

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 2nd March 2021 Remote meeting via Skype 7.30pm

Parish Councillors Alan Tyler (Chair), Mark Gifford Hazel Metz, Alison Mosson. Clerk Susan Turner
Guests: County Cllr Anna McNair-Scott.

1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES Thanks to Chairman for hosting the meeting.
Apologies Simon Barker, PC Andy Reid, Cllr Mark Ruffell

2 POLICE UPDATE

2.1 Items reported since last meeting

06.02.21 Washing machine dumped in carriageway of B3046.

11.02 21 Suspicious incident – unusual vehicle seen in the village.

22.02 21 Theft of five staddle stones from a garden in Cliddesden was reported to me, a van would obviously have been required.

23.02 21 at about 6.40pm two teenagers aged about 17ish was seen at the end of Hackwood Lane near the A339. The youths were seen near a bungalow at that location and when spotted made off. From enquiries, it appears that these youths were in fact waiting for a lift from a vehicle on the A339.

23.02 21 shots were heard in the evening which, upon investigation, were established to be in the Hackwood Park area.

2.2 Further reports

- i. Neighbourhood Watch I would wish to place on record my sincere thanks to Cllr Simon Barker for all his support and hard work for the local community regarding Neighbourhood Watch.

Simon kindly made me aware of numerous instances of antisocial behaviour reported to him that seem to be occurring 'during the day, evening and night' around the pond. I was unaware of such happenings and now that I am aware, I have requested the Security Patrol and my colleagues to pay regular attention to this area when passing. I am pleased to report neither I and my colleagues, nor the Security Officer, have seen any associated anti-social behaviour during our patrols, and neither the Force nor I have received any complaints of such unacceptable behaviour. We will of course maintain regular patrols as the evenings get lighter.

- ii. Speed Enforcement On March 1st 2021, I carried out speed enforcement on the B3046 in the village, several warnings were issued and I will be back out again as soon as I can while arranging for the Speed Camera van to support.

2.3 Thanks

TO RECORD thanks to PC Reid for his report and support, and for the Speed Enforcement.

3 COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE

County Councillor Anna McNair-Scott advised that she won't be standing for election in May. She will have completed 20 years as County Councillor.

Anna offered her assistance with any issues during her remaining time as Councillor, but noted that the funding from her devolved budget had been rapidly used this year.

The Chairman requested her assistance in pressing upon HCC the urgent need to clear the pond this year. See item 6.2.

TO RECORD the Parish Council's thanks to Cllr McNair-Scott for all she has done as County Councillor.

4 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING of 5th January 2021, agreed and to be signed.

