

Report from Cllr Caroline Horrill to Sparsholt Parish Council

November 2015

1. Devolution`

The discussions regarding the possible new authority for Hampshire and the IoW continue. Please refer to the latest newsletter update No.8 attached

2. Barton Farm

The latest update is detailed below for your reference.

Dear Cllrs and Forum members.

Good progress has been made on the Phase 1B junction. CALA advise that all the road works will be completed on Friday 30/10/15 allowing Hampshire County Council and Siemens to commission the traffic lights on Tuesday 3rd November.

The current phase of utility works were completed on 16/10/15 and no further works are planned at the present time.

As you may know, works commenced on site in September and an area of the site (adjacent to the new Phase 1B junction) now has a number of plots laid out up to damp proof course level. Unfortunately, any further construction is being delayed by the arbitration on land valuation between CALA and Winchester College. As this is a commercial matter between CALA and Winchester College it is outside of the Council's control.

I have been advised by CALA that the site will be secured and closed on Friday 30th October with heras type fencing and steel security gates and will remain closed until construction starts again (security of site will be inspected daily while closed). CALA are unable to confirm a re-start date at present but I will keep you informed of any developments as soon as I know more on this.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns or enquiries.

Yvonne Keyworth

Barton Farm Implementation Officer

Development Management Team

01962 848585

Email:ykeyworth@winchester.gov.uk

3. Clean for the Queen

Most of you will be aware already of the Council's corporate theme for the year – The Great Waste. We have been working with Winchester Action on Climate Change to encourage people to think differently about waste and reduce the amount they create and have already staged a wide range of interesting events and initiatives. Some Council teams and a number of parishes have made their own contributions to the year. Now here is a new opportunity to consider with your respective parish councils and voluntary organisations.

Clean for The Queen is a campaign led by Country Life Magazine – and supported by a host of other organisations - to clear up Britain in time for Her Majesty the Queen's 90th birthday, which will be officially celebrated in June 2016. When she came to the throne litter was not the problem that it is today. Food packaging, plastic bottles, takeaway meals and cigarette butts have all contributed to a growing menace that affects our wildlife, streets, countryside and sense of pride. Organisers suggest that cleaning up the country would be a simple way to show gratitude to Her Majesty. Whether you agree that this is the most fitting gesture or not, cleaning up is a good idea – and Clean for the Queen certainly has a ring to it.

Please encourage individuals, volunteer groups, local councils, businesses and schools across the District to do their bit. Also consider whether you could organise a clean-up somewhere in the Winchester District. **The first Clean for The Queen weekend is on March 4th, 5th and 6th 2016. Find out more and register your interest direct at www.cleanforthequeen.co.uk/home/2365**

Remember, local voluntary groups with which you work may be eligible to apply for a small grant from www.winchester.gov.uk/grants nearer the time to make more of an event of any planned clean-ups. So turn it into a party, a launch or another special occasion and make the most of the idea.

4. HCC Consultation - Proposed Changes to Highways Environmental Work

The proposed changes to the way highways environmental work is carried out, and on which the County Council is seeking residents' views, are:

- Further dimming, longer hours of dimming, or turning off street lights between certain hours
- Reducing the number of times the grass is cut in rural and / or urban areas, or stopping grass cutting
- Reducing the number of times a year that weeds are treated along the highway, or stopping weed killing

The consultation period runs from Monday 2 November until Friday 11 December 2015.

Full details of the consultation and online response forms are available on the County Council's webpages: hants.gov.uk/highwaysconsultation.

5. Housing Bill

The Government proposed legislation in the Housing Bill will have an impact on the Winchester Housing budget where we have responsibility for 5000 homes.

The proposed 1% rent reduction for tenants, the sale of high value council homes, the 'pay to stay' requirements and the Right to Buy will all need to be assessed. The details are still to be finalised but as Winchester is one of the few local authorities in this area to own their own homes there will have to be changes to the way we approach the housing budget.

6. Publication of Local Plan Part 2

The next round of consultation on the Local Plan Part 2 has been launched. This is a focussed consultation on matters of 'soundness', and the consultation closes midday on 21 December

2015. There is an online response form, and all documentation can be viewed at <http://www.winchester.gov.uk/planning-policy/local-plan-part-2/lpp2-pre-submission-plan/>

Parish Councils and local libraries have been supplied with a hard copy of the plan and response forms, which are also available in the Council reception.