

DENMEAD PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2014-15



Denmead Parish Council
The Old School
School Lane
Denmead
Hampshire PO7 6LU

This Annual Report has been produced with the intention of helping the residents of Denmead become more familiar with the work of the Parish Council. The report presents a summary of the activities and responsibilities of the Council during the past year.

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MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL 2014-15 (as of 20 March 2015)

Cllr Neil H LANDER-BRINKLEY Chairman of Council	High Trees, Thompsons Lane, Denmead, PO7 6NB	Tel: 9225 1484
Cllr Kevin ANDREOLI Vice Chairman of Council Chairman of Planning	6 The Meadow, Denmead, PO7 6YJ	Tel: 9226 7343
Cllr Ian BROWN	Hazelwood, Forest Road, Denmead. PO7 6UE	Tel: 9225 5979
Cllr Glenn CROOKS	57 Harvest Road, Denmead, PO7 6LL	Tel: 9225 7886
Cllr Wayne CROWTHER	3 Parklands, Thompsons Lane, Denmead PO7 6NB	Tel: 9225 0548
Cllr Richard HALLETT	Warringa, Forest Road, Denmead, PO7 6UE	Tel: 9225 6910
Cllr Jeremy L HARRISON	36 Little Corner, Denmead, PO7 6XR	Tel: 9223 1135
Cllr Felicity HULL	Seymour Cottage, Forest Road, Denmead, PO7 6UA	Tel: 9226 1977
Cllr Paula LANGFORD-SMITH Chairman of Highways & General Purposes Committee	Hazelwood, Forest Road, Denmead. PO7 6UE	Tel : 9225 5979
Cllr Ken SCHOLEY Chairman of Amenities	65 Anmore Road, Denmead, PO7 6NT	Tel: 9225 2393
Cllr Gary WEST	St Elmo, Hambledon Road Denmead, PO7 6PS	Tel: 9225 3733
Cllr Mark WILLOUGHBY	21 Forest Mead Denmead PO7 6UU	Tel: 9236 8305
Vacancy		

Contact details for Councillors are also posted on the Parish Noticeboards and listed on the Parish Council website www.denmeadparishcouncil.co.uk and in the Denmead Scene

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP 2014-15 (as of 20 March 2015)

All Councillors sit on the Parish Council
Chairman and Vice Chairman are voting members of every Committee

FINANCE ADMINISTRATION & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Council Chairman, Vice Chairman, Committee Chairmen and Vice Chairman of Planning

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Committee Chair 2014-15 – Kevin Andreoli (Chairman) Neil Lander-Brinkley, Ian Brown, Glenn Crooks, Wayne Crowther, Richard Hallett, Felicity Hull, Paula Langford-Smith, Mark Willoughby

HIGHWAYS & GENERAL PURPOSE COMMITTEE

Committee Chair 2014-15 – Paula Langford-Smith (Chairman) Neil Lander-Brinkley, Kevin Andreoli, Wayne Crowther, Richard Hallett, Jeremy Harrison, Ken Scholey, Gary West, Vacancy

AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Committee Chair 2014-15 – Ken Scholey (Chairman), Kevin Andreoli, Ian Brown, Glenn Crooks, Jerry Harrison, Felicity Hull, Neil Lander-Brinkley, Gary West, Mark Willoughby, Vacancy

SUB-COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS 2014-15

Footpath sub Committee	Gary West (Chairman) plus Chairman and Vice Chairman of Council, Wayne Crowther, Jerry Harrison Plus co-opted members [non councillors] R Dawe and P Stallard
Youth Provision Working Party	Felicity Hull (Chairman) Glenn Crooks, Jerry Harrison plus Chairman and Vice Chairman of Council
Landscape Working Party	Jerry Harrison (Chairman) Felicity Hull, Ken Scholey

THE COUNCIL STAFF

The Parish Clerk: Tony Daniells.
Contact details: **Denmead Parish Council**
The Old School
School Lane
Denmead
Hampshire PO7 6LU
Tel: 02392 247947 Email: clerk@denmeadparishcouncil.co.uk
Office Hours: 9.30am - 1.00pm Monday- Friday (Afternoons by appointment)

THE PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

The Parish Council maintains a website at www.denmeadparishcouncil.co.uk The website lists contact details for members of the Council, District Councillors and the local County Councillor. Editions of the Parish Scene are maintained on the site as a useful reference source. Local businesses and social and community groups are represented.

