

Greatham Parish Council
Minutes of Council Meeting
held on Wednesday 12th October 2021, 8pm

Present Cllr T Butler, Cllr T Driver, Cllr C Harris (Chair), Cllr O Rook

Also present Jane Ives, Clerk to Parish Council
County Cllr R Oppenheimer
9 members of the public

- 21.117 Chairman's Announcements:** Cllr Harris introduced the meeting as Vice Chair of the Council and chair of this meeting as Cllr Rodbert had sent apologies. She reminded members of the public that this is a meeting held in public and the time for the public to speak is during the public participation section of the meeting.
- 21.118 Apologies for absence:** Cllr Crick, Cllr Rodbert
- 21.119 Declarations of Interests:** None
- 21.120 Council Meeting Minutes:** It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 18th September 2021. **Proposed: Cllr Driver. Seconded: Cllr Rook.**
- 21.121 Update on actions arising from previous meetings:** The Clerk provided an update on current actions (Appendix 1).
- 21.122 District Councillor's Report:** No report submitted.
- 21.123 County Councillor's Report:** Cllr Oppenheimer presented his report (Appendix 2). Additionally, there will be a COP26 climate fair event run by Hampshire County Council on Saturday 30th October at QE Country Park. This is open to members of the public.
- 21.124 The Chair adjourned the meeting for Public Questions:**
A member of the public asked whether the Council can investigate the demographics of the village in order to help inform the planning application at the nursery site. Cllr Rook advised that the Council do not have this information and the Chair stated it is very important that residents submit comments in response to the application.
A member of the public did not feel there was enough consultation from Cove Homes for the nursery site.
A member of the public asked who the chairman is today and Cllr Harris confirmed she is chairing the meeting as Vice Chair of the Council.
A member of the public advised that the village magazine does not show the correct contact details for the chairman of the parish council. The Clerk had provided this information to the magazine but will do so again.
A member of the public was concerned about news that the pub is going to be turned into a Thai restaurant. The Chair agreed that the Council can write to the owners to find out their plan.
A member of the public asked why the election notices were put up a day late and the Clerk advised that the email from the elections office was not received until the afternoon of 1st October and notices were then put up immediately.
Meeting reconvened
- 21.125 Clerk's Report:** The Clerk's report at Appendix 3 was noted.
- 21.126 Financial Report:**
The financial records as at 30th September 2021 are as follows:
- Receipts 31st August to 30th September 2021**
- | | |
|---------|------------|
| Precept | £ 9,768.50 |
|---------|------------|
- Balances as at 30th September 2021**
- | | |
|-----------------|------------|
| Current Account | £14,471.52 |
| Deposit Account | £30,044.68 |

Total at bank **£44,516.20**

Earmarked Funds held

CIL fund	£ 8,229.00
Community Engagement	£ 500.00
NDP	£ 1,000.00
Election costs	£ 500.00
Tree works	£ 40.00
S106 project	£ 4,802.00
CFI Scheme	£ 1,000.00
Total Earmarked Funds	£16,071.00

General Reserves Balance **£28,445.20** (total at bank less earmarked funds)

21.127 Quarter 2 Bank Reconciliation: Cllr Driver confirmed she had carried out the quarterly bank reconciliation and all balances are correct.

21.128 Payment Schedule: It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments:
Proposed: Cllr Driver . Seconded: Cllr Butler

Invoice Date	Payee	Description	Net Total	VAT	Total
		PAYMENTS MADE			
27/07/21	Hampshire County Council	Cultivation licence	£133.00	£0.00	£133.00
24/09/21	HMRC	Tax/NI liability mth 6	£188.62	£0.00	£188.62
24/09/21	Clerk	Salary month 6	£676.76	£0.00	£676.76
		PAYMENTS TO BE MADE			
07/09/21	Playground Inspection Company	Annual inspection	£95.00	£19.00	£114.00
17/09/21	Petersfield Town Council	Grass cutting August 2021	£50.00	£10.00	£60.00
01/11/21	Society of Local Council Clerks	Membership Fee	£166.00	£0.00	£166.00
06/10/21	Village Hall	Room Hire	£41.24	£0.00	£41.24
23/09/21	Society of Local Council Clerks	Training course for clerk	£30.00	£6.00	£36.00
23/09/21	Society of Local Council Clerks	Training course for clerk	£30.00	£6.00	£36.00
		TOTALS	£1,410.62	£41.00	£1,451.62

