

Horndean Parish Council: Parish Clerk: The Parish Council have recently appointed a new Clerk and Executive Officer. I am sure we all warmly welcome Carla Baverstock-Jones in her new role.

Grounds Manager: Carole Burnett has been appointed as the Grounds Manager and is very much looking for community support for activities in the Parish. If you are interested in Tree planting day at Jubilee Hall to celebrate National Tree Planting Week in December then please contact Horndean Parish Council on 02392 597766.

Rights Of Way Volunteer Group: Horndean Parish Council have a ROW volunteer group to either help identify areas where there are problems, or help rectify them. If you are interested in helping out for a few hours a month, or have any issues to report then contact the HPC Countryside team on rowv@horndeanpc-hants.gov.uk or on 02392 59776.

Countryside Team Newsletter: The Countryside produce a regular newsletter. Visit www.horndeanmatters.com or the Parish Council website to see the latest news and opportunities for volunteering locally.

Hampshire County Council issues with Cllr Marge Harvey:



White Dirt Lane: The results of the consultation on White Dirt Lane are back and road closure is the most popular option with more votes than all of the calming options combined. HCC are looking to follow this up and consult with the emergency services, Parish Council and other organisations to consider a temporary trial closure. This trial would have traffic monitoring equipment in place to assess the impact on the adjacent roads and a further consultation period would follow. I said from the start that I would go with the residents if possible and now it's up to them as to what happens.

Rural Broadband: I have contacted HCC about broadband provision and should know by December exactly what is going to happen.

Traffic Calming: Catherington Lane is the first road on the list for traffic calming and Lovedean Lane is second, so we should be seeing something happening early next year. Here's hoping!!!!

If I don't manage to write again before Xmas, I would like to wish you all a very happy and healthy Christmas and New Year. If there is anything that I can help with, please don't hesitate to let me know on marge.harvey@hants.gov.uk



Information From George Hollingbery our local MP:

Planning and house building are two of the hottest topics in the Meon Valley, but it is an issue that I have little control over as an MP. This is because planning is a devolved power and decisions are taken by local councils. I do get involved trying to inform people about what is happening, how the system works and what can be done to ensure house building is right for an area. I recently chaired a planning summit in Horndean to that end, which was attended by more than 400 people - a big figure showing just how important the issue is in this part of the world. We talked in general terms about the law and the planning process and I was grateful to the panel of experts for talking to local people.



This is a very complex issue but really boils down to the fact the present government has done away with a centrally controlled system of housing numbers for each area. It has now determined that the number of houses should reflect 'local need'. In order to determine this, councils are required to have an up-to-date document called The Local Plan detailing where larger scale housing development should go and then have sufficient permitted house building sites to be able to demonstrate what is termed a five-year land supply. Failure to achieve either of these leaves a council in a position where it must fall back on national guidance in the form of the National Planning Policy Framework. This sets out a presumption in favour of 'sustainable development', which means that if there isn't a good reason to reject a development, councils should approve it.

But that doesn't mean unsuitable applications should be passed. We should not be building on high-grade farm land or in areas prone to flooding. Equally, we must ensure a mix of size and type of homes including affordable and social housing, and that was the message that came from the summit. All these issues come on top of a housing crisis in the South of England with many grappling with high prices and stuck in rented properties. So it's clear that houses must be built and this issue will remain a hot topic. George Hollingbery, Member Of Parliament for Meon Valley.

George Hollingbery holds a monthly surgery at Waterlooville Precinct on Saturdays. For the next date contact his office on 01962 734076 to book an appointment. You can also write to him at: George Hollingbery MP, House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA, or get in touch through his website: www.georgehollingbery.com

Want To Stay Informed? Horndean Matters has 3 or 4 new items every week and has had over 80,000 visits in the last 18 months. If you find the information useful then you can register for email notifications when new articles are posted. Visit www.horndeanmatters.com and follow the link on the right at the bottom to receive notifications. The website has now had over 36,800 visitors. Thank you for looking! www.horndeanmatters.com

Horndean Food Bank: A Horndean Food Bank has been set up by "Horndean Churches Together" for local short term free emergency food supply. If you need assistance or know someone who does please call 02392 591326.

