



Parish Pages

ISSUE #19

August 2025
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1034 New Homes!!

In the July edition of Parish Pages, this publication reported that Amport Parish had been hit with a new draft local plan for the borough to 2042. The plan includes a proposed housing allocation of **1,034 new homes** in west Weyhill, mainly in this Parish north of the A303. The whole of Amport Parish currently has around 1,300 residents.

The new draft local plan is designed to meet a five-year land supply target set by the central government. The plan is totally at odds with the Parish Neighbourhood Plan that has been lodged with TVBC.

The TVBC planning team held an exhibition at The Fairground in Weyhill on Thursday 24th July. Over 300 people attended, which was an impressive turnout. Other villages in the area, with whom we are working, are also strongly against the plan.

The plan does not appear to be sustainable or deliverable. Very few residents appear to be in support of it. There is no infrastructure plan as to how issues such as water supply and sewage, water run-off, road traffic, transport, doctors, shops, employment, and major environmental questions are to be addressed. Nor has the principle been addressed of whether substantial new development is needed or appropriate in this rural area.

Amport Parish Council (APC) encourages residents in the Parish who disagree with this proposal to object to the plan before the expiry of the consultation period on **5th September**.

APC is holding two public meetings:

14th August - The Fairground in Weyhill - 6pm - 8pm

18th of August - Monxton and Amport Village Hall - 6pm- 8pm.

APC will answer any questions and explain how everyone in the community can assist in formulating their objections. Flyers will also be distributed during August to residents in the Parish.

In this newsletter
you can expect:

1034 Homes

Whats On?

Pill Hill Brook

Southern
Water Scheme

Southern Water

Who is Who

Meetings



WHAT'S ON IN THE PARISH



Join the Hawk Conservancy Trust for a magical summer evening!

Saturday 9 & 23 August.

Watch their amazing birds of prey in two stunning flying displays as the sun sets.

Wander the grounds, meet the team, and grab a tasty bite at Feathers Restaurant (open from 5:30pm).

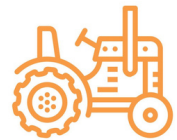
Flying fun starts at 7:00pm – a wild experience for all ages!



Hawk Conservancy Trust Art Weekend

Saturday 9 – Sunday 10 August

Head to the Hawk Conservancy Trust for a celebration of wildlife art! Over this special summer weekend, there will be a range of wildlife artists exhibiting their work against the beautiful backdrop of woodland and wildflower meadow, with extra activities running for this art-tastic weekend!



Breach Farm Brewing

The Brewery is open Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays. There are food vans and events on the following nights in AUGUST. Thursdays are Mug Night and Run Club.

Friday, 1 Aug, 4-10pm - Arty-Stan Pizza

Saturday, 2 Aug, 2-10pm - Music: Eastwood Revival 7 - 9pm - Hulk's Smoked Meat

Thursday, 7 Aug, 4-10pm - Georgie's Greek Grill

Friday, 8 Aug, 4-10pm - Traditional Music Jam Session 7:15 - 10pm - Peppone's Street Food

Saturday, 9 Aug, 2-10pm - LOAF - melted, toasted, dipped

Thursday, 14 Aug, 2-10pm - Quiz Night* - The Nomadic Kitchen To book a table Text 07990 697064

Friday, 15 Aug, 4-10pm - Travelling Thai

Saturday, 16 Aug, 2-10pm - The Laughing Street Chef

Thursday, 21 Aug, 4-10pm - Indriya Kitchen

Friday, 22 Aug, 4-10pm - Salisbury Catering

Saturday, 23 Aug, 2-10pm - Music: Sam Rich Acoustic 7 - 9pm - The Topsy Toastie

Thursday, 28 Aug, 2-10pm - Brewer's Guild Beer Share - The Funky Pickle

Friday, 29 Aug, 4-10pm - The Nomadic Kitchen

Saturday, 30 Aug, 2-10pm - Son of a Bun



Book Exchange Now Open

A big thank you to local resident Nick McKenner! Thanks to his generosity, there is now a community book exchange located in the old bus stop. Take a book, leave a book – and enjoy a good read!

Monthly Charity Coffee Mornings – Starting August

The management are delighted to be launching monthly Charity Coffee Mornings from August.

How the Local Plan could affect the Pillhill Brook

Is Pillhill Brook Under Threat?

If you love the peace and beauty of our countryside – especially our local chalk streams – you’ll want to pay attention to what’s coming down the line in Test Valley’s latest Local Plan. The Council is planning for 15,878 new homes between now and 2042. That’s a lot of houses. And around 3,000 of them are earmarked for the catchment of Pillhill Brook, a rare and delicate chalk stream that winds its way through our landscape.

Sounds a bit worrying? It is.

