

NETLEY MARSH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held at the Community Hall on Friday 26 April

Present:, Cllr Welbourn in the chair, Cllr Cook, Cllr Johnstone, Cllr Merrill, Cllr Shaw, Cllr Penman (HCC), and Cllr Tipp (NFDC),. Sir Julian Lewis MP, Steve Thomas (Hall Committee), Richard Williams PCSO, Stephen Lorton (Paultons Park) 4 residents, the Parish Clerk and RFO/Assistant Parish Clerk.

Apologies had been received from Cllr Babey, Cllr Haysom, Cllr M Davies (NFNPA) Mathew Bowen (NM School).

Due to issues with another hall booking the meeting started in the main hall with refreshments and moved to the main hall for the actual meeting. Mr Lorton gave an update on developments at Paultons Park.

1. Welcome – Cllr Welbourn welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. Minutes of previous Annual Parish Meeting 21st April 2023 were taken as read and agreed for signing.
3. Business of the Parish Council 2023/20234 Chairman Cllr Mike Welbourn read the report, see appendix 1.
4. Police Report – Local Policing - PCSO Richard Williams reported. PCSO Williams see appendix 2.
5. District Councillors report – Cllr Derek Tipp gave a report on behalf of himself and Cllr Reilly. See appendix 3.
7. County Councillor Report – Cllr Neville Penman gave his report See appendix 4
8. NFNPA Report – Cllr Johnstone read a report sent by Mrs Mary Davies on NFNPA matters. See appendix 5.
9. Netley Marsh Community Hall – Steve Thomas gave the report on behalf of the Hall committee. See appendix 6.
11. New Forest Passenger Transport Forum representative – Shareen Barnett gave a report on the New Forest Passenger Transport Committee – Many meetings some online but in early 2024 an in person meeting. Concern was expressed regarding cost cutting measures, including a reactive rather than proactive stance on potholes. The Singe fare continues to December 2024 for the T3 and T4 services serving the parish.
12. Netley Marsh School – the report was summarised for the meeting – see appendix 7
13. Public Questions and comments – There was some discussion on the A336 situation which is ongoing.
14. The speaker Trevor Vidler gave a very interesting presentation on Hampshire Search and Rescue outlining the extensive training given to volunteers and the type of rescues performed. Mr Vidler mentioned the Herbert Protocol, relating to information about missing persons which can give vital information to searchers.

The meeting closed at 9.50 pm

Signed

Date

Appendix 1.

Annual Report for Netley Marsh Parish Council

April 2023 – March 2024

The Parish Council has had another busy year; I would like to highlight the following points:

Planning - The Parish council continues with a dedicated planning committee that meets prior to the Parish Council monthly meetings. In the last twelve months we oversaw 57 planning applications which is a significant increase on the 29 applications considered last year.

Residents will be aware of the ongoing planning applications for a development on land in the north of the parish, including Hill Street and Pauletts Lane, together with land in the Totton and Eling Council area.

The improvement scheme for the North section of the A326 is a step nearer and we are liaising with NFNPA and HCC to see how this will affect Netley Marsh.

Parish Council facilities - The Parish Council provides and maintains the following: -

Woodlands Road recreation field, car park, children's playground and adult outside gym. Four noticeboards, one bus shelter opposite the entrance to Paultons Park, one bus shelter and the War Memorial both outside of St Matthews Church.

Our vibrant website is regularly updated with minutes, agendas of meetings, news articles and other useful information.

Our magazine, The Outlook, is published three times a year and contains interesting articles along with local advertisers. The Parish Council feels that this is a valuable contribution to the parish as a way of communicating with parishioners. Please read our new look Spring 2024 magazine. After the Winter 2023 edition, we said goodbye to our editor, Tina Vine, after an amazing ten years of producing the magazine. Please contact our parish clerk for further information about the magazine or how to advertise.

Councillors - We currently have the maximum number of councillors who are Bridget Babey, Tim Cook, Tony Haysom, Adrian Johnstone, Sharon Merrill, Jacquie Shaw and myself Mike Welbourn.

