

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

THURSDAY 16 JANUARY 2025, Village Hall, 7pm

Present – Parish Councillors Charles Holroyd (Chairman), Alison Barker, Paul Barnes, Nigel Long, Nick Ralls; Clerk Susan Turner; Guests: Parish Lengthsman Gordon Hunt, Ward Councillor Kate Tuck; Members of the public 2

1 WELCOME & APOLOGIES

Apologies received from County Cllr Juliet Henderson, Ward Cllr Onnalee Cubitt

- **PUBLIC SESSION** No issues raised during public session.
- **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS** of 21 November, agreed and signed.
- **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** in items on the Agenda. Chairman noted his interest re item 6.3 as a member of Village Hall Committee.

5 REPORTS TO MEETING

.1 Police report Chairman noted poacher's car abandoned broadside across BOAT entrance APPENDIX I.

.2 Ward Councillor update

- Cllr Kate Tuck assessed the potential impacts of Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation (see notes below) as 'catastrophic' for BDBC, noting that the Combined Authority will have strategic planning powers; plus the requirement for reorganisation at borough/district level into larger unitary councils. Noting also central Government's agenda for growth at any price and apparent disregard for the natural environment. The Borough Council has been and is engaged in debate, but now to wait until the end of the month for Government decision on requests for Priority devolution.
- The Local Plan back to drawing board with the new call for sites. BDBC seeking to decide whether possible to continue with existing local Plan because of benefit of having policies in place including those unrelated to the spatial strategy. In response to question re possible inclusion of sites, Kate said that at the moment all the sites put forward won't make up the numbers needed for the Government's new Standard Method.
- In response to Kate's request to know of any issues she might raise on behalf of the Parish, she will look into the question of the Little Hoddington recreation area lease, and the stalled Conservation Area review.

Cllr Tuck left the meeting with the thanks of the Parish Council

.3 | County Councillor emailed reports (Dec 2024, 06 Jan 2025) APPENDIX II

<u>Support for Hampshire's Farmers</u> HCC Full Council meeting of 28 November supported motion to oppose new inheritance tax laws for family farms. Council Leader, Cllr Nick Adams King, has written TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE ASKING FOR GOVERNMENT TO RECONSIDER.

TO NOTE BDBC Full Council meeting of Thurs 19 Dec supported a similar motion.

Hampshire Highways Two-year additional investment programme – an extra £22.5M into repairs.

Notes on devolution

Hants & Solent Combined Authority - and Local Gov Reorganisation

Hampshire Council, Portsmouth City Council, S/hampton City Council and Isle of Wight Council all agreed to join as a Combined Authority.

All agreed to submit a request to be included in the Government's Priority devolution programme. HCC agreed at its Full Council meeting on Thurs 09, Cabinet of Fri 10, and the joint request was submitted by the deadline of Fri 10th.

With this request comes agreement that County Council elections scheduled for May 2025 will be postponed for a year, and that the Combined Authority will submit its plans for Local Government Reorganisation (into Unitary Councils) by Autumn this year.

Government will advise by end of Jan if the Hants and Solent Combined Authority has been

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accepted on the Priority programme. If it has, the postponement of elections will be confirmed, Government will publish an eight-week consultation in February.

The aim is for Combined Authority to be in place by April 2026 and Mayor elected May 2026.

The Local Government Reorganisation into Unitary Councils is the big unknown and all up for debate. There seems no Local Councillor support for Government proposals that Unitaries be 500K to 1.2M people – all think far too big.

An argument for seeking Priority for Devolution to Combined Authority, is that this will give (a bit) more time for negotiations on what the Unitary Councils will look like.

The White Paper mentions Parish Councils twice:

- 'We will also work with the town and parish council sector to improve engagement between them and local authorities.'
- 'We will also rewire the relationship between town and parish councils and principal Local Authorities, strengthening expectations on engagement and community voice.'

.4 | Borough Council emailed report (07 Jan 2025) APPENDIX III

.5 | Parish Lengthsman January report

- Cleaning and painting all benches a task for this spring / summer.
- Fingerpost to South Warnborough by phone box now has two fingers broken.
- Jobs for County Lengthsmen some of the village signs could do with a wash.
- I have walked all footpaths and all are in good condition and passable (they are a little muddy in places). The worst one is FP7 along the border of Hoddington Estate; there is a very wet and muddy section of about 40/50 yards. I wonder if the Estate was contacted they may put something down to eliminate this.
- On Church Street there is what I presume to be a disused well as it has created a sink hole in the bank close to the road. This has happened a while ago and from memory I believe David Janaway filled in.

End of report

To record thanks to David Janaway who will again make good the Church Street bank.

6. FINANCE & GOVERNANCE

.1 Accounts to date APPENDIX IV – Bank reconciliation at 16 January = £41,165.01

Payments since last meeting of 21 November Saunders - Maintenance Contract NOV 45 £286.00 Lengthsman – Salary NOV Clerk – Salary NOV 46 £65.42 47 £559.80 Clearway Sport 10899 – De-mossing etc tennis court Vision ICT 19364 – Domain, email hosting 48 £198.00 49 £180.00 50 51 £35.00 £222.00 ICO – Data protection register Cumbria Clock Co – Maintenance Church Clock J Smith & Son – Replace rotten pond rail 52 53 £36.00 Saunders - Maintenance Contract DEC £286.00 Lengthsman – Salary DEC Clerk – Salary DEC 54 55 £65.42 £559.80 Hugo Fox - Website Hosting 2025 56 £143.86 HMRC - Oct-Nov-Dec PAYE CL £420 + LM £49.20 £469.20

.2 Budget update 2024/45 APPENDIX V.I

BUDGET NOTES - Noted - APPENDIX V.II

.3 Annual contributions to Village Hall

Summary and reconciliation of payments 2020/21 to date as circulated and noted.

TO CONSIDER request from Village Hall for increase in Parish Council contribution.

Payments at present

= £1.2K shop rent plus £250 Hall hire (£25 x 10 meetings) = £1,450

The Chairman advised of his interest as a member of the Village Hall Committee and made no contribution to the discussion or decision.

AGREED Increase for shop rent contribution to £1.5K per year.

The £300 increase to be included in the 2025/26 budget (the £1.2K already spent) with a corresponding reduction in the Community grant budget. Additional funding for specific Village Hall requirements can be considered as grant requests.

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- Draft Budget 2025/26 Noted see also APPENDIX V.III
 DRAFT BUDGET AND PRECEPT NOTES Noted and agreed APPENDIX VI
- (as implemented) and 9% for next year 2025/26 would bring income in line with where the Precept (hypothetically) would be if not for the £10K increase and following year reduction. On reconsideration, a 9% increase results in a slightly higher Precept figure than the comparable estimate and so leading to ongoing (small) over-correction.

AGREED 7.5% increase to £24K, Precept form signed for submission to BDBC. £24K / 381.2 (tax base) = £62.96 per band D household.

- .6 Grant funding 2025/26
- .6A Grants from Parish Council budget 2025/26

Annual grant requests expected (copied below at this year's prices)

- £180 portaloos church fete
- £349 fete tables and chairs
- £185 church clock annual maintenance.

Also agreement to underwrite charity event at 2025 Hoddington Autumn festival up to £1K.

.6B <u>2025 Ward & Council Cllrs budgets available from June</u>

Potential projects / items for grant funding requests

- Pond planting (to increase diversity)
- Community noticeboard
- Playground seesaw.

7 LITTLE HODDINGTON PARK

.1 | Playground review

ACTIONS: i Re basket ball hoop, whether the chain-link net need replacing? (NL);

- ii To seek prices for an play surface and equipment clean (and possibly repair) (ST);
- To contact suppliers re potential for a playground upgrade (over time) and options for replacing the see-saw as first priority (ST).

To be on the lookout for grant funding. However – Parishes with new playgrounds are mostly making use of developer-funded S106 / CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy). BDBC's Community Infrastructure Fund (CIF) is limited to buildings; Hampshire County Council – re 'Future Services Provision' budget review – have cut all their competitive grant funding streams. Non-council funding sources, Lottery, Comic Relief, various trusts, funds and foundations, tend to focus on supporting areas of deprivation/special needs.

- .2 | BDBC Asset Value Inspection undertake December 2024, see APPENDIX VII.
- **Recreation Ground lease** ref Ward Cllr update, 5.2.iii above, Cllr Tuck will follow up previous lines of enquiry. Clerk to forward email chains to date with BDBC Estates Surveyor.

8 VILLAGE UPKEEP & HIGHWAYS

.1 Village shop signage by pond

AGREED The existing sign 'Village Hall and Shop' be repainted, in the same font as the signs by the Shop, to read Village Shop and Café or Shop and Café.

NOTED The sign could be professionally wrapped rather than repainted.

.2 Speed Limit Reminder sign – update

i Final location on previous schedule (November):

11 Nov - 02 Dec Location 1 Bidden Road - activations 7713.

02 Dec - Sign taken down for maintenance check

Current schedule -

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09 Dec - 02 Jan Location 3 - Weston Road - activations 4518.
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02 Jan - 23 Jan Location 1 - Bidden Road

23 Jan - 13 Feb Location 3 - Weston Road

13 Feb - 06 Mar Location 2 - Church Street North

06 Mar - 27 Ma Location 3 - Weston Road

27 Mar - 17 Apr Location 1 - Bidden Road.

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ii | Speed settings... info from Symone Surveys who manage the SLR:

The sign has three settings 20, 30 or 40mph and they are set to factory settings to activate 10% over the speed limit thus:

20mph activates at over 22mph 30mph activates at over 33mph 40mph activates at over 44mph.

