



## MARCH 2023 EDITION

### NEWS



#### BEAT REPORT

Hello and welcome to the February 2023 Beat Report for the New Forest Heart area. Your team is PC 24901 Mark ROBERTS and PCSO 14495 Richard WILLIAMS.

In March we will be holding the following meetings -

On Friday 3rd March we will be at the East Boldre Village Hall at 4pm, then on Wednesday 8th March join us at the village hall in the main car park in Beaulieu at 10.30am and then an hour later outside STREETS IRONMONGERS on Brookley Road in Brockenhurst from 11.30am.

At 2pm on Thursday 16th March will be at the Open Door Café in Minstead Church and then on Sunday 19th, Mother's Day, we are holding our monthly meeting where we join forces with Forestry England, the New Forest National Park Authority and our Countrywatch team to answer any questions you might have about life in the New Forest. This month we will be at Longslade Bottom car park from 8am. At 10.30 on the same day, Sunday 19th, we will be at St Michael and All Angels Church in Lyndhurst just after their morning service.

At the end of the month, we will be at Bramshaw Village Stores at 8am on Monday 27th March, and at 9am on the same day we will be outside the Bartley Post Office. On Tuesday 28th February join us at the Post Office in the Happy Cheese in Ashurst at 11am. If you can't make any of these meetings, you can always call or email us on the details below but to report a crime or any anti-social behaviour dial 101 or go the Hampshire and IOW Police website. Of course, if it's an emergency always call 999.

Eight sheds and outbuildings have been broken into this month but again no homes have been targeted. Motorbikes were taken from a garage in Bramshaw, a quad bike from a locked garage in Brook, three expensive bicycles were stolen from two separate sheds in Brockenhurst, and a large number of bottles of vodka went from a locked container in Brockenhurst.

Other sheds targeted were in Winsor, Emery Down and Lyndhurst. Also, this month the allotments in Lyndhurst and Brockenhurst have been targeted and a van was stolen from the car park of a pub in Bartley while the owner was inside having a drink.

Thefts in February included five expensive bicycles from homes in Brockenhurst – as we start using our bikes as the weather improves thieves will be out in the Forest looking to steal them. Please don't leave your bikes unattended, even if they are locked, because thieves will cut through even the most secure locks and in broad daylight. The New Forest Heart Police team is holding a bike marking day on Saturday 25th March where we will security mark your bicycle for free.

We will be in the main car park in Lyndhurst between 10am and 11.30am and then outside the bicycle shop by the train gates in Brockenhurst from 1pm to 2.30pm.

Also stolen in February was a plant pot from Brockenhurst (yes people will take anything), diesel from a site in Bartley, a catalytic converter from a vehicle in Lyndhurst, a customer's phone from a shop in Brockenhurst and lead from roofs in Brockenhurst and Sowley.

Quad bikes have also been taken from a house in Bartley and a hotel on Rhinefield Ornamental Drive, and cars have been stolen from addresses in Bank and Lyndhurst as well as from Kings House in Lyndhurst

where a Forestry England van was taken and then burnt out in Sluffers Inclosure, but not before the engine had been removed.

Other vehicles were broken into in February whilst parked in a farmyard in Winsor and in hotel car parks in Ower and Lyndhurst. No cars parked in New Forest car parks have been targeted but two cars left overnight and in the early morning in Stoney Cross and Puttles Bridge car parks were severely damaged and criminal damage has also been caused to pub windows in Netley Marsh. Another two vehicles were seized at Cadnam and Lyndhurst for having no insurance and because one of the drivers failed a roadside breath test. Drugs were also seized from drivers and passengers in vehicles parked in Boltons Bench and Park Pale car parks.

Damage has also been caused this month to the telecoms site at East Boldre. The barbed wire fence was cut and then other items were damaged inside.

Our Op Mountie sessions in February were held at both ends of the month and in total five drivers received speeding tickets with the top speed being 62 mph. Two drivers were also reported for having no insurance. A reminder that Op Mountie is our multi agency approach to reducing speed and animal deaths across the Forest and as always, we were joined by Forestry England, the New Forest National Park Authority and the New Forest Roads Awareness Team who gave the other speeding drivers educational advice. Our colleague on the Roads Policing Team at Totton also held several speed enforcement sessions on the A35 in Ashurst and stopped one driver for travelling at 79 mph in a 30 mph limit.

Thank you again for all the calls made to the Police last month about the suspicious people and vehicles you have seen in the Northern New Forest. Please keep those calls coming. You can call 101 or if you prefer you can call PC ROBERTS or PCSO WILLIAMS directly.