21.129 External Audit Completion: The external audit was noted and the Clerk confirmed the notices were put up prior to 30th September. It was **RESOLVED** to keep the notices published for 1 month. **Proposed: Cllr Butler. Seconded: Cllr Rook.**

21.130 Budget Working Group: It was **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllrs. Rodbert, Cllr Driver, Cllr Harris to form a budget working group who will work on a draft budget and make recommendations to the council in November. **Proposed: Cllr Butler. Seconded: Cllr Rook.**

21.131 Village Maintenance: Councillors discussed general village maintenance which included maintenance of bus shelters, the playground, playground inspections and clearing pavements. The clerk will seek quotes for a maintenance person and bring back to council for approval. The budget for 2022/23 should include a line for village maintenance. It was also agreed that our volunteers could do some of the work such as litter picking and playground fence painting.
It was agreed to hold a village clean up day on 21st November. Cllr Driver will make the necessary arrangements which will include sourcing litter pickers/litter collection from EHDC.
Cllrs Driver and Harris volunteered to rake up the grass cuttings on the nursery verge.

21.132 Public Meeting/Community Event: It was **RESOLVED** to hold a public meeting that would also be a community event (covering the next agenda item). This would take place on Saturday 11th December in the

afternoon before the Carols by Candlelight at the Old Church in the evening. A budget will need to be agreed in November for costs to include a story teller, drinks and snacks, hall hire, cost of producing annual report. Additionally, it was agreed to do a food bank collection running from Sunday 12th – Sunday 19th December at the Old Church with councillors doing a rota for collections from the Church and delivery to the food bank. The Clerk will add the budget to the November agenda and establish whether permission is needed from the Bishop of Portsmouth for the carols. Risk assessments would also need to be organised for the village event, carols and the food bank taking account of any Covid-19 restrictions in place at the time.

It was **RESOLVED** to form a working consisting of Cllrs Driver and Harris to make the necessary arrangements. Proposed: Cllr Butler. Seconded: Cllr Rook.

21.133 Current Projects: The projects were discussed and the list was updated as follows:

Task	Lead	Cost	Comments/Progress
General Parish Council Work			
Nursery Site Application	Cllr Rodbert		<i>New application: Response required by 29th October 2021.</i>
Quick Wins			
Speedwatch	Cllr Butler		<i>Oct '21 – Traffic WG planning to get this started with volunteers.</i>
G15	Cllr Driver	£200	<i>Oct '21 – Meeting will be arranged.</i>
Village Thank Yous	Cllr Driver	£500	<i>Oct '21 – rebrand as village thank yous. Will take place at December community event.</i>
Councillor Drop In	Cllr Driver		<i>Oct '21 – Hold one at December community event and then hold monthly.</i>
Telephone box	Cllr Harris		<i>Oct '21 – pre-application advice required from EHDC. Glass still required and services inspection required.</i>
Wildflowers	Cllr Harris	Grant	<i>Oct '21 Wildflower - Project complete. Pollinator project – waiting to hear.</i>
Village Footpath & Ecology Signboards	Clerk/Cllr Harris	£106	<i>Oct '21 – funds in place. Waiting for design of boards to be completed.</i>
Major Initiatives			
Neighbourhood Development Plan	Cllr Rodbert	Grant, precept	<i>Oct '21 – November agenda item</i>
Village Design Statement	Cllr Rodbert		<i>Oct '21 – November agenda item</i>
Playground Renewal	Clerk/Cllr Harris	CIL, grants	<i>Oct '21 - CIL application rejected. Working group TORs need to be agreed. Put on November agenda.</i>
Traffic calming initiatives	Cllr Rook	Grants, precept	<i>Oct '21 – consultation now required</i>
Old Church	Clerk/Cllr Rodbert		<i>Oct '21 – vision and strategy to be agreed</i>
Other Initiatives			
Village Gateway	Clerk/Cllr Harris	£106	<i>Oct '21 – Highways approved. Waiting for amended costs for posts/signs.</i>
Village Tree and Hedge Strategy	Cllr Rodbert		<i>Oct '21 – November agenda item</i>