.3 Next County Lengthsman visit is scheduled for 14 March.

9 PLANNING

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.1 Planning and tree applications – Planning update at APPENDIX VIII

New applications for discussion

New tree applications no objection, no comment

25/00055/HSE (Validated 13 Jan 2025) Weston Mark, Erection of stable building.

On consideration, no objections, no comment.

<u>24/02958/FUL</u> (Validated 19 Dec 2024) Barns at Upton Grey Cemetery. Change of use of barns to dwelling and associated alterations, extension, parking, landscaping and diversion of footpath. No objections on BDBC website - three neighbour comments in support.

No objections raised. A comment that, in terms of access, the proposal for re-routeing FP8 around the cemetery shows the path emerging onto Cemetery Lane into a proposed turning area; concern there may be convergence of people and vehicles here. (Though the hearse draws up at the cemetery main gate.) Also potential question re access and turning for the bin lorry. These questions for Countrysides Services and Highways respectively to consider.

ii Planning Appeal – noted in progress

APP/H1705/W/24/<u>3354332</u> Thursden House, Basingstoke Road. Erection of a single dwellinghouse, with garage and associated access, car parking, landscaping.

All responses submitted to BDBC re the initial application will be forwarded to the Inspector.

- iii Manor Farm tree planting Noted Trees previously missing from landscaping required by the original planning approval for commercial use of Manor farmyard now planted in a row of 12 within the roadside paddock.
- .2 New NPPF and Local Plan Update (Back to requirement for 5-year land supply+20%)
 - Dec 2024 NPPF reinstates five-year land supply requirement with immediate effect; plus a 20% buffer – ie six years – where there has been significant under-delivery of housing over the previous three years. BDBC's Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) of Dec 2024 showed a land supply of 4.2 years against the published 01 April 2024 Standard Method figure of 828 dwellings per annum.
 - New Standard method requirement to build 1,127 new houses each year during Local Plan period to 2040 an extra c4.5K dwellings.
 - Emails from Cllr Andy Konieczko APPENDIX IX.
 - New Call for Sites launched on Monday 06 January to 5pm Monday 17 February...
 - Open letter from Whitchurch to Andy Konieczko dated 11 Jan calling on BDBC to continue to Reg 19 by 12 March under transitional arrangements and with additional sites.
 APPENDIX X.

.3 Questions re Estate ground works and landscaping

Discussion

- Many concerned voices from the Village re what is happening to the parkland and land viewed from FP7
- Hoddington House and Park are in the Upton Grey Conservation Area
- Hoddington House is Grade II* listed
- This is the construction of a golf course a change of use and engineering development which should formally go through Planning
- As matter of principle, the Parish Council should do everything in its power to prevent major breaches of planning law.

AGRE#D The Parish Council will write to BDBC planning enforcement, and also notify the Estate.

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10 | FURTHER UPDATES / REPORTS

.1 Village Hall report

<u>Solar project</u> – for PV panels on the south side of Hall, with inverter and battery storage. Funding approved – BDBC Community Infrastructure Fund grant acceptance form signed – supplier approved; planning application for panels submitted to BDBC.

BOAT closures – 'Positive steps' following meeting in Winchester 25th November with all interested parties and Hants County Council Countryside Services. Text from letter submitted to the meeting at **APPENDIX XI**:

'REQUEST FOR AN EXPERIMENTAL TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER OF MECHANICALLY PROPELLED VEHICLES ORDER FOR CERTAIN BOATS WITHIN THE PARISHES.'

HCC Legal agreement has been drawn up with agreement as to where barriers will be installed.

- TO RECORD thanks to Charles Holroyd for his lead on this; for time and work put in and the positive result.
 - **PCC Rural Crime Roundtable** Public meeting with PCC Donna Jones, Monday 20 January, from 6pm at North Waltham Rathbone Pavilion, chaired by Cllr Henderson.

11 NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

7pm, third Thursday of the month 20 Feb, 20 March, 17 April, 15 May AGM, 19 June, 17 July, 18 Sept, 16 Oct, 20 Nov.

Meeting closed 8.20pm with thanks to all

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APPENDIX II.I CLLR JULIET HENDERSON - HCC REPORT - DECEMBER 2024

Support for Hampshire's Farmers I invited local Hampshire Farmers to Winchester to support a Motion in support of Hampshire farmers at a meeting of the full council in Winchester.

Beforehand we were able meet with the farmers, their families and NFU representatives to discuss the changes announced last month by the Chancellor Rachel Reeves, who imposed a 20% inheritance tax on farms.

The move could affect 2,500 farms a year, according to the Central Association of Agricultural Valuers, and not the 500 the government initially claimed. Many families will be unable to meet the bill and be forced to sell up, ruining a way of life across the county and putting food security at risk.

I made this comment at the meeting. 'Never has food security been more important. Farmers provide food and do invaluable work with nature conservation; we owe it to our farmers to support them.'

Putting farming families, who have worked the land in Hampshire for centuries in some cases, under so much pressure when they are already struggling is completely wrong and will have consequences for our food security and our rural economy when farmers give up.

Leader, Cllr Nick Adams King has written to the Secretary of State asking for the government to reconsider this move.

Hampshire County Council is urging people to become foster carers for vulnerable children The new campaign is inspired by the experiences of a local foster carer, Hannah, and her story has been made into a short film.

The animation, voiced by a fellow foster carer, highlights the impact of simple everyday moments on both foster carers and the children they look after.

Fostering opportunities vary from short-term to long-term care, emergency and out-of-hours care, respite care, and parent and child fostering.

Carers can look after children and young people of all ages, from infants to teenagers, as well as sibling groups and children with additional needs and disabilities.

Hampshire Highways With winter here, HCC's Highways teams are geared up to keep you moving through all weather conditions and ready to work 24/7 to deal with emergency incidents including fallen trees, flooded roads, and icy surfaces.

Earlier this year, we accelerated our work to strengthen roads via our two-year additional investment programme that has ploughed an extra £22.5 million into repairs. As a result, we've put more resources into fixing road defects including potholes – and carried out almost 181,000 repairs in the 12 months to April this year, and over 80,000 repairs completed during April to September.

Salt Bins HCC's network of blue and yellow community salt bins have been refilled ready for the coming months, making salt freely available for anyone to spread on local roads and pavements – useful to 'join up' with the salting on main roads by our gritters.

A little salt goes a long way, you'll only need one tablespoon to treat up to a square metre of road or pavement.

If you're able to, salting your local roads when it's forecast to be icy can be a big help for your community, reducing the risk of incident and injury, especially for those who are less mobile.

You can report salt bins needing re-filling, those that are damaged or request one for your area here: https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/highways/report-a-problem

Reporting Highway Problems

www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/potholes www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/treehedge www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/flooding www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/paving

Problems with rights of way:

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.

APPENDIX II.III COUNTY CLLR JULIET HENDERSON - HCC REPORT - 06 JANUARY 2025

Happy New Year, Please see my report for your next Parish Council Meeting.

There is an interesting news statement from the leader of HCC on Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation.

Salt Bins – HCC's network of blue and yellow community salt bins has been refilled ready for the coming months, making salt freely available for anyone to spread on local roads and pavements – useful to 'join up' with the salting on main roads by our gritters.

A little salt goes a long way, you'll only need one tablespoon to treat up to a square metre of road or pavement.

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Reporting Highway Problems

https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/potholes

https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/treehedge

https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/flooding

https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/paving

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.

Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation

Message From The Leader Of Hampshire County Council.

We are on the brink of a transformative journey for Hampshire, and the vehicle driving us forward is devolution. Our goal is a Hampshire & Solent where decisions, big and small, are made close to the people they affect; where less bureaucracy means quicker, simpler processes; and where councils can deliver even better value for money to residents and businesses.

There has been much discussion recently about the prospect of devolution for, and local government reorganisation in, Hampshire. I therefore wanted to provide you with some clarity about the current situation.

I believe devolution would be a beneficial move for Hampshire. Devolution means moving powers, and the money to enact them, from Central Government to a more local level. These powers would be devolved to a Combined Authority, in our case covering Hampshire and the Solent (including Southampton, Portsmouth, and the Isle of Wight), overseen by an elected mayor. The new government wants us to be one of their priority areas, targeting implementation by May 2026.

While I welcome devolution I have strong concerns about Local Government Reorganisation, which the Labour Government is closely linking to the devolution process.

Let me be clear, this journey is one the Labour Government is requiring Hampshire to take. There is no alternative, and I liken it to travelling in a vehicle where the Government controls the accelerator and the brakes, better therefore that we have control of the steering wheel rather than leave the route and destination to chance

It's crucial for the County Council to have a strong voice in these discussions to represent our residents' interests. A Full Council meeting has been called for 9th January to decide the best way forward, with Cabinet ratification of the Council's decision the following day. If we proceed with the priority list, the government will determine by late January whether the 2025 County elections will be postponed.

Why would elections be postponed? The Government must carry out a full consultation on their devolution proposals. They aim to complete this and conclude any negotiations by Summer. The uncertainty of an election, and the inability to complete a consultation during the pre-election period, would disrupt the consultation and negotiation process too greatly. Hence, the Government expects those on the Priority Programme to request their elections be postponed.

If Hampshire is accepted as a priority area, we will need to submit our proposals for new Council areas by the autumn. If we do not enter the priority programme, then the Government expects proposals for new Councils to be submitted by May.

