

Deliveries to Travis Perkins

Lorries waiting to deliver goods to Travis Perkins have been the cause of considerable concern to residents of Itchenor. The Parish Council has held a number of meetings with Travis Perkins over many months and has consulted the Police and West Sussex Highways.

The issue has been created by the requirement of Travis Perkins for all delivery lorries to gain permission before entering the site. Dependent upon where drivers pull up on the road outside, their vehicle will cause a greater or lesser traffic hazard. This may be just for a few minutes, but often longer, and anyway enough to put other road users at risk.

If they pull up well before the bend or after the bend, where an overtaking vehicle has a clear view of the oncoming traffic, the risk is not great. But too often drivers have stopped in extremely hazardous positions, close to the bend in the road. In response to our complaints, Travis Perkins has introduced a trial procedure to encourage drivers to pull up some distance from the bend, but this has been only partially successful and has created further problems.



At the point where lorries are now required to stop, the edge of the tarmac has broken down, as has the grass verge and mud has been spread on the carriageway, which is both unsightly and unsafe. In addition an existing road sign is obscured by the parked lorries.

The view of the Parish Council is that Travis Perkins should allow lorries to enter directly into the site. They have made substantial improvements to the layout and can now accommodate three large vehicles at any one time. In so far as they receive between 25 and 30 deliveries per week, this would effectively remove the problem, as the number of occasions on which four lorries would require access at the same time must be very few and far between. However there is also the possibility of creating a further space for lorries to pull off the road just outside of the gate to the Travis Perkins site. This is common land and it would be subject to gaining permission.

The Parish Council seeks the help of residents to monitor the situation and produce evidence for further discussions with Travis Perkins. We ask that, whenever you see a lorry parked dangerously, you report it to the Clerk of the Parish Council, with the date, time and with some identification of the offending vehicle.

The incident will be taken up with Travis Perkins immediately and recorded. It will be shared with the Police and the Highways Department, who have concerns and will be considering their own courses of action. Any photographic record is helpful. But, if the incident can be recorded by a digital camera which shows the date and time on the image, it could potentially help to bring a prosecution.

The Parish Council will continue to press to achieve a safe solution for residents and visitors to the village, whether they are on four wheels or two. Your assistance in monitoring the situation will be most helpful towards achieving this.

Please make the Clerk of the Parish Council your point of contact so that we can keep track of all incidents. parish-clerk@westitchenorparishcouncil.org.uk or 05600 793843.

PERMISSIVE PATH UPDATE

Following on from the article in our last newsletter outlining the plans for a new Permissive Path connecting the village car park to the coastal footpath, the Parish Council and our project partners the Itchenor Society have been busy putting in place the necessary permissions before we begin the construction phase.

Our application for planning permission was approved on 18th October 2010. Insurance and funding are in place and we are now in the final stages of completing the legal agreement between the owner of the land upon which the path will sit and the Parish Council.

Once this is done we will be looking for volunteers to help with clearing the route before beginning the groundwork and laying the path surface.

Diana Jerwood

After serving on the Parish Council for many years, Diana Jerwood stepped down as a Councillor in January this year for health reasons. Diana has additionally served as part of the Planning Committee that meets every two weeks in addition to the Parish Council meetings.

The Parish Council is sorry to lose Diana as a Councillor and wishes her well for the future.

Annual Parish Meeting

Monday 18th April 2011
Itchenor Memorial Hall
6pm

Residents of Itchenor are encouraged to attend this year's meeting. Meet your Councillors and find out what the Parish Council has done for the village in 2010. Refreshments will be available after the meeting.

Susan Taylor



Susan Taylor was invited to become a member of the West Itchenor Parish Council at the September 2010 meeting. Susan moved to Itchenor in February 2006 when she and her husband Basil bought Dobbies. Initially, they were weekenders but in January 2007 Susan became a full time resident of the village.

Susan and Basil, who have two sons and four grandchildren, lived abroad in the 1970s, first in Brussels and then in Bermuda before returning to London in 1985. During this time abroad Susan studied for two degrees: a BA in History & the Arts, and a LLB law degree. Susan was admitted to the Law Society in 1988.

Susan served as a Councillor for the London Borough of Croydon, where she sat on the Planning, Housing and Licensing Committees.

Whilst not a sailor, Susan supports Basil and their two sons in their love of sailing their yacht while she prefers her garden and walking in the surrounding countryside. Her other interests include reading, history and cooking, all of which she hopes to do more of now she is retired.

SALT BIN

As part of the Winter Management Plan that West Sussex County Council asked us to draw up, the Parish Council has arranged to install a salt bin opposite the pond to assist motorists when we suffer from snow and icy roads.

Unfortunately, despite the best efforts of the Parish Council and the Itchenor Society, it was not possible to arrange delivery of the salt bin before the December snow and ice. Hopefully the bin will be in place and full of salt and grit before the next cold snap.

When conditions require, it is intended to treat the two hills either side of the church, the hill by the pond and the sharp corner at Itchenor Green.

PLANNING STATISTICS

In 2010 the WIPC Planning Committee considered 46 planning applications and passed its recommendations to Chichester District Council Planning Department.

34 applications were given approval by CDC, 5 were refused and 4 were withdrawn.

3 applications still have decisions pending. On all but two occasions our recommendations agreed with the final decision made by CDC.

We were in agreement with the Harbour Conservancy in all but two cases.

Jim Hartley



Jim Hartley was co-opted onto the West Itchenor Parish Council at the November 2010 meeting. Jim moved to Itchenor with his family in 1975 after serving as a pilot in the RAF for 20 years.

Their children went to school at Birdham Primary, where his wife Graine was a school governor, and then to Chichester High School. In 1980 Jim and the family moved from Fosse Cottage to Fairfield, where they still live. Jim flew as a captain with Laker Airways before working in the Middle East and finally became the personal pilot to the Amir of Qatar.

Jim is now retired and the children are grown up and married. He is a life long sailor, has raced keelboats at Itchenor Sailing Club where he was Vice-Commodore and Commodore. He has cruised extensively in the Mediterranean and the Atlantic, which he has crossed five times under sail. Jim's children and 13 grandchildren visit Itchenor regularly. Naturally he loves Itchenor but some changes will come and should be welcomed if it enables more young families to live and work here.

West Itchenor Parish Council

Chairman Councillors

Michael Chater - Itchenor Cottage, Shipton Green, PO20 7DA
Graham Colbourne—Mizzen Top, Itchenor Road, PO20 7AA
Ric Dukoff-Gordon - Ebenezer, Shipton Green, PO20 7BZ
Jim Hartley - Fairfield, Itchenor PO20 7AE
Edward Roose - Rye Cottage, Spinney Lane, PO20 7DJ
Susan Taylor—Dobbies, Itchenor Road, PO20 7AA

512213
513963
513835
512612
512271
514034

Parish Clerk :

Carol Smith - 6 Locksash Close, West Wittering. PO20 8QP
parishclerk@westitchenorparishcouncil.org.uk

05600
793843