

Bourne Parishes – WSCC Councillor report

Chidham and Hambrook Parish – July 2023

Parish	Issue	Type	Priority	Requested	Actioned
Chidham & Hambrook	Chidham school Community Highways Scheme	Highways	1	Nov-21	In progress
Chidham & Hambrook	Speed reductions and traffic calming - WSCC TFG	Highways	2	Sep-22	In progress
Chidham & Hambrook	ChEmRoute improvements & speed reductions	Highways	2	Nov-21	In progress
Chidham & Hambrook	Introduce Gigabit Broadband	Technology	2	Nov-21	With Parish
Chidham & Hambrook	Year 2 fund for free travel Bourne Community Bus	Transport	3	Nov-21	Launch June 2022
Chidham & Hambrook	Bourne Heritage Trail - 12 web pages and signs	Leisure	3	Jan-23	In progress
Chidham & Hambrook	Broad road traffic calming measures CHS	Transport	2	Feb-23	In progress
Chidham & Hambrook	Cycle path from Cala homes to Chidham school	Transport	3	Feb-21	Cancelled

Willowbrook Riding school

Following the planning meeting on 14th June to review 63 houses at Willowbrook off Priors Leaze lane and Broad Road, residents presented their views and, together with Tracie Bangert, I also spoke on highways and sewage. These objections have also been submitted to CDC for record. The decision on 14 June was to delay until a site visit was made by Councillors before bringing this back before planning in late Summer.

I am endeavouring to get sewage capacity information from Southern Water to support the view that there is minimal capacity remaining at Thornham sewage works and that no capacity increase work can be done until 2027. This will be in the form of a one page summary that identifies capacity based on the two approved Government methods of assessing capacity, which should make it difficult for it to be challenged by developers.

I was also dissatisfied with the initial response from WSCC re their highways submission and they have now agreed to send a representative to the next planning meeting to field questions.

There is a new submission from WSCC as Lead Local Flood Authority that raises an objection to this application on the basis that flooding may be an issue – “A lack of detailed information in relation to flooding from the ordinary watercourse and loss of floodplains as well as out of date information related to planning policy means that flood risk could significantly increase elsewhere”. Full details in the document: https://publicaccess.chichester.gov.uk/online-applications/files/EC48AFA538FD7DC057A6C9DDDC894BEC/pdf/21_01910_OUT-WSCC_LOCAL_LEAD_FLOOD_AUTHORITY-5206231.pdf

This WSCC flood objection document may also be of value in other planning applications in the area.

Pallant Homes Appeal

This appeal has been delayed to end July. The Inspector has committed to visit both sites again before the appeal finishes. Decision date unknown. I have submitted documents supporting spoken comments on sewage and roads.

Parking south of the railways crossing for residents is still an issue. Utilities under the road on the West side of Broad Road (sewage pipes and water mains) may prevent parking bays being created on Broad Meadow. Land on North side at Flatt Road entrance is not owned or managed by WSCC so vehicle parking could not be created there either.

A conversation with Henry Whitby (CDC Tree Protection Officer) suggests a ‘blanket’ TPO could be submitted before the Inspector’s decision on the appeal, in order to get a TPO to cover all of the trees around the Pallant proposed site, especially on the South and East sides.

Action: Jane to talk to Sue Bramwell Smith regarding all the TPOs that were attempted to be submitted in 2021 but refused originally as there were ‘too many’.

Cooks Lane Southbourne

We had a Teams meeting on XXX regarding this site for 200 homes which is in the early stages of site construction. Currently groundworks contractors John Reilly are on site. Robbie Dalton of contractors John Reilly (07961) 994255 and Rob Hall at Bloor Homes (rob.hall@bloorhomes.com) attended to discuss resident concerns over site access and timing on heavy construction traffic due to arrive from Summer 2023, for a construction period of around two years.

