



BRAMSHAW TELEGRAPH

APRIL 2021



NEWS



HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
Reporting issues on the roads, pavements, and verges

Emergency Repairs: If you see a highways issue which needs urgent attention, phone:-

- 0300 555 1388 (8:30am to 5pm, Monday to Friday)
- 101 (outside of office hours)

Emergency defects are usually made safe within two hours. These repairs may be temporary with permanent repairs being made later. Other defects become part of the maintenance programme and are usually repaired within two months. Larger or more complex works, such as major resurfacing, are generally scheduled separately.

Other less urgent highways issues

Can be reported online at the Hampshire County Council website via the following link: [Report a problem | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](https://www.hants.gov.uk/report-a-problem)

You will get a reference number and a response from the Highways Team. Please do contact me if you require any follow up on reported issues.

Operation Resilience

Operation Resilience is a long-term strategy to make Hampshire's roads more resilient to the effect of extreme weather and heavy traffic.

Operation Resilience carries out Hampshire's large, planned maintenance programme of work each year. These works are different to reactive works, such as pothole repairs or gully cleansing. You can find further information on forthcoming schemes on the following link [Operation Resilience | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](https://www.hants.gov.uk/operation-resilience)

Cllr Edward Heron
Hampshire County Councillor
Lyndhurst & Fordingbridge Division Email edward.heron@hants.gov.uk



Animal Deaths and Roger Penny Way: Petition from the New Forest Speed Awareness Campaign

This comes in the aftermath of 3 donkeys, 4 ponies, and 2 sheep killed.

For a petition to be brought to Council for a full debate it must have 1,700 signatures. The petition, from Gilly Jones of the New Forest Speed Awareness Campaign, is currently signed by 989 local people (at the time of writing this publication). The petition reads as follows:-

"We the undersigned petition the council to add its support to calls for the introduction of an Average Speed Camera system on the B3078"

If you wish to support this campaign, please open the link below. It takes a matter of seconds.
[ePetition - Requirement for Average Speed Cameras Council Services \(newforest.gov.uk\)](https://www.newforest.gov.uk/ePetition-Requirement-for-Average-Speed-Cameras-Council-Services)

1158 people have signed this ePetition at the date of this publication. If you haven't yet signed, there is still time! The ePetition runs until **04/05/2021**.

If a resident is unable to get online and wishes to add their support to an ongoing e-petition, they can do so by writing to the following address, with their name, address and a short note clearly identifying which e-petition it is they wish to sign:-

Democratic Services Manager,
New Forest District Council,
Appletree Court,
Beaulieu Road,
Lyndhurst,
SO43 7PA



CARE FOR THE FOREST, CARE FOR EACH OTHER 2021 Action Plan

New Forest organisations are calling on people to ‘care for the Forest, care for each other’ and have put together a joint action plan to help to manage the increased visitor numbers expected this year.

The plan aims to ensure that the New Forest can play a positive and active role in helping people to recover in the great outdoors from the toll taken by the lockdown, whilst also caring for this special place. It also aims to work closely with and support residents and the local business community.

Lessons from 2020

Last year was exceptional in many ways and saw greater numbers of people spending time in the countryside as outdoor space and exercise became critical. While the majority respected these landscapes, the New Forest, like many other places around the country also experienced a rise in anti-social behaviour.

Forest organisations, emergency services and communities worked to address these issues. Much was learned through this experience and progress made in several areas including: increasing the impact of patrols by pooling resources, gaining the support of over 50 local retailers to ban disposable BBQs, and recruiting over 400 New Forest Ambassadors with parish councils to help support the Forest. A co-ordinated campaign by local landowners was also put in place sticking hundreds of cars to discourage verge parking and gateway blocking. Joint communication about caring for the Forest reached over 6 million people.

2021 Action Plan

With overseas travel remaining uncertain, 2021 is set to be another challenging year with large numbers of visitors expected.

A plan has been developed jointly by Forestry England, the New Forest National Park Authority, New Forest District Council, and tourism body Go New Forest with support from The Verderers, Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service, and Hampshire Constabulary.

The action plan has been created to support the landscape and local community during this time and encourage greater care and respect for the area among all those spending time here.

