

# Community Planning NEWS!

Issue 2. Winter 2010



## UN 2010 Year of Biodiversity

It is a sad fact that earth is facing a catastrophic loss of plant, animal and insect life at an astounding rate. Over 100 different species disappear from the planet each day. Because of this 2010 has been designated the UN Year of Biodiversity. It hopes to raise awareness of this serious issue and to encourage individuals and organisations around the world to protect the environment.



“You are an integral part of nature; your fate is tightly linked with biodiversity; the huge variety of other animals and plants, the places they live and their surrounding environments all over the world. You rely on this diversity of life to provide you with food, fuel, medicine and other essentials you simply cannot live without.”

**Ahmed Dhoghlaf, Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity**



### “Think Global Act Local”

To highlight this important year, a biodiversity conference took place at East Hampshire District Council, Penns Place on 8th February 2010. A packed chamber saw people attending from a variety of organisations from across the district including parish plan and conservation groups and parish councils. East Hampshire district councillors were also present with the Leader Cllr David Parkinson opening the event.

The conference theme was “Think Global Act Local.” There were a variety of speakers who gave presentations on different topics. Dr David Rumble, from Hampshire and IOW Wildlife Trust, started proceedings with a local wildlife quiz followed by Martin Healey, EHDC Countryside and Biodiversity Officer, who spoke about East Hampshire’s Biodiversity Action Plan and how local communities could produce their own local biodiversity action plan (LBAP). Dr Bill Wain, from Whitehill Bordon Town Partnership spoke about their LBAP and how it had influenced the Ecotown Masterplan. The Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre’s services were highlighted by Andy Foy, Senior Ecologist. Nigel James concluded the evening with a talk about the South Downs Icons and Eyesores Project which gets communities to identify features in their environment they both love and hate.

## East Hampshire Biodiversity Action Plan



East Hampshire's Biodiversity action plan sets out a series of actions to be taken to address threats to species and habitats within the district. It also sets out ways in which biodiversity can be enhanced. It actively encourages local communities to

get involved in conservation and makes mention of those already doing local biodiversity action plans (LBAP)

More information on the East Hampshire Biodiversity Action Plan can be found at:  
<http://www.easthants.gov.uk/ehdc/heritageweb.nsf/webpages/Countryside>

## Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre

Set up in 2002, the centre collates information on Hampshire's wildlife and natural environment. The data is then made available to those who need it.



For more information go to:  
<http://www3.hants.gov.uk/biodiversity/hbic.htm>

## Wildlife of Whitehill W O W

In 2005 Community planning group Whitehill Bordon Town Partnership, faced with the proposal for 4000 homes to be built in the parish, upon the departure of the army, decided it would be a good idea to produce a local biodiversity action plan (LBAP) for their area. The Environmental Conservation Group (ECG) worked together with other agencies to produce the plan. This contained a series of actions to protect and enhance the local environment within the context of the forthcoming Ecotown. Completed in 2008 the document has been very successful in influencing the Masterplan for the town. They have been successful in other areas too. Whilst doing their LBAP, surveys were carried out by Hampshire County Council and the Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre at Oxney Farm and Meadows. Notable species, such as the Wasp Spider were identified which meant that a large portion of the farm was subsequently designated as a SINC. (Site of importance for nature conservation.) They also managed to save a plant facing extinction in the UK. The Small flowered Catchfly (pictured below) was found on a grass verge but was being strangled by gorse and damaged by grass cutting. The population has now risen from 5 to 105.

**For information on WOW go to:**  
<http://www.whitehillandbordon.net>



## Grayshott to launch Parish Plan



Following a community planning presentation by the Community Planning Co-ordinator in October 2009, Grayshott Parish Council have decided to launch their parish plan. Parish Councillor Julie Bevis is taking the lead and has already formed a small group of people from the community to help launch the plan. They hope that more people will come forward to form a steering group at an event which is to be held at 8pm on 28th April 2010 at Grayshott Village Hall.

To find out more about Grayshott visit:  
[www.grayshott.com](http://www.grayshott.com)

## Steep Learning Curve

Having formed in September, 2009 Steep parish plan group have taken their first steps in consulting with the community on local issues.

