

**WEST END PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2021.  
IN THE PARISH CENTRE, CHAPEL ROAD, WEST END AT 7.15 PM.**

**Present:** Councillor J Asman –  
Chair of the Parish Council

**Councillors: B Coles, J Goguel, J Haylett, H Hellier,  
R MacDonald, B Tennent, S Turl**

**Parish Council Team:** Mr S Mockford - Parish Clerk  
Mrs S Hannen - Deputy Clerk  
Miss B Bond - Admin Officer

**In Attendance:** Cllr Cynthia Garton  
Cllr Steve Broomfield  
Kitty Budden, Local Area Manager  
Sergeant Stuart Jackson  
PCSO Mica Woodcock

**Representatives of the following groups were in attendance:**

28 <sup>th</sup> Itchen North Scouts	St James' Church
3 <sup>rd</sup> West End Guides	West End Community Support Group
Friends of Hatch Grange	West End Garden & Allotment Association
Hatch Grange WI	West End Local History Society
Hilldene Community Association	Wildern School
Speedwatch	YouthHouse
St James' Primary School	

**Members of the Public in attendance: 3**

**1. APOLOGIES:**

Apologies were received from Councillors Boulton, Craig, Gomer, and Price.

**2. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2022**

Councillor Asman presented the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021. These were accepted as a true record of events and signed by the Chair.

**Proposed:** Cllr Asman  
**Seconded:** Cllr MacDonald  
**In Favour:** Unanimous

**3. MATTERS ARISING:**

There were no matters arising.

#### **4. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL**

Good evening, Councillor Garton ,Chair of the Hedge End West and Botley Area Committee, fellow Councillors, Ladies and Gentlemen. It is truly a great pleasure to see so many of you here after all this time. Welcome.

When I made my Chair's Report at the Parish Assembly in 2019, little did I think it would be three years before we would all be able to gather together here in the Parish Centre. We have all suffered, each in their own way, during the pandemic but of one thing I am certain it has drawn our community ever closer together with the many and varied acts of kindness. Some have suffered the loss of a loved one and there have been 27 deaths in the village where Covid was recorded as the underlying cause. May I, therefore, ask you to join with me now in a minute's silence to remember those who are no longer with us.

**\*A minute's silence was held\***

I start this report with a thank you on behalf of West End Parish and myself, to my fellow Councillors. Thank you so much for giving your time and energy, particularly during this pandemic, when they had to be balanced against the needs of your families and work commitments. I could not have carried out the role of Chair without your continuing support.

The Parish Council works hard to provide good quality local community services in response to need and endeavours to protect the Parish's interests to ensure the present and future wellbeing of all its residents and to promote and protect the village feel of West End. As you will all know the facilities provided in West End are diverse and many. The task of managing these is vast and falls to the Parish staff who have been amazing in these truly difficult times. They have managed to maintain a wonderful level of service despite the ever-changing rules and guidelines relating to the pandemic. You all go over and above what can be expected of you, are loyal to the Parish Council and are great ambassadors for West End. On behalf of the Parish Council a huge thank you to each and every one of you.

It begins to feel as though things are getting back to normal as during last year some of the established and now traditional events took place, although with some adjustment, they included:-

The Community Games which moved from its usual venue at Moorgreen to Cutbush and was extremely well attended.

The Summer Tea Dance

The Remembrance Sunday Service. The Service went ahead not in St James' Church but at the Cenotaph in the village. Very many thanks to the Clergy and Choir of St James. The weather was kind and those attending were very complimentary.

The switching on of the Christmas Lights,

The Senior Citizens Christmas Party and the children's Christmas Party  
This year, in addition to the usual events, we are looking forward to the celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June there will be a "Picnic in the Park". Please see the Parish Newsletter for more details.

These events could not take place without the support and assistance of Councillors, Parish Council Staff and those residents who volunteer to help.

Going forward, the Council will continue to ensure that its voice is heard at planning enquiries and local planning meetings and also continue to raise the profile of traffic and parking problems in West End.

I am very pleased to be able to report that the long-awaited Skate Park will be going ahead in the near future. The young people were consulted and had a large input into the design, and we have received very positive feedback from residents.

Barnsland is to be upgraded to include improved access to the new wheeled sports area at Hatch Farm, new seating and bins in better locations, entrances refreshed and made more accessible and the swings will receive new seats and an improved surface beneath them. Information boards are also to be installed.

Looking to the future, consideration is being given to the creation of a Picnic Area on Hatch Grange and an extension to the Café. I'm very happy to say it begins to look like business as usual at the Parish and other community centres with full bookings for the halls.

The Parish Council has once again asked parishioners to choose how they wish to distribute the £3,000 it has allocated to Participatory Budgeting, and I will be announcing the result of this exercise later this evening.

