



Winchester Council July 2023



Cart and Horses junction at Kings Worthy

There are some signs of action on this junction – short term measures are being discussed to improve the safety, but the more structural changes, will have to wait until, and if the Junction 9 improvements go ahead.

If only the work had started some years ago, we would not be where we are now!

Water Quality

Jackie and Margot recently enjoyed a fact finding trip to the Appledown Lane Water Treatment Plant. Our party included water engineers, an environmental hydrologist and river keeper so the questions were wide ranging. Southern Water were informative hosts.

A factor in the decline of river life is the high level of nutrients in the water. In simple terms – if the invertebrates can't thrive due to eutrophication, we won't have any Kingfishers. We asked about the installation of a phosphate stripper during the water treatment process at the Alresford works.

The answer is that a phosphate stripper may be installed, but the investigatory report will not be published before 2027 at the earliest. Even with phosphate stripping in place, not enough phosphate will be removed to reach the 'good' quality of discharged waste water that we would wish. However, the degree of attenuation by chalk and vegetation as the water filters down through to the aquifer and river will certainly improve matters. If there are fissures in the chalk water can run more directly to the river and avoid this natural filtration process. There are suspicions that this may be causing a problem at Ovington. Hydrology is of the essence.



Excess Phosphates and Planning

As a result of the excess nutrients problem, as described above, and critically that of phosphate, the approval of planning applications which will increase the flow of domestic waste water have been put on hold. This sort of application includes new residential properties, sub-divisions of large houses and changes of use to residential. This legislation has been put in place by the Government to avoid further long term damage to our rivers. Feasible mitigation/reduction methods are being worked on. The phosphate problem only applies to the water catchment area of the River Itchen, which includes all of the Alresford and Itchen Valley ward, but not all of the District.

Dog Fouling

Several parishes seem to have repeat offenders. WCC officers may be take action for a single incident and officers will proceed if they feel that evidence is sufficient for prosecution. However, they would probably give the dog owner an option to pay a fixed penalty charge on the first offence.

We attach a template for the statement necessary.

In order to take action our Animal Welfare officers need witness statements as below:-



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Photos are not necessary if the descriptions in the witness statement are sufficient. Remember that you can include anything that you feel is relevant in the statement, but it should include;

1. The witness's details (including name and address).
2. The time and date of the offence
3. A description of the dog
4. A description of the owner (if they are visible)
5. Whether they know who the owner is and/or where he lives and, if so, how they know that.
6. The exact location where they saw the dog foul and how far away, they were when they saw it, plus the visibility (weather conditions etc) at the time.
7. How long they waited to be sure the owner did not clean it up.
8. They could include photos of the dog mess, dog and/or owner but should not put themselves at risk to do this (this is not a necessity)

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