For signature

- 5** **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** in items on the Agenda.
The Chairman noted that he had submitted a TCA application on behalf of his neighbour: re item 8.1.
- 6** **HIGHWAYS & MAINTENANCE**
- 6.1** **Grips and gullies**
- i** Map of existing and requested grips and soakaways sent to HCC.
- ii** Report from Simon Barker. 'Highways contractors have cleared all the grips and gullies within the parish and beyond [up to Northgate Lane and on Farleigh Hill]. Since this work has been completed we have not received any prolonged periods of heavy rain but having been out following what rain we have received the drainage does appear improved. Only time will tell if regular maintenance by Highways will be sufficient or if additional resources will need to be installed.'
- TO RECORD THANKS sent to Principle Highways Engineer for liaising to organise this.
- iii** Request for new grips and soakaways Noted that the above grip clearing was undertaken as part of a county-wide scheme. The contractors will only clear existing grips. Creating new ones is likely to require utility checks etc.
The map submitted to HCC included requested additional grips into the security ditch at the Hackwood Lane / Northgate Lane junction – new grips on Hackwood Lane from the junction to the Village Hall – plus a new grip and substantial soakaway in the wide verge opposite and above Village Hall entrance.
- ACTION Clerk to follow up.
- iv** Gullies Church Lane The gullies along Church Lane from the pond to Station Road are now on the 'red' 3-x-a-year (target) cleansing schedule. (These were previously on the 'grey' once-every-3-years schedule.)
- TO RECORD THANKS again to the Principle Highways Engineer for liaising to organise this and checking the contractors' reports that showed that, when previously due to be cleared, these gullies were full or near full.
- 6.2** **Pond** email received from HCC
'Until Operation Resilience have their budgets approved (hopefully soon) I cannot say if the site will be included in the 2021/22 programme but following the investigations, it was selected to go forward to be *delivered if possible*.
Ref County Councillor Update at item 3, Cllr McNair Scott will endeavour to help secure the funding for this year.
- 6.3** **Pond outflow** The Chairman is in communications with HCC Flood & Water Mmnt.
- 6.4** **Pond Cherry tree** A few months ago a small cherry tree was planted at the village pond, donated by a long-term resident and friend of Eddie Rapley, to commemorate his life and the support he and his wife Betty gave to many activities in the village. In January the tree disappeared, dug up and removed by persons unknown.
It was noted that the tree did not have a commemorative plaque. Also noted that this had not been the intention, and some years ago a plaque had been taken from Cleresden Meadow.
- AGREED The Parish Council will replace, with a larger tree hopefully to deter its removal, and reconsider its location. Alison Mosson to source and purchase. Alison Mosson and Mark Gifford to plant, as for the previous tree.
- 6.5** **Pond bench** Residents' letter reporting antisocial behaviour in the vicinity of the bench is being investigated and monitored by PC Reid, Neighbourhood Watch and also the Estate security officer. Neighbourhood Watch update was included in the *Newsletter*.
- NOTED 1. PC Reid reiterated his request that all incidences of suspicious or antisocial behaviour, however apparently insignificant, should be reported to him. All reports helped build up a picture and pattern of behaviours.

For signature

2. Parish Councillors monitoring the pond and bench reported having seen the bench used appropriately, by families, walkers and cyclists. It was, in addition, noted that the bench should not be sited near to the car parking area, with associated danger and also exhaust fumes from cars reversed into the spaces.

AGREED The bench should remain in-situ as the current location best serves those who use it. The Clerk to respond to resident's' letter accordingly.

6.6 Verges Awaiting information from Cllr Ruffell re Biodiversity Improvement Zone.

6.7 Rights of Way

- i Priority cutting schedule 2021 Should go ahead this year but not yet scheduled. (No contract awarded last year due to Covid.)
- ii **Footpath 2** The fallen tree on the footpath from Station Road opposite Railway Cottages belongs to Station Manor. Mark Gifford and Simon Barker have cleared.
- iii Simon Barker reported that the public rights of way across the parish continue to see increased footfall.

6.8 Lengthsman

i Lengthsman 2021/22

AGREED unanimously to continue with scheme.

ii Tasks for next visit w/c 9th March

1. Bus shelter again – clean, and remove all vegetation climbing on / overhanging.
2. Check on and photograph state of the silt traps.
Dry weather jobs – Signpost by pond still needs painting. Other metal signs can be painted – including sign on Southlea (plus legs straightened).
3. Question re painting in faded road name signs. Is there anyone from the Village who would do this? Noted that Eddie Rampton paints the phone box every year.

7 HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC

7.1 SID and data recorders Report from Simon Barker: 'Thanks again to Andy Fewster who has volunteered to do the data collection and analysis from the SIDs. Following some teething problems Andy is now collecting the data and we should have some initial feedback ready for the next meeting. Going forward we will be able to feed this data to PC Reid in order to target speed enforcement.'

ACTION For all – if see SID not working report to Simon.

7.2 Village Gateways – Consultation in February *Newsletter* **APPENDIX I.**

Two responses received, both in support.

AGREED Gateway style as **APPENDIX II.** The 'gate' should appear natural, wooden (HCC recognised suppliers produce in plastic imitation).

