



Photos by Peter Hyde

WELCOME!

We are pleased to see the onset of spring and the promise of warmer days. At the same time, we know most of the village is preoccupied with the future of Hamble Airfield and the current planning application to quarry sand and gravel from the site.

On Monday 28 February, Hamble Parish Council hosted a public meeting to discuss the application. We heard presentations from Hampshire County Council (HCC) as the Planning Authority, Eastleigh Borough Council, and the planning consultant the parish has appointed to assess the application. We were also delighted to welcome Paul Holmes MP, Councillor Rob Humby (Deputy Leader of Hampshire County Council), Mr Alaric Govan (Headteacher from The Hamble School), and Dr Mark Tomson (Senior Partner from Blackthorn Surgery).

The speakers' presentations and public questions were focused on concerns around: congestion, air quality and road safety and the duration of works for three generations of school children in the village. Concerns were raised about the impact of quarrying for neighbours in close proximity and the potential impact on residents' health. Questions were also raised about the 'aftercare period' for the site, and how would Hampshire County Council ensure the proper management of the site for long enough. Suggestions included: the use of bonds, planning agreements and consideration of designating the site as a village green. Residents also asked how demand can be switched from quarrying for aggregates to recycling and reuse, and what steps can government take to move the construction sector in this direction.

The event was broadcast, and you can watch this recording here: https://youtu.be/ITVY9P_jlHU.

If you haven't yet submitted your response – please make sure you do. Every voice counts. Although the deadline for responses is Friday 4 March 2022, the Case Officer at HCC will continue to accept comments after this date. Details of how respond are as follows:

Email: planning@hants.gov.uk – quote ref: HCC/2021/0787

Online: <https://planning.hants.gov.uk/planning/display/HCC/2021/0787>

Write to: Peter Bond, Strategic Planning, Economy, Transport & Environment Department, Hampshire County Council, Elizabeth II Court West, The Castle, Winchester SO23 8UD – quote ref: HCC/2021/0787

Cllr Simon Hand

Chair of Hamble Parish Council

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PARISH COUNCIL CONTACT DETAILS

☎ 023 8045 3422 🌐 hambleparishcouncil.gov.uk ✉ clerk@hamblepc.org.uk 📺 @hamblepc

COUNCIL LED NEWS

ON TIME AND IN BUDGET! OUR COMPLETE FORESHORE BENCH PROJECT

The project to replace 16 benches at the Foreshore is now complete – in good time for Hamble residents and visitors to enjoy as the warmer weather returns.

All plaques that were on the previous benches were removed and will be placed on a new plinth for families to visit.

The project was completed on time and within budget, with our partner on this project, local company Wren Construction. They delivered more than was originally quoted, including: the addition of raised borders, topsoil for all three beds, and the donation of 600 bulbs.

Our thanks to Eastleigh Borough Council who contributed £40,000 towards the benches and a further £2,445 for the planters and plants.

There will be an official opening and ribbon cutting as part of the Platinum Jubilee celebrations. In the meantime, please enjoy the benches, and let us know what you think – we'd love to share some of your photos on Facebook and in future newsletters.



We are currently looking for sponsorship of the new benches – at a cost of £4,500 per bench. If you are interested and would like more information, please contact the Parish Clerk. This is a great opportunity to raise your profile through sponsorship and support the community.

WARDEN'S WATCH

Hello Hamble.



I want to kick off this article by saying a big thank you to all the friendly folk of Hamble who I've met since starting my role last May. You have all made me feel so incredibly welcome and I'm hugely grateful.

For those of you that aren't aware, during the darker winter months the Parish Council switches on the floodlights at the Roy Underdown Pavilion from 5-7pm every evening at the hard courts for anyone to enjoy a kick about, play games etc. It's a great way to unwind and make use of Council facilities after school or work, even if it's dark or dusk.

Elsewhere, the grounds team have been busy reviewing several methods of line marking the Parish's football pitches. The reason behind this is to reduce the time required to keep the pitches marked and ready for the weekend fixture list, especially after all previous traces can be washed away with a bout of heavy rainfall.

Lastly a bit of a pop challenge: Below are some lyrics from an Eighties record. The first person to email me the answer will be mentioned in my next article or blog.