21.134 Village Gateways: It was agreed to **DEFER** this item pending information from the contractor.

It was RESOLVED to extend the meeting by 30 minutes as it had reached 1.5 hours

- 21.135 Traffic & Transport Working Group:** Cllr Butler presented the working group report (Appendix 4). It was agreed that the CFI traffic measures consultation should be put on the website, sent out via our mailing list, and added to Facebook and the village magazine. It would also be on display boards at the village event in December.
- 21.136 Tree Warden:** It was **RESOLVED** to appoint Phil Beenham as a tree warden for the parish. Proposed: Cllr Butler. Seconded: Cllr Driver.
- 21.137 Code of Conduct Training:** Councillors voted **AGAINST** the motion to attend code of conduct training based on the costs of the training course proposed as they did not feel it was a good use of public money. The Clerk advised that the resolution to attend training was still agreed and therefore another course would need to be sourced.
- 21.138 Old Church Trees:** The Clerk's report on trees was noted and the following actions were agreed:
- a) To check with the working if all ivy removal is complete
 - b) To source additional mulch for the yew tree
 - c) To consider newly planted trees as part of the Old Church strategy
 - d) To obtain costs for a new tree survey including a separate survey on the yew tree
- 21.139 Playground Inspection:** The annual report was noted. The Clerk will now arrange to get a full zip wire survey carried out in accordance with the findings of the report. The Clerk will also obtain quotes for any other work identified. The volunteer group organised by Cllr Driver may be able to carry out some of the work.
- 21.140 Reports from representatives of Organisations, Outside Bodies, Working Parties, Leads & Groups:**
Cllr Harris reported that she had recently attended a meeting of the Village Hall Trustees. They are hoping to have lines painted in the car park during October half term. In response to a question, she will ask about the electric car charging point that was due to be installed.
- 21.141 Items for next agenda:** Neighbourhood Development Plan update, Village Design Statement, Village Tree & Hedge Strategy, budget for community event, draft budget for 2022/23, Old Church strategy working group
- 21.142 Date of next meeting:** The next meeting will be Wednesday 10th November 2021

The Chair closed the meeting at 21.53pm

Signed: **Chair**

Date:

