



Cricket Hill traffic chaos!

Local Lib Dem Councillors have met South East Water and Hampshire Highways to try to avert chaos due to a planned closure of Reading Road.

South East Water planned to close the road from the roundabout by Frogmore College to Frogmore Road in February for 4 to 5 months for a new water main.

The Lib Dem councillors, including **David Simpson** and **David Murr**, raised many of the concerns and suggestions, made by residents, about how to minimise the impact including:

- Can it be laid across the Common instead?
- Could rush-hour traffic be allowed through one way in the morning and the other in the evening
- Can they shorten how long it will take and work over the summer holidays when traffic is less?
- Making sure everyone is told what is happening
- What can be done to help traffic get through more efficiently on **Cricket Hill** and **Rosemary Lane**
- What can be done to help **Handford Lane** and **Vigo Lane** traffic get out onto **Cricket Hill**
- Access by the emergency services



• If **Reading Road** is closed for 5 months, **Cricket Hill** and **Rosemary Lane** will be gridlocked. "They're bad enough at the moment!" says Cllr **Myra Billings**.

Yateley Common Management Committee has also suggested another route which would avoid most of the closure without damaging the Common.

South East Water agreed to look again at their plans. The works will **NOT** now go ahead until the issues have been carefully reconsidered.

Partial victory on bus passes

Hampshire Tories have decided to make cuts to travel tokens and bus passes despite opposition.

Travel tokens for people with disabilities will be cut from £55 a year to just £32 from April 1st.

The Tories also wanted to stop pensioners' bus passes being used before 9.30 am. This would be unfair if you needed to leave early for a health appointment or to visit relatives.

The good news is that our pressure has resulted in a partial climb-down as the start time will now be 9 am.

Cllr Myra Billings (right) said: "The free bus pass has been a great success, it helps people keep active by getting out and about and fill the half-empty buses as well as taking cars off our roads.

"It's surprising the Conservatives should try to make life more difficult for people."





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Local News



Monteagle Car Park chaos rumbles on

It was good to see that the car park at Monteagle had at long last been resurfaced.

Local councillors **Myra Billings, David Murr** and **David Simpson** worked hard to get this done, but Hart Council had dragged their feet for several years. As time went by one reason after another was trotted out for the work not happening.

Now that the new surface has been laid the price had gone up because of the delays. So part of the area was left undone, causing great problems for the Westfields Pre-School Playgroup.

Myra continues to press Hart to get this last area finished off.

This is done...



...but what about this?



Changes to Fleet Buzz

On **11 April** there will be changes to services 71 and 82.

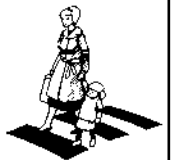
The 71 will still run early morning buses to Fleet and evening buses back from 4.15 onwards, but there will be no longer be any services in between.



However, the hourly service 82 to Farnborough will now carry on to Fleet, so it will still be possible to get to Fleet during the day, although it will take longer. The 82 will still go to Reading in the other direction.

New crossing needed outside Waitrose

Lib Dem councillors are pressing for a proper crossing on the road outside Waitrose. Local residents have complained that it is not easy to get across the road safely with the speed of the traffic. Highways have agreed to see what can be done. We will let you know what they say in due course!



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