

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.

Want To Stay Informed? Horndean Matters has 3 or 4 new items every week and has passed its 120,000 visitor milestone. With over 450 articles on the blog ranging from local history to current EHDC initiatives I hope you find it useful. I am always very keen to receive ideas on what to post next, so please let me know! Thank you for looking!

Cllr Marge Harvey on White Dirt Lane:

As most of you will know by now, the scheme for White Dirt Lane has now been decided by the portfolio holder Cllr Sean Woodward. I do realise that there are many people who do not agree with the decision, but there are just as many who are happy with it. Whatever happens, I think that this scheme will make the lane safer. Work still continues on Victory Avenue and hopefully when that is completed, those who were unhappy with the scheme, will also realise that it was essential work that needed doing.

Footways are now being looked at and if you have any footways that need attention, then please contact me and I will pass it on to the appropriate officer. I have spoken to the officer about traffic calming on Catherington Lane and am awaiting confirmation when it can be programmed in. There is still a lot of work to be done to get the scheme right and hopefully the public will get involved with the consultation. Things are changing at HCC as far as schemes are concerned and the way they are going to be addressed. I will keep you in the loop about this as soon as it becomes clear.

Please let me know if you have any matters that need attention by contacting me on marge.harvey@hants.gov.uk



George on Combined Authorities: Talk of a new Hampshire and Isle of Wight authority running a host of services might have left Parish Councils thinking, 'what's going to happen to us?' Well, the simple answer, I think, is very little. The services that parish councils run will remain in their hands, it's really the big ticket services like education and social care that will be going to the new authority, if it happens. Nevertheless there could be a devolution revolution on a street near you very soon offering momentous changes to how public services are run here in Hampshire and will affect everybody.

Now you might be thinking 'devolution? Isn't that something to do with Scotland?' but actually it's something on the cards for the whole country and I think it is great news. The UK is one of the most centrally governed advanced countries in the world and many people, not just Scottish Nationalists, now have a real issue with decisions handed down from the 'Westminster Elite' to

all parts of the country without too much consultation. In response, up and down the land, councils, cities and even entire regions are asking central government to give them more responsibility, and greater powers, to manage and provide services.

Here in Hampshire there are exciting plans to agree to form a combined authority made up of all 11 district councils, the county council and the three unitary authorities, Portsmouth, Southampton and the Isle of Wight. This devolution deal will see many powers – we don't know which yet – pushed down en masse from Whitehall to Hampshire County Council and then further devolved to individual districts and cities to suit their structures and budget. The net result will be greater administrative and economic efficiency, so less money wasted, and better public services for everyone in Hampshire, plus fewer diktats from Whitehall about how things should be done. Local people, who know their location best, will be in charge of services. I very much look forward to more detailed proposals being published in the next few months.

George on Rural Crime: I'm well aware that crime figures can often be more complex than they look at first sight, but it's very disappointing that Hampshire is near the top of the list in the survey and very concerning that the estimated cost of rural crime in the county has almost doubled in 2014 from the 2013 figures. As I represent a largely rural constituency, I'm very much aware of the devastating effect rural crime has on communities and it's really one of the top concerns in the countryside. If this level of crime took place in an urban location there would be an uproar, so it is right that the rural community makes sure the problem is in the limelight.

I know that the police and crime commissioner and chief constable are putting resources into tackling this type of crime and that Hampshire police has had a Rural Crime Strategy in place since July last year, so I'm hopeful that progress is being made on this issue. I will be talking to the Chief Constable about rural crime and the survey when I next see him at one of our regular meetings.



Dear All; Here is the 12th Newsletter for Downs Ward and the first one post election. Thank you to everyone who supported me, my majority increased from just 41 at the By-Election to 766 votes and my share of the vote increased from 43% to 71%.

In this issue Planning is less of a threat and I can update you on Land East Of Horndean, and more importantly the facilities we will get out of it. It also covers rural crime, Combined Authorities, litter, Bioblitz and grant funding!



Planning Generally:

18 months ago we had an onslaught of planning applications in Horndean (and East Hants in general). This caused a lot of concern and over the last year most of these have been refused permission by EHDC. Most applicants have appealed against the decision - a second bite of the cherry - and appeal results across the District have been 90% in favour of EHDC. Locally here is the current status of planning decisions:

