



**Parish & Town Council Reports.  
Covering 1st January 2024 - 21st March 2024.**

**Officers covering this area ~  
APS Sarah Robinson  
PCSO Mike Trebble**

**This report is for Hinton Parish Council**

**Crime comparison statistics**

**1st January 2023 - 21st March 2023 - 11 crimes compared to  
same period this year 12.**

**The most crimes for this parish council area were Assault  
non injury & Coercive or Controlling Behaviour.**

**Work in the community (This period).**

**Visits by the Neighbourhood Engagement Vehicle**

**School visits**

**Bike marking**

**Youth Club visits**

**Mini Police (Schools)**

**Coffee mornings.**

The local plan has dominated the last year at Stroud District Council and as it includes plans for a new Garden Town between Sharpness and Berkeley its impact is significant.

As district councillors we were united firmly against the plan and voiced huge concerns all the way through the process. As things proceeded we became convinced that Stroud District Council was determined to push the local plan through in spite of very valid concerns which we felt would not be given proper scrutiny until the final inspection of the plan by independent inspectors.

That inspection should have concluded last year but the inspectors were rightly unhappy and halted proceedings to allow them to consider their concerns. On reconvening the process they concluded that the plans for a commuter railway were pie in the sky and that a new M5 junction 14 costing tens of millions of pounds would be required. This was completely unbudgeted both by the developer and Stroud District Council and to add to the issue, inspectors also felt that junction 12 would need to be upgraded at tens of millions of pounds more, also unbudgeted. We attended the inspection meetings and continued to make our concerns strongly. Inspectors have now given Stroud District Council some time to discuss options with South Gloucestershire Council and Gloucestershire County Council and come up with a proposal for their consideration later this year. Our hope and objective is that the Sharpness development is removed from the final plan.



The district councils intransience regarding the local plan made us even more determined to stop the CRT plans to build around the dock using Oldminster Road as access. It was great to be part of the community coming together on this - Hinton Parish Councillors, Stroud District Councillors and residents.....The application was finally rejected and importantly changes to the laws on access roads mean that any future application could not use Oldminster road for access.

Parking in Berkeley has become a huge problem. Houses in the town centre were not designed for a family with a car, never mind families with two or three cars. In addition more people are coming into Berkeley by car and the Town Council is wrestling with a solution to this. We were pleased to be able to help by brokering meetings with Stroud District Council to enable the old garage site behind Lower Berrycroft to be used to expand the Marybrook Street car park. This site had been earmarked for sale on the open market by Stroud District Council but has now been saved and will help people from Hinton parish to find parking when you go into Berkeley.

Finally I was very honoured to have been asked to judge the Hinton Parish Council gardening competition last year. I hugely enjoyed my snoopy walks around the parish. I strongly believe that a parish council has but one objective and that is "To make residents feel proud to live there" Every decision made should be tested against that objective. This competition certainly passed the test.

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