Before Christmas local leaders met with Local Government Minister Baroness Taylor and several important principles were clarified:

• The size of new Unitary authorities: populations of at least 500,000 but less than 1.2 million: Hampshire is too large to become a single unitary authority.

APPENDIX II.IIii COUNTY CLLR JULIET HENDERSON - HCC REPORT - 06 JANUARY 2025 CONTINUED...

- Southampton and Portsmouth must expand and cannot remain unchanged.
- Existing district and borough boundaries should be retained as much as possible when creating new Unitary Councils.
- A decision on the proposed way forward must be submitted to the Government by January 10, 2025.

As this situation evolves, I am clear the focus must be on ensuring reforms deliver benefits such as:

- cost reductions for residents,
- service protection and simplification, and
- safeguarding frontline staff.

Councils across Hampshire employ thousands of staff and contract with thousands more partners and businesses, all of whom rely on us for their livelihoods. More importantly, tens of thousands of people rely on their local Council for support and assistance. These people must be at the forefront of our decision-making. We should and must only move forward with reform if the outcome for our residents is an improvement on the services and support they currently receive. While devolution presents a promising path forward for Hampshire, it's essential to navigate the associated local government reforms carefully, ensuring they truly benefit the residents and communities they aim to serve.

I remain positive and hopeful as we enter this New Year, the path ahead is difficult and full of challenge. Working alongside my colleagues of all political colours I am sure we will, together, find the best way forward, one that will result in a positive improvement for all of us who live in our wonderful County.

<u>Devolution & Local Government Reform – the options open to us.</u>

In addition to the above, this note hopefully helps explain the options open to the County Council when we make our decision later this week:

There are three options before us:

- 1. We agree to progress devolution (the elected mayor and creation of a Combined Authority) in order that it can be introduced in April 2026 with the mayoral election in May 2026. We would have to postpone this year's elections in order for the necessary processes to be completed in time, as a pre election period would take too much time out of the schedule to enable the process of consulting on, negotiating, drafting and passing the legislation in Parliament and establishing the Combined Authority itself to be completed in a year.

 We then have to submit our plans for new unitary councils by the 'autumn', this is undefined by Government but we assume this means the end of the year.
- 2. We agree to progress Local Government Reform (LGR) as a priority, agreeing to submit new Council proposals by September at the latest. These would be established by 2026 with it being likely we would have elections to 'Shadow' authorities, (the new Councils we would have to create electing councillors who could begin the process of setting up, creating administrations and hiring senior staff for them) in May 2026 and elections to the new Councils which would be fully created in May 2027.
 - Again we would postpone elections to allow for the process of consulting on, negotiating, drafting and passing the legislation in Parliament and establishing the plans for new Councils to be completed in a year.
 - Devolution would then follow, with a mayor being elected in 2027 or 2028.
- 3. We don't agree to either of these paths. In which case the Government want plans for the new councils lodged by September and, if we do not do that, then they will create the proposals for new Councils themselves and progress with those plans. Probably for elections in 2027 and 2028. In this scenario the elections in May go ahead.

I think devolution is a good thing. It brings power and money from Government and provides a strategic over-view helpful to the entire area.

<u>I am much more concerned about local government reorganisation, particularly if we have to create unitary councils of over 500,000 population</u>. They will be remote from people and we will lose much of the good things both the districts and the county currently do.

So that's why I think Option 1 is the best. It gives us the main prize – devolution. It gives us the longest to think about how LGR might work. And because we would therefore be amongst the last having to submit our plans it might well mean we are at the back of the queue for that reorganisation increasing the chances that we eventually shape new Councils much more in keeping with what we think would work for Hampshire – smaller than 500,000, more centred on the areas people recognise as their 'home community'.

Doing nothing is not an option. Doing nothing in fact brings a much greater chance that we will be 'done unto'. The doing nothing option does include our holding elections this year rather than next, however for me the risks associated with that course are too great.

APPENDIX II.IIiii COUNTY CLLR JULIET HENDERSON - HCC REPORT - 06 JANUARY 2025 CONTINUED...

Hampshire County Council Enhances School Meal Provision HCC is set to improve the quality and efficiency of school meals by transitioning to a new managed outsource arrangement by March 2026. This move will see meals sourced from alternative providers, potentially lowering costs for schools and families amidst ongoing cost-of-living pressures.

Key Highlights: Cost Savings: Schools and families may benefit from lower meal prices.

Continued Access: School meals will remain available to all children, including those eligible for free meals.

Positive Feedback: 73% of consulted schools and nurseries are interested in this new arrangement.

Support for Schools: The Council will manage meal supply, easing the burden on schools. This change aims to provide a more sustainable and affordable solution for school meals.

Expanding Special Educational Need provision in Hampshire The number of children identified as having Special Educational Needs in Hampshire has been rising steadily in the last few years. The County Council is receiving on average 200 new Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) applications every month. Meeting this growing need is therefore a priority for us.

So, Hampshire County Council is proposing to expand specialist school places for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) at two mainstream schools in the New Forest and Havant.

Following initial consultations with parents, residents, and stakeholders, we're moving to a formal consultation on these proposals, which will be published on our website in late December.

By the end of this decade, the number of children in Hampshire with Education, Health, and Care Plans could increase by over 11,000, reaching around 28,000. Every new specialist school place we create is crucial.

Proposed Expansions:

Bartley Church of England Junior School, New Forest: 12 extra places for pupils with Social, Emotional, and Mental Health (SEMH) needs, opening in phases from September 2025.

Crookhorn College, Havant: 15 extra places for pupils with Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC), opening in phases from September 2025.

These proposals follow a recent decision to consult on 32 additional specialist places at schools in Gosport, Eastleigh, and the New Forest.

Currently, many children needing specialist support attend independent schools, which is costly. If agreed, the new places at Bartley and Crookhorn will cost £568,796 annually, compared to £1.9 million for the same number of places in independent schools.

Fight against Cimate Change Hampshire County Council is making incredible strides in improving our environment and the fight against climate change!

Last month HCC's Cabinet heard about some of the amazing initiatives and achievements that are helping to create a greener, more sustainable future for all.

Here are some highlights:

- **Solar Together Scheme**: Over 550 households have joined our third Solar Together scheme, generating their own green electricity. Combined with previous schemes, this will reduce CO2 emissions by more than 59,000 tonnes over the next 25 years!
- **Repair Cafés**: By repairing worn-out or mechanically failing items, our community has saved over 50 tonnes of CO2. Every repair counts towards a healthier planet.
- **Climate Change Annual Progress Report**: Our latest report showcases the collective efforts of Hampshire residents and community groups in reaching net zero. It's inspiring to see so many people taking action!
- **Transport Initiatives**: We've secured government investment for 62 zero-emission buses, improving air quality in Fareham, Gosport, and Portsmouth. Plus, we've extended 17 major bus services, some now running 24/7, and built nine new walking and cycling routes to reduce car journeys and lower carbon emissions.
- **Tree Planting**: Through the Hampshire Forest Partnership, we've planted 41,000 new carbon-absorbing trees since 2022. Every tree makes a difference!
- **Go Green Challenge**: We're encouraging younger residents to tackle climate change with daily actions like avoiding food waste and choosing greener travel options.
- **Technology Enabled Care Programme**: Supporting 4,500 people at home has significantly reduced the need for travel and associated carbon emissions.
- **Green Library**: Bridgemary Library in Gosport has become Hampshire's first 'Green Library,' achieving a 70% reduction in energy usage through renewable energy installations.

Together, we're making a real impact. Let's continue to work towards a sustainable future for Hampshire!

APPENDIX IIIi - BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT -07 JANUARY 2025

Councillor information

Consultation to Wed 26 Feb – Strengthening the standards and conduct framework

The Government is consulting on introducing measures to strengthen the standards and conduct regime in England. The consultation is seeking views on ensuring consistency of approach amongst councils investigating serious breaches of their member codes of conduct, including the introduction of the power of suspension. All views are welcome.

Proposals being consulted upon for legislative change include:

the introduction of a mandatory minimum code of conduct for local authorities in England

a requirement that all principal authorities convene formal standards committees to make decisions on code of conduct breaches, and publish the outcomes of all formal investigations

the introduction of the power for all local authorities to suspend councillors found in serious breach of their code of conduct and, as appropriate, interim suspension for the most serious and complex cases that may involve police investigations

a new category of disqualification for gross misconduct and those subject to a sanction of suspension more than once in a five-year period

a role for a national body to deal with appeals.

Updates on council projects and services

Thank you to everyone who has shared their views on the council's plans to continue its significant investment in front line services over the next year.

Proposals for the budget, from April 2025, include continuing significant additional funding introduced last April for front line services following feedback from residents, as well as additional funding for new initiatives.

The final budget proposals will be agreed by Cabinet and Council in February.

Rink repair programme agreed to keep ice in Basingstoke

Major refurbishment work is set to begin at Basingstoke's ice rink after the council agreed a deal for a new owner to take over the long-term lease. The investment from new owner Nice Leisure Limited will secure the future of ice in Basingstoke for the next 15 years through a programme of repairs needed to the ice pad and upgrading of the rink facilities, led by Planet Ice, as the operator. The council, as freehold owner of the leisure park, agreed to Nice Leisure Limited taking over the long-term lease of the rink.

Planet Ice will be providing regular updates on the refurbishment work.

Proposals to relocate facilities at Basingstoke Golf Centre considered by Cabinet

Down Grange Sports Complex is being proposed as an option to relocate facilities currently on offer at Basingstoke Golf Centre, if a new indoor water park resort is built on the land the facility currently sits on. Recognising the importance of the activities provided at Basingstoke Golf Centre, we have been investigating options for council-owned land that could provide a good location for the replacement golf facilities.