The sign will stand out as white background: To read 'Welcome to Cliddesden Gateway to the North Hampshire Downs'.

Gateways to be positioned to replace existing 'Cliddesden' village entry signs, on Farleigh Road approaching Southlea and, approaching from Farleigh Hill, opposite Manor Farm. On Woods Lane to be positioned just before the 30mph entry sign.

Clerk to confirm to HCC.

8 PLANNING

8.1 Planning and tree applications since last meeting

T/00063/21/TCA (Validated 04 Feb) Yew Tree Cottage Farleigh Road. T: Lime: crown reduce by 3m, leaving an approx finished height 10m spread 7m T2 bring adjacent Lime in to line leaving a finished height of approx 10m spread 5m. *PC response - no objection as long as the work is carried out outside of birds' nesting season which begins on 1st March until 30th August.*

For signature

21/00119/HSE (Validated 04 Feb) 10 Station Road. Erection of single storey rear extension and two storey side extension following demolition of existing stores.
PC response - no objection.

21/00246/HSE (Validated 21 Jan) The Mount, Farleigh Road, Rear extension.
PC response - no objection.

8.2 See **APPENDIX III** for current applications relating to the Parish.

8.3 Applications pending

20/03197/PIP (Pending, Validated 19 Nov 2020) Permission in Principle for erection of 2 no. dwellings. Land Adjacent to 14 Hackwood Lane. *Parish Council response in summary that: This site is in the Open Countryside, contributing to broad landscape views and wildlife corridors. Developing the site would detract from the rural sense of place of this part of Hackwood Lane and be detrimental to neighbour amenity.*

Scheduled for Development Control meeting of 10th March. Agreed that the Chairman will speak on behalf of the Parish Council.

8.4 Enforcement

EC/21/00009/UMCU3 – Land adj 14 Hackwood Lane Change of use of agricultural land to garden. Awaiting site visit, the officer is aware of the planning application scheduled for Development Control Committee.

NOTED

Also burning waste on this site.

EC/21/00001/UOD3 - 14 Hackwood Lane. Installation of dormer windows without planning permission. Ref above.

Station Manor Cruenta Carus – Commercial units continue at the site which accommodate three companies generating daily traffic. Referred again to enforcement, requested add to visit list as above. The Parish Council is concerned that if unchallenged this use will become lawful by default.

Re 17/02702/FUL Cruenta Carus, Station Road, Cliddesden.

Condition 19 – ‘Prior to the occupation of the dwelling hereby approved, all of the existing containers, buildings, structures, hardstanding and outside storage areas associated with the existing B8 storage and commercial use of the site shall be removed from the site and all commercial activity on the site shall permanently cease. REASON: To protect the amenities of the occupiers of nearby properties and in the interests of visual amenity in accordance with Policy EM10 of the Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan 2011-2029.’

8.5 Neighbourhood Plan

i Non-listed Heritage assets

1 Buggleskelly Bench; 2 Bus Shelter; 3 Church Farm House; 4 Farleigh Deane House; 5 Methodist Chapel (Kites Up); 6 Methodist Church Building; 7 Village Shop and Post Office; 8 Railway Bridge, Farleigh Road; 9 Railway Cottages; 10 Station House; 11 The Black Barn; 12 Telephone Box; 13 Three Horseshoes; 14 Walls round Church Farm House and Vine House; 15 Plough (Plough Cottage).

ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS

1. No 6 Hackwood Lane – the last (relatively) original bungalow constructed for returning soldiers from WWI.
2. The pond – ref historical origins of the Village.
3. The reservoir – again historical origins, unique character, site for wildlife
4. Otters nursery, previously the Old Dairy to Manor Farm.
5. The Village Hall – ‘millenium’ hall, designed by local man.
6. Swallick Farmhouse
7. Cleresden Meadow
8. Old Chapel 19th C (from Swallick up old railway line on steep hill).
9. Remaining piece of station platform.

ii NP Finance Clerk to return unspent Locality funding for this financial year. Intention of the NP team had been to use the consultant to help develop the evidence base; however the team members have achieved so much, very close to completing.