Accroche-toi à ton rêve!

Mark Cowley, Parish Warden
parishwarden@hambleparishcouncil.gov.uk

TELL US YOUR JUBILEE PLANS!

Over the next few weeks, we'll be creating an interactive plan of what Hamble residents and local businesses have planned for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. This will help us co-ordinate a celebration that the whole village can enjoy. We'll also be uploading an event Toolkit to our website to help you organise your own street party, tree planting, beacon lighting, or Big Lunch.



What do you have planned? Let us know via email or the Contact Page on our website, so we can add your event to our interactive guide.

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTION DEADLINES

May: 18 April

June: 16 May

COUNCIL LED NEWS CONT.

SPEEDWATCH – YOUR COMMUNITY NEEDS YOU!

Do you have any spare time? Would you like to help keep Hamble safe?

The Speedwatch Scheme empowers dedicated members of the community to help keep local residents safe from dangerous drivers by training them on the use of a radar gun. This can then be used to monitor traffic along Hamble Lane and other traffic hotspots. The data you capture will go straight to the Police to issue warnings or fines for dangerous drivers, so you can be sure that your volunteering will have a real impact.

The role is voluntary with no requirement to work a certain number of hours. Full training and equipment will be provided.

If you are interested, please contact Steve Cluer – Speedwatch organiser: steve.robin.cluer@btinternet.com

If you have any general questions around the Speedwatch Scheme, please feel free to contact me directly. I am working closely with Steve to help get the Scheme up and running in the Peninsula.

Cllr Craig Palmer:
Craig.Palmer@hambleparishcouncil.gov.uk

LOOKING FOR A SPACE TO HIRE?

Look no further! Roy Underdown Pavilion is an ideal space for children's parties, team building days, interviews, training sessions, meetings, family gatherings, corporate events, and community groups.

The cost of hire is just £20 for the first hour and £10 per hour thereafter. A refundable deposit of £50 is all we need to secure the booking.

Visit the Parish Council website to check out availability, make a provisional booking and read the terms and conditions.



Roy Underdown Pavilion Available for Hire!

- Children's Parties
- Meetings
- Corporate Events
- Community Groups

To Book,
Call 023 8045 3422

HAMBLE BUSINESS DIRECTORY – PROMOTE YOUR BUSINESS!

Your feedback to the Parish Publication Review highlighted that many residents would like to see the Council doing more to promote Hamble-based businesses.

In response, we plan to expand the business listings in the newsletter and introduce an online business directory where Hamble companies can provide their contact details and outline what they do.

We'll then spotlight businesses listed in our directory on our Facebook page to help raise their visibility among the local community.

The cost will be £120 plus VAT for 1 year of coverage. We're offering 3 months free if you are a new business which has started trading since 1 January 2021. If you would like your business to be included, please contact claire@smartmarketinguk.com.

HELP US TO KEEP OUR PATHS CLEAN

Many of you have reported that there continues to be an issue with dogs messing in the village and by the benches on the Foreshore.

Dog mess is the most unacceptable and offensive type of litter on our streets. It is not only unpleasant but can be dangerous. Whilst rare, contact with dog excrement can cause toxocarasis – a nasty infection that can lead to dizziness, nausea, asthma, and even blindness or seizures.

If you know which owners and whose dogs are responsible, please let us know by email or via the contact form on our website, so we can report it to the Eastleigh Borough Council Dog Warden.

GRANT AWARDED TO HAMBLE CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERS

The Parish Council has awarded a £500 grant to Hamble Conservation Volunteers to help them fund items including hi-viz vests, litter pickers, gloves, and saws. The volunteers do a fantastic job helping to maintain and look after our village through: 'beach cleans' and maintaining trees, hedges, heathland, and Hamble Common.

FUTURE OF HAMBLE AIRFIELD: WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

WHAT IS CEMEX PROPOSING?