The approved construction traffic transport route in and out of the site is West down Cooks Lane and South via Stein Road, over the Southbourne rail crossing and then West on the A259. The main contact for contractors and queries is Maria at Southbourne Parish who will circulate additional information related to this development. Action points:

- WSCC 278 to link with Rob and Chris at Bloor re planning for road closure (likely August) and utilities install
- Bloor to provide utilities list (water, sewage, gas, LV, broadband, 5G etc) and clear description of work likely
- Bloor to provide utility contractor contacts names and a plan to ensure these are all installed in the same period
- Bloor to coordinate and confirm telco mast move date and sewage plant construction (no road closure needed)
- Bloor to contact Network Rail re any planned work related to Southbourne rail crossing
- Bloor to create simple plan with Southbourne Parish re managing rail crossing closures as required
- Bloor to contact Priors Leaze Lane Grain store re any potential impacts of road closures in August
- Bloor to detail vehicle numbers and types and sizes, with a monthly estimated plan for full construction period
- Bloor to create transport route driver brief, dos and don'ts for construction / utility contractors / subcontractors
- Bloor to do a precondition survey on Cooks Lane within the next month and provide to WSCC and Parishes
- Chidham and Hambrook to feed any additional issues via Maria at Southbourne Parish
- Construction hours:
 - 7:30 – 5:30 weekdays
 - 8:00 – 13:00 Saturdays
 - Sundays and Bank Holidays – con construction
- Three schools: no construction traffic 8:00 – 9:30 and 2:15 – 3:45
- Southbourne Parish to brief residents on Cooks Lane road closures once confirmed
- Southbourne Parish to talk to Cooks Lane residents re parking options
- WSCC to provide swept path analysis of Cooks Lane / Stein Road junction
- Signs required (may be temporary):
 - Coming off construction site: no left turn for construction traffic
 - West end of Cooks Lane: no right turn for construction traffic
 - A259 / Stein Road roundabout: no left turn for construction traffic
 - A259 / inlands road: no right turn for construction traffic
 - Broad Road / Priors Leaze Lane junction: no construction traffic
 - Entrance to Cooks Lane from Stein Road: take care construction traffic route (or similar for pedestrians)

Other points:

- Bloor to liaise with Southbourne Parish separately about the creation of a new footpath East of the construction site to ensure pedestrian safety given increased traffic volumes (300+ cars) due to the new development
- I am also in contact direct with Rob Hall at Bloor should any additional WSCC related highways issues occur.



The phone mast will be moved to the roadside where the tree is at the entrance and The telco tower is going to be moved to where the tree is sited next to the road (date TBC). See left photo.

Bloor are also building an underground sewage pumping station which is 6m x 6m and

likely around 5m deep but which will not have any visible surface apart from a ground level inspection hatch. Location in right photo. John Reilly did confirm this station would need onsite access for a sewage truck for maintenance if required.



Reducing Parish flooding

Robin Yeld is the Parish nominee for the new Bourne Flood Prevention (BFP) group

Last year we had 57% of 2022 annual rainfall from October to December, with up to 70mm rain per day causing multiple issues. Many Bourne areas were under water (Walderton B2146 and River Street Westbourne, both flooded for two weeks, plus A259 flooding issues in Southbourne opposite the farm shop). For this reason I suggest we form a small Bourne Flood Prevention (BFP) group looking at multiple flooding issues including road flooding, road drainage, field runoff, river flooding, culvert flooding and emergency drainage. This group would meet quarterly, online.

BFG action – first meeting TBC in late July (around 45 mins) with a follow-up meeting in August. Plans will then be submitted to Operation Watershed for project consideration and implementation likely in late 2023.

1. Representative nominated for each of the Bourne Parishes – now complete
2. Decisions on what to focus on e.g. solutions for locations where there have been floods over the last decade
3. Decision on BFP remit e.g. combination of highway and resident safety and climate change mitigation review

We aim to seek long term drainage solutions in Parish problem flood areas, with two sites per Parish as a start e.g.

- Chidham and Hambrook – TBC via Robin
- Stein Road roundabout - Southbourne
- Farm shop area – Southbourne
- School lane – locations TBC
- River Street – Westbourne
- North Street - Westbourne
- B2146 Victoria Inn junction
- B2146 Walderton 'dip' etc



Sewage capacity and storm overflows

We are working with CDC Officers to revise the way sewage capacity is calculated, given recent changes showing that there is 'magically' more capacity for new housing and despite record 2022 and 2023 storm sewage overflows. This exercise will be done in collaboration with Havant Council and Southern Water and other agencies like the EA.