West End Parish Council is standing in solidarity with Ukraine and to see our response to the Ukraine crisis please refer to the Eastleigh Borough Council website.

To end my report, I would like to say it has been an honour and privilege to Chair the Council during the last year. Thank you once again for attending this evening and as representatives of the many organizations in West End may I express my thanks and gratitude for your commitment and enthusiasm which makes West End the friendly, proactive, and inspiring community it is. I look forward to hearing your reports.

Thank you.

## **5. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF H.E.W.E.B LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE**

### **Councillor Cynthia Garton – Chair of the Hedge End, West End and Botley Local Area Committee**

Last year, I started this annual review making reference to the Covid pandemic and paying tribute to the many local people and the NHS who have helped others within the Hedge End, West End and Botley area. Little did we realise that a year later we would still be experiencing the impacts of the pandemic. While the extensive vaccination program has allowed more normal life to resume, I remain impressed by, and grateful to, all the local people and the NHS who continue to support our communities and vulnerable residents.

This has been my fourth year as the Chair of the Hedge End, West End and Botley Local Area Committee, and while the pandemic has presented further challenges, much has been achieved – it gives me great pleasure to be able to share some of the successes of the past year with you now.

**Itchen Valley Country Park:**

This wonderful local country park continues to provide a much-valued space for enjoyment, relaxation, and adventure for its visitors. The introduction of the first elements of the Memorial Walk has given an opportunity for reflection which is already valued by many. Following the approval of £3.3 million funding in July, a range of exciting improvements are proposed for the Park, including upgraded play equipment, improvements to trails and enhanced parking. A planning application is anticipated later this year to seek approval for improvements to the existing buildings and the erection of a new building at High Hill Field for use by visitors. The Park's staff continue to deliver an interesting and wide range of events and, as Mayor, I am delighted that the Park will be hosting a 'Wellies and Walkies' event for my chosen charity, Mountbatten Hampshire, on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April.

**Woodhouse Lane:**

In October, I had the pleasure of cutting the ribbon for the official opening of the brand-new Deer Park Secondary School which opened to pupils in September 2021. The work to further enhance these facilities with the sports hall extension and Artificial Turf Pitch has been progressing well and is expected to be available for community use in September 2022. With the school forming part of the Wildern Academy Trust, we look forward to continuing our strong partnership with the Academy and building on that foundation with the team at Deer Park.

The creation of three community use grass football pitches at Berrywood Fields has also progressed well, as I saw recently when I visited the site. These combined projects will provide Hedge End Rangers with a place that they can call home instead of having to travel to many different facilities for training and matches, as well as benefiting other community clubs.

Highway infrastructure works for the school and the Woodhouse Meadows development site are being delivered as part of the ongoing phase 1 Botley Bypass works that are under constructed at present and are anticipated to be completed later in 2022.

**Hatch Farm:**

Continuing the success of the play area at Hatch Farm, which is enjoyed by many, a contract has been awarded to Fearless Ramps to design and deliver a wheeled sports area in this development. Working with West End Parish Council, young people and potential users have been consulted and the final design consultation took place on the 9<sup>th</sup> March. This is an exciting project for families in the area and our keen skaters and scooter users, and I'm looking forward to seeing the final design take shape.

**Boorley Park:**

I was pleased to be able to open the play area and Multi Use Games Area at Boorley Park in July, and see lots of children, including some from the Boorley Park primary school enjoying the playground.

While the community buildings are not yet open, the snagging issues that prevented the buildings from being transferred have been resolved and the legal transfer of the buildings and sports pitches to Eastleigh Borough Council has now been completed. The Council is working closely with Botley Parish Council to enable their swift transfer to them and to support the preparations for opening the buildings to the public as soon as possible.

**Public Art Projects:**

A number of public art projects have been delayed due to impacts arising from the pandemic. However, I'm delighted to be able to say that the installation of new gates at the Berry Theatre entrance has recently been completed. Other projects in Hedge End and West End are progressing and it is anticipated will be delivered later in 2022.

**Community Project Funding and Grants:**

Being Mayor this year, I have had the pleasure of visiting many organisations across the Borough that provide fantastic support for our communities and residents. As a committee, we have continued to support local organisations in the HEWEB area by funding grants with over £10,000 awarded.

In addition, the Committee has approved funding for a wide range of projects across the local area, including the projects mentioned above. We have provided new litter bins following requests from residents and have continued to fund replacement street name plates and six flower towers in our village and town centres.

As Councillors, we are frequently contacted by residents with regards to parking issues. Each year we prioritise sites for potential traffic regulation orders, which typically comprise the introduction of double yellow lines. The final lining works for the TROs approved in 2021 should be completed soon. We also commissioned a traffic study around Wildern School, and the report and recommendations have now been received and are being reviewed with interest by the Committee.

