

Cllr Jackie Porter: County Council Report August 2017

ALRESFORD:

The **Sun Lane Development Application** is to my knowledge, still in progress. I have attached a second paper to this with the County's response following my take up of the questions posed following the NATC meeting in public.

I have chased again to ask to see the final response from HCC, which I will share with you on receipt.

Some of the conversation about this site is regarding the **ownership of what will appear to be 'public realm'** but that was in question. I have asked HCC to establish this vital point at this outline stage, as part of a larger piece of work I have undertaken about the private ownership of the public realm through the extensive and increasing use of Management Companies. This was in part as a result of questions raised by owners in the new Mulberries development. This has prompted an extensive piece of work at HCC to improve efficiency and working practices with local planning authorities. I hope it will bear fruit for this Alresford Sun Lane Application, and others in the future.

West Street Improvements and the CIL funding

For a whole now, I have been seeking a clear view from WCC to establish how the CIL funding can be accessed, and the criteria by which the relative merits of projects across the district are judged.

HCC has funds too, and despite requests to go forward with this project, has not chosen to do so. I know that NATC has a desire to go forward with this plan, and I will continue to press the City and County CIL holders to release this funding to achieve this. I recommend that this council resolves to seek funding from WCC and HCC to do this work, which was originally costed at £80K. Your Council might have to agree to a % from your own CIL funds to kick start this.

Yellow Lines in Sun Lane, north of Nursery Road

These were incorrectly painted- they will be repainted to protect more of the corner, improving visibility.

20mph under the Jacklyn's Lane Bridge, and other speed limit changes

It would be useful to know where you are seeking changes, so that we are 'all on the same page' on this.

GENERAL:

Please ensure that your council responds to the Gypsy and Traveller consultation, due by early September. Thank you.

After a very wet August, you may have a **ditch outside your home** which has been filling up in the rain. The riparian responsibilities of landowners is very clearly explained in a leaflet entitled 'Flood Risk Management Guidance for Landowners' (printed Feb 2016). You can see it online at hants.gov.uk or I can provide a copy on request.

Councils are trying to work out how they will **balance the budget** as Government funding declines towards 2020. The debate is about whether councils should become 'entrepreneurial' for potentially a higher (or lower) return but greater risk, or invest our money as safely as it can. I would be interested to hear your views.

In the Itchen Valley division that I represent, there are approximately 485 people who are seeking an **affordable home**. 393 of those are under 60, 92 are over 60. It may be that they currently sleep on a sofa, with other family members, or their homes are at risk in tied properties; many are doing valuable jobs on lower salaries.

The 'exception housing' policy allows landowners whose land is not already allocated to housing in the Local Plan to build homes which are offered to rent or for shared ownership below market price through Winchester's housing allocation process.

If you know of land that could be used, or are on the Housing Waiting List (or feel you should be) then please contact me and your Parish Council to explain why availability of that housing would be important to you. As the number of affordable homes declines in the countryside, there is a human cost to this very real problem. Even if someone is entitled to be 'on the list', there just isn't a home available. We must change this.

My survey on '**CANGO bus use**' had to stop temporarily over the summer, but I have now sent out paper surveys to earlier enquirers. If you know people who use CANGO and have not seen the survey, please tell me how, when and why you use the service. Thank you.

Families using the popular **Merrydale Respite Care home** for children in Kings Worthy are being consulted on new ways to deliver respite care. I welcome the consultation but want to ensure that families really do get the respite they need in any new service delivery. Please encourage users of this service to complete the survey and/or contact me with their views.

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