BT Phone Box. BT will not repair the 22 broken panes of glass or 7 wrought iron glazing beads to the kiosk on North Road and will only do the minimum to keep it working. They will not relocate it in Horndean village centre where it might be better appreciated and used, and in the last year it has made just 10 freephone calls. BT have also declined to gift it to the community, so given the vandalism it attracts BT will be asked to remove the kiosk.

A3M Noise. A series of meetings have been underway with the Highways Agency about noise reduction projects on the A3M, and in the last 6 months a lot of resurfacing has been carried out with noise reducing tarmac. These works are due to continue until the carriageway along Downs is fully resurfaced. We are still pushing for proper Acoustic Fencing which is the only measure that will make a significant improvement.

Flooding to local roads. HCC have been carrying out improvements to the drainage to White Dirt Lane following lobbying by Rev Brian Goldsmith and Bob Davis. This includes jetting out drains and enlarging an outfall. All going well, the White Dirt Lane flooding should NOT reoccur. They are also going to look at the ongoing flooding on London Road where water runs off the fields opposite in heavy rain. I have asked them to see if the landowner can dig a drainage ditch to stop this.

Grit Bins. Just before the snow we got a grit bin installed at Juniper Road, and I have asked for more at Wasdale Close and South Road following requests. Would your road benefit from a grit bin? Please let me know why.

Community Grants Payouts. A special meeting at HTC saw 10 organisations bid for £2,500 of grant funding which was then voted on by members of the public. Awards were made to: New Blenheim Centre for a Summer house and patio area, St Johns Primary School £1,000 for an outdoor learning centre, Cattherington and Clanfield Mothers Union £250 for a shed and Castle United FC, Rowlands Castle £350 for some football kit.

Information From George Hollingbery our local MP:

One of the innovations of this modern world is unsolicited or junk mail constantly being pushed through doors. I know that many people get fed up with it and most is promptly binned. But sometimes some of this stuff can be quite clever and everyone needs to be on the look out that they might be giving away information that they don't have to. Take, for example, a very official looking letter someone showed me the other day asking a resident to confirm that they want to stay in their current home and future housing needs. Although this looked like an official letter, it actually came from a private planning company - its apparent objective to determine which kind of new-build housing would be least controversial to local residents. Pretty interesting stuff for certain parties I'm sure you agree.

Now this kind of correspondence is totally legal and that these companies are perfectly entitled to promote and carry out these activities. However, this is a case where a constituent has had enough. They have asked for more at Wasdale Close and the landowner has asked them to see if they can dig a drainage ditch to stop the flooding in heavy rain. I have asked them to see if the landowner can dig a drainage ditch to stop this.

Information From George Hollingbery our local MP:

One of the innovations of this modern world is unsolicited or junk mail constantly being pushed through doors. I know that many people get fed up with it and most is promptly binned. But sometimes some of this stuff can be quite clever and everyone needs to be on the look out that they might be giving away information that they don't have to. Take, for example, a very official looking letter someone showed me the other day asking a resident to confirm that they want to stay in their current home and future housing needs. Although this looked like an official letter, it actually came from a private planning company - its apparent objective to determine which kind of new-build housing would be least controversial to local residents. Pretty interesting stuff for certain parties I'm sure you agree.

Now this kind of correspondence is totally legal and that these companies are perfectly entitled to promote and carry out these activities. However, this is a case where a constituent has had enough. They have asked for more at Wasdale Close and the landowner has asked them to see if they can dig a drainage ditch to stop the flooding in heavy rain. I have asked them to see if the landowner can dig a drainage ditch to stop this.

Information From George Hollingbery our local MP:

One of the innovations of this modern world is unsolicited or junk mail constantly being pushed through doors. I know that many people get fed up with it and most is promptly binned. But sometimes some of this stuff can be quite clever and everyone needs to be on the look out that they might be giving away information that they don't have to. Take, for example, a very official looking letter someone showed me the other day asking a resident to confirm that they want to stay in their current home and future housing needs. Although this looked like an official letter, it actually came from a private planning company - its apparent objective to determine which kind of new-build housing would be least controversial to local residents. Pretty interesting stuff for certain parties I'm sure you agree.

Now this kind of correspondence is totally legal and that these companies are perfectly entitled to promote and carry out these activities. However, this is a case where a constituent has had enough. They have asked for more at Wasdale Close and the landowner has asked them to see if they can dig a drainage ditch to stop the flooding in heavy rain. I have asked them to see if the landowner can dig a drainage ditch to stop this.
Bus Shelters:
A number of residents have asked if we can get more bus shelters in Down's, and in the last months I have been looking into the supply and ownership of these. To cut a long story short, this has been challenging, and no one has the funds in place or budget to buy any. Permissions are complicated and the responsibility for ongoing maintenance is a contentious subject with no-one willing to take them on. Of particular worry is the bus companies who profit from the service will not contribute to which maintenance they will not be required to carry out or which.
Regarding this, parts of Horndean are well provided for, and we can export, especially along Downwood Way, Tam Rise and Southdown Road where there are none. The map to the right shows where bus shelters are located. See website for a larger version.
We can apply for funds through 'Transport Developers Contributions' (money developers have to hand over in return for planning permission). Each shelter will cost £2,500 to £4,000 depending on the style, so we cannot justify placing these at all 11 points. We also need to find an organisation who will own them.
I would however be very grateful to hear which ones you think would benefit most, and hopefully we might get 3 or 4 installed and evenly spaced out. Please let me know by emailing where you think the greatest demand is. Visit www.horndeanmatters.com and search for 'bus shelters' in 'recent posts' for a colour map and more info.