This follows the agreement of a conditional deal in July 2024 for Great Wolf Resorts to build an indoor water park resort on land next to the leisure park after the major US-based leisure operator identified an interest in bringing one of its family attractions to Basingstoke.

Following the review of sites in our ownership, land at Down Grange is being proposed as the most suitable site to take forward for more detailed investigation in a report agree by Cabinet on Tuesday 7 January.

Detailed investigation work, including developing technical designs, will be carried out before a planning application could be submitted for the site. As part of this work, we will continue to engage with other sports clubs and ward councillors and listen to feedback from the local community.

Land at Basingstoke Leisure Park would also be reserved to provide an alternative location for the adventure golf course and golf-pod style driving range facilities as part of our work to attract new operators and improve the leisure offer at the park.

Our work to improve the town centre continues.

Over the past few months we've been jet washing, deep cleaning bins, painting barriers, replanting our planters and removing gum from the pavements to improve the look and feel of areas in the town centre, including the top of the town.

Our teams have also replanted areas at the Station Approach and we look forward to seeing this display bloom in the future.

Jane Austen's 250th anniversary in Basingstoke and Deane

A year-long programme of events to celebrate the life and works of one of literature's most beloved authors who was born and raised in Basingstoke and Deane has been launched.

To mark the 250th anniversary of Jane Austen's birth, Basingstoke and Deane will host a diverse programme of events, exhibitions and activities for residents and visitors to enjoy which are being arranged by a group of organisations in the area where Jane spent her formative years.

Connected by their shared admiration for Jane Austen, organisations across the borough have worked together as the Basingstoke and Deane Jane Austen 250 group. Organisations involved include Love Basingstoke, Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, Overton Jane Austen Trails, The Willis Museum, Hidden Britain Tours, Destination Basingstoke, Steventon Jane Austen 250. They have created a programme of events and exhibitions to give people the chance to explore Janea's history in the communities where she spent here itself to get the chance to explore Janeary of overts. For more information and a full calendar of events, please visit: the Love Basingstoke website.

Borough success at tourism awards

Basingstoke's free summer outdoor arts festival has won an award from Tourism South East against tough competition.

Basingstoke Festival, a free family-friendly programme of summer events, won bronze in the Tourism Event/Festival of the Year Award at the Beautiful South Award ceremony this week. The Tourism Event/Festival of the Year Award recognises organisers of memorable and immersive tourism events and festivals that contribute to the visitor economy.

Run by the council in partnership with local and national artists and organisations, Basingstoke Festival has been running for 13 years and encourages residents and visitors to explore arts and culture through music, dance, visual art and street theatre performances.

Organisations from elsewhere in the borough were also celebrating multiple wins at the awards. Whitchurch Silk Mill won gold in their category for Cafe/tea room of the Year and a bronze award for Small Attraction. Oakley Hall won gold for Wedding Venue of the Year and a bronze for Large Hotel of the Year and their Glasshouse restaurant scooped bronze for Restaurant of the Year.

Basingstoke Festival will return in summer 2025 with more original performances across dance, music, street theatre and visual arts. Find out more by visiting the Basingstoke Festival website.

APPENDIX IIIi - BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT: -07 JANUARY 2025 CONTINUED

Promoting safe nights out

Our licensing officers have been visiting licensed premises in Basingstoke town centre promoting public safety during the busy festive period for venues.

The team visited 10 licensed premises on the evening of Friday 6 December, placing a focus on promoting 'Ask for Angela' and 'Spike Aware' schemes following recent press reports on the schemes.

The 'Ask for Angela' scheme is a safety initiative that allows people to discreetly seek help if they feel unsafe or vulnerable in a licensed venue. Asking venue staff for "Angela" is a signal they need assistance.

Officers were pleased to find positive measures implemented at late night venues to safeguard vulnerable customers, and to deter spiking related incidents. Where 'Ask for Angela' and 'Spike Aware' schemes had not been formally implemented, venues received details and advice and explained their procedures to monitor customer conduct and welfare.

Those premises that had not formally adopted the Pubwatch and police promoted schemes proposed further staff training would take place promptly to ensure venues are using best practice to look after their customers. Officers are following up their visits by providing best practice advice and working with local venues to promote the safety of the community enjoying night-time economy venues.

Compliments for council staff

Compliment for the Grounds Maintenance Team

The Make a Difference Team received a compliment from a resident on social media for cleaning their area and cutting a bush they had contacted us about. They said: "I just want to say a big thank you to the team who cut the bush in Van Dyck Close. They did a really good job, clearing all the mess away and leaving it really clean. Thank you!"

Compliment for Natasha, Owen and Paula

Benefits Team Leader Natasha Jones, Licensing Support Officer Owen Castelli and Community Safety Patrol Officer Paula James-Bailey received a compliment from the contact centre after assisting a lady with mobility issues that came into reception. After helping the lady with a benefit review, the three of them liaised with multiple taxi firms to ensure there would be a suitable vehicle she could get home in.

Compliment for Ben and Harry

The police's Priority Crime Team has thanked CSPOs Harry Heath and Benjamin Esprit. During a patrol Harry and Benjamin witnessed what appeared to be a drugs deal in a public place. As a result of what they had witnessed, they phoned the police who tracked down the individuals and recovered Class A drugs along with a mobile phone, with relevant safeguards being made.

Compliment for Paula James-Bailey and Debbie Mason

Community Safety Patrol Officer Paula James-Bailey and Community Safety Team Leader Debbie Mason received a message of thanks following their work to support members of the public at the Mayor's Christmas Carol concert on Saturday 7 December. The customer wrote: "Thank you very much to you and your colleague for assisting Laura and I back to the car after the Mayor's Christmas Carol Service yesterday. It was very much appreciated particularly in the windy weather."

Compliment for Andy Marshall

Cemetery Manager Andy Marshall received a hand-written thank you message from a resident. "Thank you for the kindness you showed my dad and I a few weeks ago. Merry Christmas to you and your family."

Compliment for Florence Baxter

Sustainability Advisor Florence Baxter received a compliment from a resident after performing a thermal imaging survey for them. The resident said: "I just wanted to let you know that Florence Baxter performed the heat survey, which I found very helpful. She came out in her own time after work and spent over an hour diligently asking me questions and patiently answering any questions I had.

"It was interesting finding out about the benefits of having a heat pump installed and good to know I already have cavity wall insulation as I was not aware of this. I was very pleased she carried out an examination of my house with the heat imaging camera, to find out the effectiveness of my radiators, which was an eye opener. "I was very pleased with trouble she took and was very grateful for her professionalism and dedication. Many thanks to her and your team."

Compliment for Store Lawford.

Compliment for Steve Lawford
Steve Lawford in the Parks and Streetscene team received a compliment from a resident on social media. They said: "The guy who works up at the station cleaning up after everyone in the early morning is a star. He's a real asset to your team."

Compliment for the grounds maintenance team

The grounds maintenance team received a compliment from Cllr Sheena Grassi for clearing up leaves in Lychpit. She said: "Thank to you and your team of sweepers and leaf blowers. They are working hard in beautiful leafy Lychpit today and doing an excellent job of clearing away a huge number of leaves. The very steep hill up to the main Tesco is especially treacherous and slippery, so it is with relief that this has been completed today. My appreciation goes to the team for all work carried out to an excellent standard."

Our steps to a greener Basingstoke and Deane

Borough to bloom with thousands more wildflowers

Over 14 acres of native wildflower meadows will spring up across the borough thanks to a project to restore and create habitats for bees, butterflies and other native wildlife.

Together with dedicated nature conservation volunteers, our Ranger team has been sowing wildflower seeds to create swathes of wildflowers that will cover an area equivalent to more than 85 domestic tennis courts. As the wildflowers begin to bloom in coming years, they will help to restore very rare and fragile wildlife-rich chalk grassland habitats that were once common in the southern part of the borough. With the support of Natural Basingstoke volunteers, the work will create spaces for native species to thrive once more and for local communities to enjoy.

The last of the seed sowing sessions took place on Saturday (14 December) at the Holy Ghost Cemetery in South View. The nine other areas that have been seeded are Beggarwood Park, Marnel Park, War Memorial Park, Old Down, Danebury Road and Down Grange in Basingstoke, along with the park on Daniel Road in Whitchurch, Crabtree Plantation in Old Basing and Overton Hill in Overton.

Cowslips, yellow rattle, clustered bell flowers and harebells are among the diverse variety of chalk meadow wildflower species whose seeds were sown across the 10 council-owned sites. Over 30 kilograms of these were harvested from the council's green spaces before being dried, sorted and analysed by local company Wildflower Turf, based in Overton. Extra seeds were also purchased to provide more food sources for key species including butterflies.

