

## **Hampshire County Councillor Update 47**

Dear All

This should have been my final councillor report for this term of office, but as you know our elections were postponed to allow for the completion of Hampshire and the Solent's devolution deal, so therefore another 12 months before County elections will be held.

So a further year of updates from me at least.

Here's my latest County Councillor update:

### **Highways Information**



#### **M27 Junction 10 Scheme Update**

Hampshire County Council, in collaboration with National Highways, is delivering the M27 Junction 10 scheme to support the development of Welborne Garden Village, a new community of up to 6,000 homes near Fareham, Hampshire. This project aims to provide easier access to the M27.

#### **Upcoming Works:**

**Sheet Piling Installation:** From Wednesday, 9 April to Friday, 25 April, we will be installing sheet piles adjacent to junction 10 of the M27. Working hours will be 8 AM to 6 PM, Monday to Friday, and 8 AM to 2 PM on Saturdays. This process can be noisy due to the heavy machinery involved.

**Lane Reductions:** The number of lanes on the motorway has been reduced from four to three, with a 50mph speed limit in place until the scheme's completion in late 2026.

**Guide Slab Formation:** A complex operation involving 1,000m<sup>3</sup> of concrete, cast in three phases during February and March, will ensure the underpass can slide accurately into its final position.

**Construction Notice:** Over the next few months, work on the "box" next to and north of the motorway will become more noticeable, with the base, walls, and roof being created in preparation for the sliding of the concrete box into position beneath the motorway during Christmas this year.

**Christmas 2025 Closure:** The new underpass will be installed beneath the M27 between Junction 9 and 11 over the Christmas 2025 and New Year period. This will require a full closure of the M27 during the school holidays when traffic volumes are lower. Closure dates and travel advice will be provided in advance.

**Upcoming Night Works:** Night works are programmed for summer 2025. The A32 Junction with the western end of Pook Lane will be closed, but access to Pook Lane from M27 Junction 11 and the eastern end will be maintained. The new A32 Broadway roundabout is currently being built, leading to changes in traffic management measures on the A32 north of the M27.

## Uneven road surfaces

I've had a number of emails with people concerned that the road repairs on Rownhams Lane and some other local roads appear unfinished. They have certainly been left uneven and unsightly as in the photo below.

I hope I can reassure you that this is only the first part of work to resurface the roads in questions.

The uneven surface is as a result of 'crack sealing', which is undertaken to seal any cracks identified in the road, most particularly along the joins of previous utility repairs.



This is preparatory work for resurfacing of the road, the principle being that by sealing the cracks in the current surface then once the new surface is laid then it makes it less likely that there is damage to the undersurface of the road due to water ingress or movement during cold weather. This therefore reduces the likelihood of potholes forming in the new surface and thereby elongates the life of the road surface.

The new surface for Rownhams Lane was laid overnight on the 26th and 27th April (so the weekend after Easter). This might be subject to change dependent on the weather, but that change should be no more than a few days at most. Other local roads will continue from there, including Stanbridge Lane, Awbridge Hill, Tanners Lane and Romsey bypass.

## Reporting Highway Problems

Links to report road issues are here:

Potholes: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/highways/report-a-problem/potholes>

Tree/hedge problems: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/highways/report-a-problem/treehedge>

Flooding/drainage issues: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/highways/report-a-problem/flooding>

Pavement problems: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/highways/report-a-problem/paving>

Broken or missing signs: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/highways/report-a-problem/brokensigns>

Faulty street lights: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/highways/report-a-problem/streetlight>

Faded or missing road markings: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/highways/report-a-problem/road-markings>

Problems with rights of way:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/rightsofway/reportaproblem>

**When reporting an issue, you'll be sent an email confirming a reference number for the report. If you would like me to follow this up for you then do please forward that message to me and I will chase for you.**

### **Greater powers to tackle fly-tipping**

I strongly welcome the Government's announcement of a new crackdown on cowboy waste operators to tackle fly-tipping and clean up our streets, lanes, and rural areas.

Key Points:

- Councils will work with the police to identify, seize, and crush vehicles of waste criminals.
- Drones and mobile CCTV cameras will be used to identify and destroy cars and vans belonging to fly-tippers.
- A rapid review will slash red tape, allowing councils to seize and crush vehicles more easily. Fly-tippers will cover the costs, saving money for councils and taxpayers.
- Waste criminals will now face up to five years in prison for illegal operations.
- The Environment Agency will conduct identity and criminal record checks on operators, with increased resources and powers to revoke permits, issue enforcement notices, and impose hefty fines.

