

Report to Sparsholt Parish Council
19th November 2020

The Hampshire Hospitals NHS Trust have told us about their plans to use Government funding for a new general hospital. This will replace the Basingstoke and North Hampshire Hospital with a new facility near either the existing site or Junction 7 on the M3. The Government has earmarked funding for a brand new general hospital – to open before 2030 - that will enhance the available facilities in our area. The new hospital will work with the RHCH in Winchester. Which specialisms and services are moved to the new hospital is to be the subject of public consultation in January, so watch the website for details: www.hampshirehospitals.nhs.uk.

We are expecting more details of the Council's proposals for the **revised Local Plan** to be announced in December, with consultation on these initial approaches in January. Very little information has been disclosed so far, so any news and consultation documentation could be very important to how our area looks in the next 15 years. We await feedback from the Government re the housing numbers consultation and amendments to the planning system. We will be discussing issues such as the CPRE **Green Belt** request to 4 Districts in Hampshire. Also the redevelopment of the brownfield site at **Sir John Moore** Barracks will be discussed with local parish and District councillors over the coming months, with it potentially being included in the Local Plan.

The planning proposal for a **large array of solar panels next to the A34** near South Wonston has now been submitted and is open for comments on the City Council website. The proposals will keep footpaths and bridleways open. We are not aware of any significant concerns being raised by local residents. Please contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Following an attack by a taxi driver not licensed in Winchester on a passenger in the recent past, the introduction of **improved safety arrangements for taxis in Winchester** are now being implemented. These will include a single livery and greater use of electric vehicles to be brought in over the next 3 years.

Lockdown has meant that we have once again closed the **Leisure Centre** but hope to reopen in December.

The Guildhall is to be used as a **Nightingale Court** for the next 9 months, to help manage the backlog of court cases which have built up during lockdown.

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