[richard.williams@hampshire.police.uk](mailto:richard.williams@hampshire.police.uk)

07554 775469

[mark.roberts.24091@hampshire.police.uk](mailto:mark.roberts.24091@hampshire.police.uk)

07392 314340



New Forest District Council (NFDC) has announced the budget for capital spend on projects and initiatives for 2023/24 to 2025/26 at their Cabinet meeting (1 February 2023).

The proposals for £139 million capital spend over the 3-year period 2023/24 - 2025/26 will ensure investment in housing, and the long-term efficiency of essential council services.

The £139 million (to March 2026) will include council housing maintenance (£28 million), new council housing including purchases and council-led developments (£45 million), a new operational depot facility (£7 million), updated vehicles (£11 million), commercial and residential property (£22 million), new waste strategy containers (£5 million), and coastal protection schemes (£7 million).

As well as the £139 million, £92,000 has been set aside for community grants in 2023/2024, an increase from last year's funding. These grants are awarded to local groups and organisations who are providing essential community services. Council vehicles reaching the end of their useful life will also be updated as part of the financial plans.

Cllr Jeremy Heron, portfolio holder for finance, investment, and corporate services, said: "This financial planning aims to protect and maintain the crucial services we provide for residents; to create efficiency, savings and enable income generation to safeguard important services and assets across the district, for now and into the long term."

To find out more about the proposals, residents can read the report online at <https://democracy.newforest.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=133&MIId=7513>



## MAY 2023 ELECTIONS: PHOTO ID REQUIREMENT NOW LAW

New Forest residents are being urged to make sure they are ready to vote in May by checking they have an accepted form of photo ID.

Showing a photo ID before being allowed to cast a vote is a new requirement at polling stations, introduced by the UK Government's Elections Act which was passed last year.

From 4 May 2023, voters in England will need to show photo ID to vote at polling stations in local elections, Police and Crime Commissioner elections, UK parliamentary by-elections, and Recall petitions. From October 2023 it will also apply to UK General elections.

The new legislation does not affect the postal vote process and those who choose to vote by post will not be required to provide voter ID.

Accepted forms of ID include a UK, European Economic Area (EEA) or Commonwealth passport; a UK or EEA drivers' licence; and some concessionary travel passes, such as an older person's bus pass or an Oyster 60+ card. Voters will be able to use expired ID if they are still recognisable from the photo.

New Forest District Council are advising residents of the new law, what photo ID is suitable, and what to do if a voter does not have a suitable form of ID.

Kate Ryan, Returning Officer at New Forest District Council, said, "It is estimated that more than 95% of people already have a suitable photo ID and we have started to advise people of this new requirement so they are able to vote in May. We have information on our website, in our residents emails, on social media, and posters. And we will also be sending a leaflet to every household in March.

"Our staff are being trained in the new requirements and we will have more staff at every polling station to help people with this change."

Anyone who does not have one of the accepted forms of ID can now apply for a free 'Voter Authority Certificate' at [voter-authority-certificate.service.gov.uk/](https://voter-authority-certificate.service.gov.uk/) or by completing a paper form.

The deadline to apply for a Voter Authority Certificate to be able to vote in the May 2023 elections is 5pm Tuesday 25 April.

New Forest District Council information offices at Lymington, New Milton, Hythe and Lyndhurst have trained staff to offer help filling in the application, including taking a photograph.

The full list of accepted ID is available on the Electoral Commission's website, along with more information about the new requirement and details of how to apply for the free voter ID, at [electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID](https://electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID).

Ailsa Irvine, Director of Electoral Administration and Guidance at the Electoral Commission, said, "Anyone voting at a polling station in England this May will need to show photo ID before they can be given their ballot paper. It's important that everyone understands what types of ID they can use, and how to apply for free ID if they need it. You can find information about the new requirement and what to expect at the polling station on the Electoral Commission's website."

Anyone who wants to have their say in the elections this May must also be registered to vote. It only takes five minutes to register online at [www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote). Voters wishing to apply to their council for free ID should first make sure they are registered to vote.



New Forest District Council (NFDC) has set their element of the 2023/24 Council Tax at £193.99 per year, per household (Band D property) at their Full Council meeting on 27 February 2023.

The £5.63 a year increase is a 2.99% rise on the 2022/23 Council Tax.

Other organisations have also set their Council Tax amounts, and the total bill, for an average Band D property in the district, will be £2,090.56 for the year.

