

# Friends of Latchmore

[www.friendsoflatchmore.org](http://www.friendsoflatchmore.org)

To: Mr Bill Dow, Chair, Hyde Parish Council  
Cc Councillors & Parish Clerk

Postbox Cottage,  
Blissford,  
Fordingbridge,  
Hampshire, SP62HY.  
24 July 2012

Dear Bill,

You will be aware that we were very disappointed that the Parish Council decided to ignore the overwhelming majority vote in favour of our resolution at the Annual Parish Meeting. We now have about 200 people on our list of supporters, most of whom live in the parish, and they will doubtless make their views on this sorry episode known at future elections.

Since the Council has probably not been following developments at the Court of Verderers very closely, I am sending herewith copies of the presentments made there by our members over the past few months. I do encourage you and other councillors to read these. Please let us know if you find any errors or misrepresentations in them. Otherwise you may wish to take the issues that they cover rather more seriously than you have so far.

As you will see from these presentments, there are clearly serious issues relating to the lack of investment in restoring the upstream catchment that will continue to affect the Latchmore valley, especially if the planned works are completed. We maintain that these need to be fully assessed before the works are resumed, to avoid a potential major deterioration in the state of one of this Parish's major amenities. Consequently we would encourage you to take this opportunity to consider these presentments and **at your meeting on 31 July again consider withdrawing your unqualified support** for the project.

The resolution that we have put to you, and that you have so far declined to adopt, is as follows:

**that the Council should now formally suspend its support for the project until all the necessary assessments have been satisfactorily completed and published, and satisfactory answers have been received to all the questions asked.**

It really asks you to do very little, other than admit that there is still much that is unknown and unanswered. We find it hard to understand why the Council finds it so unacceptable, that you are not even prepared to debate it.

Yours sincerely,



Professor John Shepherd CBE FRS (Chair: the Friends of Latchmore)

Please copy email responses to [friends.latchmore@gmail.com](mailto:friends.latchmore@gmail.com)