

HAMBLEDON PARISH COUNCIL

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HAMBLEDON PARISH PLAN : Original published 2003

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Protect the rural quality of Hambledon

Village clean-ups

Programme of annual clean-ups being maintained. An immediately following barbeque is attracting more participation and has proved popular, particularly by families. All are encouraged to keep those parts of the village for which they are responsible under constant review. Clean-up missed in 2020 & 2021 (COVID-19). Maybe time to review and have quarterly clean-ups.

Commercial air traffic

Future use of Dunsfold aerodrome continues to be monitored. Otherwise N/A.

Footpaths/bridleways, minor repairs

Continue to identify needs on an annual basis. Surrey County Council (SCC) is now so short of funds that it can only undertake minimal annual vegetation cuts, principally of the Greensand Way where this runs through Hambledon (though it has just upgraded a particularly bad patch). We have little or no funds from WBC & SCC for repairs. We have the flexibility through the Precept to raise funds to maintain footpaths and bridleways. In 2020 volunteers upgraded and repaired the bridleway by The Merry Harriers.

An ongoing threat, however, is the use of small motorcycles on both footpaths and bridleways as a danger to pedestrians and other users and potential damage to the paths and the Common.

Footpaths/bridleways, major repairs and additional funding

Pressure is maintained on SCC whenever major up-grades are needed to other well-used paths.

Hedgerow Survey

Initial survey completed and deposited with the Parish Council and the Hambledon Heritage Society.

Conservation

Preserve Hambledon's visual character

On-going, in liaison with Waverley Borough Council. Pressure from new development is of concern. We need to protect the current Green Belt, AONB, AGLV, two Conservation Areas and retain the non-Settlement status of the Village. The Government is reviewing planning regulations. It is important we retain a local input on planning in order to preserve Hambledon's visual character. Environmental issues and climate change are to be considered and respected.

Housing & Development

Affordable housing

A third housing needs survey undertaken in January 2015 identified a need for up to 15 rented and shared ownership properties. A site was identified but a planning application for a development of 12 affordable plus 5 market houses was rejected by Waverley in 2017. This was subsequently amended to 7 affordable & 2 market and approved in 2019. Work is due to start in 2021 at Orchard Farm.

Housing development in Hambledon

In principle, housing development (apart from further small amounts of affordable housing) remains inappropriate for Hambledon. The village does not feature in Waverley's new Local Development Framework, but the Parish Council had asked Waverley for small affordable housing developments, which was approved.

Other housing development

Hambledon was one of the 11 Joint Parishes fighting a planning application for (initially) 1,800 houses and subsequently 2,500 houses at Dunsfold Park. Central government-imposed requirement for the inclusion of inflated housing numbers in the new Waverley Local Plan. Waverley has had to increase housing numbers in the Waverley Local Plan. Part One was approved in 2019, and Part Two is in final consultation. The Plan reaffirms that Hambledon does not have a Settlement boundary.

Transport and Traffic Management

Public transport

HOPPA community bus service in operation.

The Parish Council has so far successfully pressed SCC to retain its support for the bus service 503 which currently runs through Hambledon on three mornings a week.

Little or no support for car-pooling.

Traffic management

30mph limit established in village with 40 mph on peripheries. Community speed watch trialled in 2007-8 but discontinued as considered to be ineffective. Speedwatch was reintroduced in 2019, and has, with considerable effort, been effective in bringing attention to traffic speeds in the Village. A Speed-aware Scarecrow competition in 2020 was also effective. Lobbying with WBC & SCC to reduce speed limits in the Village and on the A283 is gathering momentum. Replacement of metal with wooden signposts throughout the village, combined with the removal of all but essential signs, undertaken as a pilot project by the Surrey Hills AONB office in 2009.

Additional "unsuitable for HGVs" signs installed in 2011 to discourage HGV use of Lane End/Malthouse Lane/Hambledon Road (as far as the Hydestile Crossroads). Further control of HGVs raised with SCC in December 2016 – no resulting improvements. Strong representations made regarding the effect of additional traffic on

Hambledon lanes that would result from the proposed Dunsfold Park development

In 2020 & 2021, HGV's on Salt Lane and Markwick Lane have again been an issue and concerns have been raised with WBC & SCC.

Utilities and Other Services

Road maintenance

Another casualty of SCC funding shortages. The resurfacing of Lane End/Malthouse Lane/Hambledon Road in 2013-4 is unlikely to be followed by any more repairs (other than, perhaps, to potholes). Minimal hedge and ditch

maintenance is undertaken by SCC but, where necessary, is supplemented by the Parish Council which pays for the services of a local groundworks contractor. SCC is also responsible for clearing drains and gullies but the work is intermittent. No resurfacing or repairs have been carried out over the last 3 years. Hedging and ditching is now carried out by HPC.

Mains services and telephones

Mains drainage system installed in 2010 for part of the village; no prospects of its extension in the foreseeable future. Installation of mains gas investigated again in 2008 but ruled out on cost grounds. SGN have renewed gas pipework from Lane End to Malthouse Lane. Final renewal to St Dominic's is still to be done.

