

Update from Anne Budd, chair of Hamstead Marshall Parish Council, 2nd August 2022

Dear Parishioners

Good news on the speeding issue.

My colleague Richard Smalley (Chairperson of Kintbury Parish Council) kindly provided the contact details of the TVP officer in charge of 'Speed Watch'. I contacted the officer today and indicated the following

- the hand-held device is loaned at no cost
- registration of the scheme has been simplified
- training is on-line only

Initially the loan scheme was over a period of six months - this has been extended to a permanent loan basis if the device is being used on a regular basis. I shall register Hamstead Marshall today or tomorrow.

If you are interested in volunteering, please let me know either by email, landline (01488 657022) or Skype. I will be happy to send on the information to you.

Potholes

I hope we are able to agree that we have more traffic flow through our community than in previous years. Our roads and side-roads can be adversely affected by increased traffic especially where potholes have been patched. Autumn is creeping up on us and inclement weather will be with us. In the sunny and dry days of summer, drivers including cyclists are able to avoid potholes. Less so perhaps, during autumn and winter months. Potholes become waterlogged and pose hazards.

The usual method is for parishioners to write in to WBC to provide details of the 'pothole'. This information then flows into some sort of WBC computer system used to prioritise repairs.

I have created a HM pothole database where information can be logged and every six weeks (or so) send a report to WBC. By maintaining a database with any updated information, our community will be able to track the status of current potholes and record when potholes have been repaired. I have listed Ash Tree Corner as a potential hazard because there is evidence of verge erosion caused by vehicular traffic as subsidence of the road surface itself.

Would you be so kind as to let me know where the locations of potholes are and I shall enter the information on the database and inform WBC.

Craven Quarry

No further updates as a judgement is pending between Wiltshire County Council and the operating company. I doubt that we shall receive news of this case any time soon.

Planning Matters

HMPC has decided to review the 'Village Design Statement' which was submitted to West Berkshire Council via the Downland Forum (no longer functioning) in 2007. Parish Councillors think a review is necessary as we have new members and need to ascertain if anything new should be added, or otherwise. In addition, we welcome views/opinions from parishioners with particular regard to the design statement and or, provide views on what they think needs to be included in making Hamstead Marshall a happy and thriving community. The design statement can be found on the HMPC website or, alternatively, contact me and I shall send you a copy.

Parish Clerk

Sad news - Angela, our parish clerk has resigned, stating that clerking for HMPC is not for her. Angela was very helpful in organising HMPC's account records in time for the 2021/2022 audit. We thank Angela for all her work and wish her well for her future endeavours. An vacancy advert has been placed on Penny Post.