THE DENMEAD SCENE

The Denmead Scene is circulated to all households in Denmead four times a year, in March, June, September and December. For information about items in the newsletter or to submit articles for publication please contact the Parish Clerk on 02392 247947.

Parish Scene Editor : The Clerk

Distribution : John Lewis

Schedule of meetings attended by parish councillors and membership of main committees and sub-committee during the period of 1st April 2014 to 20th March 2015

	Full Council	Amenities Cttee	Finance, Admin and Personnel Cttee	Highways and General Purposes Cttee	Planning Cttee	Foot paths Sub-cttee	Total number of meetings
Numbers of meetings held	8	7	8	7	17	5	52
Cllr Kevin ANDREOLI (vice chairman)	7	6	8	6	16	5	
Cllr Ian BROWN	2	2			4		
Cllr Glenn CROOKS	4	5			10		
Cllr Wayne CROWTHER	3			1	6	2	
Cllr Neil H LANDER-BRINKLEY	7	5	7	7	14	2	
Cllr Richard Hallett	5		5	5	13		
Cllr Jeremy HARRISON	5	5		6		5	
Cllr Felicity HULL	5	6			17		
Cllr Paula LANGFORD-SMITH	8		8	7	16		
Cllr Ken SCHOLEY	6	6	6	5			
Cllr Gary WEST	8	5		5		3	
Cllr Mark WILLOUGHBY	4	4			9		

The shaded areas indicate that the parish councillor is NOT a full member of that Committee or Sub-Committee and does not attend meetings. Reasons for non-attendance are recorded when known and held in the Parish Council office. **This list is not comprehensive. Parish Councillors also attend other meetings such as working groups and external meetings with other organisations regarding matters concerning the Parish of Denmead. Some Councillors have not been a member of a Committee throughout the full year.**

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH 2015

Presented by Councillor Neil Lander-Brinkley
to the Annual Parish Meeting at the Pavilion, Ashling Park, Denmead
on Tuesday 24th March 2015.

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## **2014 - more achievement**

This is my eighth report to the Annual Parish Meeting in Denmead. No-one can be more surprised than me that we have reached this point for it seems to me to be only a matter of a few months ago that I was nervously stood before my first Parish Meeting. Many good things have happened in that time. Indeed I gave last year's report the headline "2013 – a year of achievements" but your Parish Council has continued in this vein of success during 2014.

### **Community Assets**

The Parish Council has used the Localism legislation to have three buildings formally recognised as Community Assets because of their importance to the life of the Denmead. They are the Fox and Hounds; the White Hart and the former Mead End pub. As a result, two of these buildings (The Fox and 22, Mead End Road) the very existence of which was threatened have, during 2014, had the opportunity to be revived and relaunched by community groups. In the former this was a cooperative, in the latter the Baptist Church. Once again these buildings are playing a vital role in the life of Denmead for the benefit of people in and around the village.

### **The Barn**

It was back in August 2005 that the Parish Council began to think about The Barn situated in Forest Mead, which it owned at that time. It was where the tractors and equipment were stored prior to the Pavilion complex being built. The Parish Council talked to anyone who had an idea as to what the building could be used for but because of the situation, no water, gas or sewer and an earth floor the cost of every potential project was an obstacle which could not be overcome. The decision to sell the building was taken, with planning permission to make the building into a pair of semi-detached houses. The sale of a public 'asset', even one which was proving to be a liability is no easy matter and it has taken until this year to jump all the hoops and to sell the site. On 5<sup>th</sup> March the money for the sale appeared in the Parish Council bank account!

When the Pavilion was built the national economy was in a very different situation to that in which we find ourselves today. Then, to finance the building with loans was considered a good idea. Now, with minimal interest rates on money in the bank, it is prudent to pay off those long-term loans, with the money from The Barn even though there is a premium to pay. This will save paying interest on the loans until they were due to end in 2030. The Parish Council remains financially secure, with Reserves remaining in hand ensuring that we meet all the tests of Accounting organisations as well as having funds for future projects.