For signature

8.6 STaNH Update

i Debate at Full Council STaNH is scheduled to present the petition and a motion for debate at BDBC Full Council meeting of 18th March. Noted that BDBC are questioning the numbers of relevant signatures due to a proportion with post codes outside Basingstoke (not within 4k). (Also noted that post codes to petitions are not always accurately recorded.) Further note in the *Newsletter* asking all, and all households members, to sign. (Signatures continue to added at rate of c65 per day.)

ii **AONB** Cllr Ruffell has begun discussion with BDBC and Hart promoting the area as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Thought to be possible, may take a long time.

AGREED

Cliddesden (alongside Winslade and Ellisfield?) to write to Parish Councils in the vicinity – from Odiham and Ewshot to Preston Candover and back to the M3 – to seek their support and raise the profile for the proposal. Agreed this should come from the Parish Council rather than STaNH and from the Chairman. Need to raise support within BDBC, Hart and East Hants.

9 FINANCE**9.1 Payments since last meeting**

(22) Personalised Print – Newsletter Nov, Dec, Jan	£97.00
(23) CPRE annual Standing Order (now cancelled)	£2.00
(24) Clerk Salary Jan	£290.55
(25) Personalised Print – Newsletter Feb	£24.75
(26) Clerk Salary Feb	£290.55

9.2 Accounts to date 2020/21 APPENDIX IV**10. FURTHER REPORTS/UPDATES**

10.1 Neighbourhood Watch Report included in *Newsletter* **APPENDIX V.**

10.2 Newsletter Editor Rachel Beresford Davies confirmed she can continue as sole editor for the time being, providing backup available from the Clerk when needed.

10.3 May elections All County and Borough Councillor seats up for election. For Cliddesden, to elect three councillors for Basing & Upton Grey Ward. Notice included in *Newsletter* **APPENDIX VI.**

10.4 Greening Project Deferred to next meeting.

11. NEXT MEETINGS

11.1 Parish Assembly *Present published guidance...*

HALC Guidance: *Annual Parish Meetings, held any time before 7th May 2021, can be held remotely. At this moment in time, any meetings from 7th May 2021 onwards will revert back to being face to face as per normal practice – unless the Government extend the Coronavirus Regulations. HALC have not been informed of any such intention, but we will notify member councils as soon as we are informed otherwise. On the current basis, HALC recommend Councils fix a date and time of an annual parish meeting to be remote and held before 7th May 2021 where possible. The guidance to work from home where at all possible remains. We will produce further guidance on this as the situation evolves.*

NALC Guidance: *The regulations that allow local authorities to hold meetings remotely apply to local authority meetings that are required to be held, or held, before 7 May 2021. This means that, without any further action from the government, all local authorities including local councils must return to face to face meetings from 7 May. NALC is working with a number of national bodies to press the government to extend these regulations beyond this date and will continue to stress the urgency and importance of this issue. However, at this time government has no plans to extend these regulations and so councils should start preparing for the real possibility of face to face meetings from May.*

NALC's position remains that all local councils should continue to meet remotely while the regulations are in force. There is still much uncertainty around how legislation or COVID-19 risks may change over the coming weeks and months. NALC will update this guidance as the situation evolves. Each council will have to decide which course of action will best fit their needs and manage risks.

NOTED If Parish Assembly goes ahead online, will require full Zoom licence.

11.2 Parish Council dates Tuesdays 7.30pm 4 May (AGM), 6 July, 7 Sept, 2 Nov.

Meeting closed 21.07pm with thanks to all present

For signature Date.

APPENDIX I

VILLAGE GATEWAY PROPOSAL

The Parish Council is considering 'gateway' features on main entrance roads to the village (those receiving the most through traffic). So on Farleigh Road approaching Southlea, Farleigh Road by Manor Farm, and near the top of the hill on Woods Lane.