Appendix 1: Action List

Minute ref	Action	Who
2020/21	Bridleway 11 funding – discuss funding improvements at a council meeting potentially sourcing from Parish Partnership Fund	Clerk/All
2020/21	HCC Traffic Study – ask HCC to continue study after lockdown	Clerk
2020/21	Telephone box – liaise with neighbours & relevant organisations such as EHDC to see if planning permission is required. Services underground need to be investigated and marked up. The panes in the telephone box need to be replaced. 01/10 emailed EHDC re planning permission. 07/10 pre-application advice required.	Clerk
21.13 05/21	Playground working group terms of reference will need to be brought back to a future meeting for approval	Clerk
20.309 04/21	Old Church strategy - adopted the roadmap to produce a vision/strategy for the Old Church. Cllr Rodbert and the Clerk will work on section 1 of the framework which will be brought back to Council. A working group will be formed to work on section 2 at the next meeting. 14/10 November agenda item.	Cllr Rodbert/Clerk
20.310 04/21	Traffic & Transport Working Group to look at ways of consulting residents on potential traffic calming measures. Face to face consultation has not been possible due to Covid-19 restrictions so the working group will consider producing a printed report, using our website and any other means of consultation they deem suitable. 14/10 consultation agreed. Action complete.	Traffic WG
21.39 07/21	Bench in Bakers Field is rotten and needs work/replacement	Clerk
21.39 07/21	Write to resident to explain parish council responsibilities. 14/10 Action complete.	Clerk
21.39 07/21	The school had emailed the Council seeking help with parking as the pub car park could no longer be used. The Traffic Working Group will contact the school to see if any assistance can be given with their park and stride scheme.	Traffic WG
21.39 07/21	A member of the public commented that parking spaces for the school drop off are available at Eurotec. She also commented that some parents park in Bakers Field but can cause a nuisance by parking near the junction of Petersfield Road.	Traffic WG
21.39 07/21	Concerns raised about school parents parking on the no parking area in the village hall car park. Cllr Harris reported that lines would soon be painted in the car park.	Traffic WG
21.39 07/21	A member of the public informed the council of a recent accident at the Longmoor roundabout where a car had overturned. Cllr Rook noted this was in Whitehill & Bordon parish and not Greatham. Cllr Cheesman was aware of a second accident and would forward details to the Clerk. The Council will report their concerns to Highways.	Traffic WG
21.39 07/21	Concerns raised about the parking at Bakers Field near the bungalows. The Traffic Working Group would investigate.	Traffic WG
21.42 07/21	FOI - Councillors recommended that a disclosure log containing information that was in the wider public interest should be published.	Clerk
21.42 07/21	Councillors recommended that a working group is formed consisting of the Clerk, Cllr Crick and Cllr Harris to clarify how the disclosure log will work and to make decisions on future freedom of information responses and whether they should be published.	Clerk/Cllr Crick/Cllr Harris
21.42 07/21	Annual Report – to be drafted by councillors & circulated to all residents and/or a public meeting held 14/10 To be available for December community event.	All Cllrs
21.42 07/21	Cllr Rook outlined his thoughts regarding proposing two amendments to bridleway 11 to make it safer for pedestrians and cyclists accessing Liss station and shops whilst avoiding the Ham Barn roundabout. 02/08 HCC Countryside Services responded to request, PC now to follow up particularly in relation to developer funding from nursery site and to secure agreement of landowner. 14/10 Traffic WG are following up.	Traffic WG
21.48 & 21.100 07/21	Village gateways – source oak posts and advise supplier that design B had been selected. Get costs for installation and bring back to Council. 30/09 confirmation of post size from Highways and waiting for JK to quote. 14/10 November agenda.	Clerk

21.51 07/21	Tree survey outstanding works – OCWG to complete works by end of September 14/10 Not all works have been completed. Follow up.	Clerk/OCWG
21.71 07/21	Lone Barn Farm - submit a stage 2 complaint to EHDC, copied to Mike Hughes at the SDNPA, which would include: A request for the original questions in the council's complaint to be answered where they were not answered in the original response A definitive answer regarding the 5 hectare holding at Lone Barn Farm To ask for progress on any enforcement action To complain about the request from the SDNPA asking residents to provide evidence such as photographs The Clerk will draft a response and circulate to committee members for comment before submitting. 01/10 sent	Clerk
21.87 09/21	A member of the public raised a question about the objectives of councillors when they are elected and how the council intended to meet these objectives. Specifically, there were the development of the nursery site, a neighbourhood development plan and the maintenance of the Old Church. The Chair advised that the council will respond in writing.	Clerk/Council
21.87 09/21	A member of the public raised a question about an email from the parish council relating to management of the Old Church and interaction between the PC and the working group which he didn't feel is working well. The Chair advised that the council will respond in writing and will liaise with the working group. 14/10 Clerk has written asking for dates.	Clerk/Council
21.87 09/21	A resident raised concerns about the state of some of the pavements in the village and also issues with drains in some place due to weed debris following weed spraying. There was also a problem with horse manure on Longmoor Road. The Clerk asked residents to email details of any issues so that they could either be reported to Hampshire County Council or be given to the lengthsman to do on his next visit on 23 rd September. The Clerk will also continue to find out the verge cutting regime for the village. 01/10 no emails received from MOPs. Verge cutting is being resolved. 4 cuts per year for most of village. Church Lane on rural cutting regime (x 2 cuts per year). 4 wildflower areas responsibility of PC. 14/10 Action complete.	Clerk
21.87 09/21	A member of the public raised concerns about horse manure on Longmoor Road and bridleway 11. Also, the footpath that starts at the layby on Longmoor Road is being used by horses and the surface is being spoiled due to horse traffic. Additionally, the drain outside Innisfallen on Longmoor Road is blocked due to debris being left there after it was cleared. He reported that following weed spraying on Longmoor Road, the soil debris is now causing a problem with the drains. Grass is also encroaching onto the footpaths from the pub and past the school. The Clerk will write to the stables about the horse manure and will report the pavement and drainage problems to Hampshire County Council. Residents were asked to email all concerns to the Clerk for action. 30/09 no emails received from residents. Layby footpath has been reported to HCC. Footpath Bakers Field-school was a lengthsman task but not completed. 01/10 footpath on layby reported to HCC. 01/10 drainage problems Longmoor Road reported to Highways. 14/10 Action complete.	Clerk
21.87 09/21	A member of the public asked why the costs of staffing had more than doubled since 2011. The Chair responded that the number of hours may be different and he will investigate and respond in writing. 14/10 Action complete.	Cllr Rodbert
21.103 09/21	Councillors noted member training attendance and the Chair asked all councillors to email the Clerk with any training requests. 30/09 AC/TB booked on advanced planning. MR booking pending, no other requests received. 14/10 Action complete.	All councillors
21.93 09/21	Clerk would source a code of conduct training course for all councillors following a suggestion from the Deputy Monitoring Officer at EHDC. 14/10 October agenda.	Clerk
21.95 09.21	Planning Committee to appoint a Vice Chairman. 14/10 Action complete.	Clerk
21.98 09/21	Defer appointments to the following vacancies until a new councillor is appointed: Transport & Traffic Working Group, Facilities Lead, Coryton Trust, Community Partnership meeting. December meeting agenda	Clerk
21.99	Seek quotes for required works following Julian Livingstone's report. Seek legal	Clerk

