

COPYTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – TUESDAY NOVEMBER 14TH 2023

ITEM 4 – COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Report from County Councillor Edward Heron to Copythorne Parish Council meeting on November 14th 2023

Hampshire County Councillor Report Lyndhurst & Fordingbridge Division November 2023

Update to Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan latest

Over the next two months, an update of the Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan is set to be considered by each of the five authorities that contribute to the plan (Hampshire County Council, New Forest National Park Authority, Portsmouth City Council, Southampton City Council and South Downs National Park Authority) to determine whether each authority agrees that further consultation can take place prior to the Plan being submitted to the Government's Planning Inspectorate for examination. HCC's decision will be made on 12 December.

Once approved by all authorities, an eight week consultation will be launched in January 2024. The responses to the consultation are then submitted together with the Plan to the Planning Inspectorate for scrutiny. The local policies contained within the Plan guide the decisions that each of the five minerals and waste planning authorities make when determining planning applications for minerals extraction or waste infrastructure and operations.

School Crossing Patrols

Hampshire County Council is looking at our non-statutory services due to the pressure on our budget caused by the legal obligation we have to carry out certain functions. We cannot say 'no' if someone asks for support (for example with social care costs for older people and vulnerable children and support for those with disabilities) It's entirely right we provide these services free of charge for those who need them, the consequence though is a cost that is only limited by the number of people requiring support.

HCC do not have a legal duty to provide school crossing patrols. We do have a legal duty to ensure children can travel to school safely. Before considering any reduction in the services we will therefore be carrying out a thorough review of every crossing patrol location. This may mean we investigate whether putting a permanent safe crossings in place is possible or preferable, or whether the continuation of the school crossing in that location is the most efficient way of continuing to undertake our duty to the county's school pupils.

There are many locations where it has proven very difficult to recruit to vacant crossing patrol positions, they will also form part of our review. If anyone is interested in helping fill those vacancies then we would love to hear from you. Just search 'school crossing patrol jobs' on the HCC website."

Consultation on proposed changes to school and post-16 transport

Proposed changes to Hampshire County Council's School and Post-16 Transport Policies are the subject of two public consultations which run until Wednesday 6 December.

The proposals have been put forward to provide more flexible transport arrangements that better respond to children's needs, demand and external market pressures, while bringing services in line with the latest statutory guidance from the DfE. The proposals are not part of a savings programme, and do not include any proposed changes to the eligibility criteria for School and Post-16 Transport.

Details of the proposed changes and links to the consultation can be found at <https://www.hants.gov.uk/aboutthecouncil/haveyoursay/consultations/Post-16Transport-Policy-for-2024-25> and <https://www.hants.gov.uk/aboutthecouncil/haveyoursay/consultations/schooltransport>

Household Support Fund

Support from this fund has been provided to Hampshire households on 825,000 occasions since its launch two years ago. The £14.2m fund will run until March next year and has included support for community pantries and the provision of food vouchers. Details can be found at www.connect4communities.org

Connecting the Waterside

Hampshire County Council have started work on schemes to make it easier for people to walk, cycle or take the bus between the Waterside area and Southampton – building transport infrastructure that will support greener travel that will be sustainable for the local community in the immediate future and for generations to come.



New bus priority improvements on Marchwood Bypass and Rushington Roundabout will mean bus journey times will be more reliable and waiting passengers will benefit from new bus shelters, while walking and cycling routes will be upgraded and there will be safety improvements to Rushington Roundabout including a better crossing point.

Improvements to the Eling to Holbury walking and cycling route have also begun, which will improve connections between Holbury, Hythe, Marchwood, Totton and Southampton, linking to [Southampton City Council](#) Cycle Network "SCN" route 1. The completed scheme will include new Zebra crossings, a Toucan signal-controlled crossing and new signage.

More information can be found on our website:



Marchwood bypass improvements

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/.../tcfmarchwoodbypassimprovements>



Rushington roundabout improvements

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/.../tcfpushingtonroundaboutimpro...>



Eling to Holbury improvements



<https://www.hants.gov.uk/.../tcfelingtoholburyimprovements>

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

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