- Cemex plans to extract up to **1.69million tonnes** of sharp sand and gravel from Hamble Airfield
 - Up to **144 lorry movements per day** on Hamble Lane
 - A new **quarry entrance will be located between both schools** on the east side of Hamble Lane opposite the Police headquarters
 - 'Quarry activity' will be as **close as 40 metres from certain homes**
 - Once the quarry closes, Cemex intends to **restore the site to grazing and parkland**, with a small area for public access
 - All **HGVs accessing the site will travel along Hamble Lane** and over Hamble 'Halt' railway bridge.
 - This entire process is likely to take **up to 14 years** to complete
-

HOW WILL THIS AFFECT YOU AND YOUR FAMILY?

- **Traffic implications and road?**
 - Do you think the proposals will influence traffic on Hamble Lane? If so, how? Will extra HGV vehicles put you off walking or cycling on Hamble Lane?
 - Would you be concerned for your children walking or cycling to school?
 - If buses are regularly delayed (including college buses) how will this impact your family?
 - **For your home?**
 - How will the operations of the quarry impact the way you enjoy your property and garden?
 - Should the *buffer zone be bigger? (*i.e. the gap between your property and the quarry site)
 - How will working on Saturday mornings disturb you?
 - Do you believe the quarry will have an adverse effect on air quality?
 - **For water management (hydrology)?**
 - Are you concerned that quarrying on the Airfield will increase the risk of flooding, water run-off or subsidence? Why are you concerned about this?
 - What water management controls would you like to see put in place?
 - **For recreation?**
 - Are you a regular user of Hamble Airfield for recreation (e.g. walking your dog)? Where would you go instead and what could be the impact of this on other sites?
 - **For the environment and biodiversity?**
 - Do you believe there is enough protection for existing ecology on the site and surrounding area? Are the proposals for securing biodiversity after extraction adequate?
 - Do you want more public access than being proposed after quarrying has finished and who should manage the site afterwards?
-

STILL HAVE QUESTIONS OR WANT REGULAR UPDATES?

Visit our website: cemex.hambleparishcouncil.gov.uk

Follow: Hamble Parish Council on Facebook

HOW TO MAKE A GOOD REPRESENTATION

If you're thinking of sending in an objection to the Cemex application, we'd suggest that you follow these simple principles to make it as effective as possible:

1. The principle of gravel and sand being extracted from Hamble Airfield was decided back in 2013 by a Planning Inspection at a Public Examination. Although you might disagree with the decision it is counterproductive to raise this issue now or to suggest alternative sites. We need to focus on what is unacceptable to us as a community in the current proposals.
2. Base your objection on something that you personally experience – for instance, traffic delays or using the site for recreation. Don't generalise; stick to what you know and use examples from your own experience to illustrate your point.
3. Highlight specific concerns about how the application will affect the way you enjoy your property or go about your daily life. You don't need to exaggerate – just be clear about what worries you. So, for example if you have respiratory illness and are worried about the impact of the dust, explain the potential impact on your daily activities when your breathing is bad.
4. If you know about specific events or incidents which you think might be relevant, give the details of these – for example, local flooding or a problem on the road you use. If there are data sources that support what you know, refer to them.
5. Only certain things can be considered when the planning decision is made. This will include issues such as traffic, controlling dust and noise, flood risk, loss of habitat and how the land will be restored and used in the future. Try to keep your points focused on the impact of the application on the site and on Hamble rather than giving your views on wider concerns.
6. Don't go over the top. Your objection won't get more attention and it may obscure a good local point.
7. Remember that you'll be part of a cumulative effort to bring relevant issues to the attention of the County Council so don't feel the need to comment on every aspect of the application – only those aspects which you believe will impact you.
8. Write your own objection. It's much better to give your own reasons than to sign a standard letter or petition.
9. There's no need to rush. You should aim to submit your response to the County Council by March 4 2022 but they will still accept representations after this date. Keep an eye on our website where we'll post regular information updates which might help. Taking a little time before you write might mean you can make your points more effectively.
10. You might also want to look at what other people have said in their responses to the application. You can do this by looking at the application online at <https://planning.hants.gov.uk/Planning> (Planning Application Reference: HCC/2021/0787).

NEW HAMBLE AIRFIELD FAQs FROM RESIDENTS

What is the exact type of vehicle proposed to be used by Cemex for moving material along Hamble Lane and what is the weight fully loaded?

