

I hope you all enjoyed the summer break with your families and friends, despite the unpredictable and unseasonable weather! There was lots going on across the District and I'm sure many of you will have attended our fantastic events like the Loxwood Joust, Petworth Festival and MADhurst. For any Lord of the Rings fans, don't miss the Magic of Middle Earth exhibition at the Novium in Chichester, which ends on 24<sup>th</sup> September.

## **Local Updates**

**Chichester Local Plan** – CDC received a very large number of responses to the Local Plan consultation earlier this year. Officers have been collating and categorising these responses and we are working hard to ensure that the Plan is submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for review in the Autumn. The council fully supports making the Local Plan, which, amongst other things, will help protect us from speculative housing developments.

**Parish Neighbourhood Plans** – Gareth and I have been working with several of our Parish Councils and CDC to support their production of Neighbourhood Plans and Gareth has asked CDC officers to actively reach out to support Parishes in this process. These are linked to the Local Plan update process so take huge amounts of time and effort from dedicated Parish Councillors, Clerks, officers and consultants. One benefit is that local residents gain some control over development, which is being driven by government housing targets and that Parishes receive a higher allocation of money from developers that they can then use to improve our local infrastructure.

**Land West of Cornwood Townfield Kirdford West Sussex** – Was expecting to go to planning committee in August, however this is now further delayed until September whilst officers finalise their report. Gareth and I have spoken to Fjola Stevens outlining disappointment in time to determine this application which will be 956 days if not determined by 30<sup>th</sup> September.

**Lagoon 3** – Gareth and I attended the hearing at Horsham Magistrates Court on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> August. Unfortunately there was another trial scheduled for the same day which took priority and the magistrates did not have time to hear both. A new date has been set for January 25<sup>th</sup> 2024, where we are told the case will be marked as 'priority'.

**Crouchlands Proposed Developments** – A meeting with the developer, Loxwood Ward District Councillors, the Leader of the Council and a Senior Officer took place on 11<sup>th</sup> July. At the meeting it was outlined that the determination date was likely to be extended again as there are still several issues to resolve, not least Water Neutrality, roads infrastructure and ecological matters.

**Loxwood Shop Update:** Following the signing of the S.106 agreement, permission has finally been granted for the building of a new shop and associated housing in Loxwood, on the South side of Nursery Green. Gareth and I have been pushing hard to secure the replacement shop for the village, so this is very welcome news!

**Southern Water Roadworks, Plaistow** – Following concern from residents about the placement of signage due to the Southern Water roadworks between Ifold and Plaistow, Gareth reported the inappropriate and dangerous signs to West Sussex County Council. Work is now due to finish on 15<sup>th</sup> September.

### **CDC Wide Updates**

**Next Full Council Meeting** – Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September

### **Meeting your District Councillors:**

Gareth has the following surgery dates scheduled from 12pm-2pm:  
Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2023 – Kirdford Village Shop, Kirdford  
Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2023 – Stag Inn, Balls Cross

Should the dates suggested not be suitable for you or there are any other reasons preventing you from seeing us we are also happy to do home visits, telephone calls or zoom calls.

Our contact details:

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