As well as attending Parish Council meetings, Councillors give freely of their time to attend meetings organised by other bodies such as, New Forest Citizens Advice Bureau, New Forest Consultative Panel, New Forest Association of Local Councils, NFNPA Quadrant meetings and Netley Marsh Hall Committee.

We are supported by two councillors from New Forest District Council by Cllr Derek Tipp and Cllr Joe Reilly, from Hampshire County Council by Cllr Neville Penman, from New Forest National Park Authority by Mary Davies and by our Member of Parliament Rt Hon Sir Julian Lewis. We welcome you all to our meeting and look forward to your reports.

Conservation review - A number of councillors are working with the New Forest National Park Authority to review the existing North East Forest conservation documents. To qualify for inclusion in a conservation area we are looking for distinctive character made up of topography, historic development, current uses and features, buildings, paths and lanes, hedges, trees, signage and place names, worthy of affording additional protection by designation as a conservation area.

Netley Marsh Community Hall - The Parish Council continues to work with the Hall Committee to provide this excellent indoor facility for the parish and are pleased to see the recent addition of the solar panels.

Bus Services - Shareen Barnett, continues to represent the parish at the Hampshire County Council Passenger Transport Forum. We thank Shareen for her dedication to represent the Parish Council at this

important forum and we are pleased that she is available to join us this evening to give her report from the latest meeting.

Police - We are kept informed on police matters mainly through the monthly update sent via Hampshire Alert. PCSO Richard Williams is in touch with the Council and attends our meetings when his rota allows. He has set up a small speed watch group in the Parish, although additional members are still required. We welcome Richard to the meeting this evening and we look forward to hearing more in his report.

Netley Marsh School - The Parish Council is no longer represented on the Netley Marsh School Governors but receives the school Newsletter which is very welcome as a means of communication. A report from the school will be read out later this evening.

Flooding - The situation on flooding, while still ongoing continues to see improvements. With HCC approval, the Lengthsman has cleared grips and created new ones in some areas.

We encourage residents to keep their ditches clear and always welcome residents advising us of any problems within the parish

A336 - The A336 has seen an increase in speeding traffic as well as lorries using this road instead of going via M27 Junction 2 and the A326. The parish council is working with local residents, HCC and NFDC to try to improve the ongoing problems.

We are continuing to pursue the possibility of adding some kind of pedestrian crossing along Ringwood Road to help residents to cross to attend the school, church, church hall and local facilities.

Footpaths - There are many footpaths and bridleways within the parish. Following requests from parishioners, some years ago the Council made an application to change the designation of Footpath 5 to a Bridleway. We understand progress remains in the distant future but we remain hopeful. On other footpaths and bridleways to some extent the Council relies on members of the public to advise when works are required.

In closing my report, I wish to thank my current Vice Chairman, Tim Cook, all of the Parish Councillors for their support and commitment, Heather our Parish Clerk and Ros our Responsible Finance Officer & Assistant Clerk. .

Cllr Mike Welbourn

Chairman Netley Marsh Parish Council

Appendix 2

Hampshire Police report - PCSO Williams

NETLEY MARSH PARISH COUNCIL APM 2024

The most reported crime in the area is still burglaries to sheds, outbuildings and garages BUT the area is still a low crime area and there have been only a handful of break ins reported to us this year.

The good news is that there are several new teams working in the Forest that are based at Lyndhurst Police Station. The Priority Crime Team targets specific offenders committing specific crimes and when a series is identified it is their job to find those responsible. They are helped in this by the new Neighbourhood Enforcement Team who assist with any of the tasks and warrants that need completing across the Forest.

There are 5 District Patrol Teams who are on shift daily and provide emergency cover for the Forest 24 hours a day and 365 days a year, when you dial 999 these are the teams that turn up. CID are now

based at Lyndhurst too – they investigate crimes in the Forest and are already making a real difference in the Forest as are all of the teams mentioned.

PC 24091 Mark ROBERTS is your new Designated Neighbourhood Officer – as time passes you will see more of Mark out and about patrolling the Beat and dealing with the crimes and issues that affect you locally.