We met with Cemex at the start of February and asked a similar question. They replied that they only use contractors whose fleet meet the Euro 6 Standard which limits the amount of harmful emissions produced by the vehicles. The trucks are 44 tonnes when loaded.

Is there an opportunity for a "Class Action" to be made on behalf of the whole village, using a significant law firm, skilled in tackling these planning applications and creating significant media attention? A law firm that is not intimidated at this level. Would a single "Class Action" offer a more focussed and heavyweight representation for current objectors, many whose focus may rely on a single issue?

Class Action isn't an appropriate tool for this situation. It would be used where there has been large scale loss or damage typically in situations such as breaches to competition law, data privacy and breach, financial services, shareholder, environmental, personal injury, and product liability claims. It would not relate to a statutory process such as planning, as this is mandated by national government, law, and guidance.

It may well be that we look to retain a QC at some point – especially if the application goes to Appeal for determination. However, at this stage there is a formal process to follow and there would only be grounds for a legal challenge if Hampshire County Council does not follow this process correctly. Any legal challenge would normally be in the form of a Judicial Review via the High Court.

Homes near the airfield will probably lose value as a result of the quarry. Could Cemex be asked / required to pay compensation for the fall in value?

I contacted the case officer at Hampshire County Council with your question and received the following response:

"With regard to your question on 'compensation', this is more a legal matter but in my experience I have never

come across it in relation to the lawful issuing of a planning permission for any development where the proper processes have been followed. The planning system operates in a manner that ensures that all decisions ought to be made in the full cognisance of the relevant planning policies, consultee comments and local representations and in an open and public manner. The planning system aims to ensure that all decisions are made in the wider public interest and in accordance with the Local Plan and therefore compensation, in my opinion, is not something that will be available."

So I think the answer is no!

Where will the backfill be sourced from? What will it consist of? How are Cemex going to guarantee that materials used for backfill are completely free of toxins?

Cemex have told us that, should the application be approved, they will seek to enter into contracts with large infrastructure projects operating in the area that need to dispose of spoil. This is common practice. They will also look at a range of smaller projects to facilitate a regular flow of material back into the site as the restoration takes place.

All material coming to site would be subject to environmental permits and would be regularly checked and audited. As part of this process, Cemex would need to maintain a full audit trail of where infill has come from, what the material comprised, and where on the site it was used. The material would also be sampled when it comes to site to ensure it is free from contaminants.

The key to preventing any further development on the Airfield is NOT to make any improvements to Hamble Lane. How are these HGV trucks going to muscle their way onto a congested Hamble Lane? Will it be inevitable that we'll have install a roundabout or traffic lights? Will the HGVS be avoiding shift/changeover hours from Hamble's commerce, and the school's entry/exit hours?

The transport assessment submitted by Cemex indicates that the majority of vehicles will be arriving and leaving the site in the morning, including during the period when children will be going to school.

NEW HAMBLE AIRFIELD FAQs FROM RESIDENTS

We are waiting to see the consultation response from the Highways team at Hampshire County Council as this will be a critical response.

We have also written to the Highways team separately to ask a number of questions and will share these when we have received a response.

Eastleigh Borough Council is retaining a transport consultant to look at the transport assessment and Hampshire County Council's response to it. We are working closely with them on this.

What is the District Director of Public Health's assessment of dust upon the school? Will the DDPH be liaising with the Blackthorn Surgery over Asthmatic cases?

Eastleigh Borough Council's Pollution Control Team have responded to the application as follows:

"At this time the Pollution Team are unable to ascertain from the information provided that potential significant adverse impacts from air pollution and noise will be avoided, and that adverse impacts will be otherwise minimised to acceptable levels. On this basis we are unable to support the application at this time."

What does it take to get an Independent Government inspector to review this application?

Hampshire County Council's Waste and Minerals Plan was subject to an independent review in 2013, and this sadly resulted in Hamble Airfield being allocated as a quarry for sand and gravel.

If Hampshire County Council reject the Planning Application from Cemex, the applicant has the right to ask the Planning Inspector to reconsider it.

Will this parkland be designated a 'Green Field Site' and/or a 'Green Belt' and can this be bound in legal contract? Once all these 20,000 trees are planted, will Persimmon Homes cut them all down to build houses?

