WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL – UPPER MEON VALLEY WARD

Parish update for June 2024

Election Special

A General Election will take place on Thursday 4th July 2024. Following the 2023 review of constituency boundaries, Winchester City Council, which includes the Upper Meon Valley, is now covered by a single constituency, "Winchester."

Who can vote?

To vote in these elections, you will need to be registered on the Register of Electors and you must be:

- Resident in the Winchester City Council area on the date of the election;
- A British, Irish or Commonwealth citizen, or a British citizen living overseas
- 18 years or older.

If you are an eligible elector and you are already on the Register of the Electors for Winchester City Council, you do not need to re-register for these elections. Information on how to register can be found on www.gov.uk/register-to-vote and the deadline for registration is 23:59 18th June 2024.

How to vote

Voting in person

You can vote in person at your designated polling station. Your polling station will be listed on your poll card, or you can check on wheredoivote.co.uk.

Remember, you'll also need to bring along an accepted form of photo ID, such as your passport or driving license, to be able to vote.

Members of the Armed Services can use the MODForm90 ID card as valid ID but Veterans CANNOT use their equivalent, so will need to ensure they have one of the above or apply for a Voter Authority Certificate.

If you do not have any of the accepted forms of photographic identification, and you want to vote at the polling station, you will need to apply for a free Voter Authority Certificate. This is a new document which Electoral Registration Officers (ERO) will be required to provide, free of charge, to any eligible elector who applies for one.

The deadline to apply for a Voter Authority Certificate is 26th June 2024.

Voters who do not produce valid photographic Identification or a Voter Authority Certificate will not be able to vote on polling day.

Full details on voter ID requirements and how to apply for a Voter Authority Certificate can be found on Voter ID webpage.

Voting by post

If you can't get to a polling station in person on Election Day, you can also vote by post. The deadline to register for a postal vote is 5pm on 19th June 2024 and is easy to do online up to that deadline. To apply for postal vote by post the paper application must arrive at your local Electoral Registration Office by the same deadline.

For more information on voting by post go to www.gov.uk/how-to-vote/postal-voting.

You'll need to provide your National Insurance Number, date of birth and signature to apply for a postal vote. Postal vote applications will expire after three years, and a fresh application will have to be submitted.

There are new rules in place on voting by post, these are summarised on the <u>Postal</u> <u>vote new rules webpage</u>.

Postal voting packs for the General Election should start to arrive from approximately 14th June 2024.

Voting by proxy

You can also choose to have someone else vote on your behalf, known as voting by proxy. The person you choose to vote on your behalf must be a registered elector who is eligible to vote at this election, and who is able to get to your polling station on polling day.

The person you chose to vote on your behalf will need to bring their photo ID with them on polling day.

The deadline to register for a proxy vote is 5pm on 26th June 2024 and is easy to do online up to that deadline. To apply for proxy vote by post the paper application must arrive at your local Electoral Registration Office by the same deadline.

You can find out more about voting by proxy at www.gov.uk/how-to-vote/voting-by-proxy.

Key Deadline Date summary

1.	Approx arrival of postal vote packs	14 th June 2024
2.	Register to vote for new electors	18 th June 2024
3.	New postal vote registration	19 th June 2024
4.	Voter Authority Certificate application	26 th June 2024
5.	Proxy vote registration	26 th June 2024

Hampshire County Council changes

Councillor Keith Mans has been elected as Chairman and Councillor Nick Adams-King has been elected as the new County Council Leader.

The County Council met to formally establish the new administration where Councillor Adams-King officially took up his new role, following a decision by Councillor Rob Humby to step down as Leader following two years in post.

Councillor Adams-King has been the Hampshire County Councillor for Romsey Rural since 2021, and a Member of the County Council's Cabinet since 2022.

The full County Council Cabinet has been confirmed as follows:

Councillor Nick Adams-King – Leader and Executive Member for Hampshire 2050 and Corporate Services

Councillor Jan Warwick – Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Younger Adults and Health and Wellbeing

Councillor Liz Fairhurst – Executive Lead Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health Councillor Zoe Huggins – Executive Member for Hampshire 2050 (Climate Change, Culture and Partnerships) and HR, Communications and Performance Councillor Roz Chadd – Executive Lead Member for Children's Services Councillor Steve Forster – Executive Member for Education

Councillor Kirsty North – Executive Lead Member for Universal Services Councillor Lulu Bowerman – Executive Member for Highways and Waste

Kind Regards

Jerry Pett Neil Bolton

Winchester City Council Ward Members for Upper Meon Valley