09/21	advice regarding Diocese of Portsmouth faculty permission for works required. 14/10 Church Commissioners confirmed no faculty permission is required. Quotes to be sought for work.	
21.101 09/21	Applications would be sought for suitable people to become tree wardens through advertisements placed in the Village Magazine, Facebook, mailing list and the website. 30/09 adverts placed, 2 applications received. 14/10 Action complete.	Clerk
	Arrange to get war memorial cleaned (request from Peter Sutton) 01/10 contractors identified	Clerk

Appendix 2: Report from County Councillor

1. Savings Programme: School crossing patrols and HWRCs protected

Hampshire County Council needs to find savings of £80m from its annual revenue budget by 2023. The pandemic has also delayed progress on our two previous rounds of savings, Transformation to 2019 and Transformation to 2021. We face ongoing increases in social care demand due to the ageing population, with care cost increases due to wage inflation and price inflation. This means that we are facing a severe funding squeeze and tough choices are going to be needed. We have listened carefully to the views expressed during our Serving Hampshire consultation over the Summer. I am pleased to report that funding for school crossing patrols and HWRCs will be retained in the forthcoming spending round.

The necessary savings will instead be met by reducing the forecast for increased waste. This relies on residents generating less waste. That means we all need to consume less and purchase less products with wasteful packaging. We also need to reuse and repurpose items more before disposing of them. Communities can join together to reduce waste, such as through community composting and gifting picnics (a bit like a free jumble sale). I hope Parish Councils will help their communities to rise to this challenge.

2. Funding for lengthsman from 2023

As explained above, we are not currently adequately funded to meet our statutory service obligations such as highways maintenance and home-to-school transport. Inevitably this means that non-statutory services will come under pressure.

I am very conscious that the Lengthsman scheme is greatly valued by Parishes across the Division of Petersfield Hangers. Regrettably, the Lengthsman scheme is a non-statutory service and I have to inform you that HCC funding is now likely to be withdrawn in 2023 following a decision made on Thursday 23 September by the Executive Lead Member for Transport and Environment.

If approved at Cabinet and County Council, the Spending Review for 2023 involves the removal of the Lengthsman funding from 2023. I hope parishes will keep their local clusters going by allocating funding from their precepts. There are two years to prepare and HCC will support Parishes to make the transition.

