

## **District Councillor Address – March 2023**

### **Local Updates**

**Loxwood Shop Development** – Last month I received an update saying the developer needed to submit new water neutrality mitigation plans as they had discovered there was a technical issue with the delivery of one of the rainwater harvesting tanks. Therefore, the applicants are adjusting the mitigation provision so they can remain water neutral. I hoped to report this month that CDC have made the necessary adjustments to the S106 and the Loxwood community can finally have their shop, but at the time of writing there was no such update.

**Loxwood Claypit** – An appeal has gone in. The Stop the Claypit group are now regularly meeting regarding this and liaising with WSCC

**22/01726/FUL – Little Farm, Loxwood Application** – No further updated - Issues remain with water neutrality and drainage so this one is set to run on a while yet.

**Crouchlands Proposed Developments.** – I wrote to CDC as no notices had gone on the gates of Crouchlands regarding the planning applications that had been submitted. These have now been done. I continue to follow this application closely.

**Foxbridge** – No further updates.

**Townfield** – Latest update is this will go to March Planning Committee.

**Lakeside Farm** – CDC are investigating why a council representative was taking pictures on their land without their awareness. I reported this hence the investigation.

**Local Plan** – a reminder that Parish Councils and residents have until 17<sup>th</sup> March to submit comment to the local plan.

### **CDC Wide Updates**

**Pre-election period** – Starts Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March

**Damp and Mould** - Following the tragic death of Awaab Ishak in Rochdale last year, the government has tabled amendments to the Social Housing Regulation Bill currently going through parliament to introduce 'Awaab's Law'. The new law will require social housing landlords to investigate and fix reported health hazards including damp and mould in their properties within strict new time limits. The new rules will form part of the tenancy agreement, so tenants can hold landlords to account by law if they fail to provide a decent home. The government has also committed to a rapid review of existing guidance on the health impacts of damp and mould, followed by new guidance tailored to the housing sector, to be published by Summer 2023. The Housing Standards Team continues to provide advice to residents on how best to manage moisture in the home through our media platforms. Tenants experiencing damp and mould within their property should always notify their landlord in the first instance. If the problem worsens, or the landlord's response

is unsatisfactory tenants should contact the Housing Standards Team for help and advice. [https://www.chichester.gov.uk/media/36430/Damp-Leaflet-Nov-2021/pdf/Damp\\_leaflet\\_Nov2021.pdf](https://www.chichester.gov.uk/media/36430/Damp-Leaflet-Nov-2021/pdf/Damp_leaflet_Nov2021.pdf)

**Planning Policy** The government are consulting on 'Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill: reforms to national planning policy' (<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/levellingup-and-regeneration-bill-reforms-to-national-planning-policy>). A council response was agreed by the Development Plan and Infrastructure Panel on 22 February and Planning Committee on 1 March 2023. The consultation is running from the 22 December 2022 to 2 March 2023 and is on the proposed changes to national planning policy and guidance, which will be required alongside the Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill. The consultation covers the proposed updates to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), the proposed approach to preparing National Development Management Policies, as well as how they might develop new planning policy to support levelling up. The consultation also sets out the wider changes to national planning policy that are likely to be needed to reflect the Bill and other aspects of government policy. The government plan on undertaking a full consultation on a revised National Planning Policy Framework and proposals for National Development Management Policies once the Bill has completed its passage through Parliament (spring 2023)

**Full Council Meeting** – Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2023 Budget Council

### **District Councillor Surgeries**

Sat 4Mar: 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