**Partnership Working:**

Many of the successes that have been achieved in Hedge End, West End and Botley have been achieved through close working with key partners in the area, particularly Hedge End Town Council, West End Parish Council and Botley Parish Council. We are grateful to everyone involved with these organisations for their hard work and dedication.

The Committee has continued to engage with the Hampshire, Southampton, and Isle of Wight Clinical Commissioning Group to ensure local residents are represented when decisions regarding healthcare are considered. The CCG have been tireless in the delivery of the Covid-19 vaccination programme, and I thank them for their immense effort under such pressure.

The multi-agency Flood Resilience Group started in Hedge End in 2020 has been expanded to include other areas of the Borough. This partnership is considering a wide range of measures to seek to proactively manage flood risk across the Borough in the short and medium term, and more strategically. The group is meeting again to continue developing these measures.

Regular meetings are being held with Chief Inspector Marcus Cator to discuss local issues, continuing to strengthen the Committee's relationship with the Police. The Hedge End Neighbourhood Policing Team Sergeant, Sgt Stuart Jackson, is leaving the team in April and I thank him for all his work during his time in Hedge End district. I look forward to continuing the positive relationship we've built with the new team sergeant, Sgt Sally Ferris, when she arrives.

### **Concluding Remarks:**

The Committee enables local decisions to be made at a local level. However, we could not carry out our work without the help of our partners, staff, local organisations, and volunteers – you have the gratitude of the Committee. I would also like to thank the Local Area Manager, Kitty Budden, and Assistant Local Area Manager, Siobhan Strand, for the help and support they give to the Chair, Committee, Town and Parish Councils, local groups, organisations, and residents.

We will continue to be ambitious for our local area while recognising the challenges faced with rising costs and global instability. During this coming year, the Committee is keen to focus on successfully completing the significant projects mentioned above, and the careful planning of long-term projects such as the Telegraph Woods improvements and the redevelopment of New Place for our communities, to ensure we continue to meet the needs of our residents, businesses, and visitors.

Finally, I cannot finish my review without commenting on the tragedy that we are witnessing in Ukraine. As a Council, as a Committee, and as individuals, we stand with the people of Ukraine and hold them in our thoughts. Many of our local residents and organisations are providing support in whatever way they can, and I draw solace from the acts of kindness that we see. I wish you all peace, health, and happiness for the coming year.

## **6. PRESENTATION OF AUDITED ACCOUNTS FOR 2020/21**

**Councillor and Treasurer Ben Coles presented the audited accounts for 2020/21.**

Every year the Audited Accounts are presented to you at the Annual Parish Assembly. They represent the financial activities of West End Parish Council during the financial year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.

They show the income and expenditure of the Council and have been subject to scrutiny by our own accountant and auditor, and then presented to independent external auditors for final approval and comment.

Approval was received and the certified accounts subsequently presented to, and approved, by Full Council. They represent the financial activities of this Council throughout the year 2020/2021.

They are prepared by the Parish Clerk who is the Responsible Financial Officer.

The full set of Audited Accounts is available at the Parish Office.

## **7. REPORT FROM HAMPSHIRE POLICE REPRESENTATIVE**

**Sergeant Stuart Jackson gave an update on behalf of Hampshire Police.**

The pandemic has had a significant impact on our ability to engage with the public. However, I'm happy to say that as things are now returning to normal, you will begin to see an increased police presence as well as more attendance at community events.

The crime stats show that levels are similar to what they were pre covid. The only area that seems to have seen an increase in numbers is anti-social behaviour related to speeding.

We are working closely with the local Speedwatch group to try to educate people further on this and encourage people to help and support this where possible.

Staffing levels are at their highest for a long time as we currently have 5 PC's and 5 PCSO' and these numbers are not set to change.

Youth disorders in Hedge End in the latter part of 2021 took up a significant amount of time and resource but this seems to have died down now. However, it may increase again when summer comes around.

In order for our statistics to be more accurate, we encourage people to keep reporting incidents, now matter how small or trivial, to 101 or via the online reporting system.

West End is still a very safe area for people to live and work in.

Lastly, we wish to extend our thanks to the Parish Council for their continued support.

## **8. REPORTS FROM ORGANISATIONS WITHIN WEST END PARISH**

### **West End Community Support Group**

This group was set up initially to help people in need during the Covid lockdown. However, due to the success of this group and the continued support of residents we've been able to carry this on as a support group for West End residents in need. We've also been running monthly events to give people a chance to get out and get together again. This will be continuing throughout 2022.

I've also been involved in supporting a local charity which helps women affected by domestic abuse by providing them with household items when they are moved into a new home. Again, it's been amazing to see the generosity and support of West End residents in assisting with this.

Lastly, I just wanted to say that I will be collecting my award in May (The founder of the West End Community Support Group has been awarded a British Empire Medal, BEM) on behalf of the wonderful community of West End as I feel that I wouldn't have been able to do what I've been doing without their support.