3. Hampshire Reuse Service

HCC has launched an excellent pilot project called the Hampshire Reuse Service. This aims to divert bulky waste away from landfill whilst supporting vulnerable people. Bulky waste will be repaired and repurposed and offered to people on lower incomes. The full report on the pilot scheme is available at this link:

<https://democracy.hants.gov.uk/documents/s82071/Report.pdf>

At Hampshire we intend to be the greenest County in the UK and we are well on our way to achieving that.

4. HWRC booking policy – restrictions lifted

Hampshire County Council will be lifting the “one visit per week” limit for residents taking waste to one of the county’s 24 household waste recycling centres (HWRCs). This operational decision was confirmed in an announcement made at Full Council on 30 September 2021 by Councillor Rob Humby, the County Council’s Deputy Leader and Executive Lead Member for Economy, Transport and Environment.

We have listened to residents and believe that now we are further into the pandemic recovery phase, and entering a time of year when demand for site visits starts to reduce, the time is now right to increase opportunities to access household waste recycling centres.

While the requirement to book visits online will remain in place for the time being, residents will be able to book visits to suit their needs. We would ask residents to make the most of each visit and separate out items for reuse and recycling to help us reduce the amount of waste that has to be disposed of.

The new arrangement will be effective from Monday 4 October. There will be no limit on the number of bookings per week.

5. New Twinstream recycling strategy

Project Integra is the name of the project through which HCC works with Districts and Boroughs on recycling infrastructure. We all want to improve recycling rates in Hampshire. We are also preparing to respond quickly to the measures in the Environment Bill which will hopefully make it onto the statute book by the end of the year.

The plan is to go for a new Twinstream approach. This basically means that residents will put paper and card in a separate recycling bin. Other recyclables will still be mixed and more plastics will be accepted. The strategy paper is available at this link for those who are interested:

<https://democracy.hants.gov.uk/documents/s81999/Appendix.pdf>

If the Environment Bill is passed in its current form, food waste will also be collected in the future. Project Integra is also looking at the infrastructure needed to support this including new Anaerobic Digestion facilities.

6. “Walktober” launched by HCC

October is the International Walk to School month. To celebrate, Hampshire County Council is encouraging parents to leave the car at home for all, or part of the school run, and to walk the journey instead - to help build opportunities for exercise in their children’s school day, and to improve air quality around schools

The month-long campaign celebrates the importance of walking to school for health, safety and the environment with more than 140 schools across the county signed up to take part, which equates to 42,953 pupils to date.

Walking to school can help children be more active and arrive at school more alert, improving general health and wellbeing, while at the same time easing congestion at the school gates at busy times. Walking to school can also help teach children life-long road safety skills as they learn from their parents and carers how to cross roads and be aware of cars and cyclists.

The aim of Walktober is to see as many school children and their families as possible try walking to school or work, or at least part of the way, for the month; and afterwards choose to walk more often.

The number of children walking to school in Hampshire over the last 15 years has risen to over 50% of pupils. For more information visit the My Journey website:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/13112020Modeshiftawards>

RUSSELL OPPENHEIMER
County Councillor for Petersfield Hangers

Appendix 3: Clerk's Report

Defibrillator – there was a report made to the council that the defibrillator had not been correctly registered by the ambulance service to show that an access code was required. After checking with the ambulance service, they confirmed that the parish council had provided the correct information but the Save a Life app had not been correctly updated by them. This has now been rectified.

Verge cutting – I have now managed to establish contact with the correct people at both EHDC and HCC regarding verge cutting. It seems that Greatham is one two different cutting regimes managed separately by the two authorities. Grass cutting on the main village verges was completed this month, however, a section of the village from the village green to Selborne Road was missed. This has been reported.

Greatham Village 2009-2011 A Picture Story – The council recently received a grant application to support a book being produced by Tricia Porter. The council did not feel able to support the application at the time but Tricia has now secured funding from elsewhere. This book could be on display at a future public meeting and Tricia has also suggested it could be used for a 'Welcome to the Village' package for new residents.