'Gateways' are intended as entrance features to indicate to drivers that the nature of the road is about to change. This may be at the approach to a village; where a speed limit changes; at the start of a traffic calming scheme, or ideally a combination of these. Department for Transport research suggests they are most effective when complimenting other speed reducing measures.

Their installation has to be part of a Hampshire County Council scheme and they must comply with HCC safety and design specification.

Subject to this – and available space – choice of design should best reinforce the 'sense of place' of the Village and how best to impress upon drivers that they are entering a village environment, and so should proceed with care and modify their speed accordingly.

The Parish Council is seeking your views. Please contact any member of the Parish Council or email clerk.cliddesden@parish.hants.gov.uk.

A message suggested for the sign is 'WELCOME TO CLIDDSDEN, GATEWAY TO THE NORTH HAMPSHIRE DOWNS'.



APPENDIX II: AGREED VILLAGE GATEWAY STYLE



APPENDIX III: PLANNING AND TREE APPLICATIONS - MARCH 2020
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[T/00063/21/TCA](#) (Validated: Thu 04 Feb 2021) Yew Tree Cottage Farleigh Road. T: Lime: crown reduce by 3m, leaving an approx finished height 10m spread 7m T2 bring adjacent Lime in to line leaving a finished height of approx 10m spread 5m. *PC response - no objection as long as the work is carried out outside of birds' nesting season which begins on 1st March until 30th August.*

[21/00119/HSE](#) (Validated: Thu 04 Feb 2021) 10 Station Road. Erection of single storey rear extension and two storey side extension following demolition of existing stores. *PC response - no objection.*

[21/00246/HSE](#) (Validated 21 Jan 2021) The Mount, Farleigh Road, Rear Extension. *PC response - no objection.*

[T/00039/21/TCA](#) (Approved 23rd Feb, Validated 18 Jan 2021) Sussex House, Farleigh Road. Cypress located in rear garden. fell to ground level and stump grind roots, low amenity value, blocking light and effecting beech hedging and plants. Replant with one standard Magnolia stellata within 3m of cypress position. *PC response - no objection.*

[20/03441/HSE](#) (Validated 19th Dec 2020) 4 Hackwood Lane. Single storey front and rear extensions and loft conversion to include raising of the roof with roof lights and Juliette balcony to rear elevation. *Concern re balcony and overlooking*

[20/03197/PIP](#) (Pending, Validated 19 Nov 2020) Permission in Principle for erection of 2 no. dwellings. Land Adjacent 14 Hackwood Lane. *Parish Council response in summary that: This site is in the Open Countryside, contributing to broad landscape views and wildlife corridors. Developing the site would detract from the rural sense of place of this part of Hackwood Lane and be detrimental to neighbour amenity.*

Scheduled for DC of 10th March. Mark Ruffell, Alan and Brian Karley to speak

Old Basing Applications (MSA M3J6)

[20/03130/FUL](#) (Validated 04 Dec 2020) Land At M3 Junction 6 From Junction 5 Off Slip Basingstoke Hampshire. Construction of temporary access road to enable construction of Basingstoke Motorway Service Area (Land At M3 Junction 6 From Junction 5 Off Slip)

[17/03487/FUL](#) (Pending, Validated 02 Nov 2017) Land Adjacent To Junction 6 M3 Basingstoke Hampshire Construction of a new Motorway Service Area to comprise an amenity building, lodge, drive thru coffee unit, associated car, coach, motorcycle, caravan, HGV and abnormal load parking, and a fuel filling station with retail shop, together with alterations to the adjoining roundabout on the M3 and slip roads to form an access point and works to the highway. Provision of landscaping, infrastructure and ancillary works.

Dummer Applications – warehousing etc

[20/02586/FUL](#) (Pending, validated 28 Sept) Land At Oakdown Farm, Winchester Road, Dummer. Demolition of three dwellings, out-buildings and related structures and construction of a storage and distribution warehouse including mezzanine floorspace (use class B8) with ancillary offices (use class B1) within Plot 1 of the site, with associated infrastructure works including site access, parking provision, landscaping, site reprofiling, drainage works and diversion of underground pipeline.