The full report that set the Council Tax can be read at <https://democracy.newforest.gov.uk/documents/s25186/Council%20Tax%202023-24.pdf>

The different amounts making up the total bill, for an average Band D property are:

- Hampshire County Council, £1,460.25, an increase of £69.39 (4.99%)
- New Forest District Council £193.99, an increase of £5.63 (2.99%)
- Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire £251.46, an increase of £15.00 (6.34%)
- Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Service £80.43, an increase of £5.00 (6.63%)
- Town and Parish Council £104.43, an increase of £7.55 (7.79%)

NFDC are advising people who may have difficulty paying Council Tax to contact them straight away. Residents can call 01590 646111 or email [CouncilTax@nfdc.gov.uk](mailto:CouncilTax@nfdc.gov.uk)

The Council have a local scheme to support low income households with their Council Tax payments. To check what support may be available, residents can call 01590 646121 or email [Benefits@nfdc.gov.uk](mailto:Benefits@nfdc.gov.uk)

Information on Council Tax, including how to pay, discounts and exemptions, and support available can be found on the council's website: <https://www.newforest.gov.uk/counciltax>

Residents can also find information to support them generally with the cost of living at <https://www.newforest.gov.uk/costofliving>

New Forest District Council will send out Council Tax bills to residents in March.

The Secretary of State for the Environment has announced that the New Forest National Park will receive an additional one-off payment this financial year to support increasing costs.

The extra £440,000 will help deliver the ambitious Re:New Forest Partnership Plan for the National Park, focusing on climate, nature, people, place and partnership.

The award is part of an additional £4.4 million which will be provided to the country's 10 National Park Authorities to support vital services.

Environment Secretary Thérèse Coffey said: 'Our National Parks are the jewel in our cherished landscapes. They support thriving communities, economies, wildlife and are important places for public health and wellbeing.

'This additional £4.4 million of funding will support the important work that National Park Authorities do across our countryside and allow local people and visitors to enjoy these much-loved spaces.'

The Government also announced that the Farming in Protected Landscapes scheme, currently delivered across 10 National Parks and 34 Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) since 2021, will also be extended until March 2025. The New Forest National Park Authority has already been given £456,000 to issue in grants between July 2021 to March 2024 which has seen miles of hedgerow planted, ponds created, orchards planted and measures to reduce flooding.

Prof Gavin Parker, New Forest National Park Authority Chair, said: 'The New Forest National Park is a haven for wildlife in the busy south with many rare habitats and species. It also has 34,500 residents and welcomes millions of visitors each year.

'Our core funding has halved in real terms since 2010 with much of our £3.3m Defra grant being used to provide protection of the New Forest and support of our communities and businesses, including through our planning function. So this one-off grant is vital to ensure we can continue to resource our rangers and continue projects with Forest partners to ensure people respect and care for the New Forest; help more children and young people learn about the natural world and gain green skills and jobs; and carry out vital conservation work to maintain and help recover nature.'

Andrew McCloy, Chair of National Parks England, said: 'Today's announcement is welcome news. At a time when our National Parks are facing a real term reduction in Government grant, this additional funding is desperately needed.

'National Parks account for almost 10% of England's land area and have ambitious plans to deliver on Government targets for nature, climate and public access.

'We have been calling for the powers and resources needed to achieve this ambition. It's vital that today's announcement for this one-off funding is backed up by a commitment to support our National Parks in the long term.'

The New Forest National Park Authority's draft budget and medium term financial plan can be viewed here: <https://www.newforestnpa.gov.uk/app/uploads/2022/08/RAPC-503-23-Draft-Budget-2023-24-Treasury-Strategy-and-Medium-Term-Financial-Plan.pdf>

View the Defra funding announcement press release here: [New funding for National Parks announced - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Visit [www.newforestnpa.gov.uk](http://www.newforestnpa.gov.uk) to find out more.





## NEW CHIEF CONSTABLE FOR HAMPSHIRE AND ISLE OF WIGHT

Hampshire and Isle of Wight's first 'home grown' chief constable takes up his position today with a commitment to provide exceptional local policing.

Scott Chilton, 49, returns to the force where he began his policing career as an 18-year-old and served nearly all of his career. With 31 years of experience, he worked his way through uniform policing and spent 16 years as a detective. He has undertaken a range of strategic roles leading policing commands, most recently as chief constable in Dorset and as the national lead for investigations.

CC Chilton said: "Having strong relationships with our local communities is the bedrock of policing. We know that people want to feel connected with their local teams and to feel safe. I share that view.

"This means relentlessly pursuing those who commit crime and bring harm and misery to communities, providing first class investigations to ensure those responsible face the consequences of their actions, with kindness and compassion being at the heart of our response to victims.

"As well as being your Chief Constable, I am also a resident of Hampshire, with many of my family and friends living here too. So both personally and professionally, I have the same expectations as you and I am committed to making sure that Hampshire and the Isle of Wight is safe for everyone."

During the Police and Crime Panel meeting that led to confirmation of Chief Constable Chilton's appointment, he outlined his passion for local policing and officer visibility, ensuring that neighbourhood teams are connected with their communities and targeting community crimes.

He also outlined his commitment in delivering the Police and Crime Commissioner's 'More Police, Safer Streets' Police and Crime Plan, welcoming her recent announcement to bring in even more police officers as part of the recent budget approval, which will help improve visibility within local communities.