Drainage issues – After receiving reports last month of blocked drains in the village these were reported to HCC. I understand that work was carried out in the last week to clear the blocked drains. Any further problems can be reported to me or to HCC.

Old Church historical documents – I was recently contacted by a former clerk/chairman of the parish council who had discovered some historical documents in her attic relating to the Old Church. The documents have now been handed to me and contain some useful information and interesting photographs. These could form the basis of a display at a future public meeting in Greatham.

Old Church deeds/permissions for work - A resident contacted the Diocese of Portsmouth last year over the tree works and effectively stopped us from carrying out works until we had received faculty permission. They also said that we would have to retrospectively apply for permission for everything we have done to date before getting any more work done.

We agreed at the last meeting that I would seek legal advice on this as previously the advice from Hampshire Legal Services was not definite even though the deeds do not state that we need faculty permission but the Diocese of Portsmouth suggested that we still did.

I have written to the Church Commissioners, who we purchased the building from in 1993, and they have written back to confirm that no faculty permission is required. The building is now entirely within the secular planning system. We will need to refer to the Church Commissioners should we want to make any changes to the fabric of the building.

Additionally, they have advised that the building and environs are effectively no longer legally consecrated and any occasional acts of worship can only take place with permission from the Bishop of Portsmouth.

Councillor vacancy – EHDC have confirmed that a by-election will take place on 4th November. Nominations should be submitted by 8th October. Anyone who wishes to register to vote should do so by 19th October.

Greatham Parish Council
Traffic Working Group
Report to Parish Council Meeting 13th October 2021

The Traffic Working Group has been looking at ways to control traffic speed in Greatham. The objective is to make the village a safer and more pleasant place to live.

We are following three broad strategies:

- 1) Enforcement measures – these include the Speed Limit Reminder (SLR) signs and the Speedwatch campaign. The SLR signs continue to be an effective way to notify drivers when they are exceeding the speed limit and encourage them to slow down. The Speedwatch scheme could not be re-launched until Covid restrictions ended, although training took place during lockdown. We now want to set up regular Speedwatch checks in the village – ideally implemented by groups who will volunteer for their part of the village. This should happen over the next month.

- 2) Traffic calming measures – our research has shown that the best way to slow traffic is to make the village ‘feel like a village’. We need to slow traffic down as it enters the village, and keep it slow by adding features that make drivers feel that they are ‘somewhere’ rather than ‘anywhere’.
To achieve this there are a number of initiatives that the Parish Council can carry out in consultation and collaboration with Hampshire Highways. These are called Community Funded Initiatives (CFI) and they are paid for by the Parish Council using grant funding, or parish reserves. We have been liaising with Hampshire Highways over possible CFI projects for Greatham and we have recently received costings for our proposals. We would now like to consult with villagers as to which proposals they feel would be most effective, and whether they have other ideas for traffic calming.
We are proposing that we publish a costed list of the proposals on the Parish Council website and invite feedback from the community. We would also like to hold an event to give villagers the opportunity to speak to us direct about their ideas and concerns – this could be in conjunction with the proposed village event being discussed on the agenda. As there are limited funds to put towards the CFI options it will be helpful to canvas the community’s view on priorities. We would publicise the consultation through an article in the Parish Magazine, as well as notifying villagers on the Parish Council email list.
We would like the Parish Council’s approval to proceed with the consultation.

- 3) Longer term strategies – following feedback from villagers we will draw up a list of other proposals. These will include longer term interventions that may take more research and advice from traffic consultants or the local authority.
Ideas that we have already received include cycle lanes in the village, changing the format of the ‘chicanes’ and following up on the public transport initiatives that have been identified by our District Council representatives.
One proposal that we are currently considering is an extension to Bridleway 11 which would make the path more accessible for the village, and ensure a safer, off-road route all the way to Liss. We have consulted with the Area Countryside Access Manager from HCC and are now seeking to liaise with the Senior Community Infrastructure Officer. Any scheme would need landowner consent – and this could be either by designating a right of way, or by agreeing a permissive path. We would also need to find funding, and there is a possibility that s106 funding for this could be accessed from the developer of the Liss Forest Nursery site.