

**HARESCOMBE
PARISH MEETING
MONDAY**

November 10th 2025

at

HARESCOMBE VILLAGE HALL

District Councillor Report – Cllr Demelza Turner-Wilkes

SDC News

1. Local Plan

<https://www.stroud.gov.uk/news/disappointment-at-rejection-of-new-evidence-for-local-plan/>

Latest update from SDC below.

Stroud District Council has expressed disappointment that important new evidence to shape its Local Plan won't be considered by key decision makers.

Government-appointed Planning Inspectors have told Stroud District Council to withdraw its Local Plan instead.

The Local Plan is the blueprint for development and maps the district's growth until 2040. It helps address a key Government challenge to find suitable sites for 630 new homes per year. This housing target will rise further still.

In July this year, Stroud District Council wrote to the Inspectors examining the draft Local Plan, requesting that they consider new evidence submitted by National Highways, on the capacity of M5 Junctions 12 and 14.

This evidence addressed concerns previously raised during the Examination of the Local Plan, regarding M5 Junction 12 and 14 and represented a significant material change. In light of this, the Council asked the Inspectors to consider holding a further hearing session to examine the implications of the new evidence and its impact on the overall soundness of the Plan.

The Council has now received a response from the Inspectors which, regrettably, maintains that *"withdrawal of the Stroud District Local Plan Review from Examination is the most appropriate way forward."*

The Inspectors have also confirmed that they do not intend to reopen the hearings.

"The Council fundamentally disagrees with the Inspectors' interpretation of the new evidence, and will be responding formally in due course," said SDC Leader, Councillor Chloe Turner.

The council continues to have an adopted Local Plan, which has been the basis for determining planning applications since its adoption in 2015. This means that the Council still has a strong basis for refusing unsuitable development, protecting the environment and ensuring vital infrastructure is still delivered alongside new homes and jobs. In addition, through its Council Plan, the Council has committed to preparing a new Local Plan that will set out a strategic vision for development over the next 20 years.

2. Stroudwater Canal

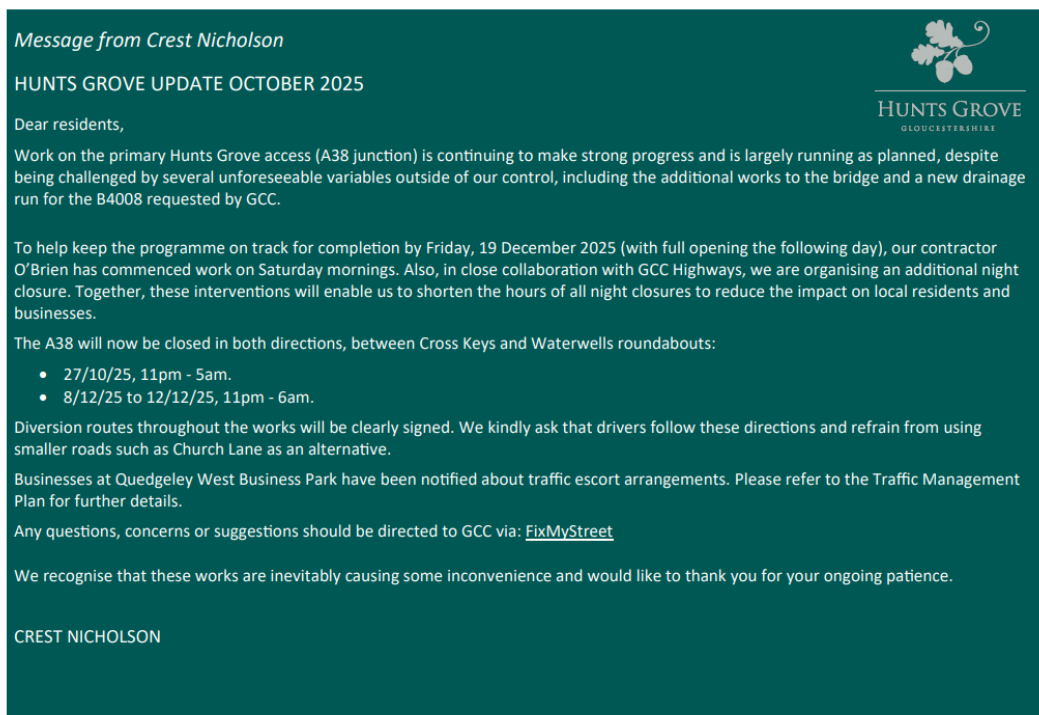
The National Lottery Heritage Fund has awarded £6.4 million towards the Stroudwater Canal project.

<https://www.stroud.gov.uk/news/the-national-lottery-heritage-fund-awards-64m-to-reconnect-stroud-s-historic-canal-with-the-uk-s-waterways/>

3. A38 Hunts Grove Works

The A38 works for the new Hunts Grove entrance/exit are progressing but have not been without issue to local road users.

The latest update from Crest Nicholson (the developer is shown below) and the completion date whilst has been extended once is scheduled for 19th December



Message from Crest Nicholson

HUNTS GROVE UPDATE OCTOBER 2025

Dear residents,

Work on the primary Hunts Grove access (A38 junction) is continuing to make strong progress and is largely running as planned, despite being challenged by several unforeseeable variables outside of our control, including the additional works to the bridge and a new drainage run for the B4008 requested by GCC.

To help keep the programme on track for completion by Friday, 19 December 2025 (with full opening the following day), our contractor O'Brien has commenced work on Saturday mornings. Also, in close collaboration with GCC Highways, we are organising an additional night closure. Together, these interventions will enable us to shorten the hours of all night closures to reduce the impact on local residents and businesses.

The A38 will now be closed in both directions, between Cross Keys and Waterwells roundabouts:

- 27/10/25, 11pm - 5am.
- 8/12/25 to 12/12/25, 11pm - 6am.

Diversion routes throughout the works will be clearly signed. We kindly ask that drivers follow these directions and refrain from using smaller roads such as Church Lane as an alternative.

Businesses at Quedgeley West Business Park have been notified about traffic escort arrangements. Please refer to the Traffic Management Plan for further details.

Any questions, concerns or suggestions should be directed to GCC via: [FixMyStreet](#)

We recognise that these works are inevitably causing some inconvenience and would like to thank you for your ongoing patience.

CREST NICHOLSON

Many thanks

Demelza

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