

North Mundham Parish Council

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CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE

North Mundham Parish Council Report

As you can imagine, much of the Council's attention over the past weeks has been focused on responding to the consultation about possible solutions for the A27, and we have been working closely with Chris Page, our District Councillor. The response to our special meeting at the end of March left no doubt about the overwhelming view of local electors - only the 'Mitigated Northern Route' will provide a satisfactory long-term solution. In our response to consultation we have made it very clear that this is the solution the Parish wishes to see.

As I write this report, it has become clear that the West Sussex County Council is adopting a similar position. The WSCC Environment, Communities and Fire Select Committee met on the afternoon of 4 June to consider how it should advise on the way forward. The briefing papers prepared for the meeting suggested it should promote the 'Mitigated Northern Route' as a preferred option with the 'Full Southern Route' as a reasonable alternative. But during the meeting it became clear that councillors favoured a more decisive approach, recommending the Northern Route as the Council's single preferred option.

By the time you read this report we should know what Chichester District Council has decided. The papers for their meetings on 8 June indicate they plan to promote both routes as equally desirable, without indicating a preference. It remains to be seen whether WSCC's example will persuade them to take a more decisive approach.

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