As you know, Test Valley Borough Council have for many years been at the forefront of the fight against fly tipping in Hampshire. I really hope these new powers are brought in quickly and are used by all Hampshire local authorities to tackle the criminals who blight our beautiful county with their selfish, greedy and thoughtless behaviour.

### **Myths about animals in Hampshire's countryside**

The British countryside is steeped in centuries of myth, superstition, and storytelling — and we're here to share some of the most fascinating traditions with you!

From bees to butterflies, mice to rabbits, each creature was once believed to carry hidden meanings, omens, and even magical powers.



**Mice:** If mice invaded your home, it was seen as a bad omen, a warning of illness or even death. But don't worry — folklore offers a humane solution! Simply ask the mice politely to leave, explaining that your home is not convenient for them.



**Eels:** It was once believed you could create an eel by tossing horsehair into a running stream! Eels were thought to cure deafness and rheumatism, though many people were wary of eating them.



**Bees:** Bees were considered sacred and wise. Tradition says you must always speak kindly around bees, inform them of major family events like weddings or funerals, and even feed them cake from these celebrations to keep them happy and loyal.



**Rabbits:** The rabbit's foot — especially the left hind leg — was a symbol of good luck, tracing back to Celtic beliefs. Rabbits were seen as messengers between our world and the spirit realm. (Just to be clear, we don't recommend collecting rabbit feet today!)



**Butterflies:** Superstitions say that a white butterfly in your home brings good luck, a brown butterfly brings important news, and a yellow one promises sunny days ahead. Some even believed butterflies were the souls of loved ones visiting from beyond.

The countryside isn't just beautiful — it's alive with ancient stories.

Want to know more? Hampshire's Countryside Service has more detail in their blog and podcast you can find here: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/.../countryside/blog/202410-myths>

### **Connect Transport on Demand - Northern Test Valley**

The Andover area is the first in Hampshire to trial HCC's new demand responsive transports system which, I hope, will begin to provide connectivity for our rural areas where bus services are so few and far between.

Where does it run?

Transport on Demand operates to and from various bus stops in the Northern Test Valley area. The service covers most bus stops with postcodes SP10 and SP11 and the Wallops, Stockbridge, Chilbolton, and Barton Stacey areas.

The service covers four zones:

**Zone 1:** The service can pick up and drop off passengers at Andover bus station, Andover train station, and Andover War Memorial Hospital

**Zone 2:** Specified bus stops in the SP10 Postcode area south of Weyhill Road and London Road, where other buses don't run

**Zone 3:** Specified bus stops in the wider SP11 postcode area

**Zone 4:** Specified bus stops in the Wallops, Chilbolton, Stockbridge and Barton Stacey areas

When does it run?

7am to 7pm Monday to Saturday, excluding bank holidays. All journeys must be completed by 7pm.

How do I book?

Journeys can be requested up to three days in advance using the Book a Journey app. Children under 16 and those without app access can call 0333 015 1271 to book. Phone lines are open 9am to 4pm, Monday to Friday.

How much will it cost?

Single tickets range from £2 to £5. See ticket prices below. Up to two children under 5 years travel free with one farepaying passenger. Concessionary and scholar bus passes are not accepted on this service.

Accessibility

Minibuses are wheelchair accessible and folding pushchairs are permitted. Please book a wheelchair seat when booking.

## **Urban Meadows 2025**

Spring is here, and the first wildflowers are blooming across our nature reserves and green spaces!



Test Valley Borough Council (TVBC) is excited to announce this year's Urban Meadows season.

In response to the Climate Emergency and to make our green spaces more wildlife-friendly, TVBC will be relaxing grass cutting schedules across several sites from May to September. This initiative will create urban meadows, providing vital havens and wildlife corridors for insects, including butterflies, which have seen a long-term decline. Including the wonderful meadows cape at Romsey Abbey's north garth.

Since 2021, we've been increasing our urban meadows each year. In 2025, over 42 hectares in Andover, Romsey, and Valley Park will grow wilder – that's more than 82 football fields of grass left unmown until September!