Its focus is on all organisations sharing resources in a concerted effort to be well prepared for and able to meet critical recreational pressure. It aims to ensure that the area can play an active role in helping people to recover in the great outdoors whilst also caring for the Forest.

Key aspects of the plan include...

1. Increased patrols & focus on visitor hotspots

Greater numbers of staff across all organisations – including increased numbers of FE rangers, New Forest National Park Authority rangers and apprentice rangers – will be available for patrol duties with joint patrols focused on key locations and visitor hotspots. This highly visible and coordinated approach will make the best use of finite resources by focusing on managing demand and distribution of visitors at these key pressure points.

When the easing of restrictions allows, these staff will also be boosted by Forestry England’s team of Volunteer Rangers.

New Forest Ambassadors, led by the National Park Authority and parish councils, will be helping with litter picking, reporting parking issues and creating a greater awareness of the New Forest Code.

Levels and types of littering will be closely monitored and, similar to last year, collections increased to help manage this. At coastal sites free litter bags will be made available making it easier for people to do the right thing and take their litter home.

2. Joined-up communication

A joint visitor campaign is being rolled out with tourism body, Go New Forest and its membership of tourism providers. This will provide information for visitors both before and during their visit and how they can help care for the Forest whilst also caring for each other.

Core to the campaign will be The New Forest Code – a clear set of actions and guidance on how to care for the Forest.

The 10 Camping in the Forest sites are planning to open this year, in line with government guidance and timetables. These locations together with other key visitor campsites and accommodation providers will be targeted with this information and patrols.

Messages about caring for the special qualities of the New Forest have also been included in the New Forest Essential Guide available at several New Forest car parks and at a wide range of tourism outlets across the area.

3. Increased and more prominent signage

The campaign will include prominent signage and targeted communications to all those spending time in the Forest. These will be visible in car parks and at key gateways to the New Forest.

Signage at all Forestry England's car parks and thresholds is currently being updated to clearly mark the Crown lands boundary, which is a Special Site of Scientific Interest. This signage can be easily adapted to reflect seasonal and priority messages.

4. Fire Safety – BBQ & fire ban

Last year saw a significant rise in the number of BBQs being used irresponsibly, presenting a major risk of wildfire with potentially devastating effects. In just one weekend rangers working with the fire service extinguished over 60 unsafe BBQs.

The NPA campaign to encourage retailers to ban the sale of disposable BBQs saw 50 retailers taking part, and a social media reach of 655,000 impressions and 65,000 engagements. The campaign will be continued this year with the aim of recruiting more outlets to support it.

To help reduce the risks, the New Forest Crown Lands have now been declared a complete no BBQ and fire zone. These are no longer permitted in car parks or areas of the forest managed by Forestry England. In line with this, all BBQ facilities at Forestry England sites have been removed. Highly visible signage is being installed at these sites, and prominent no BBQ messages displayed at Forestry England car parks and information points.

The ban will be widely communicated and joint patrols with the fire service carried out across the Forest at periods of peak fire risk.

5. Supporting the working forest

Greater support will be provided to the commoning community so that the working Forest can continue to operate with as little disruption as possible.

This will include providing additional patrol resources around key events such as drifts, and targeted information to discourage feeding and petting livestock, and promote animal safety.

6. Task Force

A task force of organisations will meet weekly to review the joint action plan and the response to any issues.

How your community can get involved - Those wanting to get involved in actively supporting the Forest could consider becoming a New Forest Ambassador you can find out more here –

[New Forest Ambassador scheme - New Forest National Park Authority \(newforestnpa.gov.uk\)](http://newforestnpa.gov.uk)

Disposable BBQ ban - Another practical way to get involved is to encourage a greater number of local retailers to support the ban on disposable BBQs. Information on the campaign can be found here

[BBQ-free New Forest campaign - New Forest National Park Authority \(newforestnpa.gov.uk\)](http://newforestnpa.gov.uk)

Reporting/ Sharing Information - Local organisations and individuals can help us identify issues and hotspots across the area by sharing their observations. Details on where to report key issues can be found here

[Report a problem - New Forest National Park Authority \(newforestnpa.gov.uk\)](http://newforestnpa.gov.uk)

For more information, please contact: Forestry England – southern.enquiries@forestryengland.uk New Forest National Park Authority –

enquiries@newforestnpa.gov.uk New Forest District Council –

customer.services@nfdc.gov.uk Go New Forest - anthony@gonewforest.com



BEAT REPORT

Seven sheds, garages and outbuildings were broken into during March with Bramshaw, Lyndhurst, Brockenhurst, Bartley, Fletchwood Lane and Emery Down the areas targeted.