Finally LETS TALK – we are very keen to get as many people signed up to Hampshire Alert and to complete the survey LETS TALK that helps us know what the issues are that affect you the most – if people would like me to sign them up then please email richard.williams@hampshire.police.uk and I will arrange an appointment. PCSO Williams then answered questions.

Appendix 3

New Forest District Council

NFDC Council Report 2023 – 2024 Cllr Derek Tipp

The District Council continues to be financially sound with a balanced budget for the coming year. The NFDC council tax for this year is £3.83 per week for a band D property. I hope you agree that is pretty good value!

There is still concern over a shortfall in 2027, but that is expected to be addressed by increasing income from fees and charges and cutting the costs of service delivery through the use of IT. Our own assets, such as Appletree Court, are being appraised to see if they can be used to increase revenue by renting out a part of it. We are also purchasing carefully selected property such as the Salisbury Road Precinct in Totton, which is to be refurbished. There are other business premises like the New Forest Enterprise Centre at Hounsdown with units for start-up businesses and Crow Lane industrial units in Ringwood as well as several more.

Our waste collection service is undergoing a major change due to government legislation requiring us to collect food waste separately on a weekly basis. We are expecting to start this in 2026, provided the facility to dispose of it is ready. This year residents who sign up for garden waste are being provided with wheelie bins. Next year we will be changing from a sack collection to an alternate week wheelie bin service. One week is for recycling and the next week is for non-recycling.

The Council is trying to encourage people not to throw litter out of cars with a new “game approach” on the A35. There are two scoreboards one at the Lyndhurst end and one at Hinton displaying the “litter score”. The rating will be from A (good) to D (bad), with an overall percentage score on display based on how much litter is on the roadside. The higher the score, the less litter. The scheme is set to last until September.

A number of grant schemes have been run by the Council over the past year to support both community projects and local businesses. Much of the funding has come from the government. Funding is also being directed to improving our town centres, with a particular focus on Totton where £136,000 is to be spent on a number of small schemes this summer. A Partnership Board is looking at the possibility of putting forward more ambitious ideas for the medium and longer term, in the hope of attracting funding from the Freeport.

The Solent Freeport has now been established and includes a number of key areas in our district called Tax Sites which are expected to attract new and expanded businesses with a range of tax advantages. The retained business rates from this growth can be used to benefit our district over the coming years.

CCTV cameras have been increased and upgraded across the district. This will help the police as well as deterring criminal behaviour.