Dear All; In this Ninth edition there is a very good update on Land East Of Horndean, the Allocations Plan and a number of very unpopular housing applications have also been refused at EHDC. Away from housing, HCC are looking at road safety options on White Dirt Lane (including closing it), works have been carried out to prevent Downwood Way flooding again, Horndean will get a new Doctors Surgery, we have some new Bus Stops, a community project to build a Bandstand at Merchistoun Hall is about to start, EHDC are directly funding additional police resources which will help improve our local safety, I have some Grant Funding waiting for a good cause, our War Memorial has been restored to its former glory and if you thought Horndean was not affected by World War 2, you could not be further from the truth. Amongst the information packed in here you can read about Doodlebugs, Churchill, Eisenhower, Montgomery, Secret underground bunkers, German Spies, explosive stashes, crashed aircraft, escaped POW's and Nazi pilots on the run, some of which is on www.horndeanmatters.com as there is not enough space here to print it all.



Horndean At War: Dennis Longhurst, a local resident, was born in 1932 and grew up in War Time Horndean. He has kindly shared his war time memories with the community. There is a significant amount of detail and we have been able to produce a map showing all of the events he described. I can't condense his remarkable story into a few short paragraphs so here is a short extract that describes Dennis and his friends playing in a secret wartime bunker in Horndean:

"By now the threat of invasion was over and the Auxiliary Home Guard bunker with the camp beds was generally known about. For a group of local lads it was, of course, a regular haunt and always worth a visit. Dennis recalls playing there often with his friends but one occasion it nearly frightened them all to death. The entrance to this bunker was dark, damp and narrow. The first lad lit a small candle and started down the dark steps to the bottom where there hung a hessian curtain. The bunker, unlit and in war time Britain, was creepy even without the help of the fertile imagination of a group of young lads.

As the first boy slowly pushed aside the hessian curtain at the bottom of the steps there was a sudden movement and a puff as someone blew the candle out plunging them all into darkness with this mystery person. Despite near heart failure, the lads turned and ran setting the fastest unofficial land speed record. You will note from previous accounts they were getting very good at this by now.

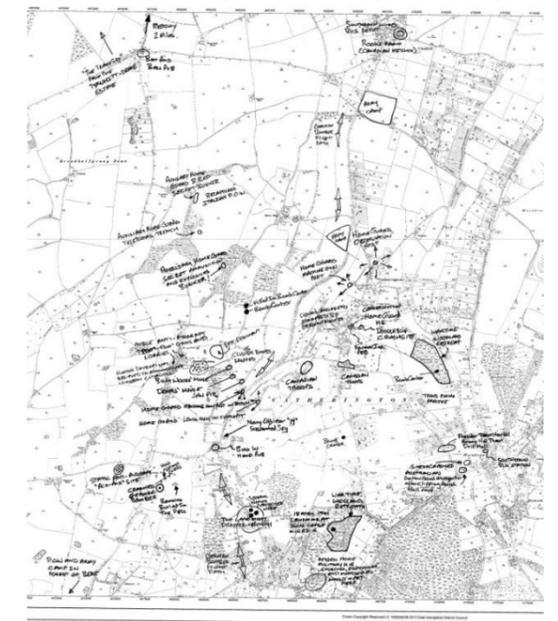
After some frantic searching for help and explaining they returned with a farmer who had a gun. He shouted down into the dark tunnel leading into the bunker challenging the mystery person to make himself known. After a few moments and much to the surprise of the farmer who was convinced the boys had scared themselves witless and were simply mistaken, an Italian with an orange POW circle stitched onto the back of his military tunic sheepishly came out with his hands up. He was bundled to the ground and tied with his hands behind his back and ankles bound too. Next he was heaved into the farmer's van where one of Dennis' friends sat on him during the drive to hand him over to the Army."

The entire account is some 14 pages long with photographs, and covers so much detail as well as a large map that shows all of the locations where key events occurred. To view the map in detail (above) and the full account with several photographs, visit www.hornderanmatters.com and click on the image "Horndean At War - Dennis Longhurst"

"Coming Up" Dates. (Please visit www.horndeanmatters.com for up to date events and meetings)

- ❖ **Horndean Parish Council Carol Service.** Tuesday 9th December 2014 at 7:00pm in the square.
- ❖ **Police South Of Butser Surgery.** 13th December at Morrisons in Horndean 10:00 to 12:00
- ❖ **EHDC Council Meetings.** 4th December, 26th February, 9th April at Penns Place 18:30
- ❖ **Southern Parishes Community Forum.** 13th January, 14th April 18:30 location TBC
- ❖ **Horndean Parish Council meetings.** 15th December, 12th January, 9th February from 7pm at Jubilee Hall
- ❖ **Horndean Biodiversity Action Group.** Tuesday 2nd December at 2:00pm in Napier Hall.

