

Item 20 – Clerk's Report

1. Affordable Housing Development – Land to the East of New Inn Road

As at the date of this report the NFNPA have still not determined the “Discharge of Conditions” application (NFNPA Planning ref: 25/01158/DOC) for the above. Preparatory works have continued at the site ahead of a decision by the NFNPA. The concerning level of this work was reported to the NFNPA Planning Enforcement Team who on February 19th 2026 said the following:-

“The Authority has received the details pursuant to the pre-commencement conditions (25/01158DOC) and so far the details appear to be acceptable. We are awaiting final comments from a statutory consultee on one element. Once that has been received, our decision in respect of the details submitted will be issued.

In the circumstances it is not necessary or appropriate to take any formal enforcement action at this time. However, the site will continue to be monitored periodically by myself as the Authority's compliance officer.”

I will continue to discuss/check matters with the NFNPA and liaise with both English Rural Housing Association and their builders, Amiri Homes Ltd.

2. Councillor Vacancy Update

With no election called for following the “Notice of Vacancy”, the vacancy will be filled by Co-Option. Notices have been posted on the Council's noticeboards; website; Facebook page; and March newsletter.

Applications will close on March 31st 2026 and the co-option is expected to take place at the April 14th 2026 Council meeting.

3. Councillor Drop In Sessions

The dates for the next “Drop In Sessions is Saturday April 25th. It will be at 2-3pm and be held at Copythorne Community Café.

4. Wheelie Bin Rollout

Residents in the phase 3 area of New Forest District Council's (NFDC) new waste and recycling collection service (which includes the Parish of Copythorne) will start to receive their wheelie bins from Monday 9 March 2026.

5. Village Gateways Project

As reported last month, HCC Highways have provided the Council with a quotation for the installation of a pair of Village Gateways to be located around 100 metres east of the entrance to the Haywain (at the point where the speed limit changes from 50mph to 30mph. The quotation is due to be discussed at the Five Year Plan Advisory Committee meeting due to be held on March 5th 2026.

6. Matters reported to HCC/NFDC

Attached (as Appendix A) is a list of matters reported by the Clerk to HCC that remain outstanding.

David Rigby
Clerk to Copythorne Parish Council
March 3rd 2026

APPENDIX A – Point 6 – Items reported to HCC/NFDC

ISSUES REPORTED TO HCC/NFDC FAULT REPORTING WEBPAGE - ONGOING ENQUIRIES ONLY - (updated 3/3/26)

DATE REPORTED	REF. NUMBER	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ISSUE RAISED	REPORTED BY	FIRST CHECK DUE	LAST CHECKED	LATEST COMMENTS
28/05/25	21805354	Vegetation over hanging road and ditch in Chinham Road	David Rigby	02/06/25	03/03/26	25/6 – HCC Highways not responsible, passed to 3 rd party. 15/1 – Awaiting response to further chaser
26/06/25	7177688	Query condition of New Inn Rd (direct to Highways)	David Rigby	03/07/25	03/03/26	16/7 - E-mail response from County Cllr. Lulu Bowerman (HCC Executive Member for Highways):- “..the road does not currently meet the criteria for resurfacing under our prioritisation framework.”
10/07/25	CS2424111	Fly-tipping, near layby in Southampton Road	David Rigby	17/07/25	03/03/26	2/2 – NFDC Streetscene have confirmed that they will clear the items flytipped at this location.
05/12/25	21838801	Blocked drain – bottom of New Inn Road	David Rigby	12/12/25	03/03/26	10/02/26 - Repair to be undertaken as part of planned works
19/12/25	21843014	Surface water flooding, Southampton Road, Cadnam	David Rigby	26/12/25	03/03/26	23/12/25 – Closed by HCC. “No works required at this time.” (Clerk will continue to monitor this location)
09/01/26	21847244	Pavement breaking up, junction of Chinham Rd & Shepherds Road	David Rigby	16/01/26	03/03/26	15/1/26 – Works scheduled 16/02/26 – works to be rescheduled
13/01/26	21848518	Overhanging trees and tree debris in ditch, Pollards Moor Road	David Rigby	20/01/26	03/03/26	20/02/26 – Passed to 3rd Party
13/01/26	21848541	Flooding Riverside Close on Dec 18 th 2025	David Rigby	20/01/26	03/03/26	28/01/26 - Following a review of your enquiry, all necessary actions have been undertaken. 12/2/26 – Actions chased

Number only = HCC

CS and Number = NFDC