Location	EHDC Decision	Appeal Status
Land East Of Horndean (our allocated site) 700 Homes	Approved with S106 agreement being finalised now	N/A
Bargate Homes Lovedean 40 Homes	Approved	N/A
Land to the rear of 191 - 211 Lovedean Lane 39 homes	Refused by EHDC	Decision Upheld
Land at 102 – 120 Downhouse Road, Catherington 26 homes -	Refused by EHDC	Decision Upheld
Chalk Hill Road 73 Units with Taylor Wimpey	Refused by EHDC	No Appeal Yet - Times out on the 8th November.
Blendworth Lane	Refused by EHDC	Appeal Decision Awaited
Crookley Park (Blendworth Fabrics in Blendworth)	Refused by EHDC	No Appeal Yet
White Dirt Farm	Refused by EHDC	No Appeal and time expired

It is also important to know that a large number of SHLAA sites have also been rejected and these include Blue Anchor Meadow (behind the Blue Anchor public house) in addition to a further 500 or so potential homes that had been discussed at Pre-application stage. The main focus now is to make sure that we get the best we can from the Land East Of Horndean Development.

The Allocations Plan (the part of the local plan that identifies the sites that will be developed like Land East Of Horndean, and more importantly those that have been rejected) has been through two rounds of consultations and is now ready for examination. Work is beginning now on the Third section which reviews the gaps as well as covering information on travellers etc.

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

- ❖ **Horndean Parish Council Meetings** 21st Sept, 19th Oct, 23rd Nov, 21st Dec
- ❖ **EHDC Council Meetings.** 10 September, 22nd October, 3rd Dec at Penns Place 18:30
- ❖ **Southern Parishes Community Forum.** 13th October, 12th Jan location TBC
- ❖ **Carol Service** 16th December 2015
- ❖ **Police Morrisons Street Engagement** 26th Sept, 24th Oct, 21st Nov, 19th Dec

More on The Blog:

Land East Of Horndean - Is this a threat to our water supply and what are the next steps? July 2015
 Havant Thicket Reservoir - Whatever happened to the plans and will we see a reservoir? July 2015
 New Local Police Team - Our Police team is now run out of Petersfield article 28th June for more information
 Merchistoun Hall Bandstand Project is well underway with Highbury College as partners
 Alerts from Trading Standards and The Police on local crime - Have you registered for Hampshire Alert yet?



Land East Of Horndean:

The Land East Of Horndean planning application was approved in May subject the Section 106 agreement being resolved. This is the document that lists the contributions the developer will make to Schools, Highways and community facilities. At this point we have significant leverage over the developer and are working to pack in the best we can for the Parish.

My current role at EHDC is the Southern Parishes Portfolio Holder (A Cabinet Member) so I am leading this and have set up a Development Panel which draws in District Councillors and Parish Councillors from Horndean and Rowlands Castle, the two parishes the development is located in. The objective is to work collaboratively to get the best we can for our community.

Currently we are finalising the wording to the community facilities which includes a community building of 1,300 to 1,500 SqM, Cricket Pitch, Pavilion, Football Pitches, MUGA, Children's Play Areas, 60 Allotments, Space for a skate park, 50 Acres of public open space, contributions to a number of resources and more.

The development will also provide up to 700 local jobs, a care home and care village for elderly people to downsize into and a new primary school as well as 280 affordable homes to help our young people get onto the property ladder.

The panel will also look at the highways issues around the development, how bus provision can be planned in, cycle routes and footpaths

Cllr Sara Schillemore is currently organising some community consultations to get views from residents on how we develop the design of these buildings and please keep an eye out on www.horndeanmatters.com or the local papers to hear more about these. They are likely to be in October and November this year.

150 fines issued in first month of litter campaign:



More than 150 fines for littering have been issued around the district in the first month of a campaign from East Hampshire District Council. Since Monday 18 May EHDC's Litter Enforcement Officers have been issuing £75 fines for dropping litter such as cigarette butts and chewing gum. The amount of fines issued over the first few weeks shows how seriously East Hampshire District Council is taking littering. Littering is an issue that many people in the district feel very strongly about. The council spends tens of thousands of pounds a year picking up carelessly discarded litter – that money could be put to much better use. We want to drive the message home that dropping any kind of litter, including cigarette butts or chewing gum, could lead to a £75 fine.

The campaign is being run across the district but officers are focusing on the worst affected areas, such as town and village centres. Residents who would like to report a litter 'hot spot' to the council can call the litter line on 01730 234131 and officers will visit that area.

The scheme is being enforced by uniformed officers from Kingdom Security Ltd who carry EHDC livery and official ID. The six month pilot has been launched to reduce litter in the district and there

is no expectation it will generate a profit. Any surplus money generated will be put towards environmental improvements based on information gathered during the scheme, for example where new litter bins should be located.