Councillor Grants: Each year we have a grant fund of £3,000 to allocate to community projects. So far this year I am pleased to have been able to support Horndean Parish Council with some tree planting at Downs Park, Horndean Football Club with some works to their grounds and Butser Home Start who support families in need. If you can think of a good cause then please let me know on guy.shepherd@easthants.gov.uk



Surgeries and Schools: One of the key issues about the development in Horndean has been will the local infrastructure be able to take the increased demand. The local Doctors Surgeries and Schools have raised the greatest concern and if Land East of Horndean is successful, then these plans include the development of a primary school for 210 pupils. Horndean Technology College has enough capacity for Secondary school places. The proposal for the new Doctors Surgery in Horndean has also moved forward too. As a part of the Gales development there was a requirement for space to be designed in to allow the over stretched Horndean Surgery to move into larger premises.

The plans for this are well underway with an anticipated date of Summer next year when the surgery will move across. There is a long interview with Dr Coombe from the surgery on www.horndeanmatters.com. Most of Downs Ward is in the catchment area for the Clanfield Surgery but patients are allowed to approach adjacent surgeries if they wish (subject to them having capacity). The Clanfield Surgery has had funding allocated to it following the Green Lane development to enable the construction of a new consulting room, but this has been held up at NHS England. This matter is being taken up by George Hollingbery MP at a Ministerial level to get the funding released and allocated where it is needed. For more details visit www.horndeanmatters.com and view the article 'A New Surgery For Horndean'. Photo - Dr Coombe in front of the future surgery building in the Gales Development.



Chalk Hill Road: Taylor Wimpey have targeted a second site in Horndean for development. Again, this is on Gap Land and a prominent location with the end result of adding a greater burden onto already busy roads. (It is the land at the Southern End of Jack Tricketts field but is NOT owned by Jack). This is, in my view, simply a misjudgement by Taylor Wimpey in that the allocations plan is progressing well, our housing needs can be catered for in one highly sustainable site at Land East Of Horndean and they are 12 months too late to take a punt on it. It will however cause stress and anxiety locally until the planning process has been carried out, and to fight it off it is essential that when the plans arrive the community responds to them. Keep watching www.horndeanmatters.com for further details as they come.

War Memorial Restored: Horndean built a War Memorial after World War 1 to remember people in the community who lost their lives to ensure our values and society was protected. The statue NIKE (the goddess of Victory) was damaged in a car accident in 1964 and had to be taken down. She was replaced with a simple concrete lamp.

After significant work led by Cllr Sara Schillemore, Horndean Parish Council were able to fund the replacement and installation of a bespoke replica statue made from Portland Stone. Thank you to the following donors: NA Curtain Walling £5,500, Fullers £1,000, Horndean Tyres £500, Universal Vehicle Services £400, and several private donors for generous contributions up to £500.

Allocations Plan: The 'Local Plan' for housing is a two part document. The first part is the study that determines where housing is required based on our own needs and has been prepared in partnership with the South Downs National Park we are one of the first local authorities to get the first part approved and published. The second part identifies where it should go (The Allocations Plan) and for this second section, as time is vital for us, EHDC are carrying this out independantly and faster than the park.

At a recent EHDC Cabinet meeting we approved the Draft Plan. This considers all of the SHLAA sites in Horndean and looks at them from a sustainability point of view. It then allocates these sites as the planned areas where we will allow housing to go, and this prevents development on the other sites. At the moment, the plan is a draft plan and must go out to public consultation, be updated to reflect any relevant comments, and then go through an examination with a planning inspector which will take until Summer next year. In the meantime the Draft Plan is relevant but does not have the full weight of an approved plan. If approved, the ONLY site in the Allocations Plan will be the 'Land East Of Horndean' development which we believe can cater for all of our needs and also provide excellent community facilities.



