North Baddesley Borough Councillors Report October 2026

Cllr Geoff Cooper and Cllr Alan Warnes

1 Planning Changes at Test Valley

The Government have introduced changes to the planning process, which will take effect at the end of October. These changes will mostly affect large scale applications and will impact the numbers of applications brought to the Southern Area Planning Committee. To ensure residents are given a voice to those applications which will only be dealt with by Council Officers it is important that the Parish Council continue to voice their opinions on all applications.

2 Test Valley Community Resilience Forum save the date

The next Test Valley Community Resilience Forum will take place at Longstock Village Hall, SO20 6DT on Saturday 17 October 2026. The normal 'resilience' breakfast of sausage/bacon rolls will be on offer from 9.45am with the session beginning at 10am. In light of this year's summer and an outlook for winter ahead, the main focuses of this session will be:

2.1 A reflection on the wildfires across Test Valley and the New Forest, taking the time to understand the risks and impacts fires can have on communities and the mitigations which can be put in place.

2.2 Scene setting for the predicted wet Winter ahead with El Niño conditions, and what precautions communities can take in preparation.

2.3 An update on the work of Community Resilience in TVBC's Test, Learn and Grow programme.

3 Temporary Closure of Casbrook HWRC, Romsey

Casbrook Household Waste Recycling Centre (Bunny Lane) will be temporarily closed for approximately five weeks from Monday 12 October 2026 to allow essential resurfacing works to take place.

The existing tarmac beneath the waste containers has deteriorated due to heavy vehicle movements and requires replacement following recent safety concerns. It will be replaced with reinforced concrete, providing a safer, stronger and more durable surface and reducing the need for ongoing repairs. During the closure: Residents will be directed to alternative HWRCs at Eastleigh and Winchester. Booking slots at Casbrook have already been blocked for the closure period, so no existing appointments will need to be cancelled. Hampshire County Council will be issuing a media release and providing information through the HWRC booking website and other communications.

4 GP and Ward Councillors Meetings

The Ward Councillors continue to meet with the GP's at the Flemming Avenue practice the last meeting was on the 5th October attended by Cllr Geoff Cooper.

5 Flood Action Week 2026

Flood Action Week takes place from 12-18 October 2026 and is the Environment Agency's campaign to encourage residents, businesses, and communities to be better prepared ahead of the winter flood season. Taking action before flooding occurs can help reduce risks to life, property damage and the long-term impacts on health and wellbeing. The Environment Agency has also launched a link (see below), that brings together trusted flood information, advice and services in one place. https://floodaction.campaign.gov.uk/?utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery

6 Local Government Reorganisation

Although the Local Government Reorganisation has been halted for Hampshire the Government have introduced a MHCLG consultation on planning powers for Mayors. More details of the consultation about the future planning powers for Mayors can be found here on Planning powers for mayors in England - GOV.UK

7 Community Library

Cllr Cooper met with members of North Baddesley Village Library to see the new signage which was partly funded by the Councillors TVBC funding. The ward councillors are delighted to continue to support the North Baddesley Community Library. It is wonderful to see how the team's hard work has developed it over the last couple of years.

The service they provide goes far beyond just access to books or the puzzle exchange. Today, they have built a warm and welcoming community hub, where residents can come together to relax and socialise in a safe and caring environment. Whether you need a space to work or simply enjoy a book with a nice cup of tea, we hope residents take full advantage of what the Community Library team have to offer.

8 Councillor Community Grant Awards

The North Baddesley Councillors with support from Philip Kloppenborg the TVBC Community Engagement Officer for North Baddesley are very keen to hear from Charities or Groups with grant proposals that help support North Baddesley residents or improve the environment.