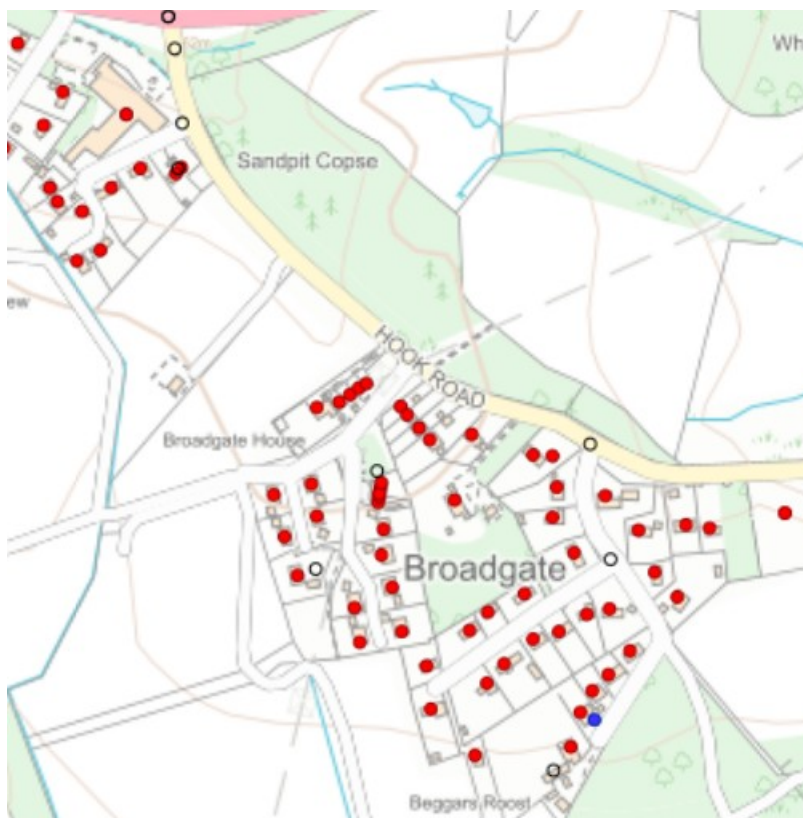


I am contacting you again concerning the current closure of Hook Road, Ampfield, Romsey for Southern Water works.

1. There is a dangerous section of single width road with a long trench taking up half the width of the carriageway and which is 96 metres in length and includes a blind bend. Because of the blind bend, traffic entering the single width section at either end cannot see the opposite end of the single width section so as to determine whether there is traffic entering at the other end. There are no passing places along this section. As you will know, your permit from Highways has a condition NCT09d which says *"Where possible the road closure will be lifted and use of lights integrated to ease burden on traffic and impact in area"*.



In order to make this section of single width road safe, we think that traffic lights are required along this section to reduce the impact of the single width restriction. There are 68 properties along the section of road, 36 from Broadgate Farm, Potters Heron Close and Hook Road who all have to use this single width blind section of road and 32 from Hookwood Lane who use a short section of it. When planning applications are considered, it is assumed that between 5 and 10 trips per day per dwelling will happen, including deliveries and the like. That means that between 335 and 670 trips along this section of road can be expected each day. The 28 further properties along Hook Road to the east do not normally have to pass through this section of single width road.



2. At the eastern end of the single width road is another 258 metres of road, which is substantially single width with some passing places between the various areas with barriers around them. This makes the total single width length 354 metres.

However, the passing places are substantially filled up with your construction equipment and a few vehicles belonging to the small number of workers carrying out your work. There are also some vehicles parked in the passing places from the building site opposite. I have contacted Alfred Homes, the builders, separately about this as you cannot control their parking, although it would be appreciated if you could also speak to them about not parking in the passing places. Parking of their vehicles there is in breach of Condition 7 of their planning permission (23/03166/FULLS).



3. Between the western end of the single width road and the A3090 junction are various barriered off areas. Some of these extend across the entirety of one side of the carriageway and just into the remaining side of the carriageway, making it narrow. Most leave approximately 2.9 to 3.1 metres of width for vehicles to pass. However, one, which appears to be mainly a spoil heap, has barriers that limit the road width to 2.78 metres. Is it really necessary to store a spoil heap at this point? And if so, could it not be restricted to one side of the carriageway instead of encroaching onto the opposite side?

4. The works appear to be progressing at a glacial rate. As you know, local residents complained that in the first two weeks of the closure, there was work being done on only around two days. On my recent visit, there was one man sitting on a digger talking to three men watching him. That was at about 11:20am. No-one else was present in the entire area along Hook Road.

5. As works from the A3090 junction to the start of the single width section appear to be complete apart from removal of a spoil heap, would you consider moving the full width closure from the A3090 junction to being between Broadgate Farm and Hookwood Lane. A half width barrier could be placed at the A3090 junction as you have done at the Hursley Road junction with Hook Road. This would spread the pain of negotiating the hazardous road at Ladwell between those residents wanting to travel to Hursley Road and those wanting to travel to the A3090. To date, those residents wanting to travel to the A3090 have endured all of the pain. In your previous email of 16th December you said that "*The closure is being gradually reduced as progress continues*". That has not happened, in fact the long single width section has meant that the road closure has increased.

6. By copy to Southern Water, we understand that you have a consultation event scheduled in early March at Ampfield Village Hall for another closure of Hook Road later in the year by another contractor for the Southampton Link Main. We will certainly be making our dissatisfaction with

the arrangements for this road closure known to your representatives, our elected councillors, HCC Highways and the Leader of Hampshire County Council in the hope that at least some consideration is given to the substantial inconvenience caused to residents when granting permits for the Southampton Link Main road closure.

Chris Ling  
Vice Chairman  
Ampfield Parish Council