

District Council Address – January

Gareth and I would like to wish you all a very Happy New Year!

Local Updates

Foxbridge Golf Club – The application for the wellbeing and leisure development at the former Foxbridge Golf Club is now scheduled to come before the February CDC Planning Committee Meeting. Gareth and I continue to support the Parish Councils in opposing this application, which is not suitable for the area and our infrastructure. As this is a longstanding application and I have already given a clear opinion, I will not be able to participate in the Planning Committee debate as I am considered ‘pre-determined’.

Local Government Reorganisation – As you will be aware, the Government has confirmed that the mayoral elections that were scheduled for May 2026 have now been postponed until May 2028. They have also invited Councils who were due to have Local Elections in May 2026 (eg. West Sussex County Council) to set out their views on potentially postponing these too. It is our view that these Elections should go ahead as planned as they were already delayed by one year in 2025. CDC have confirmed that we are ready and have the appropriate resources to run these elections, whilst continuing to deliver to the Government’s LGR timeline.

CDC Wide Updates

Development Management Team (Planning)

Following the Development Management Service Review that took place in 2025, work is continuing to implement the resultant action plan. This includes a restructure of the Development Management service into two area-based teams. Instead of teams covering ‘Major’ or ‘Minor’ applications, teams will now cover either the East or West of the District. For capacity reasons, the ‘West’ team will also cover the North of the District, including Loxwood Ward. In addition, following the recent resignation of Katie Stephens, Jeremy Bushell has been appointed to the role of Development Manager.

Household Support Fund

Residents of Chichester have been allocated up to £100k to help vulnerable households struggling with the rising cost of living. Support is available for school clothing, energy bills, crisis prevention (white goods, furniture, emergency food) and rent arrears. Support is provided in the form of vouchers to be used to help with these costs. For full details of eligibility and to apply, visit the following West Sussex County Council web page:

<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/leisure-recreation-and-community/household-support-fund/> or telephone 0330 222 7980

Food Waste Collections

Preparations for our new food waste collection service are well underway. Five new vehicles have already arrived, and we’ve been busy keeping residents informed through regular communications. In February, we will be placing information directly on residents’ bin

handles – explaining what residents can expect when the service launches in spring 2026. We also encourage people to download our Chichester District Council app, which will provide live updates during the service roll out, including container delivery and collection start dates.

Surgeries

Cllr. Gareth Evans is available to meet residents face to face via one of his regular surgeries. Gareth will be available at the advertised venues from 12pm-2pm:

January: Saturday 10th, Onslow Arms Loxwood, Saturday 24th, Kirdford Stores

February: Saturday 7th, Northchapel Club, Saturday 28th Stag Inn Ebernoe

March: Saturday 7th Wisborough Green (Old Mill Café)

If these dates and times do not suit it is also possible to arrange home visits, telephone calls or zoom meetings.

Our contact details are:

Cllr. Gareth Evans, email gbevans@chichester.gov.uk or telephone 07958918056

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/GarethEvansLoxwood>

Cllr. Charles Todhunter, email ctodhunter@chichester.gov.uk or telephone 07500 577 777

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Charles4Loxwood>