Horndean Parish Council Bioblitz!:

Horndean Parish Council held its first Bioblitz on the 12th, 13th June this year. This was a part of a nationwide survey to record plants and bugs etc over a 48 hour period. The Horndean survey was held at Dell Piece West and 85 people visited from schools, clubs and interested parties. Activities included Midnight Moth Trapping, Bat Detecting and Pond Dipping. In all 472 species were logged (129 plant and 343 animal) which included 5 new plant species on the site and 30 new animal.

Combined Authorities:

At the moment discussions and proposals are being considered which, if they can be agreed with the government, will see new powers and investment transferred from Whitehall to Hampshire and the Isle of Wight so that we can manage local affairs locally. These discussions are being led by the 15 leaders and executive officers of the Councils in Hampshire (County, District, Borough and City) but what might they mean for us?

The Hampshire and Isle of Wight economy is worth £47bn a year. And we are a major economy outside of London. We have Deep water ports, airports, renowned universities and specialist market sectors like aerospace, defence, maritime as well as a highly qualified and professional population earning above the average wage.

The main objective of the Combined Authority is to drive growth in business and economy. As well as making more jobs to cater for our growing population and combating our (relatively low) unemployment, this means working to up-skill the population to raise the average wage of our existing population. Much of the discussions that are taking place are therefore focused on the economy, but this is also a chance to look at other topics such as health, transport, housing and surplus government land.

A key principal though is to look to add responsibilities that complement existing duties carried out by HCC, EHDC and other organisations (like the LEPS – Local Enterprise Partnerships) to simplify the way we work and accountability without introducing a new level of government and bureaucracy.

Detail is now starting to emerge on some of the topics that might form the final plans:

- **Local control of business rates to support business growth. This will help each local authority to reinvest income from business rates into projects and activities to promote new business growth. This could include enterprise centres, business parks, better Broadband, road improvements or regeneration of business areas.**
- **Local control over transport infrastructure funding working with rail, highways England etc. This might address issues on the motorways where there are bottlenecks and provide solutions like motorway hard shoulder shared use (as around Birmingham), greater say on rail franchise renewals and a more joined up approach with our road network which is currently managed by multiple agencies**
- **Better support for local enterprise to grow our SME's through increased locally decided funding to support local businesses through the LEPS and other organisations.**
- **More cost effective public services. At the moment several organisations look into environmental issues – The Environment Agency, County and District Councils and others. By bringing these into one organisation the overhead reduces.**
- **Local skills for anyone currently working and our growing population, our skill base needs to grow in proportion and we would like local control over this to work with universities, colleges etc to ensure this is well coordinated. Currently our average wage per head is good but we would like to see this grow particularly in STEM (Science Technology, Engineering, Mathematics).**
- **Housing Making sure we get the best out of the right land, for example looking to use Ex MOD land for housing as a priority such as the Royal Clarence Yard in Gosport which is surplus but not yet released by the MOD. This would help us to increase housing delivery to meet our needs but to channel this to the areas that need it and can take it. (We have our local plan and are not willing to support housing above these levels)**
- **Make sure there are infrastructure improvements in areas like Tipner to access land so that it can be developed. In this case it would help Portsmouth provide some housing which it very much needs to prevent them looking elsewhere to satisfy their growth.**
- **Health. Bring service decisions closer to communities and service users. About 3bn a year is spent on health. The plans would help improve skills and training, look at areas that are under strain for example the local A+E and make local improvements. Prepare for future needs like increased strain from aging population.**

Fundamentally the changes must present a benefit to our communities with the monies transferred to carry them out in full. EHDC will not support a Combined Authority which takes on new powers without the funding to support them, or changes that do not benefit our communities.

Combined Authorities Timescale:

- September 2015 – proposals for a devolution deal are tabled
- November 2015 – Spending review where the proposals will be assessed
- December 2015 to January 2016 – Stakeholder consultations
- February 2016 – "Cities and Local Government Devolution Act" expected to be in force
- February 2016 to April 2016 – Public Consultation
- September 2016 – Governance scheme put to full councils for approval
- April 2017 – Combined Authority would commence formal operation
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Councillor Grant Funding:

This year the District Council has renewed the grant funding for local projects with funds awarded through the local District Councillors. This is a fund of £4,500 per Councillor and grant awards can be from £100 to £1,000 to small organised groups. In past years we have supported Horndean Football Club, Butser Home Start (for struggling young families), Merchistoun Hall, New Blendworth Center, the War Memorial restoration and many more local causes.

I am very keen to support as many local causes as I can with funding and would be very pleased to hear of ideas, including for projects that can be looked at collaboratively with the Parish Council in Downs Ward.

Here are some of the guidelines on the types of project that might qualify: Environmental benefits; Healthier lifestyles and activities; Support for disadvantaged people; Supporting economic development; Community engagement; Capacity building; or Other community benefit.