A major tree cutting programme and technical up-grades to equipment undertaken by SSE during 2014 has improved the continuation of electricity supplies during bad weather.

An up-date on the condition of mains water pipes running through the village was provided Thames Water in 2013 but ageing pipes continue to result in leakages and burst mains.

Waste recycling

Waverley recycling services introduced in 2007 and up-graded in April 2012. Services continue to work well. However, consider review of recycling by WBC. There are improvements to be made.

Broadband

Superfast broadband is available to those properties on the 01428 exchange that are within a 1.8 km. radius of the cabinet at the Lane End crossroads. Those on the 01483 exchange at the Hydestile end of the Village have self-financed an installation by BT. A similar exercise for residents of Vann, Upper Vann and Roundals Lanes was completed in 2018.

Village Shop and Post Office

Major up-grades undertaken in 2005 and 2006 and a further one completed in spring 2016, funded from grants from SCC and the Post Office. A newly-constructed customer toilet, financed by grants and the Hambledon Village Trust, opened in June 2017. The café has been expanded and improved and opening hours (7 days a week) extended. Community Benefit Society established. Future of the Post Office secured for the time being.

The Village Shop and Post Office continued trading through a difficult 2020 & 2021 to great acclaim.

Community Services

Good neighbour scheme

In place. Still to be confirmed who will run this.

Mobile library

A casualty of SCC financial cut-backs, 2011.

Doctor's surgery

No prospect of outreaches being provided from Chiddingfold or Witley surgeries in the foreseeable future. Good Neighbour Scheme helps with transport. Both Surgeries coped well during COVID-19 and continue to provide a good service through difficult times.

Prescription service

Ditto.

Playground	Small informal playground located by the Village Shop. The question of playground needs to be revisited. Issues are: maintenance, public liability & insurance.
Neighbourhood Watch	Volunteers continue to keep watch. This activity could be reviewed and revisited. See also Policing.
<u>Recreation and Leisure</u>	
Cricket	Club continues to flourish. Outstanding loan for the new pavilion now paid off. A missed year 2020/2021. Funds need to be raised for new nets. Plans for drainage on the Green are under review.
Football	Club continues to flourish. Ground purchased; new club house and car park now completed. A missed year in 2020/2021. Funds raised for irrigation system to the grounds.
Other activities	Given the amount of activities that are already available in the village, another trawl for ideas for new clubs/societies has not so far been thought necessary. However, activities have grown despite the limitations of lockdown, and, as of 2021 include: Peddlers, Ramblers, Annual Flower, Fruit & Vegetable Show, Hambledon Bridge Club, Merry Book Club, Hambletons. Cubs, Badminton, Pilates and Dog Training.
Hambledon Festival	A very successful festival was run in 2018, raising funds for many village activities. The Festival included a Jazz Evening, a traditional Fete, a Dog Show, a Dinner Dance and a Church Service. Bi-annual Festivals were planned thereafter, but the 2020 event had to be cancelled due to COVID-19. A mini-event will be held in August 2021, and a full Festival is planned for 2022.
<u>Small work spaces [added May 2017]</u>	A recently-identified need: kept under review by the Parish Council, including in its scrutiny of planning applications. HPC has supported commercial development at the Old Coal Yard, which is trading actively.
Pub – The Merry Harriers	New owner in 2017; refurbished and now has 6 Garden Rooms, 4 ensuite Bedrooms and 5 Shepherd's Huts. Llama trekking continues. Closed during lockdown 2020 and reopening in April/May 2021. A central and important feature for the Village, depending on the balance being maintained between traditional pub facilities for locals and the requirements for visiting guests.
Church – St Peter's Church	Part of the United Benefice of Busbridge and Hambledon. Held on-line services during 2020/21; re-opened for services in April 2021. Consultations underway regarding two churches working more closely together.

Schools	Hambledon Nursery School continues to be very successful and has stayed open and active during 2020/21. St Dominic's continued to provide care and education for its pupils and remained open throughout 2020/21.
Village Hall	Provides a great facility for Villagers, but it was closed 2020/21. Maintenance was carried out during that time, and WiFi was installed in the Hall. Re-opening for selected activities during May 2021, including Hambletons.
Almshouses	The two cottages built in 1907 were refurbished in 2016/2017.
Oakhurst Cottage	An important feature in the Village, maintained by the National Trust and run by Hambledon Volunteers. Closed in 2020, but hoping to re-open to visitors some time during the summer of 2021.
Communications	The Parish Magazine and the Village Website continue to keep the Village informed. This was particularly important during 2020 /21. The "Sunday Reflections" are a poignant reminder of the 2020 Lockdown.
Policing	An original concern in 2003, as in 2002 Hambledon lost its dedicated policeman, and it remains an issue. This needs addressing.
Fund Raising	The Hambledon Village Trust and the Hambledon Community Fund have helped, and continue to help, a number of local and community projects. In future, Waverley CIL payments will also be able to help.