## **Neighbourhood Plan Referendum**

From those financial considerations I turn to another event which happened earlier this month, again on 5<sup>th</sup> March. I refer to the Denmead Neighbourhood Plan Referendum. The Plan was prepared at NO cost the precept payer. Grants were obtained to cover the cost of all the work that was done. There are now over 60 Neighbourhood Plans in place up and down England. Parishes and Neighbourhoods that have taken up the challenge of using another aspect of the Localism legislation to improve and protect their area. No two Neighbourhood Plans are the same, thus each result is individual and not part of some Parish Council Beauty Contest. After three year's work and the most extensive consultation exercise ever conducted in Denmead, the Plan was welcome by a majority of 2 to 1 in a turnout of 41%.

I wish to record my thanks to the residents who joined Parish Councillors to deliver the Plan. There were always as many of you as there were Councillors. Some people had to move away, some joined and did their bit and bowed out, but all of your contributions have been important. I wish to record my personal and particular thanks to Peter Ambrose, vice-chairman of the Steering Group; to Neil Rusbridger who did much to inform residents about the Plan both at public meetings and on the doorstep and to John Knight, with his wise advice for staying the course. Patricia Stallard provided us with an invaluable link to officers at both Winchester City Council and Hampshire County ensuring that the latest evidence was available to us and that questions were rapidly answered. Cllrs Felicity Hull and Kevin Andreoli were also members for the duration of the work and more recently Cllr Glenn Crooks has been a great support to the team.

It is pleasing to record that the presentation of the DNP has always been positive without criticisms of ideas or individuals yet making the case on the basis of consultation and evidence. To everyone who has made a contribution to this huge project in anyway at all, large or small, all the Steering Group can say is "Thank you". It was worthwhile.

### **What happens now?**

Now comes the rather different challenge of using the Plan. It will be 'made' (which is to say it will be formally accepted into the Winchester City Council's development planning law) at the City Council's meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> April. After this the Plan will be used by City Council officers and our Planning Committee members to deal with planning applications.

The other aspects of the DNP will be very much part of the Parish Council's work in the coming years. That includes a revision of the Village Design Statement to stand alongside the DNP and the creation of a local list of character buildings, places and scenes to form an important supplement the official English Heritage listing for the Parish. Firstly, there is the matter of an election for a new Parish Council. This will take place on Thursday May 7<sup>th</sup>. Some Councillors may be standing down, others may decide to continue – if you elect them. There are rules but almost everybody over 18 living in the parish is eligible. So it's over to you .....

### **Another project just coming to an end**

A project to build Affordable Housing in Denmead was begun by the Parish Council in December 2007. Working with the Hampshire Alliance for Rural Affordable Homes, using

land not required by Denmead Parish Council and Hampshire County Council the idea has become a reality. Potential tenants have been found for the 11 new homes at River End (Old River). It is planned that they will move in at the end of this month although the developer will still be on site for a few weeks after that.

### **Looking forward to next year**

This is the first public meeting where it has been possible to report the news that Hampshire County Council are in the process of selling the Community Centre to the Parish Council. For HCC it is one way of simplifying their estate and for the people of Denmead it means that the Centre is safe in the hands of the people of Denmead. The legal work is in progress and will be completed in the next few weeks. The Denmead Community Association (DCA) will continue to manage the site and the Parish Council and the trustees of the DCA will reach a new agreement to set the framework for a secure future for this important feature of Denmead life.

When I spoke at the last APA I mentioned the importance of working together with other organisations sharing experience and services. I saw this as the way forward in a time of reduced funding for local government at all levels. During 2014 your Parish Council has taken up the opportunity to work with Bishops Waltham and Swanmore Parish Councils to employ Accredited Community Support Officers. They will provide a local presence in our villages, working as part of the police 'family'. The ACSO service has had to be wound up by Hampshire County Council because it was no longer possible to fund it. Finding a mechanism for three parish councils to work together has been a challenge but in 2015 I am confident that you will see the service 'on the street' and, later on in the year, residents will be asked for their views on the work and value of the two ACSO's. If the trial is a success, the intention will be to fund the service in the long term.

