



Daily Echo Camera Club member Gary Woletz titled this one The Cold, Long Walk, taken in Dibden.

early on was to raise for the all the which had the council in thought, been were totally restrictions e articles sell: shoe food but not s a common shops were unfortunately practise in

the council no alternative but to borrow the money for the bridge's construction. Hence the toll!

The debt has only just come to an end but meaningful resources are now available, without which the rates would undoubtedly rise – a financial lifeline used wisely is a considerable asset.

**ALAN REYNARD**  
Southampton

## Don't say council isn't listening

WHEN I was chairman of the Planning Committee and later chairman of the Local Area Committee I lost count of the number of times someone who'd objected to an application which was subsequently

granted complained afterwards and often to the press that 'the committee didn't listen'.

On the contrary, we had. We'd listened to the arguments for and the arguments against, and decided that the arguments 'for' were stronger. The same applied equally the opposite way round, i.e. when someone put forward a planning application and the committee turned it down.

The meeting of Eastleigh Borough Council last week at which the Local Plan was adopted started at 7 o'clock in the evening and didn't finish until nigh on one in the morning. The protesters against the Local Plan then have the gall to tell the press and everyone else that 'the council didn't listen'. What were the councillors doing instead of listening while the protesters were stating their case – playing leap-frog, practising yoga, doing their ironing?

They were, of course, listening. Having heard from the planning officers and those councillors who accepted their

proposals everyone then listened to objections from members of the public for, apparently, nearly seven hours. At the end, they sided with the professionals, i.e. the council's planning officers, against the amateurs, i.e. the protesters.

The protesters may not like the decision, but would they please stop saying that 'the council didn't listen'. The truth is, the council listened at great

length, but the answer to the objectors was 'no'.

That's democracy in action, and one can't please everyone every time.

**MARTIN KYRLE**  
Chandler's Ford

## Pink sadness

IT WAS with great sadness I received my last edition of The Pink.

I moved to Devon in 1996 and have received a copy from my son almost every week for 20 years to keep my in touch with all the local sport.

I have fond memories of my life in Southampton standing outside the local newsagent at 6pm waiting for the van to arrive with the Football Echo. As an OT I was privileged to be coached by the wonderful Pete Munro and it was only through

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(JicReg/eTelmar May 2016)

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(JicReg/eTelmar May 2016)

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(ABC Jan - June 2016)