The wording of the Waste and Mineral Plan for the restoration of the site is that it will provide a "combination of grazing, nature conservation, open space, public

access and woodland". We will be talking to Hampshire County Council about the use of both Section 106 agreements (which are specific to the development) and the use of Planning Conditions (that are attached to the land title) in an attempt to safeguard the Airfield from residential development post-quarrying.

The quarry is to be phased over 7 years and I doubt the community will accept the odd Christmas Tree that Cemex is proposing as compensation. What community gains has Hamble Parish Council requested?

In our response to the consultation exercise, we asked for the following:

Following restoration, the whole of the site should be set aside for public access and use, managed by a public body. The public has long enjoyed access across the whole site, and we would wish this to be protected and guaranteed going forward.

Cemex say the quarry will create 7 jobs, but at what cost to the village? What's the estimated number of businesses and jobs what leave the community as a result of this quarry?

Eastleigh Borough Council's Economic Development team has made the following comment:

"Cemex cites five principal economic benefits in its proposal: supplying the local construction industry with material, creating jobs, creating indirect spend in the local area through these new employees, paying business rates and a national aggregate levy. Of these, the locally sourced supply of construction material and the business rates revenue are the most compelling. The employment creation is low and the likely local spend correspondingly low whilst the national aggregate levy does not necessarily return to the local area. Increased travel movements on a single access road that already suffers from congestion is likely to lower the productivity of local commuters. On balance, the economic disadvantages appear to outweigh the benefits."

Hamble Parish Council will be issuing a business briefing to local businesses and have made a direct approach to a number of larger local employers, including Coopervision and BP.

NEW HAMBLE AIRFIELD FAQs FROM RESIDENTS

Are funds required to flight this application or mount a publicity/awareness campaign, like banners and leaflets etc?

Hamble Parish Council has set aside funds to respond to the application. We think there will be a need for a more active campaign once we get nearer to the application being considered by Hampshire County Council and are starting to think about how best to do this. We certainly would be happy to see local people and businesses helping with this stage of the campaign.

I use Hamble Airfield regularly to exercise my dog, along with many other dogwalkers. Could EBC designate the Airfield as a dedicated dog-walking park?

We know that many people have informally used this space over a long period of time and it is a valuable green asset for both people and wildlife.

We will be looking to do a survey of users of the airfield shortly to understand what the impact will be in terms of where people will go instead and how frequently.

In terms of a longer term approach to the site the Hampshire Waste and Minerals Plan states that after quarrying the site will be used as a “combination of grazing, nature conservation, open space, public access and woodland”. This wording is also reflected in Eastleigh