At one property, a Quad bike and other high value items were stolen, and at the other addresses tools, a lawnmower and expensive bicycles were taken.

A man has been arrested and charged with stealing a Quad bike from a house in Ashurst. The Quad bike has also been returned to the owner.

Thirteen vehicles were broken into last month, with the two car parks targeted being Wilverly Inclosure and the one attached to the Premier Inn at Ower where three vans were attacked on the same night. Other vehicles that had various items stolen, including two catalytic converters

and a spare wheel, were parked on the roadside in Bartley, Minstead, Brockenhurst, Lyndhurst, Cadnam and Ashurst.

After receiving reports of a man attempting to get undressed and acting suspiciously in the woods between Ashurst and Lyndhurst, just after 8.30am on Tuesday 16th March we detained a 49 year old man from Bournemouth and he has been reported for summons to court for being in possession of an offensive weapon.

In other incidents, criminal damage was caused to the back window of a car parked in Bartley, probably by a catapult, six people have been found smoking cannabis in Ashurst and Brockenhurst, the kebab van in the layby at Bartley crossroads was broken into and garden furniture was taken from a house in Lyndhurst. Also, in Lyndhurst a leaf blower was stolen from outside the fire station while work was being carried in the garden at the back, and a fire fighter had his car window smashed outside another New Forest station while he was on a job. A tender was also stolen in March from a boat in Beaulieu, and two bus shelters in Lyndhurst were deliberately damaged and investigations to identify those responsible are still active.

March has also seen an increase in the number of motorbikes being ridden off road on the Forest floor. The most popular locations have been Beaulieu Heath, Hatchet Pond, the Marchwood and Dibden Inclosures and Cadmans Pool. If you see anyone using a vehicle off road in the Forest and you can get a registration number, photograph or video of the offence then let us know. With this evidence we can issue section 59 warnings to the offenders which can then lead to their vehicles being seized and crushed. But please don't put yourselves at risk when collecting that evidence. Please send the details to PCSO 14495 Richard Williams. Thank you.

Don't forget you can contact any of us on the New Forest Heart Police team on the details below but please use 999, 101 or the online reporting page on the Hampshire Police website to record crimes or incidents of anti-social behaviour.

For Lyndhurst and the north of the Forest its
steven.norris@hampshire.pnn.police.uk 07554 775477
richard.williams@hampshire.pnn.police.uk 07554 775469
And for the Forest south of Lyndhurst its
jason.eastwood@hampshire.pnn.police.uk 07979 707939
vicki.pressey@hampshire.pnn.police.uk 07785 500952

Action Fraud

National Fraud & Cyber Crime Reporting Centre

0300 123 2040

Over 15,000 hacked email and social media accounts reported in one year.

If a hacker got into your email or social media account, what would they find? Health and banking information? Names and contact details for your friends and family? Private photos and messages? For most people, it's at least one of those.

Your email and social media accounts contain a wealth of personal information about you, which makes them a lucrative target for cyber criminals. **Between February 2020 and February 2021, Action Fraud received 15,214 reports about email and social media account hacking.** The majority of reports (88%) were made by individuals, with 12% of reports being made by businesses. Analysis of the crime reports revealed that Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat were the most affected social media accounts, with phishing messages being the most common tactic used by cyber criminals to lure unsuspecting victims.

The motivation behind the hacks are varied and can range from financial gain to revenge or personal amusement. Some victims are extorted for money, whilst others have their accounts used to send malicious links to their contacts. One victim who had multiple email and social media accounts hacked paid over £2,000 to regain access to them. Another victim reported that her hacked Facebook account was used to trick her friends into sending money into a PayPal account they thought belonged to her.

