



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT of 2022-2023

Highclere Parish Council – Councillors

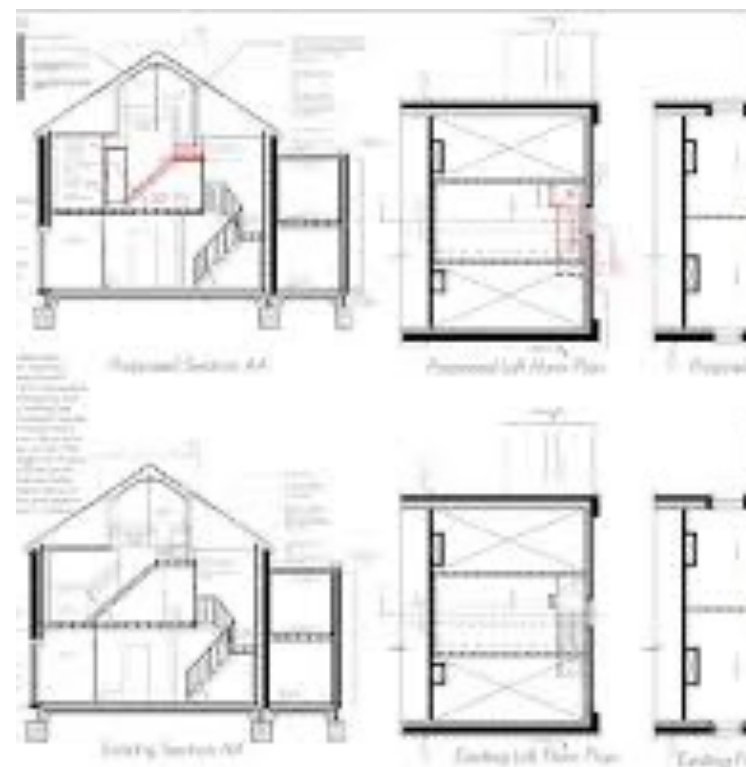
- Thanks to our Clerk and all councillors who volunteer their time and effort in to supporting their local community!
 - One councillor resignation in June 2022:
 - Jane Smith
 - One councillor re-joined in March 2023
 - Julia Easton
- The parish council is still short of one to two Councillors
 - Until the full council is in place, focus will remain on priority HPC business, including:
 - Planning, including Neighbourhood Plan
 - Finances
 - Staff/HR (Clerk and Litter Warden)
 - Community Infrastructure Fund – Foxes Lane, Penwood
 - SID/Speeding/Potholes
 - Footpaths

Highclere Parish Council – Ongoing work

- Litter Warden
 - Increase in litter, especially bad in Heathlands and Woodlands
 - Reliant on BDBC litter collections along A343
 - Thanks to Dave McClelland for continued great work
- Traffic Speed:
 - New Static SID purchased and deployed across Parish
 - Renewed (post-COVID) deployment of Community SpeedWatch – thanks to Brian Harling and the CSW volunteers
- Lengthsman
 - Funding will continue via Hampshire County Council for 2023/24
- Potholes along the A343
 - Discussion and continuous follow up with HCC to seek a speedy and robust resolution to the current and recurring issue of potholes along the A343 from Penwood through to The Pheasant.

Highclere Parish Council – Planning

- Increase year on year since 2018
- Year ending April 2020
 - 41 planning applications
- Year ending April 2021
 - 45 planning applications (9% increase)
- Year ending April 2022
 - 80 planning applications (78% increase)
- Year Ending April 2023
 - 49 planning applications (**61% decrease**)