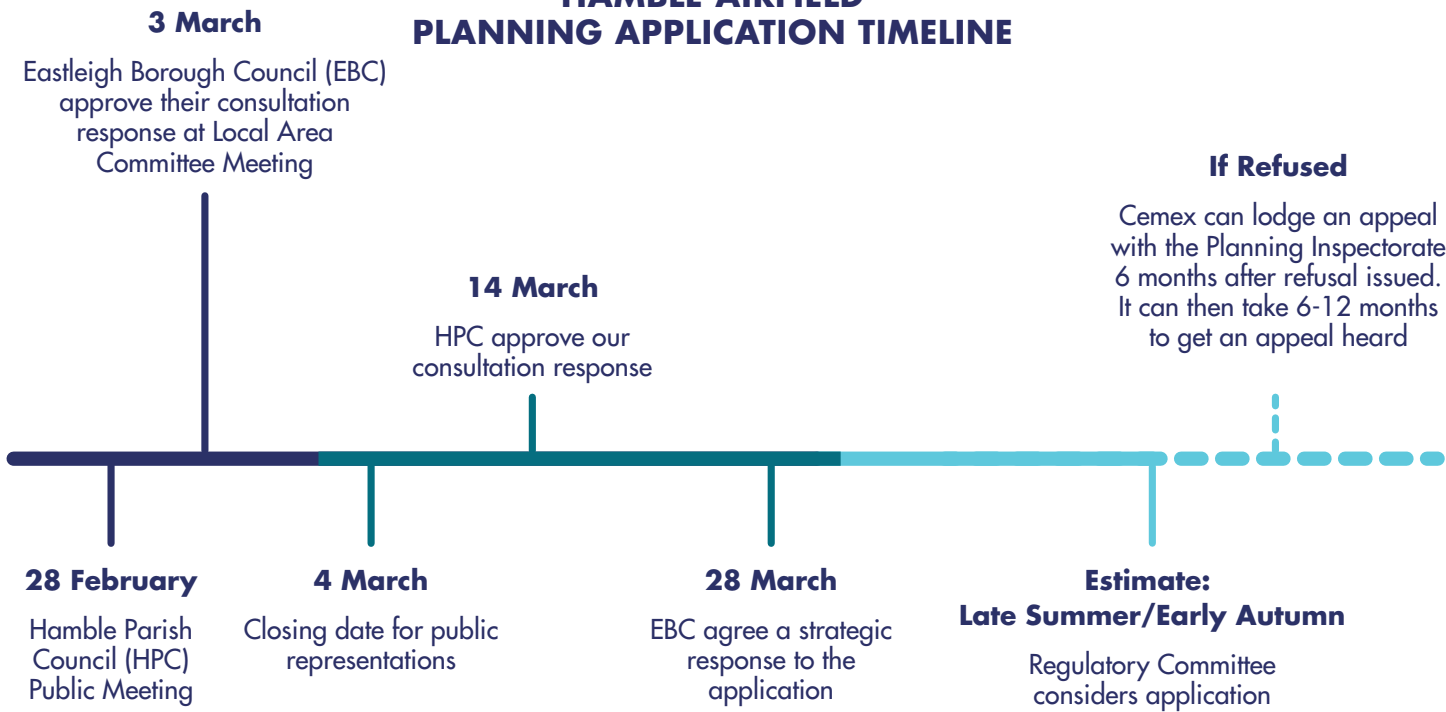
Borough Council’s emerging Local Plan. Hamble Parish Council has as part of its response to the first Cemex consultation in November 2021 asked that the site be passed over into public ownership with a view to safeguarding public access for the future. We will also be seeking a thirty year management plan for the site, as a minimum.

How can Cemex promise the land will be put back to recreational usage when it’s not even their land – it’s owned by Persimmon. Also, what happens if Cemex gets taken over or goes bust – how can they make promises for something that will happen in several years time.

The wording of the Mineral and Waste Plan states that the restoration of the site will provide a “combination of grazing, nature conservation, open space, public access and woodland”. This will be secured by Hampshire County Council through the use of both Section 106 agreements (which are specific to the development) and the use of Planning Conditions (that are attached to the land title).

If Cemex were to cease trading their assets would be either be sold to another company with the restrictions in place or they would revert to the land owner which is Persimmon.

HAMBLE AIRFIELD PLANNING APPLICATION TIMELINE



COMMUNITY NEWS

HAMBLE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

At our February meeting, Toby Marris, Hamble resident and skipper of the 'Jolie Brise', gave an excellent and insightful presentation on the fascinating story of this



100+ year old sailing boat. Based in Hamble, it is arguably one of the most famous tall ships in the world. The 'Jolie Brise' is owned by the Dauntsey's School and she has taken up to twelve students for local and international cruising, as well as racing events since 1977.

Toby talked about the history of the 'Jolie Brise' that was built in 1913. He then explained about the Dauntsey's

School and how it acquired the 'Jolie Brise' in 1977 and became its owner. She has been based on the Hamble River since 1994 and has been as far north as the Arctic Circle, west to North America and south to the West African coast.

She is at sea approximately 200 days a year. During the winter months there are student working parties on the boat at Hamble to help maintain her in good condition. The boat has sometimes been used commercially to help cover costs, but this private work has reduced in recent years as it takes 15- to 25-year-olds on outreach work for other organisations.

Dauntsey's students have sailed her across the Atlantic six times and cruised Europe extensively. It is a great supporter and regular participant of the Tall Ships race that she has won four times.

