

## July District Councillor Address

### Local Updates

**Rickman's Green at Crouchlands Farm, Rickman's Lane, Plaistow, RH140LE** – Letters have been circulated to residents that a proposal for a new village (600 homes and a school) will go in imminently. There will be a drop in exhibition on 12<sup>th</sup> July for residents to attend and the applicant will also attend the Parish Councils public meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> July to discuss their plans. Once the application goes live residents will be able to comment with their views.

**Foxbridge Golf Club Development** – I attended a presentation for this last month and since then I have received a large amount of correspondence from residents who are concerned about this application. From I have seen so far, I share these concerns but will have to wait until the actual application goes live before taking a view. However as with the Crouchlands Farm development I will be listening to the views of the public

**Lagoon 3** – The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July at 2.00pm. This will basically give an update on progress regarding the legal action CDC were planning to take. I do also want to ask what the chances of approving the 600 home development will be whilst Lagoon 3 remains in place

**Townfield Development** – The most recent update I got was that the applicant tabled a water budget report for the proposed schemes which, whilst CDC need to check thoroughly, appears to be based on sound methodology along with proposals for offsetting on two residential schemes outside of the district. CDC consider that, in principle, the solution proposed would be acceptable. The applicant acknowledged that the proposal still needed further working up and we have been promised a revised version within a couple of weeks. It has also been confirmed that even if the officer were minded to approve it it would still need to go to planning committee.

**Land West Of Guildford Road Loxwood West Sussex (20/01977/FUL)** – I have written to the case officer upon hearing that the S106 had not been progressed some six weeks after approval. I was told that:

- Legal services have drafted the agreement and it awaits comments from the case officer and applicant.
- Jo (the case officer) is preparing the technical information to be attached to the agreement

Andrew Farquhar has told me that the second S106 which is water neutrality has been held in abeyance and CDC legal services cannot progress this until they have a technical note and instructions from CDC planning department. The planning department have told him that they are stretched and prioritising planning appeals.

I have raised this with Fjola Stevens and asked for estimated timescales which she says she is unable to provide. I will be raising this with my Group Leader as I do not think this hold up is good enough.

**Hyde Housing** – I have been supporting one resident in Loxwood who has had big issues with Hyde and has living conditions which are detrimental to her health and that of her young family. Having been refused to be placed on the housing list to bid for one of the Stonewater properties I stepped in, and CDC are now helping this resident. However, the issues with Hyde remain unacceptable in my opinion.

### **Chichester District Updates**

**Census** – The first results of the census have now been published and can be found via this link

[www.ons.gov.uk/releases/initialfindingsfromthe2021censusinenglandandwales](http://www.ons.gov.uk/releases/initialfindingsfromthe2021censusinenglandandwales)

**£150 energy bills rebate as of 13 June 2022** - Payments for eligible residents who pay by direct debit commenced on 11 April 2022. So far, over £4.3 million has been paid out to 28,860 residents. This equates to 80% of all payments being made as of 13 June 2022. CDC are writing to residents who do not pay their Council Tax by direct debit so that they can ask for their bank details so that they can make the payment. Officers continue to work extremely hard to ensure eligible residents receive their payments as quickly as possible.

Residents who pay their Council Tax by direct debit will receive their £150 Energy Payment quicker. Due to this, CDC encourages local residents to pay for their council tax by direct debit. It's quick and easy to do following this link:

<https://www.chichester.gov.uk/energybillsrebate2022>

Please be advised that the Discretionary Scheme has been operating since 1 May 2022. To date, a total of 249 discretionary payments have been made. Until recently, take up has been low, but this is picking up. You can find out the full details here:

<https://www.chichester.gov.uk/energybillsrebate2022>

**Hyde Housing Complaints** - Residents wanting to make a complaint about a Hyde property should, in the first instance, must complain direct to Hyde at this site:

<https://www.hyde-housing.co.uk/complaints/>

If this route does not resolve the issue, then residents can raise this with their District Councillor who will attempt to resolve the issue via the other routes available to them

**New agreement with South Downs National Park Authority** - Further to the approval given by Cabinet in January 2022, a new agreement with the South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) under section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972 has been completed. This will enable the council to continue to provide a development management service to the SDNPA for up to two years initially, until 30 September 2024.

**Local Plan Review** - Officers are working hard to finalise the Local Plan Review. There are a number of key strands of strategic work that CDC are seeking to complete in the coming months, to enable further progression and then submission for examination.

Firstly, CDC are working closely with National Highways and West Sussex County Council to establish the effect of the revised Development Strategy, agreed by Members earlier this year, on the A27 and local road network. The issues surrounding the A27 are complex, but CDC's consultants have made significant progress on advancing the modelled impact, which CDC will discuss with the Highway Authorities over the next month.

Given the constraints of the A27 on development in the south of the district, the council will be under significant pressure at examination to demonstrate that it has looked at the potential for further development in the north-east as carefully as possible. There is an ongoing piece of work commissioned by CDC, Horsham and Crawley, to look at ways of overcoming the water neutrality issues in this area. Once complete, it will inform what development can be achieved in the north-east of the plan area.

While these are the two most significant strategic level strands of work, there is also a lot of activity on other matters necessary to submit a successful local plan.

**Full Council Meeting** – The next full council meeting takes place on 19<sup>th</sup> July at 2.00pm

**District Councillor Surgeries:**

These are my final two surgeries of the summer and I will publish my next round shortly.

Saturday 23rd July, The Half Moon Northchapel (12-2pm),

19th August Kirdford (venue TBC).

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.