

My apologies in advance if I don't make Monday evenings meeting. I have parents evening and it looks like parents have booked me right up until 7pm. If I can drop in on my way home I will.

In the meantime, I would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and have a very well-deserved break when it comes.

## **Local Updates**

### **22/01726/FUL | Erection of 32 no. residential dwellings on land at Little Farm, Loxwood**

This application looks to have in the region of 200 objections now. I have submitted my own objection to this. The officer assigned to this has told me that it will go to planning committee but is unlikely to be anytime soon as there are several issues with this application including water neutrality.

**Sustainability Appraisal (Loxwood Parish Council question)** I am sorry to say that despite chasing on several occasions I have not been sent a reply to this. If the Parish Council would like this escalated I am happy to do this.

**21/02849/FUL Land Southwest Of Willets Way Willetts Way Loxwood West Sussex** – The planning committee asked for this to be deferred to a future planning committee meeting to enable to site visit to take place. It is more likely that this will go back to planning committee in January and the site visit will take place on the Monday before. I have not had further updates on this.

**22/02346/OUT Foxbridge Golf Club Development** – Since the Monitoring officer withdrew the support cards which did not follow protocol a high number of objections have gone in. I have had no further updates on this at this stage.

**21/00466/OUT – Land West of Cornwood Townfield Kirdford West Sussex** – Residents will remember that this application was submitted around 1 year and 8 months ago but was yet to be determined due to Water Neutrality issues. I have pushed the officer that this is not acceptable and leaves the Kirdford Community in limbo. At the time of writing the officer agreed with this and we are now awaiting a determination.

**Stonewall Development** A member of the Loxwood Community contacted me some time back with significant issues with Hyde housing which was causing health and wellbeing issues for the family. Hyde failed to resolve these and I helped the resident with the support of CDC to secure tenancy in one of the new Stonewater developments. This has now been achieved and the resident is as I am sure you will imagine absolutely delighted. **Update resident contacted me to say they had now moved into the property**

## **Southern Water and Community Police**

My group have asked Southern Water and the Katy Bourne (WSCC Police Commissioner) to attend the next Overview and Scrutiny Meeting to address growing and ongoing concerns in terms of Sewage overflow and lack of police presence. m

## **CDC Updates**

**Discretionary Energy Rebate Scheme Update:** The discretionary energy rebate scheme was open until 30 November 2022. CDC received £274,650 to support residents and have as of 21 November 2022 awarded a total of £261,217 (95 %). CDC were on track to fully spend the remainder by 30 November 2022. This scheme has been very positively received by residents and on average we have awarded individual residents eligible a one-off payment averaging £1,238. [£150 energy bills rebate 2022: Chichester District Council](#)

**Avian Influenza:** Housing measures to protect poultry and captive birds from avian flu came back into force from Monday 7 November 2022. This means that it is a mandatory requirement for all bird keepers across England to keep their birds housed and to follow strict biosecurity measures, in order to limit the spread and to eradicate the disease. Any complaint relating to this will be dealt with by West Sussex Trading Standards who can be contacted at [tradingstandards@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:tradingstandards@westsussex.gov.uk).

**Trial of waste collection App:** The app, developed by Cloud 9 Technologies and already in use by a number of local authorities, enables residents to set reminders about their kerbside collections, search for materials to see how best to dispose of them, report incidents such as missed bins and fly tipping. The app also has other information taken from the council's website, such as local facilities (e.g. car parks or public toilets), food hygiene ratings, news, and Member profiles. More details can be found at <https://www.chichester.gov.uk/Chichester>

**Christmas Bin Collections:** CDC waste and recycling collection dates will be altering slightly over the festive period. Below you will find a table showing all changes during December and January. Changes can also be found by visiting [www.chichester.gov.uk/wastecollectioncalendar](http://www.chichester.gov.uk/wastecollectioncalendar)

Normal Collection Day	Pre-Christmas week	Christmas week	New Year week week 1	Post-New Year
<b>Monday</b>	12 Dec 2022	19 Dec 2022	*27 Dec 2022	*3 Jan 2023
<b>Tuesday</b>	13 Dec 2022	20 Dec 2022	28 Dec 2022	4 Jan 2023
<b>Wednesday</b>	14 Dec 2022	21 Dec 2022	29 Dec 2022	5 Jan 2023
<b>Thursday</b>	15 Dec 2022	22 Dec 2022	30 Dec 2022	6 Jan 2023
<b>Friday</b>	16 Dec 2022	23 Dec 2022	*2 Jan 2023	7 Jan 2023

\* Bank holidays

The Garden Recycling Service will stop from Friday 23 December and will start again on Monday 9 January 2023. There will also be some slight changes to clinical waste collections; all affected residents will be contacted directly.

### **Elections:**

The Elections Act 2022 is planned to be implemented from next year, and a number of changes are due to take place. This is to give you a brief update of those changes.

**Voter ID** – the Government has plans to introduce electors having to show identification at the polling station from the polls on 4 May 2023. Most electors will have an acceptable form of identification but if they don't, they are able to apply for a "Voter Authority Certificate" (VAC) through the gov.uk web portal or in person at the council offices. Staff in polling stations will not be able to issue a ballot paper unless identification or a VAC is shown. A large-scale PR campaign will start in the new year by the Electoral Commission and the Communications team at CDC. Poll cards will also be A4 size to allow for information on what must be shown in the polling stations to be put on them. More information can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/voter-identification-at-polling-stations-and-the-new-voter-card>

**First Past the Post** – the voting system for any Mayoral or Police & Crime Commissioner elections in England and Wales will be changed to First Past the Post.

**EU citizens' Voting & Candidacy Rights (EUVCR)** – the automatic right of EU citizens to register to vote, to vote and to stand in UK elections will be removed. However, two groups of EU citizens will retain their voting and candidacy rights and therefore remain on the relevant register: these are 'qualifying EU citizens' and 'EU citizens with retained rights'. Qualifying EU citizens are those citizens of a country with which the UK has bilateral voting and candidacy rights treaties. EU citizens with retained rights are those persons who have been resident in the UK or Islands since the end of the EU Exit Implementation Period (31 Dec 2020). As long as they have

maintained unbroken immigration status, they will retain their voting and candidacy rights. Those that are ineligible will be removed in December 2023.

**Postal & Proxy Voting Rule Changes (from July 2023)** – there will be a new requirement for postal voters to reapply for a postal vote every three years instead of 5 years. There will also be new identity verification requirements for absent vote applications to try and make the system more robust and secure.

**Overseas Electors Changes (from July 2023)** – Overseas electors will be able to register at the last UK address they were registered at, or the last UK address at which they were resident if they were never previously registered. Currently electors living overseas are only entitled to register to vote for up to 15 years from leaving the UK and the new legislation removes the 15-year rule.

**Postal Vote Handling Rules Changes (from Autumn 2023)** – there will be a ban on postal votes being handled by candidates and campaigners. Postal votes being handed in to a polling station will also be limited to 5 and they must complete a form to establish who has delivered the postal votes and for whom.

These changes will deter fraud and will also deter candidates and campaigners from undertaking activity which is perceived to be linked to fraud.

At this stage there is very little detailed guidance on any of the changes involved but if you have any questions regarding any of the above, please get in touch and I will pass these onto CDC.

### **District Councillor Surgeries**

Sat 14 Jan: Halfmoon Pub, Northchapel

Sat 28 Jan: The Stag Inn, Balls Cross

Sat 4 Feb: Onslow Arms, Loxwood

Sat 18 Feb: The Forresters, Kirdford

Sat 4 Mar: Old Mill 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.