### **Hilldene Community Association**

Since the last time I attended this assembly in 2019 much has happened in the world and of course at Hilldene. The influence of the Covid outbreak and the lockdowns led to the closing of the centre for an extended time. A very sad and certainly unexpected thing to have to do.

But during this time, the management committee kept in contact and the decision was made to carry out some improvements to the building that would have been very difficult to do with the centre open. For example, extensive redecoration both inside and out and renewal of all the carpets and kitchen flooring.

In addition, following a successful grant, the long-awaited replacement of the curtains in the main hall was completed. This work was either carried out or arranged by committee members and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all involved for their constant support of Hilldene.

As a result, Hilldene reopened much improved and I am pleased to say most of our regular hirers have returned bringing with them a very diverse range of activities for our community.

Finally, I would like to thank the staff at West End Parish Council for always having their door open to offer help and advice.

**A number of groups choose to present their reports as a display during the refreshments held prior to this meeting. The groups were on hand to answer questions from Councillors and members of the public. As such the following reports were not read during the meeting.**

#### **Hatch Grange WI**

We are a WI group who have been meeting in West End for over 50 years. As for so many, it has been a difficult 2 years following the covid 19 restrictions. We faced an uncertain future, so we consulted our members with options going forward and it was decided a complete change was needed.

Now, with approximately 45 members, we meet in the afternoon at Hilldene Community Centre. This suits our many members in lots of ways like parking and daylight driving.

We have several groups including crafts, darts, scrabble, and poetry. We have interesting and social monthly meetings with guest speakers. We support the local foodbank with donations and fundraise within our group with raffles and book sales to help our meetings go ahead.

The money we have requested from the Parish Council will go towards crate trollies for manoeuvring various items between meetings (books, folders etc) as we have no storage at Hilldene.

#### **St James Church**

We had services in church with covid measures in place throughout the year including weddings, baptisms and funerals when they were allowed. We also offered 'worship at home' through online services. When the weather was good our 11am Church Alive service was held outdoors in the church grounds before moving back into church in October.

A highlight was an outdoor Songs of Praise service and afternoon tea in July when we celebrated St James. The Remembrance Sunday service was held entirely at the War Memorial and was well attended, and the church and community partnered again to decorate the hedges there with knitted poppies to honour the war dead.

We found creative ways of supporting people's faith with 'lent in a bag', a monthly tree trail with activities in the church grounds, a weekly e-mail to the congregation with reflections and church news, and children's groups on a Saturday morning in the church grounds.

In the autumn Rev'd Linda Galvin increased her chaplaincy role at St James church school to two days a week. This has been a great blessing for the school and further strengthened the link between the church and school.

In November Carol Kidd, one of our Licenced Lay Ministers was commissioned as an Anna Chaplain for Harefield and West End. Anna Chaplains' offer support and care to older people in the community of any faith or none. New members joined our pastoral visitors team and after training were commissioned in the autumn.

Once our administrator was un-furloughed, we resumed printing our Church Magazine for those not online. It's available online for everyone else. Our 'Project Aurora' was completed in the spring when we had an AV system put into the church, comprising a new sound system and a projector and screen. The screen is used for our 11am informal service and we also used it for our 4 Christingle services at Christmas where we welcome over 320 adults and children in support of the Children's Society.

We continue to collect for the food bank and the church is open Tuesdays to Fridays from 9am to 3pm for visitors.

### **Saint James Primary School**

The past year has been an incredibly busy time for everyone at Saint James Primary School. There have been numerous changes during the year with a clear focus on raising standards, building community links, and developing as a church school.

#### **Church School**

We have continued to develop as a church school over the past year while tackling the challenges that covid has given us. Our Christian Values 'Love, Respect and Courage' are securely embedded across the school and form the basis of our behavior policy. We expect everyone in the school to model these values, to 'reflect' on times when they have fallen short of our high expectations, and to 'transform' into an even better version of themselves. This language and positive culture enables the majority of our community to explain how they are feeling, admit mistakes and move forwards confidently. The school community look for occasions when members have shown love, respect, or courage, and celebrate this with praise along with our new reward system which is linked to our school values.

We have launched a new rewards system with the children this year. Alongside our rewards, we are trying to engender a sense of greater responsibility in the children and the realisation that each of their actions has a consequence. To illustrate this point, we are using the book, '*Have you filled a bucket today?*' In the book, children are introduced to the idea that everyone has a metaphorical bucket that can be either filled or emptied by their actions or the actions of others. By performing a kind action, they will be filling their bucket and that of the recipient of the deed, compliment, or action. However, if they are unkind towards someone else then it will begin to empty their own bucket and that of the person who experienced the unkindness. The idea behind this segues nicely into another facet of our behaviour system – Restorative Justice. There are many positive examples in primary schools across the country of how Restorative Justice has been used as a way to resolve issues, mediate between pupils and allow children to gain a greater idea of the impact of their actions. Usually mediated by the class teacher, a Restorative Justice conversation allows children involved in a negative interaction to describe to the other their interpretation of what happened, what they were thinking, what impact they perceive their actions had and how the interaction made them feel. Research has shown that when the perpetrator hears directly from the recipient the consequences of their actions (rather than from a third party such as a teacher) it is far more powerful at reducing the potential for future incidents.

