

## **District Councillor Address – February 2023**

### **Local Updates**

**Loxwood Shop Development** – I requested an update on this last week and initially received an email saying the developer was submitting new water neutrality mitigation plans. I queried why this was and got the following update:

*“When the applicant was confirming the on-site mitigation at Fishers Farm, prior to signing the S106 legal agreement, they discovered there was a technical issue with the delivery of one of the rain water harvesting tanks at Fishers Farm. The applicants are currently looking into how they can adjust the mitigation provision so that they still remain water neutral. Myself and Tom Day have been discussion with them over the last week or so. They confirmed in an email on Wednesday that they are hoping to supply a revised report by the end of next week demonstrating that they can provide the required mitigation at Fishers Farm. We will review this as quickly as possible and make the necessary adjustments to the S106 so that the obligation can be finalised.*

*Officers and the applicants are aware how important it is to deliver the shop as soon as possible. I am hopeful that we are almost at a conclusion.”*

**Loxwood Claypit** – It is my understanding that the applicant has submitted an appeal. I met with the Stop the Claypit group and we will now resume weekly meetings. We await further guidance as to the nature of the appeal and will need to wait for this prior to further actions. We are though ready and waiting.

**22/01726/FUL – Little Farm, Loxwood Application** – Last week I wrote to the planning officer to ask why there had been no updates since December. I was told that the TPO had meant that the applicant is not revising their scheme which will be reduced to 25 houses. Issues remain with water neutrality and drainage so this one is set to run on a while yet.

**Foxbridge and Crouchlands Proposed Developments.** – I continue to follow both of these carefully. I have written an objection to Foxbridge and will do the same for Crouchlands.

**Townfield** – I was expecting this to go to planning committee in February but have not yet had an update on this.

**Local Plan** – I was very unhappy with the scale of proposed development outlined on the Local plan and spoke at the Full Council meeting to voice this on behalf of the community. The questions I asked were sent to parish Clerks last week. I am in the process of transcribing the answers I received but the full debate and questions asked can be heard here

<https://chichester.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CIId=132&MIId=1686&Ver=4>

### **CDC Wide Updates**

## Local Plan

The next round of consultation on the Local Plan, which will began on 3 February and will last until 17 March, is open.

This consultation is a very specific one, which invites people to comment on three specific questions or tests. Respondents will be asked if the plan has met the legal requirements; if it has been positively prepared and is justified, effective and consistent with national policy; and if the council has engaged and worked effectively with neighbouring authorities and statutory bodies. Once the consultation is completed, all comments will be packaged alongside the plan for the Planning Inspector to consider as part of the independent examination on behalf of the Government.

Those who wish to comment to go to [www.chichester.gov.uk/localplanconsultation](http://www.chichester.gov.uk/localplanconsultation)  
This link will take residents directly to the consultation platform and from this page there will be links to our updated Local Plan area on CDCs website, which can also be found at [www.chichester.gov.uk/localplan](http://www.chichester.gov.uk/localplan)

**Changes to the voting process** – CDC have started the marketing campaign to raise awareness about the changes to the voting process which come into effect for the May 23 elections. In essence members of the public need to take the accepted form of photo ID otherwise they will not be permitted to vote.

Further information can be see in the link below:

<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/voter/voter-id>

Key dates to remember are:

- Register to vote – no later than midnight on 17 April
- Last day to apply for a post vote – 5pm on 18 April
- Last day to apply for a proxy vote – 5pm on 25 April
- Last day to apply for a Voter Authority Certificate – 5pm on 25 April

## Environment Act 2021

Following consultation, the National Statutory targets have been announced by government. They are: “The thirteen targets that will be laid through statutory instruments are as follows:

Biodiversity on land

- To halt the decline in species abundance by 2030.
- To ensure that species abundance in 2042 is greater than in 2022, and at least 10% greater than 2030.
- Improve the Red List Index for England for species extinction risk by 2042, compared to 2022 levels.
- To restore or create in excess of 500,000 hectares of a range of wildliferich habitat outside protected sites by 2042, compared to 2022 levels.

Biodiversity in the sea

- 70% of the designated features in the MPA [Marine Protected Areas] network to be in favourable condition by 2042, with the remainder in recovering condition.

#### Water quality and availability

- Abandoned metal mines target: Halve the length of rivers polluted by harmful metals from abandoned mines by 2038, against a baseline of around 1,500 km.
- Agriculture target: Reduce nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P) and sediment pollution from agriculture into the water environment by at least 40% by 2038, compared to a 2018 baseline.
- Wastewater target: Reduce phosphorus loadings from treated wastewater by 80% by 2038 against a 2020 baseline.
- Water Demand Target: Reduce the use of public water supply in England per head of population by

#### Woodland cover

- Increase total tree and woodland cover from 14.5% of land area now to 16.5% by 2050.

#### Resource efficiency and waste reduction

- Reduce residual waste (excluding major mineral wastes) kg per capita by 50% by 2042 from 2019 levels.

#### Air quality

- An Annual Mean Concentration Target for PM2.5 levels in England to be 10 µg m<sup>-3</sup> or below by 2040.
- A Population Exposure Reduction Target for a reduction in PM2.5 population exposure of 35% compared to 2018 to be achieved by 2040.”

### **District Councillor Surgeries**

Sat 4 Feb: Onslow Arms, Loxwood

Sat 18 Feb: The Foresters, Kirdford. **Pub closed for refurbishment so I will be looking for a new venue.**

Sat 4Mar: OldMill Café, Wisborough Green

I am also available for home visits or one to one meetings at alternative dates/venues upon request.

Get in touch! [gbevans@chichester.gov.uk](mailto:gbevans@chichester.gov.uk) / 07958 918056