WHAT TO DO IN YOUR GARDEN IN MARCH

The days are getting longer and sunnier, and summer is on the horizon! If you're lucky enough to have a small garden to enjoy, it's time to start doing one or two jobs to get it back into good order following the cold, dark days of winter.

Here's the Top 8 jobs to do in your garden in March, as suggested by the RHS:

1. Prune bush and climbing roses
2. Plant shallots, onion sets and early potatoes
3. Plant summer-flowering bulbs
4. Lift and divide overgrown clumps of perennials
5. Top dress containers with fresh compost
6. Mow the lawn on dry days (if needed)
7. Cut back Cornus (dogwood) and Salix (willow) grown for colourful winter stems
8. Hoe and mulch weeds to keep them under control early

GLOBAL RECYCLING DAY: FRIDAY 18 MARCH



With Global Recycling Day nearly upon us, what can you and your family do to increase the amount of waste you recycle? Here's a few tips on where to start:

1. Check before you recycle

Many items such as textiles, electricals, pots and pans regularly end up in household bins. These items can be recycled but they need to be taken to your local Household Waste and Recycling Centre. If you're unsure how to recycle something, it's always best to check Eastleigh Borough Council's website.

2. Ensure recycling is empty, clean & dry

You don't need to scrub or sterilise your recycling, but items do need to be free from food residue. Rinse plastic tubs clean of leftovers and leave them to dry before placing them into your recycling bin for collection.

3. Remove plastic film

Plastic film can't be recycled, so make sure you always remove plastic film from bottles, plastic pots, tubs and trays before recycling.

4. Keep lids on plastic bottles

Lids are recyclable, but when they aren't screwed onto the bottle, they slip through the recycling machinery. To make sure all your lids are recycled properly, keep them on!



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COMMUNITY NEWS

HAMBLE CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERS

Following discussions with the Hamble Parish Head Groundsman, we have changed our programme so that one Monday every month is dedicated to Parish tasks. Heather Gardens in particular requires attention such as removing some of the self-seeded saplings, trimming bramble, and the daunting effort of trying to remove the bamboo from the southern end. Another task is 'haloing' around the mature trees to allow the trees to take up full nutrient from the soil. Our revised annual programme of tasks is now displayed on our website, and the meeting place for the Parish tasks is at the Roy Underdown Pavilion at SO31 4RN.

If you would like to know more about us, please either visit hambleconservationvolunteers.org.uk or call Philip Rawlinson on 07810 453138.



How Can I Get Involved?

- Beach/Village cleans – 1st Monday of the month.
Meet at the Waterworks Car Park at 10am.
Duration: 60-90 minutes
- Specific tasks – 2nd Monday of the month.
Meet at the Waterworks Car Park at 10am.
Duration: typically 2-3 hours, but whatever time you can spare would be appreciated
- Parish tasks – 3rd Monday of the month.
Meet at the Pavilion Car Park, Spitfire Way, at 10am.
Duration: approximately 4 hours

TIME TO GET WALKING AGAIN!

At this time of year, we start to think about the mud drying up and getting out to walk in the beautiful English Countryside again, but where to find new and interesting walks?

Walking in Hampshire walkinginengland.co.uk/hants has hundreds of walks to download and print, free of charge. There are also books of walks, details of all the walking groups in the county, and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group, all the information is there in one place.



With walks from half a mile to over twelve miles long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.

FUN AND (BOARD) GAMES AT THE MERCURY!

Great news from The Mercury Library and Community Hub! Our Monday afternoon Crib Club has been so well received, we have been asked to expand it to include other board games such as chess, draughts and, in fact, any games that people would like to bring along.

Quill and Chill is continuing to be very successful – look at some of the lovely examples on display in our cabinet! Everyone is becoming very skilful and producing some beautiful work. Irene runs special sessions on the last Saturday of each month, and these are very popular.

One of the volunteers has done an amazing job at sorting out all of our stock and replenishing the shelves so come along and take a look at what we now have to offer. We also have a lot of new puzzles kindly donated which you can take home to complete.

The Mercury is a great place to visit, and it is so lovely to see people come through the doors with a smile on their face and leave with an even bigger one after enjoying some time there, so if you haven't already visited us, make sure you come along. You won't regret it!