Secure your email and social media accounts in just a few minutes. Here's what you need to do:

- 1: Use a strong and separate password for your email**, as well as other important accounts, such as your banking or social media accounts.
- 2: Enable two-factor authentication (2FA)**. It will help to stop hackers from getting into your online accounts, even if they have your password.
- 3: If you can't access your account**, search the company's online support or help pages. You'll find information about how to recover your account.

For detailed instructions on how to reset your password or enable 2FA on your accounts, visit: <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/secureyouraccounts>



Rise in catalytic converter thefts across the New Forest

We would like to issue specific advice to local residents across the New Forest following an increase in catalytic converter thefts since the beginning of the year.

During this time, we have recorded catalytic converter thefts in the Hythe, Blackfield, Totton, Ashurst, Ringwood and Lymington areas.

Catalytic converter theft is closely linked to prices of Rhodium and Palladium which are contained within the converters. The prices of these metals have increased since 2020 and this is what we believe has contributed to the number of thefts increasing.

Catalytic converters can be stolen within a few minutes by using just a few basic tools, but there are ways you can protect your vehicle if, like many people, you don't have access to a garage:

- Find out where your catalytic converter is located on your car; if it's at the front of your car, park with the bonnet towards a wall if possible
- If it's at the back, park it with your exhaust to the wall
- If parking in a public car park, consider parking alongside other cars and incorporating wall
- Avoid parking your vehicle half on the pavement and half on the road, as this may make it easier for get under your car
- If your catalytic converter is bolted on, you can ask for your local garage to weld the bolts to make it more difficult to remove

- Alternatively, you can also etch a serial number on the converter so that if it is stolen and then recovered, we can get your car converter back to you
- You can even purchase a 'cage clamp' which is a cage device that locks in around the converter to make it more difficult to remove
- Speak to your dealership or garage about the possibility of adding a tilt sensor that will activate the alarm should any thief try to jack the vehicle up to steal the converter
- If you see someone acting suspiciously under a vehicle, report it. Obtain as much information as possible, including any vehicle registrations
- In the event your cat converter is stolen, please report online via our website <https://www.hampshire.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/> and include any markings so that we can identify your converter if it's recovered



WARNING: KEEP DOGS ON LEADS OR FACE POSSIBLE PROSECUTION

Police officers from Hampshire Constabulary's Country Watch team are issuing a stark warning to dog walkers to 'keep dogs on leads in rural areas or face possible prosecution'.

This follows a number of incidents in the East Hants area, in particular the South Downs, whereby owners have been walking with dogs off lead and not under close control. They have subsequently chased or attacked livestock and wild animals.

Under the Dogs (Protection of Livestock) Act 1953 it is a criminal offence for a dog to actively worry livestock and police want to make sure owners are aware that in such instances, the owner/person in control of the dog can be prosecuted, and the dog can be shot by the farmer to end an attack.

Our Country Watch team will be increasing their proactive patrols of hot-spot areas as the weather begins to improve and the Health Protection Regulations begin to ease. This will include areas such as the South Downs which have begun to see an increase in footfall in recent weeks, and is likely to continue as we move into Spring and Summer months.

During a recent incident on Thursday 18 February at West Tisted Manor Estate in the Meon Valley area, a dog walker lost control of one of their dogs while on a walk. It subsequently ran into a field containing a number of sheep, with the dog had been caught, but not before it had attacked a sheep.

A 61-year-old woman from London took full responsibility and a Community Resolution order was issued with a £500 fine – payable to the victim by means of compensation. She was also ordered to sign a Dog Behaviour Contract, part of which is a direction to keep the dog on a lead in a public space, as well as writing a letter of apology.

In addition to increased routine patrols in rural and countryside areas across Hampshire, our officers will also be seeking to utilise the use of Force drones in areas where we have seen incidents occurring previously. This will allow them to counteract and manage the issue around livestock worrying or animals being attacked by dogs.

Therefore our advice to those walking their dogs in rural areas is to:

- keep your dog on a lead or close control at all times, not just when in a field with livestock
- if there is no livestock in the field, keep the dog in sight at all times, be aware of what it is doing, and be confident it will return to you promptly on command. If you cannot be confident of this, the dog should not be off the lead
- ensure the dog does not stray off the path or area where you have right of access.