White Dirt Farm Update: After the plans were submitted in September by Taylor Wimpey, the public and statutory consultations were held. The results of this are now back with EHDC who are reviewing them and weighing up the proposals. It is expected that this will be heard at a planning committee meeting soon but keep watching www.horndeanmatters.com where any meetings and decisions will be publicised.

All of the consultation feedback from organisations like Hampshire County Council is on the EHDC planning portal and there are also an incredible 251 public comments on the application. Thank you for taking the time to respond to the case officer on this application, it makes a valuable difference. Some of the consultations from organisations like Highways, the Landscape Officer and others do not read well for Taylor Wimpey and are very encouraging for our case. We have fought hard against this application and I am 95% certain that EHDC will feel the development is not suitable. If this is the case then the applicant will inevitably appeal against the decision which would run into next year.

In the meantime the 5 year land supply is a key factor. If we can demonstrate there is enough housing in East Hants to meet our own needs then we can apply the Gap Policy. This adds weight against the development of White Dirt Farm. There are other applications across EHDC that are being considered at the moment and these could very quickly put us in a position where we can demonstrate we have enough planned housing to take care of our needs.



Land East Of Horndean: The application for Land East Of Horndean has been submitted to EHDC. If approved this will be the allocation for Horndean and key to demonstrating a robust case that we do not need further development outside of our Settlement Policy Boundary. (Note - smaller developments inside our Settlement Policy Boundary will still be subject to normal planning rules). Visit www.horndeanmatters.com to view the plans.

Other Planning Applications: In the last months EHDC have also refused two large planning applications in Horndean. The first was for 40 homes in Lovedean, and the second 41 homes off Blendworth Lane.

Burglaries on the increase: In the last month there is been an increase in the number of burglaries in Waterlooville, Horndean and Clanfield. There seems to be a pattern where unoccupied homes are being targeted. The Police think an individual is 'Cold Calling' to establish if properties are empty or not. If you receive a cold caller at the door who seems to have an unconvincing purpose in visiting then please call 101 and give a description. Please also consider lights on a timer and leaving a radio on to make the house look occupied. Check on neighbours properties if they are away. Visit www.horndeanmatters.com and look for the article on 'Beware - A Burglar Is About' to read more about this.

Downwood Way Flooding: Last year saw regular flooding on Downwood Way and this was unacceptable, so following several requests to Hampshire County Council they carried out some modifications to the below ground drainage. An overflow pipe has been installed connecting a road gully to the drainage in London Road so when the soakaway fills up, the water will overflow into the main sewer. Aside from one or two occasions when the gully was blocked with leaves which I was able to rake away, this seems to be working well so hopefully will be an end to this nuisance.

EHDC fund 3 new PCSO's and 5 ANPR Cameras: EHDC have been looking at how to tackle nuisance crime in the community and address some of the concerns we have about the current police workload. Currently there are 18 PCSO's in East Hampshire and EHDC are funding 3 further PCSO's who will be tasked directly by our communities teams to tackle some of the crimes the Police do not have the resources to follow up as much as we would like. This includes antisocial behaviour, fly tipping, graffiti and other issues that are often a gateway into more serious crime. We are also funding 5 new ANPR's (Automatic Number Plate Recognition Cameras) which will be used to improve the network of intelligence gathering equipment the Police have in the area. These will target known offenders involved in all types of crime.

White Dirt Lane Safety Improvements: HCC have held consultations with the community on road safety improvements to White Dirt Lane. This currently favours closure. It is important that the residents on the lane have an improvement which will also make it safer for pedestrians generally, but White Dirt Lane is an important access route from Downs Ward to Catherington and beyond. I am not in favour of closure and have made this clear to HCC. I will post the results on www.horndeanmatters.com shortly. (See the article on the 25th October to view the consultation options).

Merchistoun Hall Bandstand Community Project: The community project to build a Bandstand at Merchistoun Hall is about to start. A number of businesses have contributed most of the building materials including the steel frame, bricks and blocks, concrete, reinforcement and more. Students from Highbury College will build the Bandstand as a part of their assessment and training and learn how to work in a real life construction environment where they need to interface with other trades. The project should be complete by Spring 2015.

Bus Stops: After a year and a bit of lobbying and support from the Parish and County Council I am pleased to see three new bus stops have been installed to Downs Ward in time for winter. Thank you to Cllr Harvey for finding the funding.