

A newsletter from the Borough Councillors for the Test Valley Borough Ward of Mid-Test

Cllrs Alison Johnston, Ian Jeffrey, and Tony Ward



Have your say on the future of Romsey

Having launched its Vision document earlier this year, Romsey Future is inviting local residents to attend a community event on Saturday 8 October.

The event will run from 10am to 2pm at Romsey Town Hall and will be showcasing some of the projects that are underway and the aspirations for Romsey, this is your chance to tell us what your vision is for the town.

There will be free children's activities and face painting and the opportunity to meet the artist, Amy Goodman, who has recently been commissioned by Test Valley Borough Council to create a life-size sculpture of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II for Romsey. The new artwork will celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, her 70 years of service and dedication to the country, the Commonwealth and of course her links to Romsey.

Councillor Nick Adams-King, Chair of Romsey Future said: "Having launched our new Vision document earlier this year, I am delighted that we are able to invite local residents to be part of this event. Romsey Future has an ambitious vision for our town and its future so we hope to engage as many people as possible.

"This is a really great opportunity to hear more about the important things going on in the town, with information on the south of town centre regeneration work and the statue of the late Queen Elizabeth II that is going to be erected to commemorate her Platinum Jubilee."

Romsey Future sets out a long-term vision for Romsey. It is an active partnership of many groups and organisations working together to build consensus and deliver on shared ambitions. We work together to deliver projects, to attract funding, and to guide future policies and strategies.



Council pledges £50k to help tackle cost of living

Test Valley Borough Council has created a new £50k Cost of Living Grant scheme to help organisations that are supporting people who are struggling with rising costs.

TVBC chiefs agreed to create the new funding pot at a cabinet meeting on Thursday 29 September. The scheme is currently being finalised and once live, local organisations will be able to bid for a share of the money.

The move follows a special meeting of the Test Valley Partnership in August, which was hosted jointly by the leader of Test Valley Borough Council, Councillor Phil North, and leader of the opposition, Councillor Celia Dowden. The meeting brought together a host of different organisations, including Citizens Advice Test Valley, Hampshire County Council, Department for Work and Pensions, Andover Foodbank and Romsey Community Services.

Following the meeting, the council set up a Cost of Living Support Hub, which provides useful information and signposts people to the various agencies and groups that can offer a range of help, from local food banks to financial advice. The information can be found at www.testvalley.gov.uk/costoflivingsupport

The partnership also agreed to take forward various other actions and projects over the coming months that will help organisations to provide targeted aid to residents and make it as easy as possible for people to access the support they need when they need it.



Prison sentence and fine for fly-tipper who dumped industrial waste

A Romsey man has been handed a suspended prison sentence and ordered to pay full costs after pleading guilty to fly-tipping waste including industrial kitchen appliances.

Test Valley Borough Council took Mark Hilden of Scallows Lane, West Wellow, to court after they received a report of a fly-tip near Roman Road, Broughton on 21 October 2021.

The waste was blocking access to the Southern Water Services Ltd site and also a footpath, which leads to the Clarendon Way.

The waste included industrial-sized fridges, an oven and an ironing board, together with a large number of blue plastic vegetable crates. The

appliances displayed the PAT testing labels which allowed them to be traced back to The Concorde Club in Eastleigh. The club confirmed that they had paid £300 cash for the waste to be removed and the removal had been captured on CCTV.

A DVLA enquiry confirmed that the vehicle in the CCTV footage was registered to the defendant. The stills from the CCTV were also sent to Hampshire Constabulary who identified Mr Hilden in the images.

At Southampton Magistrates' Court on 7 September 2022, Mr Hilden was disqualified from driving for three months and sentenced to 12 weeks in custody, reduced to eight weeks for an early guilty plea, suspended for two years

He was also ordered to undertake 120 hours of unpaid work, reduced to 80 hours for an early guilty plea.

He will pay Test Valley Borough Council £133 in compensation to cover clean-up costs, plus full costs of £1,041.

Portfolio Holder for Environmental Services, Councillor Nick Adams-King, said: "I would like to say a massive thank you to all those involved in bringing Mr Hilden to justice.

"Thanks to the breadcrumb trail that started with the PAT testing labels, through to the CCTV that placed the defendant at the scene in his vehicle, we were able to track down the person responsible.

"Fly-tipping is a terrible crime with terrible consequences, and I hope this sends a message to those criminals who think they can get away with it, that they absolutely won't."



Second Sundays brings together seasonal food and drink producers, designer-makers and artists alongside street food, craft drinks, workshops and music on the second Sunday of every month in Andover town centre.

Andover and its surrounding towns and villages are packed with talent - designing, making, cooking, crafting and brewing. Second Sundays will bring together the best of Hampshire and the South West, with something for everyone.



FREE TICKETS

BIG BAND

BUFFET



Saturday
29 October 2022
11am to 3pm
Test Valley School, Stockbridge

Tuck in to delicious food, tea and coffee while you listen to a wonderful array of toe-tapping tunes from the Clive Fortune Big Band. The group performs an enchanting repertoire of big band classics and jazz standards, including originals from the 1930s, 1940s and 1950s, as well as a few contemporary hits.

Representatives of various agencies and groups will also be on hand to present information and answer your questions or concerns.

You can also enter the FREE raffle to be in with a chance of winning a £30 high street voucher as well as a other prizes.

This is a ticketed event for the over 55's.

To book a place, or for more information, please contact:
01264 368840 or email Community&Leisure@testvalley.gov.uk.

Limited transport is available and must be requested at the time of booking.

**OVER
55'S**

COME ALONG FOR A FREE AFTERNOON OF MUSIC AND MINGLING!

Annual Canvass 2022

Test Valley Borough Council have a duty to conduct an annual canvass to ensure that the electoral register is accurate and up to date.

This year we will start making contact with properties in September and will continue throughout the autumn. We will be making contact with some properties via email, where that information is held, as well as the more traditional method of sending paper communications through the post to those that we do not hold email addresses for.

From 8 October 2022, we will be commencing personal visits to those [Route 2](#) properties that have not responded to the form that has been sent.

The revised electoral register will be published on 1 December 2022.



Romsey Rapids - evening swimming

Romsey Rapids Sports Complex have announced that their swimming timetable has expanded, and 'Just Swim' sessions will now be running in the evenings! This is following feedback from customers.

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