### **Other business must not be forgotten**

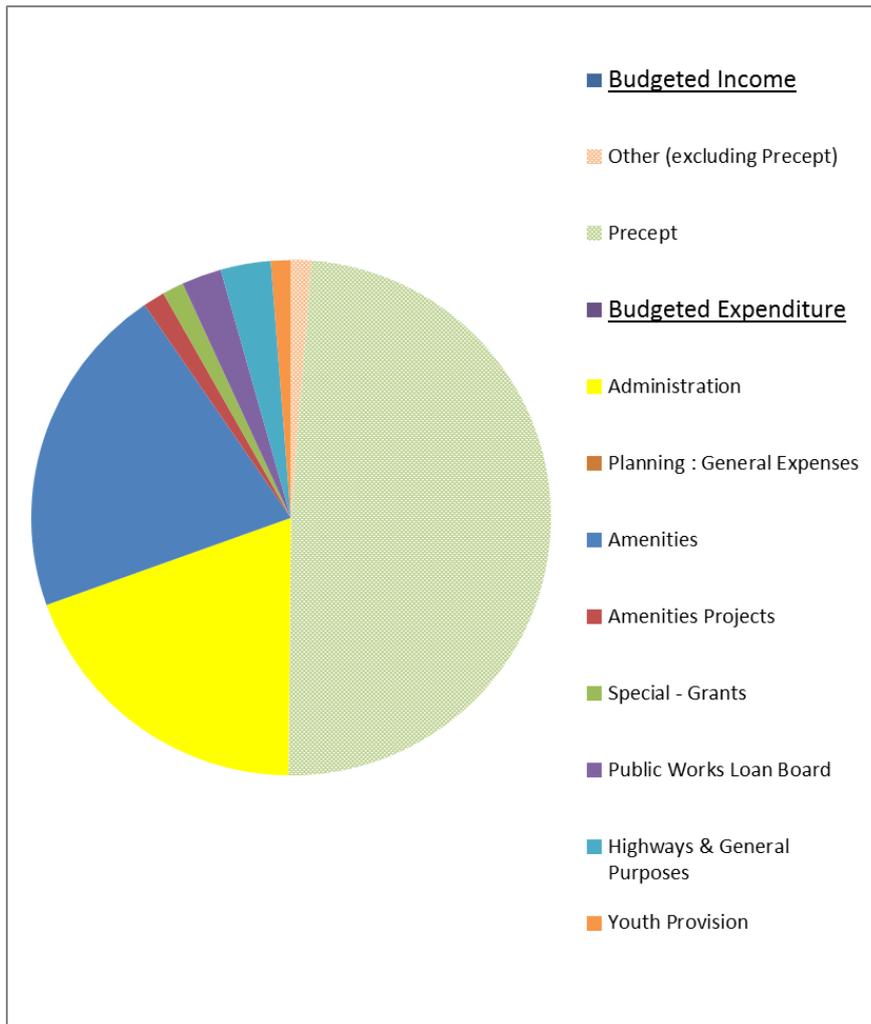
This report has concentrated on some major aspects of the work done in 2014-15, but there is much that the Parish Council does to achieve a better quality of life in Denmead. Looking after the play areas, managing the burial ground, working with our Ward Councillors and County Councillors (the Hampshire CC project for highways improvements is a good example) have all been going on with perhaps a lower profile, but with no less a value to the parish. I pay tribute to all those involved. Thanks to all my colleagues for their work and support, and to our staff, both groundstaff and offices staff, led by Tony Daniells who was voted as 'Clerk of the Year 2014' by the Hampshire Association of Local Councils. That made a fitting, public tribute to the work Tony has done for Denmead in recent years.

Thank you everyone.

Cllr Neil Lander-Brinkley  
Chairman



## 2014/15 Budgeted Income and Expenditure



### **Budgeted Income**

|                           |            |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Other (excluding Precept) | 8,807.00   |
| Precept                   | 342,498.00 |

### **Budgeted Expenditure**

|                             |            |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Administration              | 137,571.00 |
| Planning : General Expenses | 0.00       |
| Amenities                   | 146,771.00 |
| Amenities Projects          | 9,500.00   |
| Special - Grants            | 9,340.00   |
| Public Works Loan Board     | 17,361.00  |
| Highways & General Purposes | 21,912.00  |
| Youth Provision             | 8,650.00   |

For further information and breakdown of the Council's accounts, please view the detail on the Parish Council's website under the heading of Finance



## Denmead Parish Council Planning Report 2015

During 2014 the planning committee considered 119 applications, each one being visited by at least two councillors. An analysis of these applications shows that, as before, we disagreed with Winchester in approximately 10% of cases.