More information on conservation volunteering and groups in the borough – https://NaturalBasingstoke.org.uk

APPENDIX IV – ACCOUNTS TO DATE

forward from April 1st 2024				NCOME UPTON GREY 2024/25 - 09 Jan 2025												
	Balance brought forward from April 1st 2024 £25,138															
Description	Precept	Grass cutting grant	Grants (other)	Tennis subs	Bank interest	VAT reclaim 23/24	VAT reclaim this year	TOTAL								
recept six months	£11,163.00							£11,163.00								
DBC Grass cutting grant		£1,292.47						£1,292.47								
DBC CIF grant (VH)			£9,500.00					£9,500.00								
ounty Cllr Grant footway			£500.00					£500.00								
recept six months	£11,163.00							£11,163.00								
AT reclaim						£1,846.12	£1,810.34	£3,656.46								
ennis subscriptions				£1,800.00				£1,800.00								
ank Interest					£248.37			£248.37								
	£22,326.00	£1,292.47	£10,000.00	£1,800.00	£248.37	£1,846.12	£1,810.34	£39,323.30								
I C	DEC Grass cutting grant DEC CIF grant (VH) Dunty CIIr Grant footway recept six months AT reclaim	recept six months DBC Grass cutting grant DBC CIF grant (VH) Dunty Clir Grant footway recept six months AT reclaim Panis subscriptions ank Interest	Description Precept cutting grant recept six months £11,163.00 DBC Grass cutting grant £1,292.47 DBC CIF grant (VH) Dunty Clir Grant footway recept six months £11,163.00 AT reclaim ennis subscriptions ank Interest	Description Precept cutting grant (other) Recept six months £11,163.00 DBC Grass cutting grant £1,292.47 DBC CIF grant (VH) £9,500.00 Precept six months £11,163.00 AT reclaim Panis subscriptions ank Interest	Description Precept cutting grant (other) Tennis subs Precept six months DBC Grass cutting grant DBC CIF grant (VH) Description DBC CIF grant (VH) Description DBC CIF grant footway DBC CIF grant (VH) D	Description Precept cutting grant (other) Tennis subs interest recept six months DBC Grass cutting grant DBC CIF grant (VH) DBC CIF grant (VH) DBC CIF grant footway DBC CIF grant footway E500.00 Precept \$\frac{\pmathbb{E}}{2}\$,500.00 Precept six months \$\frac{\pmathbb{E}}{2}\$11,163.00 AT reclaim Precept cutting grant (other) Tennis subs interest	Description	Description								

Receipts and Payments Summary							
Start balance	£25,135.47						
Plus Income	£39,323.30						
Less Expend	£23,293.76						
Balance	£41,165.01						

Bank reconciliatiion	
Lloyds-Treasurers	£700.20
Lloyds-Business	£20,934.01
Lloyds-95-DayNotice	£20,000.00
Less PAYE payment	£469.20
Balance	£41,165.01

TENNIS AC		
Bal t/o from	2023/24	£10,798.48
Income	2024/25	£1,800.00
Expend	2024/25	£165.00

BAN	K INTEREST		
April	£26.66	Oct	£28.02
May	£26.78	Nov	£29.27
June	£20.76	Dec	£17.44
June	£29.09	Dec	£17.44
July	£33.92	Jan	
Aug	£31.31	Feb	
Sept	£25.88	Mar	
		Total	£248.37

- 1.	_			25 - 09 Jan-25	Salaries	Clerk allowance	Governance/ Admin	Community / Grants		Maintenance Contract General Playground			Pond	Project	Village Hall	Tennis	VAT	TOTAL
_ '	Invoice date	Paid date	Payee	Description					Contract	General	Playground						==	
1	22/03/24	29/04/24	OrnamentalTrees	Pyrus salicifolia Pendula									£329.16				£65.84	£395
2	2023/24	29/04/24	Clerk	Allowance 2023/24		£240.00												£241
3	09/01/24	29/04/24	AndyLoos-STH/875354	Portaloos Church Fete				£180.00									£36.00	£21
4	08/04/24		HALC / NALC-6473	Subs (incl NALC) 2024/25			£326.00	£100.00									230.00	£32
	17/04/24						1320.00		£279.00									
5			Saunders-2323	Maintenance Contract-April					£279.00									£27
6	22/04/24		Hook Fencing	2 x 6'stakes, 4 x tree ties									£16.77				£3.35	£2
7	16/04/24	29/04/24	Saunders-2327	Planting Willow tree									£85.00					£
8	16/04/24	29/04/24	Hi Tech Heating	V Hall boiler											£364.10		£72.82	£4:
9	27/04/24		Anscombe&Sons	Kitchen unit VH										£4,492,18			£1.164.84	£6,9
10	APRIL			Salary APRIL	£61.60									24,492.10	£1,332.02		£1,104.04	10,0
			Lengthsman															
0a	APRIL	29/04/24	Lengthsman	Salary APRIL	£3.82													£
11	APRIL	29/04/24	Clerk	Salary APRIL	£528.00													
1a	APRIL	29/04/24	Clerk	Salary APRIL	£31.80													£5
2	29/04/24	01/05/24	Helptng Hand	Long reach litter-picker						£39 15							£7.83	£
										139.13								
13	29/04/24	01/05/24	SurryHillsSolicitors	VH Land Registry			£855.00										£165.00	£1,0
4	17/05/24	28/05/24	Saunders-2323	Maintenance Contract-May					£286.00									£2
15	MAY	28/05/24	Lengthsman	Salary MAY	£65.42				2200.00									£
	MAY																-	
16	1117.51		Clerk	Salary MAY	£559.80													£5
17	02/04/24	19/06/24	Simone Systems Ltd	SID x 6								£300.00	I				£60.00	£3
18	17/04/24	19/06/24	Clear Councils	Insurance from 03 June			805.46											£8
19	13/06/24		DotheNumbers	Internal Audit			250.00											£2
20	17/06/24	19/06/24		Fete table and chairs			230.00	£349.00									£69.80	£4
	17/00/24	18100/24	Cartel8	i ere rable allu citalis				1 ±349.00					ш				£09.80	
21	17/06/24	28/06/24	Saunders-2323	Maintenance Contract-June					£286.00									£2
22	JUNE	28/06/24	Lengthsman	Salary June	£65.42													£
23	JUNE	28/06/24			£559.80													£5
			Clerk	Salary June														
24	A-M-J	25/07/24	HMRC A-M-J	PAYE CL £419.40 + LM £48.60	£468.00													£4
25	11/07/24	25/07/24	BDBC-84014648	PlayInsp-2024/25							£221.02						£44.20	£2
26	17/07/24	29/07/24	Saunders-	Maintenance Contract-July					£286.00									£2
27	JULY	29/07/24	Lengthsman	Salary July	£65.42													£
28	JULY	29/07/24	Clerk	Salary July	£559.80													£5:
29	09/07/24	06/08/24		Gate latch-FP9						£11.50							£2.30	£
										£11.50							£2.30	
30	15/08/24	29/08/24	Saunders-	Maintenance Contract-Aug					£286.00									£2
31	AUG	29/08/24	Lengthsman	Salary Aug	£65.42													£
32	AUG		Clerk	Salary Aug	£559.80													£5:
33	22/08/22	29/08/24			2339.00													£2
33	22/00/22	28/06/24	Shire Tree Care	Pond Alder Tree									£280.00					1.2
34	18/09/24	29/09/24	Saunders-2134	Maintenance Contract-Sept					£286.00									£2
35	SEPT	29/09/24	Lengthsman	Salary Sept	£65.42													£
36	SEPT	29/09/24	Clerk		£559.80													£5:
				Salary Sept														
37	J-A-S	30/09/24	HMRC-Jul-Agu-Sept	PAYE CL £420 + LM £49.20	£469.20													£4
38	13/09/24	30/09/24	BDO LLP	External audit			£210.00										£42.00	£2
	0000004	00140104																_
39	23/09/24		BDBC-84016635	PlayInsp-2024/25-amend							£44.20						£8.84	£
10	30/09/24	08/10/24	Simone Systems Ltd	SID -Jul-Nov (6moves)								£300.00					£60.00	£3
11	23/10/24		GH for AVS	6 x 3m-Gravel boards										£37.62			£7.52	£
2	15/10/24	30/10/24	Saunders-	MaintenanceContract-OCT					£286.00									£2
13	OCT		Lengthsman	Salary OCT	£65.42													£
14	OCT	30/10/24		Salary OCT	£559.80												_	£5:
					1,009.80													_
15	16/11/24	28/11/24	Saunders-	MaintenanceContract-OCT					£286.00									£2
16	NOV		Lengthsman	Salary NOV	£65.42												-	£
17	NOV	28/11/24		Salary NOV	£559.80												-	£5
					2339.00													
18	29/11/24	04/12/24		De-mossing etc tennis court			 									£165.00	£33.00	£1
19	01/12/24	04/12/24	Vision ICT 19364	Domain, email hosting			£150.00						I				£30.00	
50	02/12/24	02/12/24	ICO	Data protection register			£35.00											£
51	17/12/24	17/12/24	Cumbria Clock Co	Maintenance Church Clock				£185.00									£37.00	£2
							-	2.00.00										
52	20/12/24	20/12/24	J Smith & Son	Replace rotten pond rail			l	1					£30.00				£6.00	£
53	16/12/24	30/12/24	Saunders-	MaintenanceContract-OCT					£286.00									£2
54	DEC	30/12/24	Lengthsman	Salary DEC	£65.42													£
	DEC				£559.80													
55		30/12/24	Clerk	Salary DEC	£559.80													£5:
6	09/01/24	09/01/24	Hugo Fox	Website Hosting			£119.88										£23.98	
57	O-N-D	02/01/25	HMRC-Oct-Nov-Dec	PAYE CL £420 + LM £49.20	£469.20													£4
\rightarrow																		
- 1				TOTALS	£7,033.38	£240.00	£2,751.34	£714.00	£2,567.00	£50.65	£265.22	£600.00	£740.93	£4,529.80	£1,696.12	£165.00	£1,940.32	£23,29
				0														
\downarrow					Salary	Clerk	Finance /	Community	Maintenance contract	Maintn	Playground	SLR	Pond	Project	Village Hall	Tennis	VAT	TOTA

