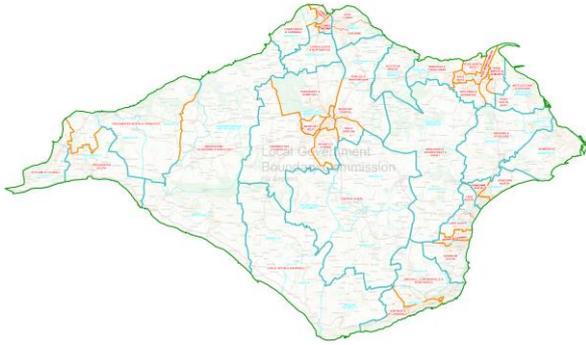


Councillor Report October 2020 for Chillerton and Gatcombe Parish



Next Year's County Elections

Yes folks, it cometh around again and I can't believe we are back to election time again already; it has flown past and has been incredibly busy in the Council. This is a good time to remind everybody to get

registered for your say if you haven't already done so and to confirm your details when the form comes in the post, which it will do if it hasn't already. When you get your form just check the details and if anything needs to be changed send the form back ASAP or adjust it online. If you don't already have a postal vote, you might want to apply for one which you can do with the same form or online, I have to say since I have had a postal vote I find it much better and so easy to deal with and you don't have to go out in the cold, wind and rain, just deal with it from your sofa in front of the fire! The elections of 2021 have another twist to them as we have now had the decision from the Election Commission on boundary changes and as you can see by the map my ward is to change considerably. The new ward with Brighstone in it will be called Brighstone, Calbourne and Shalfleet, they did want to call it just Brighstone but I objected to that, as the other villages would not be named. Unfortunately the maximum number of names for a ward is three so they wouldn't allow Newbridge, Porchfield etc. to be added also.

Should I be chosen as the Candidate for the new ward, I look forward to working with new Parish Council's and to those moving ward, Shorwell in with Niton, Chale and Whitwell. Rookley would be part of the new Central Rural Ward with Godshill and Chillerton will join that ward too, I wish you all well for the future with your new ward councillors who so ever they may be.

Portfolio Changes



I am very pleased to announce that the Leader has asked me to take on the Environment and Heritage portfolio following Cllr Hobart's request to step down from the Cabinet in order to spend more time with his wife, Kate.

Cllr Hobart will be a hard act to follow as he has been a very hard working Councillor and there is a lot happening in the portfolio but follow him I will and I am very excited to take this on as well

as keeping waste Management within my portfolio which also has some exciting things happening going forward.

Cllr Hobart will still be dealing with the coastal path though until the end of his term as we approach the elections of 2021. Sir John has worked especially hard on our coastal path and it is only right and proper that he has the opportunity to complete this work in the coming months. I think once he has achieved the completion of the coastal path we should erect a monument for him somewhere on the path of his choice!

For me, Environment and Heritage depicts this Island so I am very pleased to be the latest custodian of this portfolio.

New retaining wall at Brook



Island Roads are applying for planning permission for a 25m retaining wall to be placed at Brook to halt the erosion, which is rapidly approaching the Military Road at that point.

This is within the contract with Island Roads and was going to be a bridge but it is now considered better to be a non intrusive retaining wall which can cover more area than a bridge would have done

and at no extra cost. As the erosion is somewhat unpredictable it means that if it moves position then the retaining wall can be moved also to align with it unlike a bridge that would remain static.

The solution proposed by Island Roads would not only extend the life of the section, it would do so in a way that is visually unobtrusive, give due regard to environmental considerations and which would allow natural erosion processes to continue. As such, an Environmental Statement has been submitted as part of the planning process.

In simple terms, the plan is to install piles under the south side of the carriageway to isolate the road from on-going coastal erosion. The piles would be buried so would not initially be seen from either ground level or from the beach/sea below. It is anticipated that it would be between five and ten years before the piles becomes visible from the beach as a result of erosion.

Island Roads believes the solution is compatible with various environmental designations that protect the location as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, a Site of Special Scientific Interest and a Special Area of Conservation. At the same time the scheme will extend the life of the road therefore preserving this important transport link for residents and visitors, between the south and west of the island.

With very best wishes,
Steve,

Councillor Steve Hastings
Cabinet Member for Environment, Heritage, and
Waste Management. 07870127024