As a church school our links to St James' Church are very important to us. We celebrate Harvest, Christmas and Easter through services held at the church. Additionally, we are fortunate enough to have Reverend Linda Galvin working with us for two days a week as our School Chaplain. She supports us with collective worship, works with children and classes, and brings lots of creative ideas to enhance our courtyard spiritual garden. This space is an impressive feature within our school and has become a much-loved place to sit for quiet reflections.

We were delighted to be able to welcome Bishop of Southampton and acting Bishop of Winchester, Debbie Sellin, to Saint James Primary School last week. After beginning the day by sharing breakfast with the school governors and members of the Senior Leadership Team, Bishop Debbie led the school in Collective worship.

Following on from Collective worship, Bishop Debbie was given a guided tour of the school by two Year Six pupils, and our School Chaplain, Reverend Linda. She enjoyed visiting the different classes and meeting the children who had plenty of questions to ask her!

After her tour of the classes, Bishop Debbie met the newly established Saint James Primary School Vision and Values Taskforce. They enjoyed discussing this with Bishop Debbie, as well as having the opportunity to talk with her about their future plans. Exciting times are ahead!

Finally, Bishop Debbie met with members of the leadership team where she talked about how we are looking to develop as a school and how our values of Love, Respect and Courage, along with our vision, are going to underpin decisions made as we look to the future.

### **Curriculum**

We have devoted much of staff training time to exploring the latest methods and strategies for teaching English and Maths effectively. In particular the school have challenged themselves to think how children can be enabled to think in 'greater depth', to work independently, and to solve problems with resilience. We have also been developing our wider curriculum to offer children truly engaging and meaningful opportunities in other subject areas. Saint James offer exciting opportunities beyond what is ordinarily offered, such as swimming at Wildern, 'Listen to Me' music, outreach music from Wildern specialists, bike training and specialist sports teaching. With the current emphasis on high attainment for Reading, Writing and Maths, it is increasingly important to find these opportunities to develop 'the whole child' and create well rounded individuals.

We have many children who have really excelled in the past year. One of our children in Year 4, along with her mum produced a book based on her experiences blogging, entitled The Littlest Blogger. Inspired by the blogging she has been doing with her mum for the past eight years, she has enjoyed sharing her stories and opinions through her blogging. Her exploits and endeavours have also been acknowledged by the Daily Echo who covered her story.

We are really proud to have a published writer in our school and are pleased that her writing, as well as being entertaining and informative, can have a positive impact on others.

As part of the enrichment work we do, we supported Children's Mental Health Week in February 2022. This year's theme was Growing Together. Growing Together is about growing emotionally and finding ways to help each other grow. This has been particularly important this year as our community have faced significant challenges as a result of the pandemic.

### **Community**

We have continued to be involved with our local community this year despite the challenges of covid. Our school Choir sang at the church for Christmas and have visited other places in the community such as Sunnycroft Care Home. This was a lovely opportunity for our children to showcase their musical skills. They always enjoy singing in public and hopefully it is a pleasure for the community too!

We have a very active group of parents who run SJSA (Saint James School Association) and organise numerous events which benefit the children. We are grateful for their hard work and for everyone in the community who attends, as the money raised provides essential funds for the children.

This year has seen an increased participation of the Saint James children in the inter-school sports competitions. Their skills have improved over the course of the year and our teams have won many of their competitions. The children have been praised for showing our school values of 'Love, Respect and Courage' during competitions, remembering to be both 'good winners' and 'good losers'.

Inconsiderate parking around schools is often an issue for the community. We have developed our 'drive-through' with signage and floor markings, enabling parents to drop children off within the school grounds instead of having to park in the morning. We have continued our staggered start and end of the school day in an effort to reduce the traffic congestion around the school at peak times. We frequently remind parents to park with consideration of our neighbours and community police officers monitor this whenever possible. We have provided additional storage for bikes and scooters to encourage even more children to avoid coming by car, which is making a difference to the volume of traffic in surrounding roads. We have a team of Junior Road Safety Officers who help us to develop our School Travel Plan and encourage our families to walk/scoot/cycle to school.

Throughout this year, we have heard about humbling feats of courage and kindness from pupils at Saint James Primary School that have made a significant impact towards changing the life of others. We would like to mention a few of those to illustrate the impact the children are having in our community:

One Year 4 pupil bravely requested that we observe Alopecia Awareness month last September. The pupil, who lives with alopecia, talked to children about her experiences with this autoimmune disorder.