Detailed maps of this year's Urban Meadows can be found here:

<https://www.testvalley.gov.uk/.../urban-meadow-creation>

For more information or to suggest new areas for 2026, please email: [nomowinfo@testvalley.gov.uk](mailto:nomowinfo@testvalley.gov.uk)

### Getting ready for a spring clean?

Don't be tempted to engage with people on social media who offer to remove your waste, unless they are licensed waste carriers.

It is your duty of care to dispose of your waste correctly. You could be fined an unlimited amount if your waste ends up fly-tipped.

Check your waste carrier is licensed here: <http://bit.ly/2Hn8ygE>



**YOUR DUTY OF CARE**

- S**uspect ALL waste carriers
- C**heck with the Environment Agency on 03708 506 506 that the provider taking your waste away is registered
- R**efuse unexpected offers to have waste taken away
- A**sk what will happen to your waste
- P**aperwork should be obtained – get a full receipt

Let's **S.C.R.A.P.** fly tipping

Test Valley  
Borough Council 

### County Councillor Grants

The County Councillor Grant scheme is being reviewed, as it usually is every four years, so the new grant scheme will likely open later in the Summer.

## Getting About

Last month I attended Wellow, Chilworth, Nursling and Rownhams and Sherfield English parish councils and spoke at public meetings in Denmead, Wellow, Nursling and . I also presented to the Romsey Older People's Forum.

## Contact

Do please get in touch if I can ever be of any help. For those of you using social media, I post very regular updates on many local issues including roadworks and planning applications on my Facebook page here: [facebook.com/nickadamsking](https://facebook.com/nickadamsking)



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**CLLR NICK ADAMS-KING**  
Caring for Romsey Rural

## General HCC Information – May

### Deadline reminder for parents applying for School Transport

Hampshire parents who would like their children to be considered for School Transport from September 2025 must apply on time to make sure their applications are reviewed before the new school year starts.

[Deadline reminder for parents applying for School Transport | Hampshire County Council](#)

### Recommendation to relocate The Henry Cort Community College in Fareham to North Whiteley

Hampshire County Council will consider later this month, a recommendation to relocate The Henry Cort Community College in Fareham to a new site in North Whiteley from September 2027, on Tuesday, 22 April. This has been brought forward from June to give the Henry Cort community earlier clarity about the school's future.

[Recommendation to relocate The Henry Cort Community College in Fareham to North Whiteley | Hampshire County Council](#)

### Reminder to have your say on proposals for future services in Hampshire



Hampshire County Council is reminding local residents to have their say on proposals for savings in four service areas, as part of steps by the Authority to help meet a remaining budget shortfall of at least £97.6 million for 2025/26.

[Reminder to have your say on proposals for future services in Hampshire | Hampshire County Council](#)

### **Primary school place offers confirmed by Hampshire County Council**

[Primary school place offers confirmed by Hampshire County Council | Hampshire County Council](#)

### **Hampshire County Council set to consider proposals to boost recycling rates**

Proposals that would boost recycling rates in Hampshire are due to be considered later this month by Hampshire County Council. The plans, if approved, would deliver a state-of-the-art Materials Recovery Facility in Eastleigh that could process more types of household waste for recycling.

[Hampshire County Council set to consider proposals to boost recycling rates | Hampshire County Council](#)

### **Hampshire celebrates and remembers on 80th anniversary of VE Day**

On the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe Day, 8 May 2025, Hampshire County Council will proudly raise the Union Flag outside the Great Hall in Winchester in celebration of the Day in 1945 which brought an end to the nearly six years of World War II.

[Hampshire celebrates and remembers on 80th anniversary of VE Day | Hampshire County Council](#)

### **Approval to relocate The Henry Cort Community College in Fareham to North Whiteley**

Hampshire County Council has agreed to relocate The Henry Cort Community College in Fareham to a new site in North Whiteley from September 2027

[Approval to relocate The Henry Cort Community College in Fareham to North Whiteley | Hampshire County Council](#)

### **Green light to boosting recycling rates in Hampshire**

Plans to construct of a new, state of the art recycling facility for Hampshire, have been given the go-ahead enabling residents to recycle a wider range of household materials at the kerbside in future.

[Green light to boosting recycling rates in Hampshire | Hampshire County Council](#)