With the backing of our district councillors we took some of the more contentious applications to the Winchester City Council Planning Development Control Committee but once again we rarely won our argument. We have, however, seen three refused applications fail at appeal.

We are now starting to anticipate the Public Enquiry into the application for traveller accommodation behind The Chairmakers public house in World's End. This will take place on June 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> at the Denmead Community Centre in School Lane. An application for a Travellers site on Hambledon Road on the outskirts of Denmead close to the MDA, against which we made strong representations, was refused by the Inspector

Since last year we have seen the development of affordable homes for those with a strong Denmead connection at River End almost completed. Tenants for the homes have been shown around and all that were shown around (11 tenants for 11 homes) have accepted. They plan to move in on March 30, although the developer will still be onsite for a few weeks after that.

Your Planning Committee has monitored the plans for the West of Waterlooville (WoW) Major Development Area. It has commented on all the planning applications for the area and has made representations to the joint planning committee which decides the applications. (Havant and Winchester jointly decide.)

In the last few days there are signs that development of the two new Care/Residential Homes, for which Taylor Wimpey received full planning permission last year, is starting.

The new school on the MDA which takes children from both the Taylor Wimpey and Granger areas is now up and running. It is a very pleasing building which is providing the area's children with an excellent environment in which to learn.

Your committee is pleased that the Fox and Hounds has reopened following our earlier efforts to ensure it was not redeveloped.

The Denmead Neighbourhood Plan passed its referendum on March 5<sup>th</sup> and will become part of Winchester's planning regulations once the WCC Full Council 'make' (formally accept) the plan on April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Kevin Andreoli  
Chairman



### **Chairman's report for 2014/2015**

#### **Introduction**

The Highways and General Purposes Committee (H&GP) of Denmead Parish Council deals with all aspects of the local roads, greenways, drainage and footpaths within the parish boundary.

All repairs to the roads, road drains and footpaths are carried out by the Highways Department of Hampshire County Council and the role of the H&GP committee of the parish council is to work closely with them to ensure that our village gets the best possible service.

Other responsibilities of the committee include the provision and maintenance of the following services:

Village street lighting  
Village bus shelters  
Village dog-waste bins  
Financial support for the public toilets in the village centre  
Speed limit reminder signs  
Greenway name signs  
Maintenance of trees, seats and bollards in the village centre  
The village burial ground

#### **Projects this municipal year**

The H&GP committee has delivered many projects during the last year including:

- Upgrades to bus stops and removal of stops that are no longer used (ensuring less street clutter around the village)
- Managing the replacement of resident's wheelie bins which had been stolen during an incident on Harvest Field
- Jetting of drains in Anmore Road
- Installation of an additional lighting column in Southwick Road
- Installation of more energy efficient lighting columns throughout the village that have the capability of being dimmed
- The replacement of five bollards outside of the shops in the Village Centre which had been damaged by drivers colliding with them - the bollards are necessary to stop careless parking by people using the shopping facilities!
- Working with the police and Winchester regarding anti-social parking in Old River
- Improving drainage to the wooden bus shelter in Hambleton Road
- The refurbishment of the milestone in the flint wall of Linsey House opposite Barn Green in the centre of the village which is listed in Hampshire Treasures and Hampshire Heritage Gateway

#### **Burial Ground**

Activities recently undertaken in the management of the burial ground this year have included:

- The annual trimming of hedges and the pruning and removal of trees where necessary including the removal of two diseased willows and replacement with semi mature willows and the pollarding of two further willows
- Repairs to the roof of the Sextons Hut

- Repairs to five deteriorating memorials in the old burial ground
- The refurbishment of three war graves with the assistance of a grant from the War Graves Commission

The Burial Ground is entirely self-funded and fees are not used to supplement other Parish activities and projects. The council does not seek to profit on fees charged and despite a small increase this year, fees remain hundreds of pounds lower than Winchester, Havant and Fareham.