APPENDIX V.I – BUDGET UPDATE

UG Y/E C	2024/25	BUDGET	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28					
2022/23	2023/24	EXPENDITURE	2024/25	2024/25	not yet	24/25 BUDGET	BUDGET -	BUDGET -	BUDGET -	EXPENDITURE
YEAR END	YEAR END	LXI LINDITORE	TO DATE	LATEST EST	allocated	FULL - MAR	DRAFT	DRAFT	DRAFT	LXI LINDITORL
£8,042.76	£8,844.00	Salaries	£7,033.38	£9,374.64		£9,843.37	£9,843.37	£10,335.54	£10,852.32	Salaries
£240.00		Clerk's allowance	£240.00	£480.00		£240.00	£240.00	£240.00	£240.00	Clerk's allowance
		Expenses		£70.00	£70.00	£70.00	£70.00	£70.00	£70.00	Expenses
£340.00		Training		£300.00	£300.00	£300.00	£300.00	£300.00	£300.00	Training
£1,601.89	£1,454.34	Finance/Governance	£1,896.34	£1,896.34		£1,800.00	£1,850.00	£1,950.00	£2,050.00	Finance/Governance
		Legal costs (VH)	£855.00	£855.00						Legal costs (VH)
£4,244.20	£865.00	Grants to Community	£714.00	£2,757.76	£2,539.88	£3,253.88	£3,500.00	£3,500.00	£3,500.00	Grants to Community
	£2,000.00	Grants				£246.12				
£750.00	£6,909.59	Village Hall	£1,696.12	£1,696.12				£1,450.00	£1,450.00	Village Hall
	£300.00	SID management	£600.00	£925.00		£925.00	£925.00	£950.00	£975.00	SID management
		MAINTENANCE								MAINTENANCE
£2,911.00	£3,313.00	Maintenance contract	£2,567.00	£3,425.00		£3,412.50	£3,527.75	£3,633.58	£3,742.59	Maintenance contract
£675.00		Pond fence								Pond fence
		Pond tree(Pear&Alder)	£740.93	£2.000.00		£2,000.00	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	£2.000.00	Pond tree(Pear&Alder)
	£1,190.00	Pond clearing		22,000.00	£1,259.07	22,000.00	22,000.00	22,000.00	22,000.00	Pond clearing
	£1,750.00	Liner & bank repair								Liner & bank repair
	£422.91	Playground Inspection	£265.22	£750.00		£750.00	£750.00	£750.00	£750.00	Playground Inspection
		Play equp repair		2700.00	£484.78	2700.00	2700.00	2700.00	2,00.00	Play equp repair
£135.45	£298.45	Maintenance general	£50.65	£1,000.00	£949.35	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	Maintenance general
		Assets / captial expend								Assets / captial expend
£2,000.00	£495.00	Tennis	£165.00	£500.00		£500.00				Tennis
	PROJECTS	PROJECTS								PROJECTS
	£450.83	Jubilee trees								Jubilee trees
	£399.75	VH cutlery								VH cutlery
	£1,495.00	VH energy efficiency								VH energy efficiency
	£5,357.82	VH-BDBC-CIL-kitchen	£4,492.18	£4,492.18		£4,142.18				VH-BDBC-CIL-kitchen
		Village Hall Solar					£14,300.00			Village Hall Solar
		Weston Road footway	£37.62	£500.00	£462.38					Weston Road footway

UGPC Y/E COMPARISON / LATEST ESTIMATE @ 14 JAN					BUDGET	2025/26	2025/26	2025/26	
2022/23 YEAR END	2023/24 YEAR END	INCOME	2024/25 TO DATE	2024/25 LATEST EST	24/25 BUDGET FULL - MAR	BUDGET - DRAFT	BUDGET - DRAFT	BUDGET - DRAFT	INCOME
£15,250.00	£18,605.00	Precept	£22,326.00	£22,326.00	£22,326.00	£24,000.00	£24,720.00	£25,461.60	Precept
£1,279.67	£1,292.47	Grass Cutting Grant	£1,292.47	£1,292.47	£1,305.39	£1,292.47	£1,292.47	£1,292.47	Grass Cutting Grant
	£2,000.00	Grants other							Grants other
		County Cllr Grant	£500.00	£500.00					County Cllr Grant
£569.40	£850.40	Ward Cllr grants							Ward Cllr grants
	£1,495.00	HCC PTA grant							HCC PTA grant
		VH-BDBC-CIL-kitchen	£9,500.00	£9,500.00	£9,850.00				VH-BDBC-CIL-kitchen
		Village Hall Solar				£14,300.00			Village Hall Solar
£1,700.00	£1,710.00	Tennis subs	£1,800.00	£1,800.00	£1,700.00				Tennis subs
£29.34	£372.17	Bank Interest	£248.37	£400.00	£400.00	£400.00	£400.00	£400.00	Bank Interest
	£3,743.33	VAT reclaim	£3,656.46	£3,656.46					VAT reclaim
£18,828.41	£30,068.37	TOTAL INCOME	£39,323.30	£39,474.93	£35,581.39				TOTAL INCOME
£17,128.41	£28,358.37	Income less tennis	£37,523.30	£37,674.93	£33,881.39	£39,992.47	£26,412.47	£27,154.07	Income less tennis
UGPC Y/E COMPARISON / LATEST ESTIMATE @ 14 JAN						2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	
2022/22	2023/24	BALANCE	2024/25	2024/25	24/25 BUDGET	BUDGET -	BUDGET -	BUDGET -	
2022/23			TO DATE	LATEST EST	FULL - MAR	DRAFT	DRAFT	DRAFT	
£3,328.98	£9,755.68	SURPLUS / DEFICIT	£16,029.54	£6,512.57	£7,281.51				
£34,891.15	£25,135.47	Balance - Total	£41,165.01	£31,648.04	£32,416.98				
£300.00	£1,215.00	SURPLUS/DEFICIT-TENNIS	£1,635.00	£1,300.00	£1,200.00				SURPLUS/DEFICIT-TENNIS
£3,028.98	£10,970.68	SURPLUS/DEFICIT-PC	£14,394.54	£5,212.57	£6,081.51	£1,686.35	£233.35	£224.16	SURPLUS/DEFICIT-PC
£9,583.48	£10,798.48	BALANCE - TENNIS	£12,433.48	£12,098.48	£11,998.48				BALANCE-TENNIS
£25,307.67	£14,336.99	BALANCE - PC	£28,731.53	£19,549.56	£20,418.50	£21,235.91	£21,469.25	£21,693.42	BALANCE - PC

APPENDIX V.II – BUDGET NOTES 2024/25

EXPENDITURE UNALLOCATED

at the moment:

- £70 remaining in Expenses budget
- £300 in training budget likely to be used.
- £2,539.88 remaining in Community budget.

Potential for some of this to be reallocated (village hall, playground?) Spending so far

- £180 portaloos church fete
- £349 Fete tables and chairs
- £185 church clock annual maintenance
- £246.12 Village Hall
- £1,259.07 remaining in pond budget for pond clearing
- £462.38 over Weston Rd footway budget (potentially to pond?).
- £484.78 remaining in Playground repair budget.
- £949.35 remaining in General maintenance.

YEAR END FORECAST

at the moment:

- Includes all expenditure as above and anticipates a Year End PC balance of £19,594.58.
- This shows a surplus of £5K+ due to Village Hall Kitchen CIF grant which all came in this year, but payments divided between this year and last.
- Budgeted surplus was £6K+ but Village Hall allocation £1,450 for next year was spent. Hence £0 for Village Hall in 2025/26 budget [prior to increase agreed at meeting].



APPENDIX VI BUDGET NOTES FOR 2025/26 AND PRECEPT REQUEST

14 JAN 2025

BACKGROUND

This time last year, calculated that 20% increase for this year (as implemented) and 9% for next year 2025/26 would bring us about in line with where the Precept (hypothetically) would be if not for the £10K increase and then subsequent reduction.

9% increase brings the cumulative total to (estimated) level would expect to be. BUT this results in a slightly higher Precept figure than the comparable estimate and so future (small) over-correction.

RECOMMENDATION

Having looked at this again, recommending a 7.5% increase.

Bearing in mind based on guesstimate, think this the closest to where should be and gives a budget that balances.

PRECEPT FIGURES 2020/21 ONWARDS										
PRECEPT ACTUAL					PRECEPT HYPOTHETICAL					
	PRECEPT REQUEST	% increase for following year	PRECEPT CUMULATIVE 2021/22 onwards		ESTIMATED LEVEL OF PRECEPT (without the £10K etc)	% increase for following year	PRECEPT CUMULATIVE 2021/22 onwards			
2020/21	£18,667.00									
2021/22	£30,500.00		£30,500.00		£20,500.00	plus 3%	£20,500.00			
2022/23	£15,250.00	plus 22%	£45,750.00		£21,115.00	plus 5%	£41,615.00			
2023/24	£18,605.00	plus 20%	£64,355.00		£22,171.00	plus 5%	£63,786.00			
TO CONSIDER										
2024/25	£22,326.00	plus 7.5%	£86,681.00		£23,280.00	plus 3%	£87,066.00			
2025/26	£24,000.00		£110,681.00		£23,978.00		£111,044.00			

NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET

I've based the Draft budget for 2025/26 on a Precept request of £24K with 3% increases for following two years.

This allows for inflationary increases and moderate budgets for maintenance / repair etc.

Where this little used in one year, can put to reserve for when more significant maintenance upgrades needed, eg, for playground and pond.