East Hants Rural and Wildlife Crime Officer, Ian Bassett, said: "These particular incidents are unfortunately commonplace in rural areas. Livestock worrying offences can cause significant impact financially to a farmer in order to treat injuries or replace the loss of livestock, while having a detrimental effect on the livestock farming business.

"We would urge that owners are fully in control of their dogs, know where they are at all times and confident that they will return when called. This will play a vital role in reducing the number of livestock worrying incidents in rural areas, which can lead to the loss of animal lives or cause undue stress to the animals; all of which has huge ramifications for farmers."

As always, if you see anything suspicious please dial 101, or report it to us via our online reporting tool on the Hampshire Constabulary. If a crime is taking place please dial 999.

For more information about the countryside code, please visit <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-countryside-code>.

Message Sent By

Wes Hutchins (Police, Corporate Communications Officer, Hampshire)



ELECTIONS 06 MAY 2021

These include the delayed Police and Crime Commissioner election from May 2020, along with the Hampshire County Council elections and a number of Town & Parish by-elections, either delayed or arising since May 2020.

The deadline to register for a postal vote for the 6 May elections is 5pm on 20 April 2021.

Follow this link [Vote by post or proxy - New Forest District Council](#)

For more information on how to register to vote, as well as postal or proxy vote [Voting and elections - New Forest District Council](#)

BRAMSHAW VILLAGE HALL REPAIRS UPDATE

Work continues to restore the Village Hall to its former glory (or, hopefully, to even greater glory) after last August's flood.

Work has been carried out on the drains. Inside, the asbestos has gone and the floors, all of which were damaged in the flood, have been taken up. Since the floors have been removed the atmosphere in the hall is palpably less damp and there are also dehumidifiers back in place. The next item on the agenda is the replacement of all the ceilings. You can see more pictures on the Village Hall Group Facebook page (you do not have to be signed up to Facebook to find it).

There have been surveyors crawling all over the building for several months and that has revealed some issues with the roof (not the cause of the flood but they would negate any insurance claim in the future). There were also some nasty surprises lurking under the floors relating to, previously hidden, aspects of the plumbing. All in all it is turning out to be quite a challenge as much of it is not covered by the insurance. However, we remain hopeful that, at the end of this and despite everything, the village will have the viable and vibrant resource that it deserves. We are very grateful to those people who have offered practical and financial help.

If you would like to find out more about the progress of the repairs and the plans for the future of the hall and would like to share your ideas, there will be the opportunity to speak to one of the trustees on the day of the local elections (May 6th). The polling station will be in a Portakabin in the carpark and there will be a representative from the committee available for most of the day. They would welcome any thoughts that you may have and will be happy to answer questions. Please don your face mask and come along even if you are voting by post.

THE BRAMSHAW TRUST.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

	<p>06 APRIL 3pm COMMUNITY CENTRE LYDHURST</p> <p>21 APRIL 10am CO-OP ASHURST</p> <p>30 APRIL 2pm BARTLEY POST OFFICE</p>	<p>BEAT SURGERIES</p> <p>If you, or someone you know, needs our help and it is easier to visit us in person</p>
	<p>20 APRIL 5pm</p>	<p>DEADLINE TO REGISTER FOR POSTAL VOTE The deadline to register for a postal vote for the 6 May elections is 5pm on 20 April 2021. Follow this link Vote by post or proxy - New Forest District Council</p>
	<p>27 APRIL 7:30pm</p>	<p>BRAMSHAW PARISH COUNCIL MEETING By Video Conference. Bramshaw Parish Council convene by Zoom conferencing tool (used by MPs and the PM himself) on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 7:30pm.</p> <p>Members of the public are welcome to join. You can find all Agendas and Minutes on Bramshaw Parish Council's website www.bramshaw.org.uk</p>
	<p>06 MAY</p>	<p>ELECTIONS These include the delayed Police and Crime Commissioner election from May 2020, along with the Hampshire County Council elections and a number of Town & Parish by-elections, either delayed or arising since May 2020.</p>

	15-16 MAY	NEW FOREST 100 SPORTIVE Subject to COVID19 restrictions
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purposes of sending you the Bramshaw Telegraph newsletter.