What Are People Concerned About?

Water worries: Weyhill and other nearby areas sit on what’s called a “recharge zone” – basically, ground that soaks up rain and feeds the underground chalk aquifer. Build on it, and you block the flow. Or worse, pollute it.

Sewage stress: Our sewage system is already creaking. Add thousands of new loos flushing into the network, and the risk of overflow and pollution shoots up – especially during heavy rainfall.

Nature can’t be replaced: Pillhill Brook is home to wildlife that just doesn’t exist anywhere else. The idea that damage could be “offset” elsewhere simply doesn’t hold water. Once it’s gone, it’s gone.

Planning maze: Trying to understand the Local Plan feels like studying for an exam you didn’t sign up for. Residents are asking for clear, honest explanations – not 300-page PDFs full of jargon.

Speculative building: Because the Local Plan won’t be finalised until 2027, there’s a worry that developers might try to push through planning permissions in the meantime, taking advantage of the uncertainty.

What Needs Answering?

- Will building be banned on these sensitive groundwater areas?
- What’s being done to protect chalk streams like Pillhill?
- Has anyone properly looked at what thousands more homes will do to our sewage systems?
- And how exactly will the Council’s new “Rights of Rivers” policy be enforced

What You Can Do

- Ask for simpler, clearer planning documents
- Support calls to ban development on recharge zones
- Push for proper drainage systems (SuDS) to be made mandatory
- Respond to the public consultation before 5 September 2025



We’re incredibly lucky to have a stream like Pillhill in our patch of the world. Let’s not take it for granted.

Over 2,000 New Residents in Weyhill Alone?

The Local Plan includes 1,034 new homes for Weyhill – that’s just one village. Assuming a modest average of two people per household, that’s over 2,000 extra people relying on local water, sewage, roads, and services.

Think about it:

- 2,000+ more people flushing loos, showering, and using drinking water
- Thousands more litres of wastewater heading toward a system already under pressure
- Heavier demand on chalk aquifers that feed rivers like Pillhill Brook

And that’s not even counting traffic, waste, or the impact on wildlife corridors.

If you’re concerned about these plans, don’t stay silent. You can respond and submit your comments to the Planning Office at Test Valley Borough Council by ****5th September 2025****.

Comments can be submitted to: Planning Policy Team, Test Valley Borough Council, Beech Hurst, Weyhill Road, Andover, SP10 3AJ.

EMAIL : planningpolicy@testvalley.gov.uk





Southern Water - You Save, We Pay

Southern Water introduced a hosepipe ban for households across parts of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight recently and they are asking local businesses to assist in the collective water-saving effort by introducing our 'You Save, We Pay' incentive scheme.

How does it work?

To register, businesses must supply one meter reading from their premises, taken at some point between Friday 1 August and Friday 8 August 2025, via our dedicated webpage. Businesses must then aim to use 10% less water during the period between 1 August and 30 November 2025, compared to what they used during the same period in 2024

A second reading must be provided at some point between 1 December and 8 December 2025, and this will be used to demonstrate any saving.

Businesses that successfully achieve the 10% saving will receive a volumetric adjustment equivalent to 10% of their 2024/25 Wholesale Water charges, to be returned to them as credit in their account

This credit will be applied, via the water retailer serving the business, by January 2026.

This initiative was first used during similar restrictions in 2022, where it helped to save 8 million litres of water in a little over three months.

Visit their website for more information.

WHO IS WHO ON THE AMPORT PARISH COUNCIL

Chris Harris - Chairman & responsible for the Village Green & The Fen, Southern Water, Highways, Village Hall & local Crime

Stephen Coke - Vice Chair & responsible for finance, principle & process & Speed Awareness

Sally Baker - School liaison & resilience plan.

Alan Montagu - Solar Farm liaison & Fox Farm Liaison

Tessa Hawkings-Byass - Projects, footpaths & communications - newsletter and Face Book

Peter Harvey - Projects & children's play area

Diana Stephenson - Neighbourhood planning/Village design statement/parish plan.

Peter Waller - Resilience plan including flood planning

Clare Hemmings - Weyhill representative and Neighbourhood plan

Howard Dix - Dauntsey Lane representative & Local crime

Heather Bourner - Our Amazing Clerk!



AMPORT PARISH COUNCIL CONTACTS

CLERK: clerk@amportparishcouncil.org.uk

CHAIRMAN: chris@amportparishcouncil.org.uk

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Tessa@amportparishcouncil.org.uk

All emails addresses are goign to be chaning soon - look out for them in the next issue!

MEETING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2025

The Parish Council meets on a Monday at 07:30pm at the **NEW** Monxton and Amport Village Hall. Anyone is welcome to attend our meetings.

15th September
20th October
17th November