

PORTFOLIO REPORTS – 20 JULY 2017

Highways – Cllr Wooles

Closure of Woodman Lane

Following discussion at the June meeting, with the support of our County Councillor, HCC were advised of our concerns. They were asked to ensure that extensive warnings and diversions signs are to be located particularly on the Stockbridge and Romsey Roads to reduce traffic transiting Sparsholt during the closure.

HCC have advised that the road closure would not take place until after the end of the School's summer term on Friday 21 July. They also advised that we will have, at least, 7 days notice of the road closure when a date for the work has been confirmed.

Surface water flooding on the East side of Woodman Lane at Ham Green

The heavy rain earlier this week resulted in the drainage ditch overflowing onto the road. On inspection, it appears that over time mud and rubbish have accumulated in the ditch and that it now needs to be cleared. The Clerk has been asked to research who is responsible for this work.

Playground – Cllr Reid

By the time you receive this I am hoping that the outstanding works on the playground gates and fencing, required by the latest annual inspection report, will have been completed. The only other work in progress is the renewal of the perimeter fencing but that, thanks to Councillor Horrill, is now firmly in WCC's court.

Sparsholt Memorial Hall – Cllr Annesley

The cleaning and caretaking is being appraised

Maintenance issues, including guttering, signs and lighting are being carried out

The Committee has requested a specific donation, from the proceeds of the Village Fete, to the current main project - the doors.

We need to attract some new young blood to the committee

English Heritage has adopted the phone kiosk and so there will be restrictions on anything that is done and that must be carefully monitored

Sparsholt School – Cllr Katy Cobbold

Teachers

Mrs McCarthy is leaving on Friday and handing over to Mrs Laver who will be acting head and Mrs Gwilliam (acting deputy) whilst we carry out the recruitment.

Our new reception/willow class teacher is called Mrs Wall and our new year 3/Rowen class teacher is Miss Conroy. Miss Conroy is a NQT which is great for us to be able to bring her in and develop her. A lady called Mrs Vincent will be covering Mrs Lavers class whilst she acts up.

SAT results

The school has seen very good progress across all areas this academic year so it comes as no surprise that our key stage 2 SAT results were excellent.

The national school average for pupils who hit ARE (age related expectations) was 61% and Sparsholt reached 81%. If you've read about it in the newspapers you'll know just how amazing this is.

Other achievements

We reached the nationals in lacrosse which is a massive achievement given the difference in facilities between ourselves and other schools who entered.

We also achieved the 'gold' mark for sports from Sainsbury's again.

The school made it into the Manchester university animation competition which had over 20,000 entrants. This involves programming and coding!

If you see Mrs McCarthy during this last week or any of the other teachers please do let them know we're aware of what a great job they're doing.

Summer Productions

These will be held on Tuesday at 1.30pm and weds at 6.30. As with the sports day parents are reminded multiple times about where they should park and about being considerate.

Shop - Cllr Reid

There is nothing significant to report at the moment. The Shop has had a good first half this year with profits up on last year. The increase in profit is largely due to sales of sandwiches and other locally made snack food, which is highly reliant on a small number of hardworking volunteers.

The Shop's lease is up for renewal at the end of this year and we will need to be thinking about the rent going forward.

Communications – Cllr Little

Nothing significant to report on communication front. Newsletter and Magazines due for circulation at the end of the month, when we are back.

Transport and security – Cllr Osmond

Apart from the travellers, nothing has been reported to me, Jan Anderson kindly still emails on any police alerts, recently very relevant and topical cybercrime alerts.

As far as I know, the travellers were starting to disperse last week, there was and is very little info on the subject on the HCC website, I may be looking in the wrong place. I have emailed Barry Jordan-Davis at Hants CC for an update [Traveller Liaison officer]

At this time of year, Sparsholt College have a lot of language schools, last week from Italy. They have been a nightmare, small groups of students wondering around the farm and fields, even around the farm buildings, damaging and flattening large areas of crops and even tried to start a small fire on the edge of a wheat field. There is a new group in this week, again from Italy I think. I have been in contact over the weekend with the college from Tim Jackson down to security, they assure me that they will stop students from wondering where they want and will properly inform them of the college boundaries.