Alopecia UK set a challenge for September; nationally, they asked for 80 'charity champions' who were tasked with raising £125 for Alopecia awareness and research. Through holding a blue-themed non-uniform day on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> September and charging children £1 to participate, we raised £505 to enable her to be one of these 'champions'.

Further exciting news is that a video made by one of our Year 6 pupil, to explain about achondroplasia (dwarfism), and how it impacts her, has been forwarded by the director of education for the Winchester and Portsmouth diocese to all of the schools under his remit. He was so impressed by the clarity and empathy of her presentation that he felt it an essential message to be passed on, 'I'm extremely grateful to her for her profound wisdom and sensitivity and hope that her amazing video has a significant impact on the 27,000 children in our diocesan schools who may view such an amazing video'. She has now been invited to participate in a very special service in the Winchester Cathedral in the Easter holiday

On Saturday 23rd October, a pupil in Year 2, completed an impressive challenge to raise money for Southampton Hospital. Although she is a competent swimmer already, she trained to swim a mile. This is an impressive feat for anyone, let alone a 7-year-old! (Anecdotally, that is only 0.2 miles less than swimming to the Isle of Wight!)

One of our Year 4 pupils felt strongly that all children should experience the joy of opening an advent calendar regardless of their circumstances. For that reason, he began to appeal to collect Advent calendars for those who would not be fortunate enough to receive one. It appears that many families were touched by his advent calendar appeal; the level of support and generosity that has been given has overwhelmed him and his family. They were able to deliver an impressive amount of calendars (as well as other assorted goodies) to the food bank at King's Community Church.

Only last week we have heard of yet another pupil who is selflessly giving their own time to support those in great need.

A Year 3 pupil accepted the challenge to run 44km for the 44 million Ukrainians currently enduring such unbelievable danger and hardship.

Currently his total is up to 26km, so he is already over halfway and doing really well (no blisters or stitches yet, that we know of!) All the money he is raising will go directly to the DEC Ukraine Appeal

If you see him out running, please give him encouragement, as he is showing great perseverance to keep going.

### **Planet Protectors**

Children have engaged in the Great Big Green Week, which took place nationally in September. It was the largest event for climate and nature ever seen in the UK with thousands of events to celebrate how communities are taking action to tackle climate change and protect green spaces. Throughout the Autumn half term, Year 3 considered the impact of using plastic bags and whether their convenience and ease of use outweighs the negative environmental impact.

During the course of their Art lessons, the children have designed and created their own reusable shopping bags from recycled t-shirts and decorated them with fabric paints. As a culmination of their topic, the children showed courage in their conviction that plastic bags are not a viable and ecologically sound choice, by presenting their argument to a senior figure from Costco. After delivering their impassioned presentations to Sam, the store's representative, she was convinced that a reduction in the use of plastic bags was the direction that the shop should be taking.

The eloquence and coherence of their arguments suggests that many of the children may be rivalling Greta Thunberg in their desire to make environmental change on a global scale.

The children are very excited about joining the '*One Bag, Big Difference*' campaign. The council is encouraging people to help clear up litter in the borough, during the Great British Spring Clean 2022. This year's campaign, running from 25 March to 10 April, calls on families, neighbours, friends, and colleagues to pledge to pick a bag of litter from nearby streets, beauty spots and beaches.

In Summary it has been an incredibly busy year in Saint James Church of England Primary School, but it has been rewarding as we have built so many new links with people in our local community. We would like to thank the Parish Council and members of the community for the support they have shown us.

### **West End Local History Society**

As soon as we were able, we reopened the museum, and restarted our monthly meetings. We've been very lucky to have had good attendances at these meetings. The February meeting, we had about 47 people and we've had about 58+ members who have renewed their membership as of March 2022 with a few more still to come.

We have a full programme of speakers for the rest of the year. We are back at the museum during the week on Wednesday mornings doing archiving and cataloguing new acquisitions. We've recently ordered two new signs in the Parish corporate colour and design for the Tying plate/Cartwheel as well as the Milestone in the museum garden. A small topical display related to the Queen's Jubilee has also been set up in the Museum.

We would like to thank the Parish Staff for all their assistance and support during these difficult times.

### **YouthHouse**

This report is a bit different to previous years. We are unable to work out how many young people we have been in contact with as our numbers have been limited.

Unfortunately, we had to close the youth clubs from 23<sup>rd</sup> March until 28<sup>th</sup> July 2020. We opened every week until the October half term and the youth staff had a well-deserved break. If we had known, we were about to go into another lockdown we would have stayed open. Unfortunately, we could only open for 3 nights before the second lockdown began on the 4<sup>th</sup> November till 8<sup>th</sup> December. We were able to reopen for a short period in December before the Christmas break and we were put in tier 4 and then the 3<sup>rd</sup> national lockdown in January 2021 until the reopening on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

Apart from a few covid outbreaks in which staff and young people had to isolate we have managed to stay open. However, we were able to work with our young people virtually doing online zoom sessions and offered one-to-one support line to any young person struggling with any issues at this difficult time.