The Government has two approved methods for calculating sewage capacity published online. It is interesting that they give different answers to capacity. This is because there are still a lot of assumptions involved in the calculations, like the percentage of groundwater infiltration into the sewer network, which varies hugely depending on the water table, proximity to the sea and the ground type the sewage pipes are sitting in. There are also variations on capacity depending on whether you take an average of the previous three years (like Southern Water uses) or five years (which CDC currently uses). Results will be available by end of July.

Storm sewage overflows continue to increase, with Thornham on Thorney Island hitting the same number of storm overflow hours that it had in the whole of 2022 by April 1st, so 2023 will exceed last years overflows substantially.

Changes in WSCC leaders and committees

May sees a change in the various committees that WSCC Councillors are on and their party leaders too. Paul Marshall remains leader of the Conservative group (46 Members), Kirsty Lord the leader of the Lib Dems (11), Donna Johnson leader of the Green and Independent Alliance (4) and Labour leader changes to Chris Oxlade (9).

I have changed onto the Communities, Highways and Environment Special Committee (CHESC) from Performance and Finance. This will hopefully help get better focus and solutions for the many road relaying, pothole and signage issues in the Parish, as well as raising the issue further of degrading white lines on West Sussex roads. I continue on the Road Safety Task and Finish Group and also am now on the Public Rights of Way Committee, plus a new Careers and Skills Executive Committee looking at how to improve recruitment and motivation of staff at all levels in WSCC, as it has had issues retaining staff in adult and children's services, social care and highways in particular.

Bourne road speed reduction Community Highways Scheme – Broad Road

Maps and speed restriction measures have been defined post a site visit by Mike Dare of WSCC Highways with Jane Towers and Andrew Kerry-Bedell 7th June. Mike is reviewing options.

One of the key challenges appears that the kerb build outs will need highlighting by overhead street lighting, which is not currently in place, but Mike has recommended a solution to this in advance of any Parish decision on street lighting as follows:

“If I have interpreted the guidance notes correctly, then it is my understanding buildouts would require a system of street lighting and possibly internal illumination. My suggestion would be, whilst it is the Parish Councils prerogative to submit a CHS application of their choosing, it may be beneficial for the Parish to initially request uncontrolled crossing points with coloured surface and buildouts albeit with a caveat, in that if it transpires the build outs do require illumination, then they reference (in their application) their preference would be for uncontrolled crossings to be installed with no carriageway incursion e.g. coloured surface and bollards to highlight the crossing point rather than risk the application being rejected due to non-compliance with national standards / guidance.”

Resident research results

The consultation of Broad Road residents has given useful resident input that should improve the proposals put forward and these have been collated and summarised for discussion with WSCC Officers to ensure they have no key issues before submission for a WSCC Community Highways Scheme online by the end of July 2023 deadline.

Resident views % in favour with view	
Are Calming Measures Needed?	92% YES
Traffic currently drives more than 30mph	92% YES
Improves pedestrian safety	85% YES
Improves cycling safety	80% YES
Footpaths too narrow	75% YES
Difficulty crossing road	52% YES
Separate cars and pedestrians	52% YES
Proposals	
Wider footpath south of railway	78% YES
Broad Meadow Car Parking Improvements	71% YES
Coloured Tarmac for crossings	64% YES
Kerbside Buildouts to slow traffic	55% REVIEW
Controlled Crossing by Post Office	53% REVIEW
Bollards between parking and footpath	53% REVIEW
Hambrook Hill South 20 mph Limit	50% REVIEW
Traffic Island by Post Office	43% NO
Broadly in favour of these measures?	84% YES

Comments made 34

There is also the option for consideration of adding S106 and / or CIL monies to support any of the proposed road safety improvements on Broad Road.

Further work is being done reviewing Chidham peninsula speed limits and review of A259 speed limits that will form part of the overall proposal for the ChEmRoute cycle route by WSCC, contractor WSP and National Highways.

Bourne Community Bus

Bourne Community Bus 2023 / 24 Parish and other funding

The Bourne Bus has been running successfully since June 2022 and has offered FREE passenger journeys to all local residents of Chidham, Hambrook, Nutbourne Southbourne, Hermitage, Westbourne, Emsworth and Thorney Island.

