

## New Permissive Path opens

After more than a year in planning and construction, the new West Itchenor Permissive Path was opened on Friday 1st July.



At a well attended ceremony at the start of the path in the northwest corner of the car park, Valerie Davis cut the ribbon and unveiled a commemorative brass plaque which reads:

In Memory of  
Lt Col John Q Davis OBE RM  
Manager and Harbour Master  
from 1997 to 2010

The Chairman of the Parish Council, Michael Chater, made a short speech to the assembled villagers and guests outlining the original concept of the path, its planning, funding and construction.

He thanked JH & FW Green, the Chichester Harbour Conservancy, Northshore Yachts and the Coastal Change Pathfinder Project who have supported the project from the outset and also the willing band of volunteers who worked hard to bring the project to such a successful conclusion.

The weather was perfect and after the ceremony in the bright sunshine the path was tested by those present and all agreed that it would make a welcome addition to the footpath network around the village.

## The Common

The Parish Council has agreed to pursue a further application to register its title to the Common. The application does not affect its present ownership status but currently the Parish Council is unable to grant adjacent properties a right of access across the Common.

In the meantime the Parish Council will continue to exercise the management of the Common by using its powers under the Commons Act 2006 to protect the Common from such issues as dumping, planting, parking and unauthorised works. Its aim is to retain the Common as an attractive open space for the enjoyment of residents.

The Parish Council would also like to clarify that for residents whose property adjoins the Common that bins should be left by your boundary. The District Council refuse collectors are aware that they collect and return bins to the property boundary and they are not to leave them on the Common. If you have any problems where this is not happening please advise the Parish Clerk who will take this up with the District Council.

The map below shows highlighted, the extent of the Common which runs from the caravan site on Shipton Green Lane and Little Orchard on the Itchenor Road down to the end of property boundary of Greenlees.

Did you know that there is a common misconception that common land is land in public ownership and that any person has a right to enter. This is not necessarily so and it was not until the Countryside Rights of Way Act 2000 that the public were granted a legal right of access (on foot only) over registered common land.

## Map of the Common



## Alastair Spencer



Alastair Spencer was co-opted onto the West Itchenor Parish Council at the May 2011 meeting. He and his wife Vicky have had their home in Itchenor for 11 years. They divide their time between Itchenor and their house in Surrey.

Alastair is a director of a private investment company based in Weybridge, Surrey and travels extensively in Europe in connection with various projects for business. He is also consultant to a design business specialising in website production.

Alastair has been a school governor for 17 years, the last 3 of which as Chairman; he stood down from this post at the end of July.

He and Vicky have three children. Their eldest son works in financial services, their daughter works in publishing and both live in London; when possible they spend their weekends in Itchenor. Their youngest son has just finished university and is now training to be a teacher.

## Sarah Varvill



Sarah Varvill joined the Parish Council in May 2011. She has been an Itchenor resident since 1996 and full time since 2008. She worked in the Foreign Office and in estate agency and more recently at Goodwood House and a Bond Street antiques dealer.

A member of Itchenor Sailing Club since 1997, where her three children much enjoyed their early sailing, Sarah now sails in a Swallow. Her interest in the Harbour and surrounding villages began as a child in Emsworth.

## Public Conveniences

The Parish Council is pleased to confirm that the public toilets in Itchenor have been given a reprieve.

After some very lengthy negotiations the District Council, Harbour Conservancy and the Parish Council have agreed financial contributions that will keep the toilets open for the current financial year.

All parties involved will be reviewing funding for the future later this year.

## Itchenor Bus Service

West Sussex County Council has recently undertaken a review of bus subsidies and is considering the withdrawal of financial support for the 150 bus service from Itchenor to Selsey via East Wittering.

Should the funding from WSCC be withdrawn then the bus service would likely cease sometime around April 2012.

Does the village want or need a bus service? Would enough residents use it to make it viable for Stagecoach to run? Would a shuttle bus service from Itchenor to East Wittering running on Tuesday and Thursday mornings be a viable alternative? Do you have any other suggestions?

The Parish Council would like to hear your views. What do residents think? If there is no feedback from residents the Parish Council would find it very difficult to engage in talk with Stagecoach to keep some sort of service for the village. A likely outcome would then be that there was no bus service for Itchenor in the future.

If you have any views on what type of bus service should serve Itchenor residents then please contact the Clerk by post  
6 Locksash Close  
West Wittering  
PO20 8QP

or email  
[parishclerk@westitchenorparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:parishclerk@westitchenorparishcouncil.org.uk)

or alternatively complete the online survey on the latest news page of the Parish Council website.

## West Itchenor Parish Council

<b>Chairman</b>	<b>Michael Chater - Itchenor Cottage, Shipton Green, PO20 7DA</b>
<b>Councillors</b>	<b>Graham Colbourne - Mizzen Top, Itchenor Road, PO20 7AA</b>
	<b>Ric Dukoff-Gordon - Ebenezer, Shipton Green, PO20 7BZ</b>
	<b>Jim Hartley - Fairfield, Itchenor PO20 7AE</b>
	<b>Alastair Spencer - Anchor Cottage, Itchenor PO20 7AB</b>
	<b>Susan Taylor - Dobbies, Itchenor Road, PO20 7AA</b>
	<b>Sarah Varvill - Farleigh Cottage, Glebefield Road, Itchenor PO20 7DB</b>
<b>Parish Clerk :</b>	<b>Carol Smith - 6 Locksash Close, West Wittering. PO20 8QP</b>
	<b><a href="mailto:parishclerk@westitchenorparishcouncil.org.uk">parishclerk@westitchenorparishcouncil.org.uk</a></b>

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