

# Matters

Latest News from Spennells - January 2021

County Cllr Marcus Hart, Mark Garnier MP and Police & Crime Commissioner John Campion

## Hoobrook Island - Works Start January

### Great News for Spennells Residents as Work Starts on Hoobrook Island

Cllr Marcus Hart has been instrumental in driving this project since being elected in 2017. Though it has taken a long time to bring to fruition, it is worth remembering that multi-million pound capital projects which require significant design and engineering do not happen overnight. Marcus says "I

was delighted to play my part in ensuring money was put in the budget for this circa £3.6 million capital scheme for the benefit of local residents. I am confident that with the A road arms of the island being signalised and with various lane reconfigurations, including increasing to 3 lanes on all the A road arms, traffic flow will be greatly improved."

The project is approximately a 7 month programme and due to complete late

summer 2021. Importantly, work will commence by the end of January and by the time you receive this newsletter you should already see some activity on site. Clearly there will be some disruption, especially in the first phase, as traffic will be reduced to one lane. Disruption will be kept to a minimum with some night time working at some stage. Signage will be in place to warn motorists of disruption during these works.



Cllrs Marcus Hart and Alan Amos (Highways Cabinet member) on the Hoobrook Island prior to £3.6million improvement works this January



Marcus would like to advise residents that the extension of the double yellow lines at the junction of Heronswood Road and Captains Pool Road are due to be completed by the beginning of February. Allowing for a better and safer traffic flow at this junction, particularly at school times.

## Building Back Better

Tackling coronavirus is the biggest challenge our country has faced in living memory. It's thanks to the sacrifices and efforts of the British people that we have got this far.

We will continue to face challenges ahead but I know we can face them together. That's why we have a plan to build back better.

A plan to support jobs, create new opportunities, and deliver the investment needed to recover and rebuild. Now more than ever, we must harness the extraordinary national spirit we have seen so that we can build back better.

Boris Johnson, Prime Minister



Boris Johnson reveals locations of 40 new hospitals being built in £3.7bn scheme

The Telegraph, 2nd October 2020

Rishi Sunak ploughs billions into wage subsidy to replace furlough scheme

Standard, 24th September 2020

# Future Road Dressings will be Tarmac

Marcus, still not happy with the quality of the road surface dressing works, brought the Cabinet Member for Highways, Cllr Alan Amos to Spennells in December, together with a highways engineer, in order to discuss this issue and to see for themselves the issues with the excess gravel, fatting up patches and the bitumen on some kerbs. Marcus has been assured by the highways engineer that there is nothing wrong with the integrity of the road surface, albeit Marcus

still continues to question this. However, the engineer does accept all of the points with the aesthetic issues regarding the excess gravel and the fact that the bitumen up the kerbs do not look good. Marcus has received confirmation in future that there will be no further surface dressing on side roads on Spennells, and the next time these roads are resurfaced it will be tarmac which must be done over the next 4 years.



Marcus invited Cllr Amos (responsible for Highways) to visit Spennells to see the quality of the road surface

## Bus Shelter Relocation Update

Your local Cllr, Marcus Hart, is able to give a further update on his efforts to relocate the bus shelters on Heronswood Road due to the change of the bus route.

Marcus is delighted to report that

after liaising with WFDC and WCC officers they agreed to the relocation of the bus shelters to go by the bus stops. Works commenced in early December and Marcus is delighted that the Councils repoded positively to his efforts on behalf of local residents.

At the time of going to print we were still waiting for Clear Channel to disconnect the power supply for their relocation to proceed.

It is important to remember, as some residents have questioned, this work is only necessary due to the change in route direction by Diamond Bus and not WCC.



Cllr Marcus Hart confirms relocation of the bus shelters

## WE DON'T BUY CRIME



### Smartwater roll-out

Marcus, working with the Police and Crime Commissioner, John Campion, on his 'We Don't Buy Crime Initiative', part funded a scheme to issue residents with a Smartwater kit. Residents on some roads off Captains Pool Road will have received their kits before Christmas. If successful, Marcus plans to roll this out further and signs will be installed.

### What is Smartwater?

SmartWater is a traceable liquid and forensic asset marking system. The liquid leaves a unique identifier, invisible except under an ultraviolet black light. John Campion's initiative is intended to prevent people from becoming victims of crime.



# Our Plan to Build Back Better



### Supporting jobs and livelihoods

Providing £1,000 to employers who bring workers back from furlough. And topping-up the wages of people working shorter than usual hours with a new Job Support Scheme. Plus extending self-employed support. Taking action to support and protect jobs.



### Creating new opportunities

With a £2 billion jobs Kickstart scheme. And providing £2,000 to employers for each new apprentice they hire under-25. Plus a £1 billion schools catch-up plan. And a Lifetime Skills Guarantee offering training to everyone without an A-Level.



### Investing in our NHS

With the biggest hospital building programme in a generation. Building 40 new hospitals and upgrading a further 20. And investing an extra £33.9 billion a year in frontline NHS services by 2024. Creating a world-class modern health service.



### Supporting businesses

Scrapping Business Rates for 350,000 businesses. Cutting VAT for cafés, restaurants and attractions. And providing over 897,000 small business grants, and more than one million Bounce Back Loans. Helping our local High Streets and businesses to recover.



### Building back greener

Investing £160 million to help manufacture the next generation of offshore wind turbines. Helping power every home with green energy by 2030. Plus providing grants to upgrade the energy efficiency of people's homes. And rolling out cleaner and greener buses and trains.