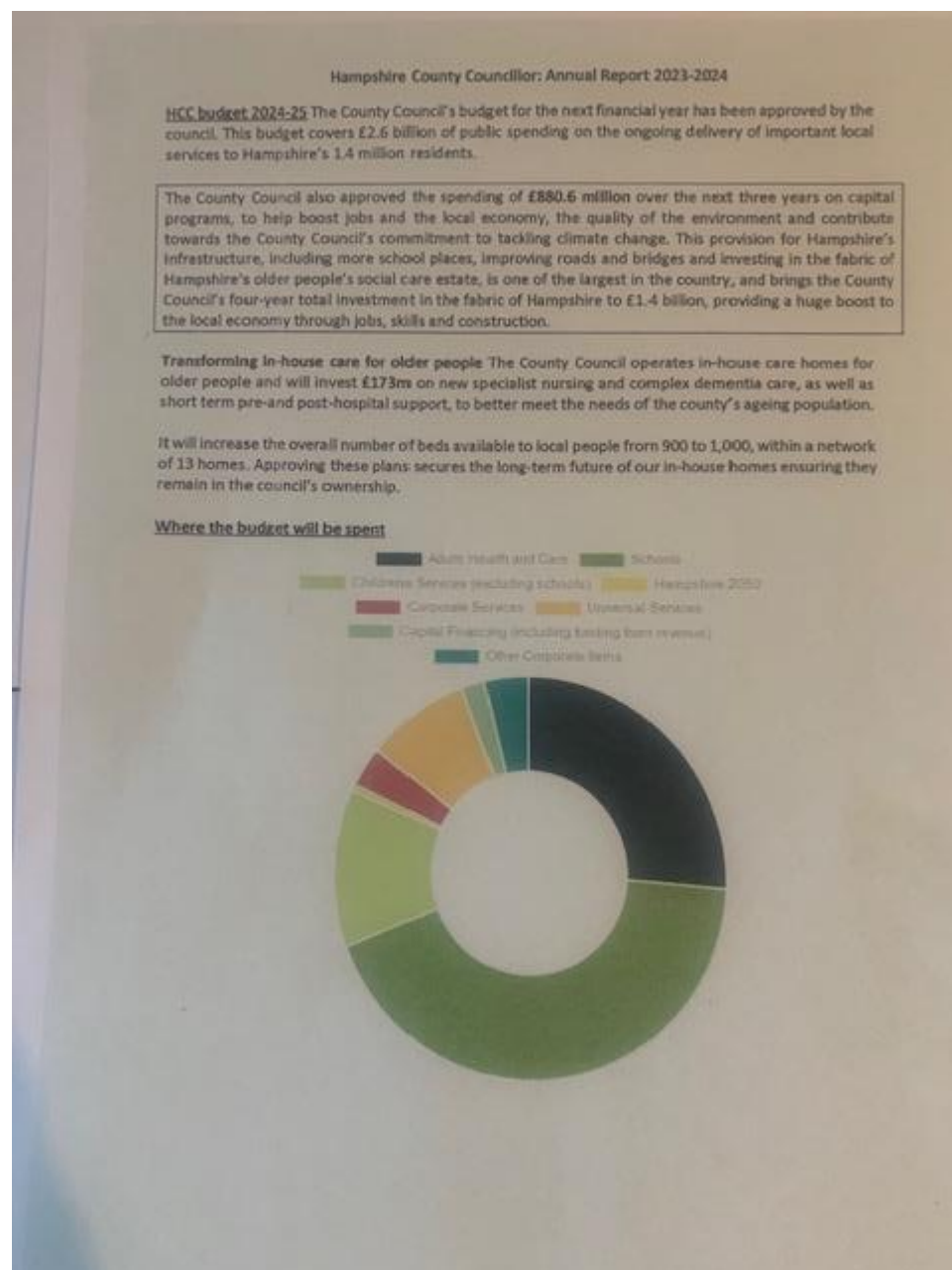
Several schemes have been implemented to encourage businesses to start and grow using government funding. A new Apprenticeship and Skills scheme is free to all businesses who are looking to take on new apprentices. Information on the New Forest Apprenticeship & Skills Hub can be found at <https://newforest.gov.uk/article/3520/New-Forest-Apprenticeship-and-Skills-Hub>

Planning in the National Park is not the responsibility of NFDC, but it is worth noting that both are reviewing their Local Plans. Most new house building will take place outside the National Park, but it will undoubtedly affect us all in terms of increased traffic, pressure on health provision, etc. Our housing provision, as calculated by the government's formula, is likely to increase substantially to around 1000 homes a year from its present figure of around 500. I hope that we will be able to reduce that by demonstrating that it is not realistic to build that many in such a constrained area. It is worth noting that BCP Council has just submitted its final draft plan which shows a 1200 a year shortfall on the formula number. It will be interesting to see what the Planning Inspector makes of it!

Appendix 4

Hampshire County Councillor, Totton North and Netley Marsh Cllr Neville Penman

HCC Annual Report 2023-2024



Invitation by Hampshire County Council to bid for funding to plant disease resistant elm Communities across Hampshire are invited to apply for funding to plant disease resistant elm trees. The English countryside was once dominated by elm, but since the 1960s these trees have been ravaged by Dutch elm disease that was accidentally introduced to Europe in the early 20th century. The disease has killed nearly all the mature elm in Britain, an estimated toll of 60-100 million trees. Our planting initiative will be a great opportunity to enhance local spaces and provide essential habitats for wildlife including species of moth and butterfly.

