader has established an initial fund of £100,000 which is being made available to support the refugees in whatever ways are most beneficial (on top of the general support agreed through the Government scheme). He has now agreed that this can be made available for community and voluntary organisations to make applications against.

Funding can be applied for through the Leaders Community Grants

(<https://www.hants.gov.uk/.../gra.../leaders-community-grants>).

- Applications will be considered from Parish and Town Councils and local branches of national charities (where the support being provided is delivered specifically in Hampshire)

- Applications can be made at any time for amounts under £5,000
- Applications will be assessed to ensure that the proposals are appropriate, that necessary levels of safeguarding are in place and that the activity does not unnecessarily duplicate support which is already provided through other channels.

Further details are available by following the link above or by contacting ccbsgrants@hants.gov.uk.

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.



Ukraine Connections

A chance to meet others for a friendly chat and a drink, and find out about our library services.

Andover Library	Saturday: 10am - 12pm
Fordingbridge Library	Tuesday: 2pm - 4pm
Hythe Library	Tuesday: 10am - 12pm
Lymington Library	Friday: 10am - 12pm
New Milton Library	Tuesday: 10am - 12pm
Ringwood Library	Thursday: 2pm - 4pm
Romsey Library	Friday: 2pm - 4pm
Totton Library	Monday: 10am - 12pm
Whitchurch Library	Monday: 2pm - 3pm

The poster also features an illustration of three people (two men and one woman) standing and talking, with a speech bubble above them.

Sewerage services provided by Aster?

I've been contacted by a number of residents, living in homes where the sewerage or package treatment plant is still in the ownership of Aster housing association (these are normally sites with former council houses, some of which have been sold while others remain in housing association ownership).

These residents are being asked to pay well over £1,200 per year for their sewerage. I'm interested in hearing from any residents who are being faced with similar charges. So far, I am aware of cases in Awbridge, Lockerley, East Dean, Carters Clay, West Dean/West Tytherley, Over Wallop and East Tytherley.

I'm also talking to colleagues in other areas, including Dorset, who have similar issues being reported to them. My colleague in Dorset is a former Cabinet Member for Housing and therefore has good links to senior management in Aster. Our intention is to pull together case studies to identify the issues people are having and also the complete lack of transparency around any of the charges. Then to present it to her contacts to try to obtain both clarity and solutions for the various sites.

I have two suspicions with the annual management charges, firstly that there is a blanket charge applied to each plant which is then divided by the number of houses served by it, consequently meaning some residents receive enormous bills, while others seem to pay relatively little. Secondly, that the charges are only applied to the privately owned homes, there being no transparency around whether Aster pick up a proportionate share of cost for the homes still in their ownership.

Romsey Town/Romsey Extra Parish merger consultation

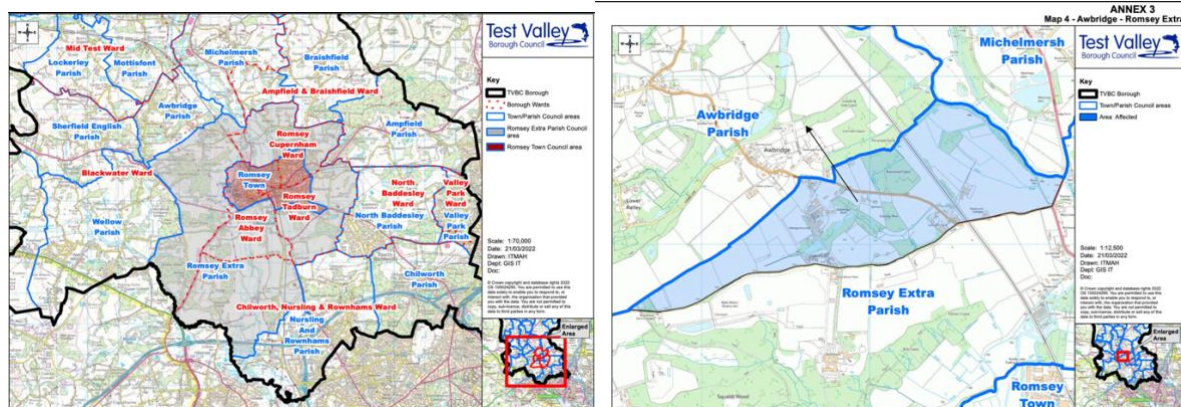
A consultation is underway which recommends the merger of Romsey Extra and Romsey Town parishes into one 'Greater Romsey' parish council.

One small area of Romsey Extra parish would be excluded from the merger and transferred instead to Awbridge. This is the part of the parish to the north of Old Salisbury Lane, including the Audley Stanbridge Earls retirement village. This would include the properties on the northern side of Old Salisbury Lane, but not those on the southern side of the land, nor Roke Manor itself, (see the second map below).

This is the recommendation of a Community Governance Panel set up by TVBC. You can read about the proposal and find out more information here: www.testvalley.gov.uk/cgr

You can email any comments to: cgr@testvalley.gov.uk

Comments must be received by 3rd June 2022.



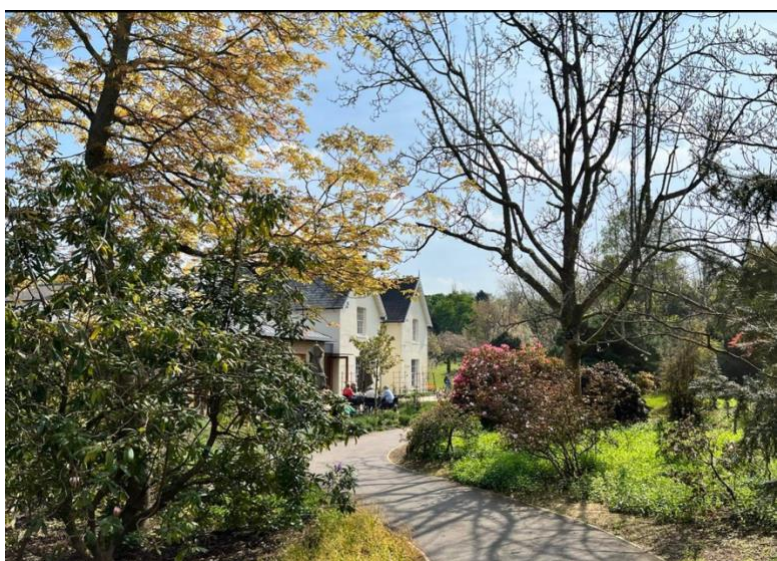
Sir Harold Hillier Arboretum and Gardens

One of the nicest parts of my County Council role is to be a member of the Advisory Committee which oversees [Sir Harold Hillier Arboretum and Gardens](#).

The job involves acting as a critical friend and support to the senior management as well as being available to do some mentoring if necessary.

So I spent a morning at the gardens talking to the director about their plans and offering some (hopefully) helpful observations on how they can best recover from the pandemic.

I can think of no more beautiful location for a meeting.



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

It's Parish Assembly time, so far I've attended those at Chilworth, Nursling and Rownhams, Wellow, Romsey Extra and Awbridge. East Dean, Michelmersh & Timsbury and Sherfield English.

I've attended meetings of Chilworth, Nursling and Rownhams, Romsey Extra, Michelmersh & Timsbury, Awbridge, West Tytherley and Wellow parish councils since my last report.

I've been at Hampshire County Council meetings too, where I have attended meetings of the Health and Adult Social Care committee, the HASC Community Funding working group and the Economy, Transport and Environment Committee.

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

Contact me:
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CLLR NICK ADAMS-KING
Caring for Romsey Rural