TAX BASE AND COST PER BAND D HOUSEHOLD

```
2020/21 - £18,667 / 364.1 (tax base) = £51.27 per band D household.

2021/22 - £30,500 / 376.9 (tax base) = £80.92 per band D household.

2022/23 - £15,250 / 375.7 (tax base) = £40.59 per band D household.

2023/24 - £18,605 / 382.2 (tax base) = £48.68 per band D household.

2024/25 - £22,326 / 381.9 (tax base) = £58.46 per band D household.

2025/26 - £24K / 381.2 (tax base) = £62.96 per band D household.
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APPENDIX VII - RECREATION GROUND BDBC AUDIT



Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council

Civic Offices, London Road, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG21 4AH

www.basingstoke.gov.uk | 01256 844844 customer.service@basingstoke.gov.uk

Follow us on **If** @BasingstokeGov

To Whom It May Concern / Facilities and Buildings Manager

21st November 2024

Our ref: VAL2425

Please note that valuers from Montagu Evans will attend your property in December 2024 on behalf of Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council to carry out an inspection for Year End Accounts Valuation purposes. As they are inspecting many assets in this period it is hard to be precise on date and time, but they will be inspecting on week commencing 2nd December 2024.

To this end, I would be grateful if you can give them access to the property described above.

They do not need to be accompanied, unless you wish to do so, and the inspection will take no more than 30 minutes and should cause minimum disruption; access to the roofs or plant rooms is not specifically required.

The valuers attending will be one of:

Scott Young Hugh Mitchell Tom Prigmore Luke Standen

They will be carrying photo ID in the form of a Driving Licence or Passport and their company business cards.

If there is a specific contact they should ask for on the day or if you have any concerns, please let us know and they will try and accommodate your requests.

Yours sincerely

Lindsey James,

Asset Management Surveyor, Property Services

Email: propertyservices@basingstoke.gov.uk

Sent: Monday, 25 November, 2024 11:37

To: "Upton_Clerk" <clerk@uptongreyparishcouncil.co.uk>

Subject: RE: Asset Valuation Inspection

Hi Susan,

Yes, the inspection is for the Recreation Ground.

We have the following address : Little Hoddington Recreation Ground

Little Hoddington Close

Upton Grey

RG25 2SA

Regards

Ajit Gurung, Property Administrative Assistant

Chief Executive Russell O'Keefe



APPENDIX VIII - PLANNING UPDATE 14 Jan

NEW APPLICATIONS SINCE LAST MEETING OF 21 NOVEMBER

<u>T/00010/25/TCA</u> (Validated 16 Jan 2025) Old Barn House, Weston Road. A reduction of a Copper Beech tree with Ganoderma bracket to leave a finished height of 8.5m with a spread of 5.5m. Reduce two Lime trees to 9m. Re shape and take back the weight of one Hornbeam to leave a finished height of 5m with a spread of 3m. Cut down one dead standing pine tree leaving the trunk at 3m for habitat.

25/00055/HSE (Validated 13 Jan 2025) Weston Mark, Erection of stable building

<u>24/02958/FUL</u> (Validated 19 Dec 2024) Barns at Upton Grey Cemetery. Change of use of barns to dwelling and associated alterations, extension, parking, landscaping and diversion of footpath. *No objections on BDBC website - 3 neighbour comments in support.*

T/00620/24/TCA (Validated 09 Dec 2024) Redwing House RG25 2RD. T1 Maple: remove large lowest branch. Thin canopy up to 20%.

PROGRESS OF RECENT APPLICATIONS

- T/00576/24/TCA (Approve 07 January, Validated 19 Nov 2024) Upton Grey Lodge, Basingstoke Road. T1 Willow Fell dead tree.
- T/00570/24/TCA (Approve 07 January, Validated 19 Nov 2024) Romney House, Cleves Lane. T1 Cherry, Reduce height by 2 meters and width by 1m leaving a finished height of 5m and width of 3m. T2 Pear, Reduce height by 2 meters and width by 1m leaving a finished height of 5m and width of 3m.
- T/00571/24/TCA (Approve 16 December, Validated 15 Nov 2024) Highfield House, Cleves Lane. T1= Cherry, Extensive decay in base, Fell. T1a= Cherry, Suppressed by surrounding trees, fell. T2= Ash, Die back, Fell. T3= Field maple, Shading house, Fell. T4= Sycamore, Crown lift to 5/6 meters over the road and the drive. T5+6, Field maple, crown lift to 5 meters over the road.
- T/00569/24/TCA (Approve 16 December, Validated 15 Nov 2024) Beam Ends, Weston Road. TI Damson. The damson tree has 2 trunks, A ad B, which can be seen in the attached photos Trunk A runs SE-NW along the top of the boundary hedge at the rear of Beam Ends. In recent years it has dropped so that it now impinges on the telephone and internet cables serving The Orchard and Barn Cottage at the rear of Beam Ends. Trunk B is much higher and is located close to a telegraph post. More importantly it hangs over the corner of Beam Ends and some of its branches in the canopy are dead. The plan is to: Cut fallen Damson stem (Tree A) tangled in phone wires down to hedge height. Cut the remainder of stem adjacent to pole (Tree B) down to the height of the Ivy.
- 24/02633/FUL (Pending, Validated: Wed 13 Nov 2024) Campion House, Cleves Lane. Construction of vehicle access and driveway with erection of piers, gates and a carport 24/02554/HSE (Grant 16 December, Validated 14 Nov 2024) Campions, 3 South Hill. Extension of driveway to match existing.
- 24/02348/HSE (Grant 09 January, Validated 04 Nov) Hoddington House. Three bay garage.
- T/00535/24/TCA (Approve 03 Dec, Validated 31 Oct 2024) Sherborne Cottage, Church Street. T1 Mature Sweet Chestnut reduce crown height from 17m to finish at 14m, reduce crown spread by 2m in all dimensions leaving a finished radial crown spread of 7m, crown raise low hanging growth to a finished height of 3.5m, deadwood throughout.
 - Reasons tree has lost several heavy limbs over the last two years and hangs directly over a footpath. The mature Chestnut behind in neighbours garden we had to reduce the previous year for the same reasons after also loosing a large limb so the aim is to make the tree wind strong but keep good crown form for a prominent tree in the client's garden.
- 24/02229/ROC (Pending, Validated 25 Oct 2024) Hoddington Arms. Variation of condition 19 of 20/02048/FUL to change the approved air source heat pump
- <u>24/00334/HSE</u> (Refuse 29 Nov 2024, Validated 16 Feb 2024) Foxgloves, Powntley Copse. Demolition of the rear conservatory, detached single storey garage and lean-to and shed structure. Erection of a two storey replacement garage with accommodation incidental to the enjoyment of the dwelling house. Erection of an outdoor structure to cover existing outdoor kitchen, and extension of existing wall around two sides.
 - Plus corresponding application to East Hants District land crosses District border to the South Objections raised by East Hants (Mar 2024).

APPEAL - IN PROGRESS

APP/H1705/W/24/3354332 (24/00045/REF) Thursden House, Basingstoke Road Erection of a single dwellinghouse, with garage and associated access, car parking, landscaping.

APPENDIX IX

NEW NPPF (NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK) & INCREASED HOUSING ALLOCATIONS

BDBC update from Cllr Andy Konieczko, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning & Infrastructure, emailed to all Parishes on 13 December

'Government has imposed a higher housing number on our borough as part of its changes to the national planning rules. We've been told that we must build 1,127 new houses each year during our next Local Plan period, up from 828 previously. This means finding space for around 4,500 more properties – on top of the 12,500 or so that we were already being asked to build over the 15-year lifespan of the next Local Plan.

'While we support Government's ambition to make homes more affordable, we don't agree that forcing councils to increase housing targets will achieve this aim. We've robustly told Government this on many recent occasions – through our official response to its consultation on the new planning rules; at meetings with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government; in discussions with our MPs; and through our partnerships with other councils – and are frustrated that it hasn't listened.

'We're unable to proceed with finalising the draft Local Plan we've been developing over the past 18 months and which went out to public consultation earlier this year. We've made it clear to the government that we wanted to finalise it as soon as possible so that our borough is protected from unwanted speculative development. It now appears that we'll have to go back a few stages to make sure that our Plan complies with the new rules.

'We'll continue to study the detail of all of the documentation over the next few days... to understand exactly what our options are...'

THE WAY FORWARD AND A NEW CALL FOR SITES

Further email update of 20 December...

'We don't believe that this new higher target is right for our borough, but it looks like we have little choice but to accept it; the Government has made it clear that it'll step in if progress isn't made.

'Our focus is therefore on moving as quickly as we can – the sooner we get a new Local Plan, the sooner we'll get protection from speculative developers.

'We'll be working over the new couple of weeks to prepare a call for sites that we'll launch on Monday 6 January 2025. This will ask developers and landowners to come forward with land that could, potentially, be included in the Plan for future development. Submissions involving brownfield land will be particularly encouraged. The submissions that we receive will then be assessed in terms of whether they are suitable for future development.

'Over the coming weeks, we'll clarify how we aim to progress with our Local Plan and start setting out a timeline to move forward under the new NPPF.'

APPENDIX X

OPEN LETTER

TOWN HALL T NEWBURY STREET T WHITCHURCH T HAMPSHIRE T RG28 7DW T



WHITCHURCH TOWN COUNCIL ¶

Telephone: 01256-892107 ¶

Email: assistantclerk@whitchurch-hampshire-tc.gov.uk 1

err

Cllr Andy Konieczko Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council

Dear Cllr Konieczko

NPPF and Borough Local Plan Update

Thank you for your correspondence including your letter of 20 December 2024. This has been considered by the Neighbourhood Plan Review Group at their meeting on 2 January 2025 and the Town Council's Development Committee at its meeting on 6 January 2025. We wholeheartedly agree with your objective of finalising the Local Plan Update as quickly as possible, recognising the new NPPF and protecting our communities from speculative development.

This can be achieved by the Council adopting a pre submission Regulation 19 Local Plan before 12 March 2025 and following it with a Main Modification drawing on the imminent Call for Sites prior to an examination in public before 11 May 2026. This would be completely consistent with paragraph 237 of the Annex to the NPPF entitled Implementation, footnote 82 to the NPPF and the Procedure Guide for Local Plan Examinations (August 2024).