The Hampshire Forest Partnership has already supported 1,205 disease resistant elm trees to be planted across Hampshire's green spaces by farmers, landowners, and local communities. Enquiries are open now for the 2024/25 tree planting season which starts from the autumn. Organisations such as town and parish councils, local groups and landowners can find out more information including how to apply for disease resistant elms by contacting the Hampshire Forest Partnership on treeandwood@hants.gov.uk

Bus Services Hampshire's £7.2 million share of the Department for Transport's (DfT) Bus Service Improvement Plan Plus money and has been awarded to protect existing commercial services (that might otherwise see reduced timetables) and to fund more frequent services from May.

In Winchester the Bluestar 1 service between Winchester and Southampton will have an additional evening weekday services and new late-night services in each direction on Friday and Saturday evenings.

Service 66 between Romsey and Winchester will improve to every 30 minutes, Monday to Saturday daytime.

Government appoints Hampshire County Council to take lead role in local nature recovery Hampshire County Council has been appointed by our government to prepare a 'Local Nature Recovery Strategy' for Hampshire, including the areas of Portsmouth and Southampton. £388,000 will be provided to coordinate the development of the new strategy in collaboration with key partners.

The Strategy will bring together organisations and residents to restore precious habitats, protect wildlife and combat climate change.

Hampshire County Council is one of 48 individual local authorities across England designated as leads for the delivery of Local Nature Recovery Strategies and will work with Southampton and Portsmouth unitary authorities, the region's two national parks and all eleven district and borough councils across Hampshire.

Improving Recycling and Reuse at the Household Waste Recycling Centres

From July residents are being asked to separate their waste ahead of a visit to a Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) to reuse and recycle more, and to reduce the amount of material that goes to costly disposal methods such as landfill. By taking a few moments more to sort our waste material, we could save up to £200,000 of taxpayers' money every year. The HWRC teams will be on hand to answer any questions and offer advice.

Most HWRCs in Hampshire will be able to recycle the following materials:

- Garden and green waste
- Metals
- Wood
- Cardboard
- Electrical equipment and appliances
- Batteries, printer cartridges, and light bulbs
- Furniture
- Clothing and textiles
- Paints, chemicals, engine oil and gas bottles

The County Council has a legal responsibility to carry out certain functions. We cannot say 'no' if someone asks for support and in many cases we cannot means test or ask for a contribution toward the cost of providing a service.

Our projections show that while we will be able to balance our budget for the next two years, by 2026 there will be an anticipated shortfall of £132 million. SP25 therefore looks to find ways to bridge that gap should support from Government not be forthcoming.