Highclere Parish Council – Key successes for 2022-23

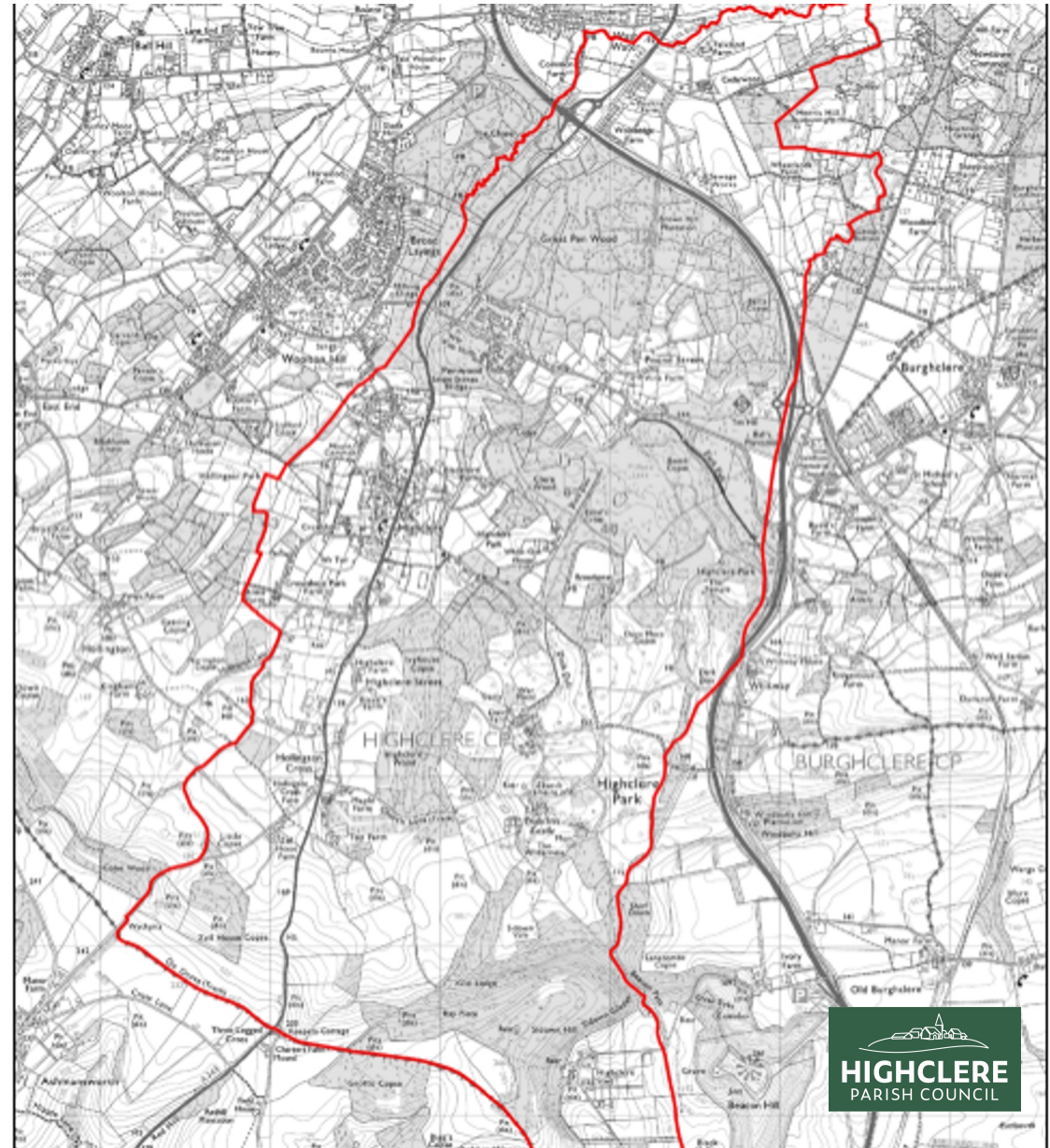
- Watermill Bridge at Wash Water 21/03394/OUT, worked with external consultant (Steve Lees) and EWPC – **Dismissed**
- 20/03524/OUT. Appeal regarding land West Of Andover Road Andover Road Highclere Hampshire – HPC submitted a response; appeal **Dismissed**
“ The Inspector upholds that the 5-year land supply issue does not apply to the AONB unless there are exceptional circumstances.”
- 20/03577/OUT. Appeal regarding land and at Existing Caravan Storage Site, Falkland Farm - HPC submitted a response; appeal **Dismissed**
“the adverse impacts would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits of the scheme.”
- Planning group process refined to absorb 2022 increased volume and diversity of applications.
- New templates designed (see right).
- Relationship with AONB Planning team has strengthened.