We urge you to follow this obvious and legitimate route and avoid wasting the work of the last five years and weakening the ability of all communities to resist harmful speculative development. Consequently, we are copying this letter to all local Councils in the Basingstoke Parishes Coalition.

Yours sincerely SMcGann Suzie McGann Assistant Town Clerk Upton Grey, Mapledurwell and Up Nately, and Greywell Parish Councils

Hampshire County Council, The Castle Winchester SO23 8UL 25th November 2024

Dear Sirs.

REQUEST FOR AN EXPERIMENTAL TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER OF MECHANICALLY PROPELLED VEHICLES ORDER FOR CERTAIN BOATS WITHIN THE PARISHES

For ease of reading, this document has been prepared in the following sections:

Introduction

Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders II

Preventing damage to the road, and preserving the character of the road for use on horseback or on foot III

Preventing unsuitable use by vehicular traffic Conserving or enhancing the natural beauty of an area which includes conserving flora and fauna, and geological or physiographical features Universal Services and their BOATs

VII Conclusion

Appendix 1: Location of the BOATs

I Introduction

The Byways Open to All Traffic ("BOATs") described in this document are located in the parishes of Upton Grey, Mapledurwell and Up Nately, and Greywell. BOATs are described as highways over which the public right of way is for vehicles and all other kinds of traffic, but which are used mainly for the purposes for which footpaths and bridleways are used.

During winter months, the surfaces of the BOATs described here degrade in wet weather, and their conditions become deformed and impassible, to the extent that they exclude users who have a right to use the byeways, including horse riders, cyclists, walkers, wheelchair users and local residents.

With this background, residents of the surrounding villages, their Parish Councils, and landowners are together requesting the Roads authority and Hampshire County Council to make an Experimental Traffic Regulation Order ("ETRO") for the temporary prohibition of mechanically propelled vehicles with three wheels or more ("Motorized Vehicles") from proceeding in any direction over the BOATs listed in Schedule 1, in accordance with Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, for the winter season period to May, as soon as is practicable.

II Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders

The application of ETRO's is covered in DEFRA's 'Regulating the use of motor vehicles on public rights of way and off road,' published in December 20051.

Section 5.3 explains the process for making an ETRO:

'Local traffic authorities have powers under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to make experimental orders for up to 18 months to test a scheme of traffic control before deciding whether to make it permanent. Experimental controls can be introduced quickly because the normal order-making procedures do not apply. Traffic restrictions can also be withdrawn or modified quickly if they are unsuccessful or if they need to be adapted. Local traffic authorities must follow the procedures laid down in 'The Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996' when making an experimental order. Such orders must be advertised at least 7 days before the order comes into effect, and the consultation requirements must be followed before the order is made. This includes the requirement to consult organisations representing persons likely to be affected by any provision in the order, which the order making authority thinks it appropriate to consult. Where an order is intended to be made permanent, objections may be made within 6 months of the order being made, or subsequently varied by the authority."

Section 5.2 of the same document makes the following point which may be helpful:

'On rights of way, traffic regulation orders have generally been used where rights are already recorded in the definitive map of public rights of way. However, it is not widely appreciated that the power in the 1984 Act does not preclude the making of a traffic regulation order restricting or banning vehicles or other traffic even where rights are not recorded in the definitive map.

It is therefore possible to make a traffic regulation order before the outcome of a definitive map modification order is known. In such cases, even where a definitive map modification order application is successful in establishing vehicular rights, vehicular use will continue to be restricted or banned under the terms of the traffic regulation order.

ETRO's are generally used in situations that call for monitoring and reviewing, such as monitoring byway condition to evaluate the cause of deterioration. They may eventually lead to a Permanent traffic regulation order ("PTRO"), depending on the view of the Highways authority. PTRO's can apply all year round or at specific times of the year, and can be used for the winter months October to March.

PTROs need to be supported by evidence that the order will achieve one (or more) of the following outcomes

Prevent damage to the road or any building on or near the road;

Facilitate the passage of any kind of

- traffic (including pedestrians);
 Prevent unsuitable use by vehicular traffic;
 Preserve the character of the road in the case where it is particularly suitable for use on horseback or on foot, or preserve or improve the amenities of the area through which a road runs;
- Conserve or enhance the natural beauty of an area;, which includes conserving flora and fauna, and geological or physiographical features.

In the case of the BOATs that are the subject of this request, the following sections provide the current benchmark status of the BOATs during the winter months. We believe that an ETRO order will give the evidence that one of more of the required outcomes for a PTRO would be achieved.

¹https://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/ukgwa/20070703023741/http://www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-countryside/cl/mpv/index.htm

III Preventing damage to the road, and preserving the character of the road for use on horseback or on foot

The significant deterioration of the BOATs during the wet months of October to May is due to motorized vehicles creating deep ruts.

The photos show how the surface of the BOATs is destroyed and their condition made unattractive and almost unpassable for those who wish to use them: ramblers and walkers, local horse riders, cyclists, and villagers with their children and prams.

[PHOTOS

Significant ruts in the BOATs Ruts running down to the public road Deep ruts, making the BOATs almost unpassable for walkers and ramblers

Ruts and damage arriving at Five Lane Ends

Five Lane Ends, where the BOATs meet. Motorized vehicles have spun, rutting the surface.

An ETRO would allow the Authority to determine whether two of the outcomes for a possible future PTRO would be fulfilled:

Preventing damage to the road; and,

- Preserving the character of the road for use on horseback or on foot.

IV Preventing unsuitable use by vehicular traffic

Most vehicles using the BOATs seem to be doing so at night. These BOATs, because of their multiple five exits, are a hotspot for poachers. Neighbours hear their shots, and the tracks of their four-wheel drive cars can be seen across the fields the following day.

Poachers drive quickly along the BOATs looking for their prey, and have no compunction about destroying the verges of the BOATs and driving across the fields.

Photographic evidence for use by poachers is as follows:

[PHOTOS] Poachers come during the winter months. An ETRO would prevent the unsuitable (and illegal) use of the BOATs by vehicular traffic, a condition for a Permanent traffic regulation order.

V Conserving or enhancing the natural beauty of an area which includes conserving flora and fauna, and geological or physiographical features

This condition includes the important conservation of the flora and the fauna. Sadly, the unsuitable use of motorised vehicles by poachers results in scenes like the following, from the BOATs. These pictures are distressing to landowners, walkers, their children, ramblers, horse riders and all others that enjoy the use of the BOATs. [PHOTOS - hares[

Having an ETRO would conserve and preserve the fauna, and satisfy the condition for a Permanent traffic regulation order.

VI Universal Services and their BOATs

Having an ETRO for a winter closure would, we believe, be in line with Universal Services' strategy for the BOATs.

The 'Management of Byways Open to All Traffic (BOAT) Update'² document dated the 29th November 2023 and written by Jonathan Woods, provides a helpful background.

The following charts extracted from the document appear to be relevant for the request for an ETRO. [see original]

We believe that the BOATs suffer the level of damage to the extent that, in addition to reducing maintenance needs, there are numerous additional conditions which would support a PTRO, and that an ETRO for a winter closure to the 1st May would provide the evidence. This would be a Byways Operational Procedure, Stage 2 intervention, which would support keeping the BOATs physically open for legal users.

The ETRO will complement the approach to managing the network in a more sustainable way, and ensure that the BOATs are maintained to cope with the level of use required for legal users. The ETRO will support the commitment to maintaining the rural character and environment. The ETRO minimizes conflict between leisure, farming and land management purposes and the community that live in the area, all of whom wish to have BOATs in good repair during the winter months and available for the enjoyment of legal users.

Having an ETRO for the BOATs supports the objective of having a more dynamic and effective approach to their management.

It helps with reducing costs. The cost of maintenance of these BOATs to the Highways authority will be reduced. The local farmers have suggested that they might be able to source physical barriers to prevent motorized vehicles from entering the BOATs, and that these would be in keeping with the local surroundings and will not exclude users who continue to have a right to use the route, such as horse riders, cyclists, walkers, wheelchair users and any residents with private access rights.

² https://democracy.hants.gov.uk/documents/s114571/Item%207%20- %20BOATS%20Presentation.pdf

VII Conclusion

There is common agreement between stakeholders that an ETRO would be the right way of testing whether a regular seasonal approach should be taken. The ETRO would be quick to implement, has flexibility, and would cover many of the conditions for consideration of a future PTRO.

Preserving the BOATs over the winter months is very important for our parishes and landowners, and for those from further afield who enjoy making use of them . We hope that the Highway authority and Councillors will give their considered opinion and approval.

Please do contact the below if there are any questions or if further information is required.

Yours faithfully, Charles Holroyd, Chairman, Upton Grey Parish Council