Council Tax:
The 2013 / 2014 Council Tax budgets have been set and work out at a 1% increase. Hampshire County Council and Hampshire Fire and Rescue managed to keep their budgets the same as last year. EHDC increased theirs by 2% (5p per week for a Band D home). Hampshire Constabulary increased theirs by 3.4% (10p per week for a band D property). Horndean Parish Council increased theirs by 9% (14p per week for a Band D property). A band D property contributes £137.30 per house to EHDC in the council tax. For just over £2.60 per week, the bins are emptied weekly, we operate Planning, Building Control and Enforcement, Housing needs and benefits, Sports and Leisure and lots more.
The overall increase for a Band D property is £14.30 per year and £17.48 for a Band E property.

Gales Site Roadworks:
The roadworks in Horndean have been a major issue for all residents since September last year when the gas pipes under the roundabout had to be replaced in a 10 week activity. Unfortunately, these works were carried out very slowly with only one area worked on at a time despite large areas being coned off, and an overtime ban from SGN prevented weekend work which slowed the works down further. Electricity cable repairs in January resulted in a second series of 4 way lights for 2 weeks, and the current road works for Gales have resulted in more 4 way lights which are due to be in place until the end of April (8 weeks in all).
We all accept that roadworks need to be carried out and are generally understanding to this provided they are carried out efficiently and quickly. When 4 way lights are necessary which are highly disruptive to the community it is particularly important they are worked efficiently.
After pressure the roadworks were delayed for Easter, the use of 4 way lights will be minimised with manual operation in the day and all of the roadworks to the Gales Site will be completed by Mid May. The website has more information and updates will be posted.

Housing in the next 15 years:
The Local Plan: At the moment planning decisions are made using the Local Plan. This was first prepared in 1993, and then reviewed in 1999, 2004 and the current working document (the second review) was published in 2006. Reference to the formation of the South Downs National Park we are working on a joint plan for EHDC with the National Park which will cover all of EHDC and take into consideration the different planning policies that the park will have protection under, and is called 'The Joint Core Strategy'.
This Local Plan or Joint Core Strategy needs to be reviewed and updated every 5 to 8 years to accommodate changes which are largely population driven, but are also based on the economy, employment and work in the district and social needs. None of us want our rural environment to change, it is why many of us chose to live here, but the reality is that while families have 2.4 children, while we live longer, and while more homes have single occupants than ever before, our own housing is not expanding. Everyone knows their children will live near by in housing they can afford which is why we put a requirement in the plan for medium and large developments to have 40% affordable housing.
The Joint Core Strategy was prepared and issued to the planning inspector last year, and allowed for a total of 6,750 homes to be built across all of EHDC to cater for our own housing needs in the 15 years between 2013 and 2028, or 585 a year across all of EHDC. Two things have since happened. The first is that the planning inspectors have been rejecting the planning authorities local plans across the country and insisting on more housing being added in. EHDC are one of these, and the number put to us was 2,850 more homes across EHDC. The second is the poor economy has meant that house building slowed significantly and the government decided to suspend the rigid requirement for 'affordable housing' and stated that developers should only build what they could afford. Suddenly, every developer is looking to maximise on the large expensive properties which generate maximum profit, and the work we put in to arguing these is now considerable.
Fact - in the last 10 years just 252 homes have been built in Horndean averaging 25 a year. I thought that would have been much higher. (Figures based on 2001, 2001 census and new house completions). SHMA: At the moment EHDC is carrying out a SHMA (Strategic Housing Market Assessment) which will understand what housing needs we do have and put evidence back to the planning inspector on what our needs really are. Hopefully this will be less than the current suggestion. This will be completed by the end of April and will confirm what our needs are.

SLHAA: Land owners register the land they would be happy to be put forward for planning, and these sites are then assessed by the planning authority for their suitability for development, and are known as SLHAA sites or Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment. The map to the right is the current 2012 version and in recent months sites have been put forward which will be considered soon. The updated map will be posted on www.horndeanmatters.com
Land being put forward as a SLHAA site does not mean it is suitable for planning, but it gives the land owner an early guide as to the key acceptance criteria. Applications for large sites can cost tens of thousands of pounds to prepare documentation for, so this process helps land owners gauge their chances early on. White Dirt Farm (HD018) is our closest site and is in a settlement gap which is to prevent Clanfield and Catherington from merging. This is protected in our local plan and also in the joint core strategy.

Housing in the right place: A key part of our role as Councillors moving forwards is to ensure that the housing that is allowed goes in the right places, and one better option is Hazleton Farm (HD020) which does not then add traffic to any one community, has its own good motorway access, and gives the opportunity for leisure and employment facilities to be built in hand in hand with the housing due to the size of the site.
For a higher quality copy of the current SLHAA sites visit www.horndeanmatters.com and click on 'Development - SLHAA Sites' in the useful links toolbar. There is also a longer article 'Horndean Housing to 2028' which covers this in more detail. When the SHMA is finalised the website will be updated with more information, and at some point the SLHAA sites will be 'allocated' to identify which we do take forward this will be a key event for Horndean and expect some public consultation where options are laid out for review.