2022-23 Projects

Neighbourhood Plan:

- Highclere Parish Council continuing to supporting the Neighbourhood planning team through 2023-24
- Brief update from Colin Wall



2022-23 Projects

- Support Neighbourhood Plan team
- Support Westridge Studio
- Support Highclere celebration of Queen's Platinum Jubilee, achieved grant funding of £1000 from BDBC
- Replacement of bench on A343, near Red House pub
- Purchase of replacement Speed Indicator Device and ongoing reporting of speed data
- Continuation to report and monitor progress of potholes/road surfaces in the parish and follow up with Hampshire County Council
 - Please report issues you see in the parish to Hampshire County Council

Parish Council Finances

Grants/Precept received in 2022-23:

- Precept: £24092
- Queen's Jubilee celebrations- for Highclere Society £1k
- CIL Funding (yet to spend) £2.3k
- Litter Warden: £7.7k

Parish Council Finances

- Spend in 2021-22: £27k
- Spend in 2022-23: £39K

Precept spending in 2022-23 includes:

- Salaries (Clerk and Litter Warden) £19k
- Purchase of new Speed Indicator Device £4k
- Neighbourhood Plan £1.4k
- Bench on Andover Road, Tubbs Lane Noticeboard £1.5k
- Website/Office/IT/Payroll/Insurance/Hall Hire £1.5k
- Planning Consultancy- Wash Water: £300

Highclere Parish Council – Funding

Funding for the Parish Council

- Provided by Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council- Precept and Litter Warden Grant
- Request submitted in January – 4% increase from 2022 (from £24092 to £25056)
- Precept increase below the rate of inflation Equates to £1.28 increase from 2022/23 to 2023/24 (Band D)

| 2023 – 2024 | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council | 90.95 | 106.10 | 121.26 | 136.42 | 166.74 | 197.05 | 227.37 | 272.84 |
| Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Authority | 53.62 | 62.56 | 71.49 | 80.43 | 98.30 | 116.18 | 134.05 | 160.86 |
| Hampshire and Isle of Wight Police and Crime Commissioner | 167.64 | 195.58 | 223.52 | 251.46 | 307.34 | 363.22 | 419.10 | 502.92 |
| Hampshire County Council | 973.50 | 1135.75 | 1298.00 | 1460.25 | 1784.75 | 2109.25 | 2433.75 | 2920.50 |
| Parish precept | 21.74 | 25.38 | 29.00 | 32.62 | 39.86 | 47.12 | 54.36 | 65.24 |
| Total | 1307.45 | 1525.37 | 1743.27 | 1961.18 | 2396.99 | 2832.82 | 3268.63 | 3922.36 |
| Approx. monthly payment for 10 months | 130.75 | 152.54 | 174.33 | 196.12 | 239.70 | 283.28 | 326.86 | 392.24 |

2023-24 Looking Ahead.....

- Report and monitor progress of potholes/road surfaces in the parish and follow up with Hampshire County Council
 - Please report issues you see in the parish to Hampshire County Council
 - Discussions ongoing with HCC to seek resolution:
 - Full resurfacing is scheduled for 'this summer' – HPC is seeking clarification on timing
 - Please consider signing the petition or signing the Change.org online petition:
 - [Petition · Address safety concerns by resurfacing the A343 - Andover Road, Highclere · Change.org](#)
- Continue to support Neighbourhood Plan
- Continue to support Westridge (£5k reserved in finances)
- Community infrastructure project for Foxs Lane