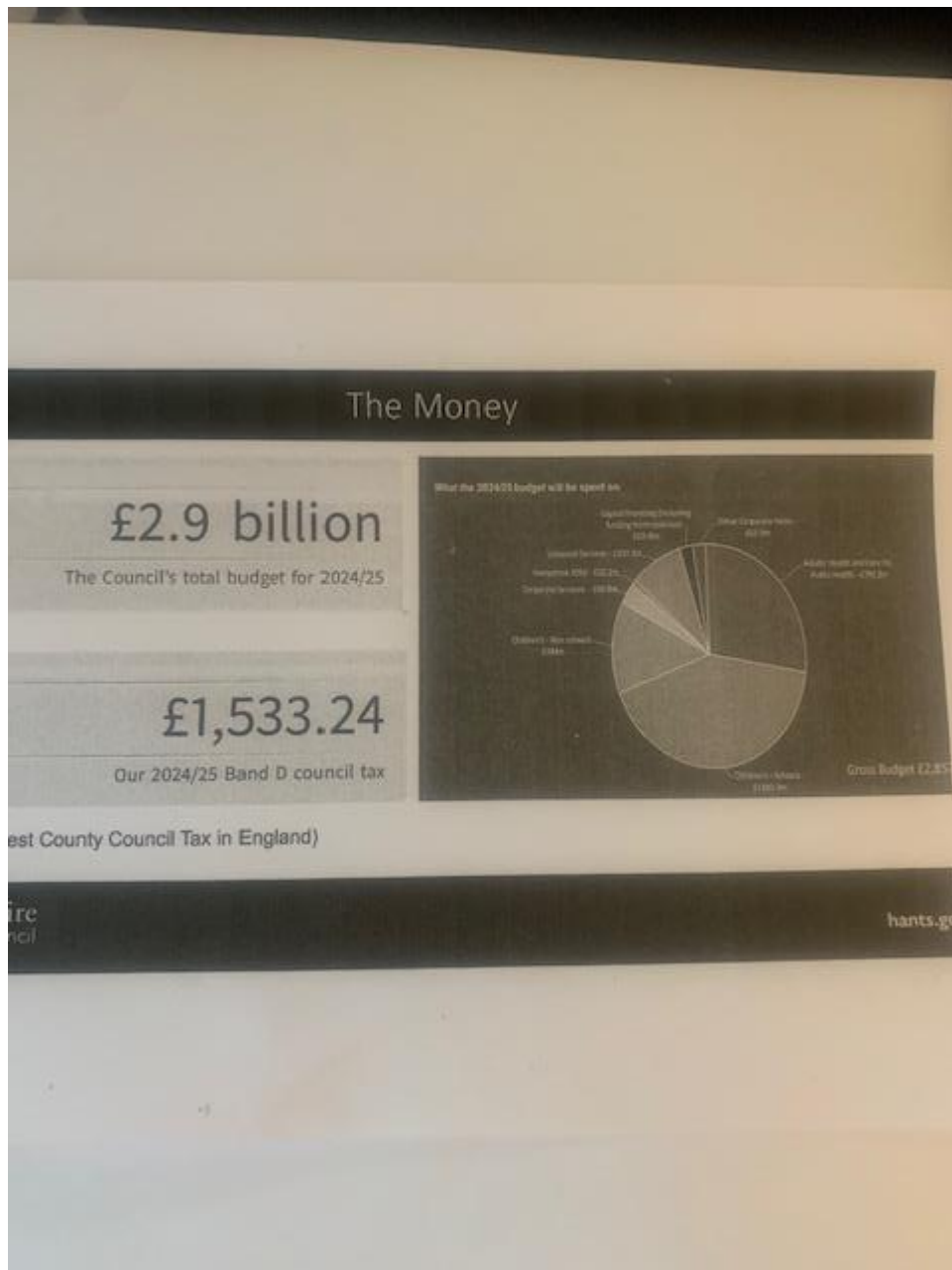
We know Hampshire's residents were supportive of service change, but notably opposed to service reduction.

SP25 Timeline:



Each year, Hampshire County Council....

- Supports around 10,000 children in need of social care
- Provides 360,000 meals on wheels lunches
- Educates 138,000 pupils in 463 maintained schools
- Maintains 5,500 miles of road and 1,750 bridges and structures
- Provides long term care to 18,400 adults, 2/3 of whom are older people
- Manages 3,600 hectares of land, for wildlife, heritage and public use
- Prevents over £1m of unregulated, unsafe goods through Trading Standards
- Manages over 600,000 tonnes of household waste and recycling
- Supports 3,000 victims of domestic abuse



Cllr N. Penman

Appendix 5

NFNPA report send by Cllr Mary Davies New Forest National Park Authority NE Quadrant Parish Member was read by Cllr Johnstone on Mrs Davies behalf

Firstly apologies, as I have not yet attended any of your Parish Council Meetings. This is not down to a lack of appetite to do so, it is purely down to the fact I had business matters to attend to, as I am in the process of retiring. When it was confirmed, I was elected to hold the role I now have, I made a conscious decision to retire, the journey to do so is almost complete.

The first NEQ meeting I Chaired was on the 20th of November and was held at Netley Marsh Community Hall. We were grateful to the following Speakers who addressed the meeting:-

- 1) Steve Avery of the NFNPPA provided an update on the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) with particular reference to access updates. Discussions took place re the A31 Salisbury to Romsey.
- 2) Steve updated us on the National Permitted Development Rights Consultation.
- 3) Steve also provided an update on the Waterside Development

4) Charlotte Belcher representing Forest England provided information on matters including, behaviour of dogs in the NFNPA, educational teams engaging with dog owners in some of the car parks to advise dogs to be kept on leads. Great news an increase in the numbers of ground nesting birds, Curlew and Nightjar. PSPO incidents the number of incidents is down. Education on adhering to speed limits and the devastating effects to animals living on the Forest who are hurt / killed. Also, on advising and advertising Not to feed the animals for example ponies and donkeys on the Forest. A Red Deer census the number are down from 2022.