During February and March, several meetings took place at various homes around the parish where neighbours were invited to take part in conversations about Steep. An exhibition about the parish plan, was also held at the village hall on the 13th March where 50 people attended and had their ideas and comments recorded.

[www.steeptillage.com/parishplan.html](http://www.steeptillage.com/parishplan.html)



The first Annual Conference will take place on 20th April 9.30- 4.00pm at Sparsholt College, near Winchester.

Topics will be Rural Communities in Action, Projects with older and younger people, Broadband Infrastructure and Economic Development.

To attend contact Natalie Fellows on 01962 845378 by 31st March 2010

## A Vision For Four Marks



After many months of hard work, Four Marks Parish Plan Group have now finalised and printed their questionnaire ready for distribution. The questionnaires will be posted out in March to just under 1600 households within the parish. They will have up to two weeks to return them before the responses are collated at East Hampshire District Council. There is the option for up to five people within the household to take part as well as a special youth questionnaire for young people up to 21. Prizes donated by local businesses can also be won in a draw.

## Buriton opts for shared space

Phase one of Buriton's environmental street design project is now complete with phase two looking to be implemented in the near future.

As a result of the findings from the parish plan completed in 2008 and the Village Design statement (1999) the parish council commissioned a study by Hamilton Baillie Associates. This study looked at how improvements to the highway could be made to make it safer for pedestrians and cyclists to use and counter the effects of adverse traffic intrusion.

After public meetings and exhibitions were held, it was decided to implement a shared space scheme. This has seen unnecessary street clutter and other eyesores removed. The road has been narrowed and very low kerbs installed. This layout influences the behaviour of drivers and decreases traffic speeds. Larger vehicles such as buses or tractors can utilise the shared paved areas to pass.

The £45,000 funding for this project came from a number of different sources including section 106 developer's contributions held by East Hampshire District Council.

<http://www.buritonparishplan.org.uk/>



## Kingsley and the Big Freeze



January 5th 2010 will be a day that many Kingsley residents will never forget. Along with the extreme freezing weather conditions came a power cut. One that was to last for nearly 2 days. Delta radio were alerted to the plight of many of the residents who were without heat, light and transport. The radio station then liaised with local supermarkets who donated food supplies. Other wellwishers brought in coal and milk to the Kingsley Centre. Kingsley Centre staff then organised distributions of cooked breakfasts and lunches prepared by Marcus, the local publican. After nearly 48 hours the power came back on. By this time ITV wanted to find out more and interviewed Mary Herbert, Chair of the Parish Council. She described how everyone had pulled together and demonstrated that even though Kingsley was without mains power, it was certainly not without people power!

Add your parish plan group to [www.easthampshire.org](http://www.easthampshire.org) and tell everyone what you are doing.....!



[easthampshire.org](http://easthampshire.org)

# Grants and Funding update

## 02 Launch “Think Big” a new £5 million pound fund for young people

Grants for up to £300 will be made available to young people aged 13-25 to fund projects in their local community chosen and run by young people themselves. Support and training will also be provided. A further £2,500 can also be applied for to further progress the project. For more information go to [http://www.o2.com/cr/think\\_big.asp](http://www.o2.com/cr/think_big.asp).

## New funding from Big Lottery

Voluntary groups will now be able to apply for up to £40,000 until 2015 under the Reaching Communities Programme. The application process has now been made much easier for those organisations wanting smaller amounts of money. The programme funds projects that have an identified community need and help the most disadvantaged. For more information go to <http://www2.biglotteryfund.org.uk>

## The People’s Millions - up to £50,000 to improve your local area

Get up to £50,000 from the National Lottery for your community project. Applications are now being taken online. In November a special ITV programme will be broadcast where viewers can vote for the projects they want to receive money.

To apply go to: <http://www.peoplesmillions.org.uk/>



“If you are interested in finding out more about parish plans, please contact me. I will be only too happy to help.”

Linda Munday  
Community Planning  
Co-ordinator



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east hampshire  
community planning