Highclere Parish Neighbourhood Plan Update

Colin Wall
Steering Group Chairman

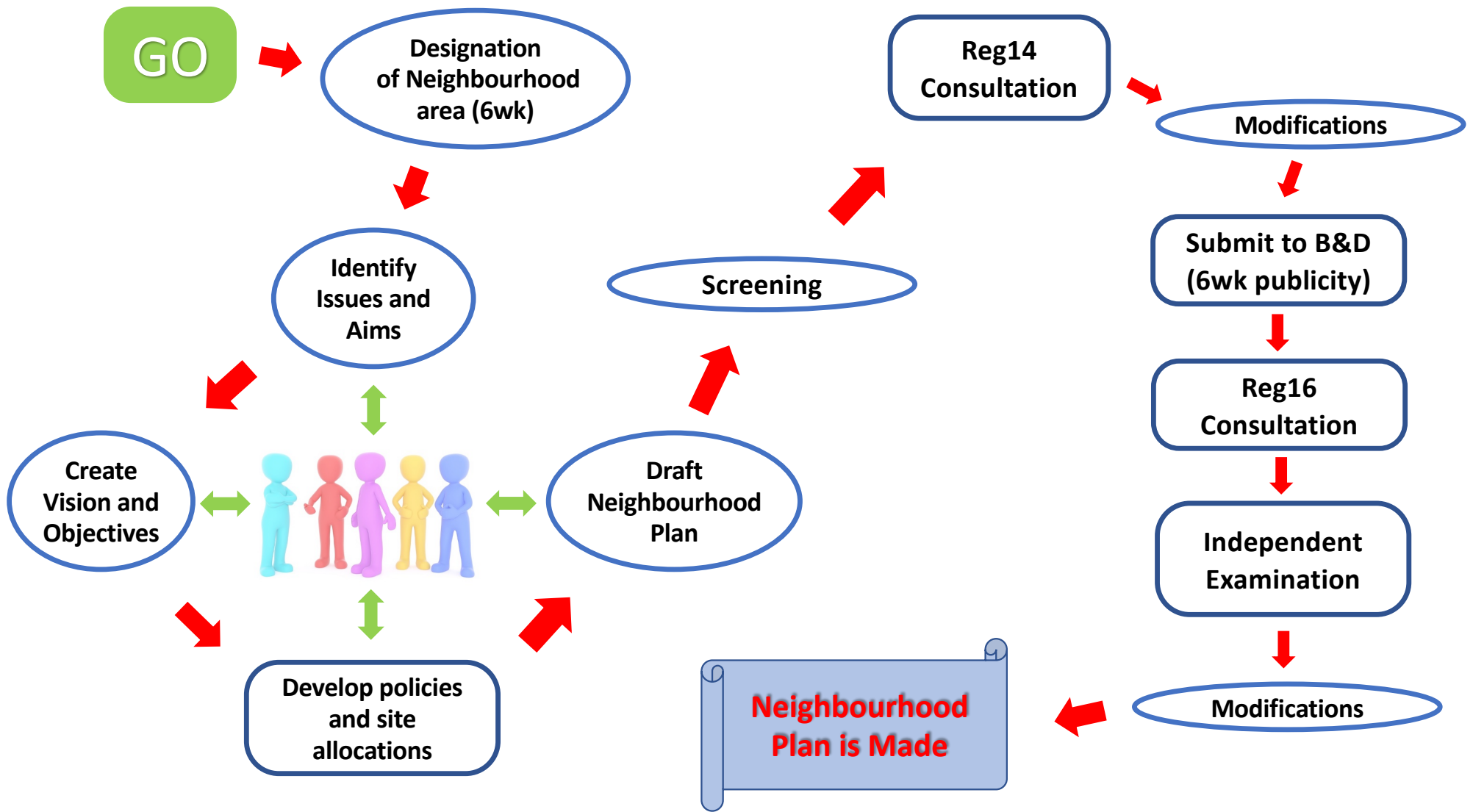
Highclere Neighbourhood Plan Timeline to date

| | |
|--|---|
| Dec 2018 | Neighbourhood Plan (NP) Area agreed by B&D to be the whole Parish |
| Jan 2019 | Steering Group (SG) formed, chaired by Colin Wall. |
| July 2019 | Consultants selected. |
| Feb 15, 2020 | NP Open Day held at Village Hall. Advertised on PC website, Nextdoor, Highclere Society (HS) newsletter & Parish magazine. Evil weather but nearly 100 people attended. |
| COVID starts – Community Engagement constrained | |
| March-April, 2020 | Open day views categorised and summarised |
| May 16, 2020 | Results posted on PC website |
| Feb 2021 | Housing Needs Assessment conducted by independent consultants. |
| June 2020 – May 2021 | Vision and Objectives (V&O) developed from Open Day outputs. 17 objectives defined. |
| Sep 13, 2021 | Objectives survey sent to all 652 dwellings in the Parish – 200 responses on paper or by SurveyMonkey |