[20/02162/OUT](#) (Pending, Validated 07 Aug) Land At Oakdown Farm A30 Dummer [J7] Outline planning application for the demolition of three dwellings, out-buildings and related structures and construction of commercial and industrial units including mezzanine floorspace (use class B8) with ancillary offices (use class B1), associated infrastructure works (including parking and landscaping), and full details of site levels, drainage and diversion of underground pipe-line. All matters reserved except for access arrangements.

APPENDIX IV - ACCOUNTS TO DATE

CLIDDESSEN PC – EXPENDITURE 2020/21 - 02 MARCH 2021

Date	Supplier	Description	No	Payment		Finance/							TOTAL	
				means	Salary	Expenses	Admin	N'letter	Community	SIS	NP	VAT		
28/05/20	Clerk	Salary increase 2019/20	1	804c	£202.80									£202.80
28/05/20	Clerk	SalaryApr-May 2020	2	805c	£581.10									£581.10
		CANCELLED		806										
28/05/20	ST for 1&1 Internet	W/site(closing)Feb/Mar/Ap	3	807c									£9.00	
		closing refund	4										£2.21	
28/05/20	ST for HALC online	HALC (incl NALC) subs	5	808c										£257.39
28/05/20	Shabby Gourmet	For SEEN Grant	6	809c										£3,000.00
28/05/20	ST for Royal Mail	Freeport licence NP	7	810c										£119.40
28/05/20	Haines Consultancy	Issues&OptionsReview(NP)	8	811c									£119.40	£1,080.00
22/07/20	Personalised Print	April£45,May£42,Jun£30	9	BACS										£117.00
22/07/20	ST for BHIB	Parish Council Insurance	10	BACS										£359.87
22/07/20	Clerk	SalaryJune-July 2020	11	BACS	£581.10									£581.10
21/09/20	CPRE	Subscription	12	DD										£36.00
06/10/20	Clerk	SalaryAug-Sept2020	13	BACS	£581.10									£581.10
06/10/20	SB - for	SID padlock - replace chq	14	BACS										£38.00
10/10/20	Personalised Print	Jul£25,Aug£24, Sep£24, Oct£26	15	BACS										£99.00
10/10/20	Personalised Print	NP-questionnaire - print	16	BACS										£833.00
20/10/20	JK Murray	Internal Audit	17	BACS										£130.00
28/10/20	Clerk	Salary Oct	18	BACS	£290.55									£290.55
28/11/20	Clerk	Salary Nov	19	BACS	£290.55									£290.55
01/12/20	Royal Mail	Questionnaire postage NP	20	BACS										£13.71
26/12/20	Clerk	Salary Dec	21	BACS	£290.55									£290.55
26/12/20	Personalised Print	Nov£32, Dec£32.50, Jan£32.50	22	BACS										£97.00
04/01/21	CPRE	Standing order	23	SO										£2.00
28/01/21	Clerk	Salary Jan	24	BACS	£290.55									£290.55
10/02/21	Personalised Print	Newsletter Feb 2021	25	BACS										£24.75
28/02/21	Clerk	Salary Feb	24	BACS	£290.55									£290.55
TOTALS					£3,398.85	£0.00	£781.30	£337.75	£3,038.00	£38.00	£1,752.11	£300.79	£9,646.80	