5) Nikki Swift – NFNPA spoke on Safer New Forest Partnerships – Operation Bounty – helping address the Fear of Crime - posters are available for display within parishes. Fly Tipping is a major concern and guidance is available on the procedures that may be taken by local volunteers. Copythorne and Bramshaw stated Fly Tipping was a major issue.

6) Steve discussed Article 4 addressing updates on legal matters with regard to Campsites. Steve also mentioned the closing date for entries to the Building Design Awards – recognising high quality design and the best new developments in the NFNPA.

It was agreed the next NE Quadrant meeting would be held at Bramshaw Village Hall.

On the 15th of February the NE Quadrant held their meeting at Bramshaw Village Hall. The following speakers addressed those who attended.

1) Charlotte Belcher provided an update on behalf of Forest England – Animal incidents I 2023 were up to 92 – Cattle Pigs and Sheep lost lives and the happening in the most part took place within daily commute times of 6.30am and 8.30am. Charlotte encouraged all to display on Notice Boards the New Forest Code, Working in Partnership 2023 highlights, available via the NFNPA website. Fires within the Forest down by 30%. Forest England are considering Coffee and Cake areas within some car parks. PSPO's are in force. Charlotte also covered the actions being taken to address Motor Home illegal parking. Also again to be aware of Ground Nesting Bird Season. New Forest code: working in partnership 2023 - New Forest National Park Authority (newforestnpa.gov.uk)

2) Steve Avery covered a number of subjects and provided links to the relevant section of the NFNPA web site. I feel it is important all Parishes are aware of the updates provide by Steve, hence my incorporating the web links in my report:-

a) New Forest Liberal Democrats launch petition to save household waste and recycling centres at Marchwood and Somerley after Conservative-run Hampshire County Council seeks to meet a forecasted £132m budget shortfall (advertiserandtimes.co.uk)

b) Proposals relating to Household Waste and Recycling Centres (HWRCs) | About the Council | Hampshire County Council (hants.gov.uk)

c) Changes to various permitted development rights: consultation - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

d) A326 (South) Fawley Waterside Junction Improvements | Transport and roads | Hampshire County Council (hants.gov.uk)

e) Fawley Waterside plan reviewed as Aldred Drummond 'steps back' | Daily Echo

f) What is a Freeport? - Solent Freeport

Steve also covered Fly Tipping on Land not registered – who is responsible if the land owner is unknown. Looking at Covert Cameras being installed – waiting for Legal matters to be addressed. A new contract for waste collection has been finalized with Green Zone. DEFRA Enforcement Team are aware of the massive issue of Fly Tipping and are working to address the issue. An important update from Steve relating to Bio Diversity Net Gain, this was discussed in some depth, including indicative costs to developers. Reference to the afore mentioned web links, it is important to look at the details within the permitted development document.

At the meeting on the 15th of February, I did suggest each Parish Council consider producing and agreeing a Terms of Reference to enable a Fly Tipping Group to be formed, this “Group” then feeding into the NEQ matters relating to Fly Tipping. To date it is Copythorne and Bramshaw Parish Councils who have replied. Can I ask if Netley March are considering taking any such action?

The next NEQ meeting is due to be held next month, venue: Wellow Village Hall, any input on speakers you would want to address members of the NEQ please let me know.

Again, I am disappointed I cannot attend your Annual General Meeting in person and I assure you I will attend one of your Parish Council meetings in the very near future.

Appendix 6

Netley Marsh Community Hall Chairmans Report For Year 2023

This is my second year as chairman following in the footsteps of Robert White.

General

The Community Hall has continued to provide all residents with a popular venue and is well used by up to 400 people in a busy week.

These consist of Weekly users: Woodlands Preschool 4 days a week in term time; Toddler messy play group; Brownies; Tutu dancing; Toms freestyle dancing; Women's Institute.