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Sep 13, 2021 | Objectives survey sent to all 652 dwellings in the Parish – 200 responses on paper or by SurveyMonkey |
| Oct 29, 2021 | Analysis of Objectives survey response delivered to SG. 13 of 17 had approval ratings > 90% 3 in the 80%s, 1 at 72%. |
| Nov/Dec 2021 | SG agreed that allocating a development site had best chance of influencing planning decisions and meeting objectives |
| Jan 5, 2022 | Call for sites published. Eleven sites were put forward. |
| Mar 14, 2022 | Independent assessment received of site suitability against B&D Local Plan and National Planning Policy Framework |
| JPP Appeal Delay | |
| Jan 2023 | Assessment of sites against Objectives by SG. Short list created. |
| April 24, 2023 | Site Preferences and Drop-in leaflet sent to all 652 dwellings in the Parish |
| May 2023 | Drop-in sessions at Westridge Studio – 10 th , 12 th & 16 th . |

Community Survey – Summary Results

| | Objective | SA | A | D | SD | Total | +ve % (SA+A) |
|----|--|-----|-----|----|----|-------|-----------------|
| 1 | Protect and enhance (including disabled) access to the countryside | 134 | 58 | 4 | 1 | 197 | 97 |
| 2 | Maintain key views and vistas within the parish | 145 | 48 | 2 | 2 | 197 | 98 |
| 3 | Protect and enhance Local Green Spaces of significance to the community | 132 | 55 | 10 | 0 | 197 | 95 |
| 4 | Protect and maintain natural boundaries (incl. replacement with only native species) | 123 | 69 | 6 | 0 | 198 | 97 |
| 5 | Maintain and enhance local biodiversity and wildlife, including in new development | 132 | 60 | 3 | 1 | 196 | 98 |
| 6 | Ensure new residential developments provide space for biodiversity enhancement | 120 | 60 | 14 | 1 | 195 | 92 |
| 7 | Identify the various built up areas in Highclere to help create Settlement Boundaries | 99 | 73 | 19 | 3 | 194 | 89 |
| 8 | Provide a housing mix meeting community needs by allocating sites for development. | 83 | 83 | 18 | 13 | 197 | 84 |
| 9 | Protect, maintain and enhance important heritage assets and historic character. | 131 | 62 | 5 | 0 | 198 | 97 |
| 10 | Ensure all developments are energy efficient and have adequate infrastructure. | 147 | 44 | 5 | 2 | 198 | 96 |
| 11 | Encourage developments to respect the parish's eclectic nature and rural character | 132 | 59 | 4 | 3 | 198 | 96 |
| 12 | Support change of use for redundant farm buildings to business class uses | 44 | 99 | 39 | 14 | 196 | 73 |
| 13 | Ensure superfast broadband and mobile connectivity is provided in any development | 126 | 60 | 10 | 2 | 198 | 94 |
| 14 | Support planning applications that provide live / work accommodation | 39 | 123 | 25 | 10 | 197 | 82 |
| 15 | Ensure sufficient parking provision is made on site for all new developments | 143 | 46 | 4 | 5 | 198 | 95 |
| 16 | Ensure that up-to-date traffic studies are done for all multi-dwelling applications | 141 | 46 | 7 | 4 | 198 | 94 |
| 17 | Protect, enhance and increase footpaths/bridleways/quiet lanes for safety and to reduce car reliance | 129 | 54 | 13 | 2 | 198 | 92 |



BOROUGH COUNCIL UPDATE

Cllr Falconer



ELECTION

- Conservative 23
- Labour 10
- Liberal 9
- B Independ 8
- Independent 3 of which 2 are ex Cons
- Green 1 a defection from Labour

BOROUGH COUNCIL UPDATE

Cllr Falconer



PLANNING

- JPP land and Falkland Farm
- Wash Water Beware the Appeal
- Woolton Hill Sports Club disaster

Local Plan Update years away

BOROUGH COUNCIL UPDATE

Cllr Falconer



FINANCE

- The Opposition was responsible for the increase in C Tax
- Finances held up well but interest rates and inflation are threats
- £157m in Treasury Management of which £45m cash
- £380m in property of which £320 is commercial rental investment