£9,646.80

TREASURERS ACCOUNT 30-90-53 00320253
PARISH COUNCIL OF CLIDDESSEN

£ 423.60 Current balance

BUS BANK INSTANT 30-90-53 02914789
CLIDDESSEN PARISH COUNCIL

£ 17,762.68 Balance

CLIDDESSEN PC – INCOME 2020/21 - 02 MARCH 2021

Brought forward from 2019/20							£7,270.03
Date	Item	Precept	Grants	Returned funds	Interest	VAT	Total
01/04/20	Cheque 800-underpaid 1p			£0.01			£0.01
27/04/20	Parish Precept (six months)	£4,326.00					£4,326.00
03/08/20	SSEN grant		£3,000.00				£3,000.00
03/06/20	AM re SID(2)		£2,925.00				£2,925.00
14/09/20	Parish Precept (six months)	£4,326.00					£4,326.00
06/10/20	Refund cheque 796 - padlocks 2019/20			£38.00			£38.00
30/10/20	Groundwork Uk		£5,946.00				£5,946.00
2020/21	Bank interest				£2.04		£2.04
2020/21	VAT reclaim						£0.00
TOTALS		£8,652.00	£11,871.00	£38.01	£2.04	£0.00	£20,563.05

£20,563.05

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS SUMMARY		
Bal brought forward 1st April 2020	£7,270.03	April £0.18
Plus income	£20,563.05	May £0.25
Minus expenditure	£9,646.80	June £0.33
Balance	£18,186.28	Jul £0.23
		Aug £0.24
BANK RECONCILIATION		Sept £0.09
Treasurers (cheque) account	£423.60	Oct £0.12
Bus bank account	£17,762.68	Nov £0.13
	£18,186.28	Dec £0.15
		Jan £0.17
		Feb £0.15
		Mar
		Total £2.04

Holding in account for NP **£4,193.89**
 VAT TO BE CLAIMED **£300.79**

APPENDIX V - NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT

COUNTRY WATCH



POACHERS I will say again that we are incredibly fortunate to have PC Reid as a dedicated rural beat officer – and also to have the Portsmouth Estate security (Dave) – both of whom do their utmost to deter, disrupt and (in PC Reid's case) detain poachers. Other areas of the south do not have such support from the police and suffer nightly from these armed criminals.

On the evening of 22nd February (Monday) I heard three gun shots from the area to the south east of the village at approximately 7.30pm. A quick message to the estate security confirmed that there were no legitimate pest controllers due to be working on the estate land. PC Reid was called and along with the security patrol made their way to the area to investigate. A silver Subaru Forrester made off heading towards Alton on the A339. This vehicle is linked to poaching.



RISKS OF USING POISON FOR RODENT CONTROL PC Reid will be looking into a resident's reports that cats within the village may have been poisoned over recent weeks. One possible cause may be secondary poisoning. This can occur when poison is used to control rats and other rodents. If a rat (or other animal) is killed by the poison there can be sufficient residual poison in their body that if another animal (such as a cat, dog, fox, bird of prey etc) eats the carcass, the poison can affect them as well.

Please be very careful when using poisons or when employing professional pest controllers to do so, and consider alternative methods of control that reduce the risks to non-target species. I am happy to discuss these in detail with anyone considering using poison.

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR I have been made aware of a potential issue of anti-social behaviour from small groups gathering in the village. PC Reid is now aware and will monitor the situation and will look to engage with any groups causing a nuisance. We regularly deal with similar issues around the school and Farleigh church and by doing so prevent them escalating into larger gathering points and attracting criminal activity.



WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP This is my regular plea to report anything suspicious and any criminal acts, no matter how small they may appear. If the police are not made aware they cannot intervene and small issues can quickly escalate into bigger and more serious problems. While the police may not be able to immediately respond to every issue, if enough reports are received, PC Reid can use them to justify requesting additional support to deal with patterns of crime (such as anti-social behaviour or poaching).

- If a crime is being committed you should call 999.
- If you have witnessed suspicious activity or a crime has been committed please call 101 or use Hampshire Police's online reporting tool at: Report a crime | Hampshire Constabulary

Finally, PC Reid's contact details are in every copy of the Parish Newsletter and Hill & Dale as are mine.

Simon sibarksy@hotmail.com

APPENDIX VI - BASING AND UPTON GREY WARD