Given the relatively low use of the second bus the SCLT has been running since September 2022, this has now been taken over, together with all of its associated costs, vyt Community Transport Sussex for its local Dial A Ride services.

Hire charges have been increased to take account of fuel and all hires now have fuel included. Costs as follows:

Our 16 seat minibus is available for resident and group hire and can be driven by anyone with a car driving licence with Category D1 on it #.

- Half day self drive hire (50 mile limit round trip maximum): £50.00
- Full day self drive hire (80 mile limit round trip maximum): £75.00
- Half day (08:00-13:00/13:00-18:00) + Bourne Bus driver: £100.00
- Full day (08:00-18:00) with Bourne Bus registered driver: £175.00

Note: from 1 June 2023 all charges now include fuel.

Subject to approved hire, licence checks and having less than 6 licence points.

We have applied for five year funding of £70,000 from the National Lottery Communities Fund to maintain bus operation and also applied for a £4,500 CDC UKSPF grant which we are awaiting a decision on. We also hope to get approval for £1,000 a year fuel subsidy from the Government for running a community transport service.

Bourne Heritage Trail project

The Parish has identified 15 sites suitable for the Bourne Trail website, designed to help residents and tourists find out more about the area with their mobile, as well as encouraging exercise by following sites along the trail. The trail will feature signs with QR codes and NFC tags which, when scanned by a mobile, lead to individual website pages.

The website and 12 web pages have been designed and are complete and signs for sites have also been designed by Get Consultants >

1. Chidham and Hambrook Trail main page (text to review)
2. Chidham Village Hall
3. Christmas Cottage
4. Catchpond
5. Drift Lane
6. Nutbourne Watercress
7. St Mary's Church
8. Chidmere House
9. Middleton House
10. Poor Cottage
11. Wadeway Cottage
12. Honor Wayte



Chidham Trail
Bringing local history to life

Chidham Village Hall

Chidham Village Hall was originally built as a 'floor-malting' malthouse for the production of local beer. It was part of a much larger complex which included a well, pump house, granary and cottage.

Web: bit.ly/chidhall

See other heritage and history points of interest across Bourne villages and towns on this trail plus videos, maps and more.

www.bournetrail.co.uk

Emsworth | Hermitage | Westbourne | Thornham
Southbourne | Nutbourne | Chidham | Hambrook

Scan the QR code with mobile app

Chidham & Hambrook trail web pages still to do:

- Manor House (owner permission required)
- Old House at Home (permission required)
- Barleycorn (permission required)
- The Meadows (Parish to write text)
- The Ham Brook (decision on whether to include this)

QR code signs have been designed and are being printed in June (2 copies of each sign in UPVC with UV inks 25 x 8cm)

These small weatherproof signs will highlight the history and heritage all around Bourne villages, with links to local buildings, tourist sites, local people, museums, industrial heritage and wildlife sites etc. Along with an individual QR code they will also have an NFC Tag on the back of each sign that uses smartphone built-in NFC scanning (works like scan and pay) to link direct to each web page.

The signs can be screwed onto 4 inch oak or recycled plastic pavement posts (like the [WSSC Glasdon ones](#)) or screwed on walls.

As part of Stage 2 of this project from July we will produce larger interpretation boards with a trail map and details of each heritage trail, plus posters with multiple QR codes.

The aim is that external funding will be sought for Stage 2 so that all Parishes will also be able to increase their number of signs and web pages, as well as be able to take advantage of larger interpretation boards.

Note on Bourne Trail project management: this project was originally conceived by the Emsworth residents Forum but is now running as a standalone project being run by a team headed by Chair Mark Ringwood with Parish representative involvement. In the next month it will be developed as a separate Community Interest Company called InYourArea with its own bank account, funding, Trustees, scope of operation and business plan, which will enable it to focus on a much wider range of community interest, tourism and business projects. As an expert on mobile interpretation, websites and QR codes, whilst I am contracted to build the website I will not be a Trustee.



Chidham Trail
Bringing local history to life

Chidham Village Hall

Web: bit.ly/chidhall

Almost hidden on the corner of Chidham Lane and Main Road is Christmas Cottage. Previously known as Arched Cottage this architectural gem is a Grade II listed building dating from the early 1700s.

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