### **Projects for the coming year**

As well as continuing to undertake our allocated responsibilities in the coming year there are additional projects we are currently working on:

- A significant project working with Hants CC to make parking improvements near to the Junior School in Bere Road, provide a footway on the eastern side of Bunkers Hill up to Creech Woods, 32 drop kerb crossings with tactile paving to assist partially sighted residents, landscaping improvements to the roundabouts on Forest Road near to The Harvest Home and 'Gateway' signs at the main entrances to the village
- The provision of two Defibrillators which will be linked to the NHS Ambulance Service
- The establishment of a Community Speedwatch Scheme as many Villagers cite 'speeding in the village' as their number one concern
- Refurbishment of another milestone in the verge outside of Milestone House to maintain our village heritage
- Installation of a 'new' milestone on The Viallge Green which will host the original plaque from the refurbished milestone in the flint wall facing the green (the original milestone is unable to hold the plaque without causing significant damage to the stone)
- Visual improvements to the village centre through the installation of a bench and several planters

### **Acknowledgements**

I extend my thanks to Ian Reed, who has been my vice chair for most of this municipal year, for his invaluable work at the burial ground. I would also like to formally thank my fellow H&GP committee members for their support and contribution over the last year, the Denmead Parish Council ground staff for the high standard of general maintenance and finally to the Deputy Clerk of the council for his invaluable advice and assistance.

P Langford-Smith

Chairman- Highways and General Purposes Committee

March 2015

## AMENITIES

Prepared by Councillor Ken Scholey

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### **The Amenities Committee – What we do...**

Of the four committees that make up Denmead Parish Council, The Amenities committee has the largest budget and widest remit simply because of the diversity of the activities for which it has responsibility. It is made up of ten councillors all of whom spend a lot of time involved in its smooth running. For ease of administration the Committee is split into four working parties empowered to make decisions and to report back to the parent committee for ratification.

Some information about each of these follows.

**The Landscape Working Party.** Led by Cllr. Jerry Harrison it is responsible for overseeing the general upkeep and maintenance of over ten miles of hedgerows, over eight hectares of grassland, the preparation and care of the football and cricket pitches in Ashling Park, and the regular inspection of play areas and other open spaces within the Parish. Apart from the seasonal routine maintenance, the ground staff complete project work as time allows.

The Parish Council fully recognises that none of this would be achievable without the commitment of our hard working ground staff. They do an excellent job in preserving the amenity value of the village throughout the year and in all weathers. Our grateful thanks go to Phil King, Vernon Mountfield, Ken Hazlehurst, David Edwards and Ron Plant. Given the winter we have just had, special thanks should go to them for their continued efforts in keeping the drainage ditches owned by DPC clear and running.

**The Youth Working Party** is led by Cllr. Felicity Hull. Working together with various youth workers there are activities for different age groups occurring on different nights throughout the year. Efforts continue to be made to reach out to the new development West of Waterloo to those inhabitants of houses that fall within our boundaries.

**The Sports Sub-Committee** has now gone back to its original format of a Sports User Group meeting. It provides a forum allowing representatives from all the sporting groups in the village to meet. Sports users include Denmead Bowls Club, Denmead Cricket Club, the football clubs of Denmead Youth Football Club (juniors), Denmead Warriors (junior) Denmead Wanderers (adult) and AFC Denmead (adult), Denmead Striders, Denmead Tennis Club, Ville Bowmen. The clubs all continue to flourish and we strive to provide the best possible facilities with what we have available.

There is also a regular **Liaison Meeting** held with the **Forestry Commission**.

### **What we did this year.**

Parents and Grandparents of the village children will be aware of the new playground in Ashling Park. This has proved hugely popular. In the summer, a 'pop-up' café ran from the Pavilion for the benefit of users of the park and playarea. A new CCTV system was installed at the Ashling Pavilion and part of the roof was replaced with vandal resistant tiles. The jogging track at Harvest Field was completed and is now in regular use for informal exercise. A new tractor has been purchased together with a flail mower. This will allow regular mowing of Goodman Fields.