As the lockdown started to relax, we were able to go out doing detached sessions visiting area where young people gathered, chatting to them and offering help and advice on keeping safe through covid. We did this until it was safe to reopen. We followed the National Youth Agency guidelines all the way through the pandemic for opening safely. Attending webinars as things were changing rapidly.

When we were able to open, we were limited to bubbles of 15 young people per session which had to be outside. This was particularly difficult as we have so many members and all were really wanting to attend the club, therefore we had to start a booking system, to give all our members a chance of attending the club.

Young people really enjoyed being out with their peers at the youth club although the activities had changed a lot, we could only offer a few activities such as art and crafts individual packs, one pack per person. No cooking, no computers or x box but lots of outside play and social distance games. We also purchased new waterproof jackets for all staff for doing detached and while we are outside during the colder evenings. Due to the rules about us being outside we bought a large gazebo which we put over our new recycled plastic tables to provide a bit of shelter.

Throughout the 3rd lockdown Nikki and Hannah had been going out and doing detached work twice a week. We noticed that the majority of young people were sticking to the rules. While we were doing detached, we took litter picking equipment with us and have been filling multiple bags each walk. We were also holding weekly zoom quizzes which were popular with our younger members.

### **Training**

As we have had so much time off, we have been able to do some training, most of which was online. This has included:

First Aid at Work	Nikki Penny and Hannah Beattie
Safeguarding Children Level 1	Claire Goddard, James Chase, Lily-May Martin, Shelley Mockford & Nick Beattie
Safeguarding lead	Nikki Penny and Hannah Beattie
Health and Safety	All staff
Equality and Diversity	All staff
Covid safe training	All staff
Introducing Sign Language	Hannah Beattie
DBS Checks	All staff

### **Trips/Activities**

Once we reopened, we decided as a team that would not shut for any holidays as young people had missed out on so much already this year not only had the club been shut for 21 weeks in 2020 and 11 weeks in 2021. We had to cancel our annual residential trip along with all our weekly summer holiday trips and our community games in 2020.

During the lockdowns while we were doing detached youth work, we also did litter picking. We found that there was a lot to pick up, so we decided to arrange a community litter pick morning on the 22nd May. This was very well attended by a lot of members of the community, and we were supported by the Parish Council and Eastleigh Borough Council. It was so well attended that we held another on 25th September with St James School.

We were lucky enough to go on trips during the summer holidays including kayaking, doughnutting, manor farm (with the toddler group too) and Romsey rapids which we did do using public transport. We held our annual community games on the 18th August at Cutbush Football Fields, we had inflatables, farm, BBQ, police, tombola, we had a visit from the Eastleigh FC mascot and a raffle. A fantastic day was had by all, and we have already started to arrange 2022's event!

We took a coach to Thorpe Park for fright night, which was a new experience for many of the young people. We then opened the Youthhouse on Friday 5th November for the Ageas Bowl fireworks. It was a busy night and was nice to see so many members of the community.

In December we worked with So18 Big Local, Southampton Airport and Townhill Park Residents Association to hold a winter lights walk through the Copse finishing or starting at the Chartwell Youth Centre for a hot chocolate and mince pie. This had a far better turn out than we were expecting as we ran out of cups on the first night!

December also meant we were back the Panto for the first time in a few years. We took 70 young people to see Cinderella. We were back open on the 4th January. We have moved our year 6's up to a Wednesday and our year 9's up to a Thursday to ensure there is space on a Tuesday for the young people turning 8.

### **Parent and Toddler Group**

When we were able to, we reopened our parent and toddler group at Cutbush football fields. However, we were only allowed 6 parents per session. Therefore, we decided to run two Parent and Toddler groups. The numbers were upped to 12 parents which meant that we were able to connect with more parents in the area. In July 2021 we were able to move back to Townhill farm community centre, with unlimited number of parents, running on a Tuesday and Thursday morning (10am-12pm). We have found that the group missing out the most are new parents and parents with toddlers. Our parents and carers are very excited to be coming back. Both groups are well attended by parents and carers in the local areas.

### **Staff**

We have had some change around with staff as unfortunately Claire Goddard left May 2021. Lily-May Martin welcomed a baby boy named Finley Penny on Christmas day 2021. Therefore, we now have Jake Penny back working with us while she is on her maternity leave.

### **2022**

2022 has already started out to be a busy year. We have moved the year 6's to a Wednesday evening and the year 9's to a Thursday evening. We have been involved in the design of the new wheeled sports area with holding 2 meetings. We have done activities around Chinese New Year, Valentines, Pancake Day and Mother's Day. We have already started planning the Easter Holidays and Community Games 2022.

