**Loxwood Parish Council**

**Local Updates**

**Land West of Guildford Road (including Retail Unit)**

I asked for a statement to be read out by Adrian Moss on my behalf at this planning committee meeting which was approved by all members of the planning committee

**Loxwood Claypit application**

It seems increasingly likely that this will go ahead on 18th May as planned. I will be attending this planning committee to speak in opposition to this application. I will be taking the opportunity to reflect the views of the many residents who have objected and who have spoken personally to me regarding their views on this application.

**Land South of Townfield**

A meeting between the applicant and officers of the planning department took place on 5th May to discuss the proposed solution for the Water Neutrality issue. At the time of writing, I had not received an update despite asking for this as soon as the meeting concluded. I also ask that I could attend the meeting and received no reply from the officer.

**Lagoon 3**

The next scheduled meeting is due to take place on Thursday 7th July at 2pm

**Foxbridge Golf Course**

Residents will have received the flyer (below) through their door regarding a proposed health, eco leisure and accommodation destination at the old Foxbridge Golf Course.

The Substantia group who have put forward this proposal will hold a public consultation from 18th May - 1st June 2022

They will also be hosting an in-person event at Kelsey Hall, Chalk Road, Ifold, RH14 0UD on 18th May 2022 between 2pm. Residents will be able to view plans, speak with members of the team and offer your feedback.

I would like residents to know that I am aware of this application and will attending this consultation in order to fully understand this application. Over the coming weeks I will be listening to the views of residents and the parish council in order that I can act as your voice to represent your opinions at the point that this planning application goes into Chichester District Councils planning department.

Should you have any questions or concerns about this proposal please email me gbevans@chichester.gov.uk or call 07958918056

**District Wide Updates**

**Ukrainian Refugees**

You may have seen in the news that Chichester was named the most generous place in the country for housing Ukrainian refugees. The Times newspaper identified the story after reviewing the figures released by the Home Office, which listed Chichester as having the highest rate of Ukraine visas when its population is taken into account. CDC recocognises how generous our communities are, and how they always step forward when help is needed. West Sussex County Council is co-ordinating the response across the county, and CDC are supporting them with this.

**Energy Bill rebate**

Over the past few weeks CDCs Revenues, Benefits and Finance teams have been working incredibly hard to issue the Government’s £150 rebate to those who are eligible. Thousands of payments have already been made and this work is continuing. The payment is intended to help with energy costs, which as you will know are rising considerably. CDC had lots of questions about the rebate scheme and so have created a short video taking people through the scheme and listing the eligible groups at: [www.chichester.gov.uk/energybillsrebate2022](http://www.chichester.gov.uk/energybillsrebate2022)

**Email Newsletter**

CDC would like to encourage local residents to sign up to their email newsletter ‘initiatives+’. These are issued every month and provide the very latest updates. It’s really easy to sign up at [www.chichester.gov.uk/newsalerts](http://www.chichester.gov.uk/newsalerts)

**Enabling Grants**

CDC will be launching this year’s Enabling Grants scheme later this month. Businesses will be able to apply online between 9 and 30 May and guidance notes on the scheme will be available on the Business Support section of the website before the end of April. CDCs E-Biz newsletter will announce the forthcoming launch two weeks prior to the scheme going live to applications so that businesses have time to consider whether to apply. A key aspect of this year’s scheme is that applications from businesses in the Green sector or for projects to reduce a business’s environmental impact will be given priority.

**Mental Health Awareness Week**

This month CDC are supporting Mental Health Awareness Week (9 - 15 May), for those experiencing loneliness getting out to explore the community with others can be a great way to boost your mental health. CDC have 10 HeartSmart walks on offer during the Mental Health Awareness week ranging from a beginner 1 mile walk at Chichester Canal to a 6.5 mile walk around West Marden.

CDC are also celebrating 20 years of the HeartSmart Walks with a Walls Walk followed by celebratory tea and cake at the District Council. Bookings will open 3 weeks before the event with limited spaces. The latest Programme May - July 2022 is now available, with a huge variety of volunteer led walks taking place across the District. <http://www.chichester.gov.uk/heartsmart>

CDC are working with local businesses and offering Wellbeing Check ins for staff at George Ide Solicitors, St Richards nursery and Loxwood GP surgery.

CDC have their monthly Wellbeing ‘drop in’ at the Depot, for members of staff there who would like to make any lifestyle changes. Midhurst Rother College are holding their annually Community Day on Saturday 7 May, a day when the college opens its doors to the local community and invites clubs, groups, businesses and agencies to come and display what they have to offer.

**Surgery Dates**

My next round of District Councillor Surgery dates are as follows:

**Sat 21st May (12-2pm) The Stag Inn, Balls Cross**

**Sat 11th June (11-1pm) Old Mill Cafe, Wisborough Green**

**Sat 18th June (12-2pm) The Onslow Arms, Loxwood**

**Saturday 2nd July (11-1pm) The Coffee Cup, Ifold (village shop)**

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

Should these dates not be suitable, or you are unable to visit in person I am always happy to visit residents at their homes/alternative venue or arrange a telephone call/zoom conversation. I can be contacted by phone 07958918056 or by email [gbevans@chichester.gov.uk](mailto:gbevans@chichester.gov.uk)