Police and Crime Commissioner Donna Jones said: "I am delighted to welcome Scott Chilton as the new chief constable of Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary. Scott has extensive experience as a senior police officer, having already been a chief in Dorset, and I am really pleased to be welcoming him back to his home force to lead the constabulary into a new era.

"Scott and I have a shared vision for policing and it starts with strengthening and developing neighbourhood policing. As Commissioner and with Scott's support, I have already committed to reintroducing named local bobbies for every community by April 2024. Together we want to make Hampshire and the Isle of Wight the safest places to live, work and visit, supported by strong, traditional local policing teams which connect and support communities to reduce crime.

"As Commissioner, I know that driving down the crimes that matter the most to the public, increasing police visibility in neighbourhoods, and creating a force that is tough on crime to bring offenders to justice is what the public rightly expect, and I am confident Scott will lead the constabulary with these ambitions at the very core of his leadership."





## KING'S CORONATION - SAT 06 MAY 2023

The National Association of Civic Officers have published information about the King's Coronation on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May and provided details about some of the national events that will be taking place over that weekend.

The coronation itself will take place at Westminster Abbey on the morning of Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May. Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May will be the day for a Coronation Concert staged and broadcast live at Windsor Castle and a Coronation Big Lunch will take place on the same day. The Big Lunch is being organised by the Eden Project and downloadable resources will be available from [www.coronationbiglunch.com](http://www.coronationbiglunch.com).

The bank holiday on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May will be focusing on volunteering and The Big Help Out is aimed at encouraging people to try volunteering in their local area.

Further details can be found using the links below, and we will publish updates in our newsletters/member emails:

<https://www.royal.uk/coronation-weekend-plans-announced>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-64349942>

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS



### **03 MARCH**

**4pm**

EAST BOLDRE VILLAGE  
HALL

### **08 MARCH**

**10:30am**

VILLAGE HALL MAIN  
CAR PARK  
BEAULIEU

### **08 MARCH**

**11:30am**

OUTSIDE  
IRONMONGERS  
BROOKLEY ROAD  
BROCKENHURST

### **16 MARCH**

**2pm**

OPEN DOOR CAFÉ  
MINSTEAD CHURCH

### **19 MARCH**

**10:30am**





ST. MICHAEL AND ALL  
ANGELS CHURCH  
LYNDHURST


### **BEAT SURGERIES**

These Beat Surgeries are your chance to meet us in person and to ask us about issues you are having where you live.

Alternatively, you can always call or email us on the details below but to report a crime or any anti-social behaviour dial 101 or go the Hampshire and IOW Police website.

Of course, if it's an emergency always call 999.

	<p><b>27 MARCH</b> 8am BRAMSHAW VILLAGE STORES</p> <p><b>27 MARCH</b> 9am BARTLEY POST OFFICE</p> <p><b>28 MARCH</b> 11am POST OFFICE, HAPPY CHEESE, ASHURST</p>	
	<p><b>19 MARCH</b> 8am LONGSDALE CAR PARK</p>	We join forces with Forestry England, the New Forest National Park Authority and our Countrywatch team to answer any questions you might have about life in the New Forest.
	<p><b>02 MARCH</b> 2:15pm BRAMSHAW VILLAGE HALL</p> <p><b>18 MARCH</b> 2pm BRAMSHAW VILLAGE HALL</p>	<p><b>WI</b> Speaker Mrs Sarah Slater - Working with the Ghosts of Hampton Court. Visitors always welcome.</p> <p>Jumble Sale Entrance 50p. Refreshments available. Goods may be left after 10.00 am. Regret no electrical or large items.</p>
	<p><b>14 MARCH</b> 7.00 for 7.30pm  BRAMSHAW VILLAGE HALL</p>	<p><b>BRAMSHAW HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY</b> Geoff Hawkins Planning and Planting a Border</p> <p>BHS meet on the second Tuesday of the month, 7.00 for 7.30pm. For further information contact Sue Yandell: 023 8081 2994</p>
	<p><b>3<sup>RD</sup> FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH</b> BRAMSHAW VILLAGE HALL</p>	<p><b>BRAMSHAW &amp; DISTRICT FILM SOCIETY</b></p> <p>Raffle every film evening, to win a free ticket to the next showing Come and enjoy a glass of wine before the start of the film Annual Membership £3 - Guest Membership £1 - Attendance £4 per evening</p>

	<p><b>28 MARCH</b> <b>7:30pm</b></p> <p>Bramshaw Village Hall (Community Room)</p>	<p><b>BRAMSHAW PARISH COUNCIL MEETING</b></p> <p>Here's a link to view the Agenda (once it's been published) on the Parish Council's website <a href="#">Agendas and Minutes</a></p>
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