

Winchester City Councillor Monthly Report June 2019



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If you have any comments or questions on the content of this report, please do not hesitate to get in touch. And of course, on any matter relating to WCC responsibilities where I will help.

Running! The heat is confounding my efforts however I shall be doing the Alresford 10k organised by the Rotary on Sunday 16th June. I've decided to raise money for The Eel House which has failing foundations and is short around £8k to get the work under way. I'm on Facebook if you want to sponsor me, or you can directly make a donation to New Alresford Town Trust. We have one of very few still able to operate, so let's keep it as part of our history.

What does a City Councillor do for you? Sometimes your efforts to get a response can seem to take longer than necessary or you just don't know where to start. Bin emptying, planning progress or complaint about an Officer recommendation, neighbours being annoying, no idea if you need planning permission, special event planning, licensing if you look after pets - a very varied brief! If it's not a City Council responsibility, I can ensure you are referred to someone who will be able to steer you in the right direction.

Bin Collections : Bin collections have gone from bad to worse in the past few weeks. You can report missed bin collections on line, however if they aren't emptied within 48 hours of reporting, please let me know.

Mutual exchange/homeswapper service: For those in City Council owned homes, sometimes there is a desire or a legislative force to move due to changed circumstance. Having assisted families and individuals in the past to find their way through the system, I am always happy to be the link with WCC officers if you are finding this troublesome. A Councillor can make all the difference, and often they do!

Warning: Diary note for August! **Boomtown Chapter 11** is taking place Wednesday 7 August to Monday 12 August 2019. The ingress is mostly over Wednesday and Thursday, and the majority leave on Monday.

I am attaching a link to the latest newsletter as you can register for a new release of 500 specially discounted (£125) weekend tickets purely for local residents. In the newsletter, you will also see that a determined effort is being made to ensure tents are removed from the site. <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-CY2gDGJ5FmvvvA4P1ZYuzzWIT-jiMVX/view>

Final point to note is that Boomtown have submitted their License Application for 2020 which includes an increase in visitor numbers and an increase to the ingress on Wednesday to further spread the traffic over 2 days. Look carefully at the detail around visitor and staff numbers, and make any representations to Winchester City Council by 2 July 2019. (The 2019 event is for the same event plan and numbers as last year.) The application for 2020 will be subject to support by Hampshire Constabulary upon completion of a satisfactory Festival this year.

Winchester Food Partnership: Whilst Portfolio Holder for Health & Wellbeing, I championed the District being part of a sustained effort on : good food, strengthening the local economy, environmental sustainability, strong and resilient communities and fairness in the food chain. Currently the partnership is formed of representatives from the City Council, NHS Trust, University of Winchester, health professionals, academics, business owners, community organisations and charities – all of whom appreciate the importance of food! We have many existing local producers – such as allotments and food farming (small or large) – but it is important to look at further opportunities as nutrition is vital to our long term health. Local food sources are also way better for the environment. If you are part of the 'food chain' and have yet to become involved, let me know.

Gullies and drainage : HCC cleared 8,070 in the County (911 in Winchester District) in April. However, some may not be on their list. If you have one that needs attending to, you can report on line.

Potholes : HCC repaired 683 in Winchester District, out of 3,692 in the County. _Again, you can report any on line that have been missed. As for the Bishops Sutton Road by Long Barn, I wonder. Tichborne Down has been reported for investigation due to a lengthy repair which has left the surface difficult for drivers, let alone cyclists (whether by pedal or motor).

Footpaths : HCC also repaired 118 sq m of footpath in the District, however this did not include the footpath between Bishops Sutton and Alresford. This is a long battle, which apparently requires the support of the Chancellor! However, those who live in Alresford and use The Avenue are no doubt delighted at the smooth surface underfoot (that'll be in the May figures).

Local Councils Conference: WCC are keen to continue building relationships following successful meetings in the past Municipal Year to ensure we work as efficiently together as possible. The next meeting for Parish/Town Councils is on 18 June 2019. Please send a representative or two! There is some very valuable information sharing.

Sports Awards 2019: It may feel early to be thinking about these, but it's important to recognise volunteers, players, coaches and supporters of our local sports clubs. Yes, you recognise them within your own club, but you spread the news of your successes and may attract new members by putting the word out of how great your club is by nominating to the District Awards presented every February at the Holiday Inn.