### **School Governors**

No school governors present.

## **9. REPORT FROM COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS**

### **County Councillor Broomfield**

Firstly, it is a real pleasure to be back in West End. It is 15 years since I stood down from WEPC and made my last presentation here: it's pleasing to see so many of the same faces in the room!

I must start by paying tribute to my predecessor, Cllr Bruce Tennent, who worked hard for the good of the people of West End over many years: thank you, Bruce.

As you don't want to hear me waffle on for too long, I will be brief, and try and keep my words relevant to West End. I also represent Horton Heath on the County Council, so I promise to confine myself to local matters.

Since being elected, I have helped residents in the village with a variety of issues; particularly residents of Barnsland who had some green open space on the junction with Swaythling Road occupied by an internet services company, with little consultation or pre-warning. I was able to ensure the company kept to the agreement to vacate the site promptly, and to restore the condition of the area. Work here will continue in the planting season. Residents of Littlewood Gardens, too, were affected, with new distribution poles appearing with no discussion. We had to involve our MP to solve that one.

I am also working on a uPVC recycling site on Botley Road, adjacent to the Ageas Bowl. I hope we will have good news on that for residents shortly.

Flooding in early July was a major issue, but mostly affecting the Horton Heath end of my County Division, but ongoing work is under way to ensure no repetition occurs.

As a County Councillor I sit on three Committees:

- Regulatory, which deals primarily with permission and oversight of waste disposal sites. A particular recent case you may have seen on TV was a massive incinerator on the A31 at Alresford (which I voted against); and we have the Waste Transfer Station proposed for Chickenhall Lane, about which I can make no comment at present.
- Buildings, Land and Procurement, which is probably self-explanatory
- Culture & Communities: I recently attended an event at Hamble Country Park where we launched Hampshire's Platinum Jubilee commemoration (70,000 trees across the County) by planting the first of 7,00 trees to be planted at that site.

A quick word about 20mph limits, which are currently a hot topic. Speed limits are the responsibility of the County, and the Cabinet Member dealing with Highways has a study underway, due to report back in September, looking at the viability of 20 limits across Hampshire, so wait and see what the outcome is.

In closing, it is a real pleasure to see you all again, and I look forward to seeing you all again, much sooner.

### **Borough Councillor Tennent**

- Broadband for All – Toob have commissioned their gigabit infrastructure in West End, south of the motorway. Customers are experiencing superfast Broadband speeds of around 900 Mbps
- The West End section of the motorway will be resurfaced next year (2023), after first being promised in 2009
- Ageas Bowl will soon submit a planning application for 189 dwellings.
  - The Clinical Commissioning Group will be consulted with respect to Health provision. The Moorgreen GP Surgery is under pressure to see patients and as a consequence are triaging calls.
  - St James Primary School was recently expanded by 200 places and as a maintained school, Hampshire County Council will be consulted on the number of places the planning proposal will require

- Eastleigh Borough Council’s Cabinet recently discussed their part in the Freeport initiative. It was noted that DP World, P&O Ferry operator also run Southampton Docks logistic operation.

## **10. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

A local resident raised the following issues

- Graffiti and litter along West End high street.
- An issue with the number and usability of disabled parking bays along the high street. There are currently on 3 available, one is on a busy main road and the other two are in a spot which floods frequently.
- E Scooters – These are being seen more regularly on footpaths causing a dangers to pedestrians.

**Councillor Asman advised that all of these points will be reported to the relevant party as they are all dealt with by different bodies.**

A local resident asked what was happening regarding the proposal, which was discussed some years back when the Moorgreen development was being conducted, to extend the GP surgery as there have been issues with obtaining GP appointments.

**Councillor Tennent confirmed the surgery has been extended, just in a different way to the original proposal. The issue they are now facing alongside covid is a lack of staff and a lack of funding.**

**Councillor Asman noted that councillors are aware of the lack of local provision, and they are highlighting this issue where they can.**

**Councillor Garton advised that HEWEB is working closely with the CCG to potentially improve Healthcare facilities in the local area.**

## **11. PARTICIPATORY BUDGET – ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUCCESSFUL GRANT APPLICATIONS**

72 voting slips were received. As we only received 10 grant applications this year, we were able to award all groups their requested grant amount. Councillors Asman and Coles presented each cheque as follows:

<b>Group/Organisation</b>	<b>Amount Awarded</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> West End Brownies	£300
3 <sup>rd</sup> West End Guides	£300
Friends of West End Copse	£250
Hatch Grange WI	£210
Hilldene Community Association	£300
Speedwatch	£250
Stay & Play Toddler Group	£75
West End Garden & Allotment Association	£300
West End Local History Society	£250
West End Community Support Group	£300
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£2,535</b>

**There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 8.26pm.**