HAMBLE'S JACK CONTINUES TO CONQUER THE ATLANTIC!

In a world-first, Hamble resident Jack Jarvis is currently rowing 4,500 nautical miles solo and unsupported across the Atlantic Ocean in aid of Braintrust and Calm.

At the time of writing, Jack had rowed 3,000 nautical miles, and is well on his way to completing his challenge. To 'buoy' his spirits, he has received video messages from a number of famous people, including Sir Steve Redgrave and David Beckham, and also made an appearance on BBC Breakfast with Naga and Charlie via satellite phone.

Jack has now been alone for 74 days, and while he has enough food for the rest of his journey, he is set to run out of biscuits before the end of his challenge!

You can track Jack's progress live on unitedweconquer.co.uk or his Instagram account 'United We Conquer'. I'm sure you will all join us in wishing Jack all the very best on the rest of his journey.



COMMUNITY NEWS

HAMBLE LADIES GROUP

The February meeting of Hamble Ladies Group was another busy afternoon with a large attendance once again. Lots of ladies coming along to catch up with friends and to listen to Alan Mehlin telling us about his journey in making rocking horses.

Alan brought along one of his beautiful traditional rocking horses and an Able Horse which he had made for a severely disabled child.

Alan made his first rocking horse for his children 25 years ago, which led to making horses for family and friends. This hobby is now a small business.

There are 9 different styles of rocking horse, which all have to have the CE Mark. It can take up to 2-3 months to make a horse from start to finish, but Alan explained how passionate he is when making them and the joy he gets when they are delivered to customers, and he sees how excited the children are. All the horses are made to order, finished with real hair, leather tack and name plates to personalise each one. The larger horses have cavities to accommodate a time capsule.

Alan kindly donated his fee to the Veterans' Society which he is very involved in. You can view Alan's beautiful horses on his website which is www.pavia-lee.co.uk. Have a look – they are amazing.

Our next meeting is on 8 March 2022 at 2pm in the Priory Centre. We will welcome Phillippa Pountain who will be talking to us about her Balloon Treats.

HAMBLE-LE-RICE FLOWER CLUB

What fun we had on Valentine's Day creating our masterpieces! I wonder if any of our members received any flowers while we were all busy designing and making our own arrangements?!

Our AGM is on Monday 14 March at 2pm at Hamble Memorial Hall. We also have a short presentation about 'Simon Says' which is our chosen charity for the year. All are welcome.



Our Flower Arranging classes have started again in the Roy Underdown Pavilion on the third Monday of the month. This is a golden opportunity to learn a new skill or revisit an activity that has been on the back burner for some time. There are two sets of classes – one for beginners, and another for more experienced flower arrangers. Do contact Christine for more details.

Remember, if you are free on a Monday afternoon this could be for you. There is a varied programme, including demonstrations, talks, practical sessions, classes, and outings. Meetings are in Hamble Memorial Hall on the second Monday of the month at 1.30pm. Our aim is to be friendly and have fun!

For further information please contact a member of the committee. We would love to see you.

Sheila Barker (Chair) 02380 453718

UPCOMING DATES

Jack's Day Sunday 6 March 5.30am – 10.30pm

At the Victory Inn, Hamble.
Fundraising event in support of Jack Jarvis. 3 teams rowing continuously in relay style for 17 hours. Plus raffle, pipe band, face painting, food, evening BBQ

Hamble Ladies Group Tuesday 8 March 2pm

At the Priory Centre

Royal Victoria Country Park Heritage Walk Saturday 12 March 10.15am – 12.45pm

Meet outside Chapel. £4 a ticket

Hamble-Le-Rice Flower Club Annual Group Meeting Monday 14 March 2pm

At Hamble Memorial Hall

Clocks Go Forward Sunday 27 March

Mothering Sunday Sunday 27 March

Hamble Players Sandcastles 29 March – 2 April 7pm

Tickets are available now for £15 at ticketsource.co.uk/hambleplayers or the local Box Office: 023 8044 0660

Upcoming Parish Council Meetings at the Roy Underdown Pavilion

Asset Management Committee

Monday 7 March
7pm

Full Council

Monday 14 March
7pm

Planning Committee

Monday 28 March
7pm

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