Monthly and Bi-monthly users: - Netley Marsh Parish council, Netley Marsh Hall Trustees, Gardening Club, Local History Group, Voices of the forest Choir, Austin Car Club

Childrens/family parties: - 75 individual functions at weekends throughout the year.

Other uses have booked for Group training; Polling Station and casual hall hire.

Lucy Johnson has been well organised with the online bookings and phone enquires and the bank transfer of hall hire fees.

The yearly charity commission return was completed and submitted online in September.

Building Work and Maintenance repairs

The Hall floor refurbishment was completed in the end of December 2022.

Small painting jobs were completed in early January prior to the hall reopening.

Fire appliances had annual checks and all in order.

The main hall lights have started to fail one by one which resulted in 7 being replaced.

The old electric cooker and separate hob was replaced with a free standing cooker.

This involved cutting out the old hob work surface and cupboard.

Two toilets needed to be re-secured as bolts had rotted away.

The table trolley was upgraded so all tables can safely be stored and be moved if required.

Cleaning of the Hall has changed that Teresa was unable to continue and local resident Phili helped for several months and stepped down. Lea-Marie has taken over.

Pending items of significance

Due to the ever increasing energy prices it was decided to see if a solar installation would be an assistance to keeping our overheads down.

This was completed by Martin and appeared to be worth consideration. Adrain joined us as the parish councils representative replacing Jackie. Adrian advised us that a grant could available to help village halls if they met certain criteria. An application has been made to New Forest District Council for this grant and we await notification.

The Halls Land registry documentation is still outstanding and awaiting completion.

My thanks go to all the committee for their time and assistance given through the year and in particular to Lucy for admin and bookings, Phil for his work as treasurer, Martin for the solar panels work leading to the grant application and Jackie for her work liaising between the trustees and the parish council.

Finances

The income for the hall previously was made roughly half from Preschool, and half from additional bookings. However, in 2023 the additional private hire bookings have become the biggest contributor for the halls income.

	2021	2022	2023
Income	£5,924	£11,928.50	£13,555.00

Expenses	£5,559.10	£11,893.30	£15,667.19
Surplus	+£364.90	+£35.20	-£2,112.19

Although we have a higher income this year the total loss is due to: invoicing at reduced rates for preschool which will continue into 2024, extra expenditure for cleaning, commercial bin collection due to move private hires, and additional energy prices that continue to rise are the main reason for the deficit.

Steve Thomas, Chairman

Appendix 7

Netley Marsh School – the report was read by Cllr Welbourn on Mr Bowens behalf

Netley Marsh Infant School continues to work hard to ensure that every child who walks through its doors continue to flourish. We are very lucky to have a dedicated team who support all our learners and continue to ensure that every child can achieve their potential. As you may know, we moved to mixed age classes, which has supported workload for staff and enabled all our team to continue sharing knowledge and expertise across our other schools within the Federation.

We have a new teacher in our Reception class, Miss Hines, who has made a great impact on learning for our youngest children and has been able to support our other teachers within our federation, to evaluate and adopt some new ideas.

This year the school is focusing on developing our writing and math teaching, to ensure that our outcomes remain higher than national outcomes. Our work on Math is being led by Mr Cooper, who teaches in Butterfly class and our writing developments are being led by Mrs Boalch, who although is currently teaching at our school in Lyndhurst, was one of Netley's teachers for many years previous to this. We are also working on developing the impact made by every adult in the school and using current research to steer this area of work, as well as supporting the children to make a positive change in the world. One of the ways we are developing this, is through sponsoring a child in Rwanda. Our children's council are thinking of ideas to raise funds to sponsor a child, to see that they can make a difference to someone they have never met - they have just facilitated a football event which raised funds and are now thinking about their next project.

Like all schools locally, there is a continued decline in the number of children living in the local area, which has an impact on the school budgets and our governors are currently working towards ensuring that our school can continue to perform during times of lower funding.

We are also still seeking a resolve to our current issue, relating to families crossing the road at the start and end of the school day. No lollipop patrol officer has yet been recruited.

I would also like to thank all those who support the school, in all the different ways support is offered.