### **Plans for next year.**

Next year's plans include additional equipment at our Barn play area and improvements to Parking at Goodman Fields. Plus a Pop-up Cafe is again planned for the Pavilion in the summer months.

Cllr K Scholey



## District Councillor's Report 2014/15

*I regret that I am unable to attend the Annual Parish Assembly this year owing to a major training programme which was put together by the previous Portfolio Holder for Built Environment. Having a properly trained group of members who understand Planning Law is good for Winchester.*

This year has been extremely busy one for me; I retained the Chairmanship of the Standards Committee together with the West of Waterlooville Forum and was reappointed as Vice-Chairman of the Planning Development Committee which changed its name to Planning Committee in September 2014.

**Standards Committee** - This year's work load has been very light only meeting twice on both accounts it was to deal with complaints about Parish Councillor's behaviour, the complaints having emanated from members of the public.

**West of Waterlooville Forum** - This body comprises of District Councillors from Winchester and Havant Borough Council together with the two County Councillors, who are all from Divisions neighbouring the development site. Also in June 2014 a Joint Planning Committee was formed comprising of 9 members, 5 from WCC and 4 from HBC, with WCC taking the chairmanship. This committee now makes the planning decisions on all applications in the WofW area. Following the formation of the joint committee for planning it was decided to undertake a review of the Terms & of Reference of the Forum. Last week the new T&R's were agreed by the Cabinet and a meeting of the Forum is being called in mid-April.

**Planning Committee** - Over the past twelve months there have been over 2500 applications in Winchester District. (This figure excludes pre-applications). In Denmead there have been over 108 applications, again excluding the pre-applications, with 7 applications being refused and no Appeals being lodged. Mike what about the two appeals on Bunkers Hill? In the whole district 175 applications refused and 12 sent to Appeal of which 5 were successful.

As you may have heard over the past three weeks there has been a great change in Winchester owing to the Silver Hill Judicial Review which ruled that European procurement rules had not been followed. Cllr Rob Humby resigned as the Leader of the Council and Cllr Frank Pearson has appointed a new team for the Cabinet. Cllr Patricia Stallard and I have accepted to become Portfolio Holders in the new administration. Cllr Stallard holds the role of Environment, Health & Wellbeing and has had to step down from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (O&S). I have taken on the Portfolio for Built Environment, (which is considered to be the most controversial portfolio as it deals mainly with Planning) whilst continuing to hold my previous appointments.

Cllr Phillips has now inherited the Chairmanship of the Personnel Committee and will also continue to Chair the WofW Arts Panel, remain as WCC's representative on Portsmouth Water Company Customer Challenge Group, Chair of the Employees Awards Panel and a member of the Standards

committee and local agent for Cllr Stallard's re-election in May.

All three of your elected members will have a full workload not only working for Denmead but also leading Winchester to a better future.

***Proposed New Ward Boundaries for Winchester*** - The draft proposals for the reorganization of Winchester City Council Wards have now been published. Denmead will see the ward boundary extended towards the ASDA round-about, taking a small parcel of what is now Southwick & Widley parish into the Denmead ward. This boundary change will give Denmead the required number of electors to remain a self-contained three Councillor Ward.

The consultation period with regards to the draft recommendations are open until 4th April. The final report is to be published on 30th June 2015 and the new wards will come into effect for the 2016 election, which will be an ***"All out District Election"***.



***Council Tax*** - Winchester City Council are once again holding our Council Tax for 2015/16 at 0 increases, this is the third (fourth?) year we have been able to hold the tax and not lose any frontline services. The Chief Exec and his team have been undertaking a further review on how Winchester undertake its services with smaller and more diverse staffing levels whilst continuing to provide all its statutory services.

***Stop Press News - Silver Hill Development***; A report was presented to the Cabinet up-dating all members with regards to the decision made on March 3<sup>rd</sup> not to seek to appeal the High Court's decision, however TH Real Estate (Henderson), the councils partner, has lodged an appeal. No decisions are required at this stage but it will be necessary to consider further reports on issues in due course.

As you can see from the above it's a busy time for your district councillors. I together with my two colleagues are available ever 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in the month at All Saint's Church Hall, no appointment necessary or please contact us by phone or email if urgent.

*Mike Read*

District Councillor for Denmead  
Portfolio Holder for Built Environment