

Cllr Frank Pearson, WCC

Parish Council Report : Wed 19th October.

1. Amendments suggested by Scrutiny to the draft Winchester Local Plan Reg 18 have been considered by Cabinet. Some have been accepted but they can be observed in the Cabinet Agenda paper. They can be viewed on the web site.
2. The Draft Winchester Plan now goes on to public consultation on 2nd November for six weeks.
3. Note Win4TheClimate - Winchester District Climate Assembly 22nd October in Winchester Guildhall. It is a full day event 10.00 to 16.30
4. Launch of a “Cost of Living intervention” in addition to the support being proposed by Central Government in the “mini budget”. It is a £200,000 item to come through ‘partner organisations’. Measures proposed include a) measures to help reduce energy bills, b) help to access benefits, c) help to access ‘Food (banks)’, d) and other types of support. Money from Reserves. Where this lies in relation to the scrapping of the “Mini Budget” is uncertain.
5. Cabinet agreed to add another £1 million to the cost of the proposed major Community Pavilion on the KGV playing fields. Making the available funds £3.3 million. It will essentially be for the Winchester Flyers Soccer Club. They have close on 500 players. It will also support other sports clubs using that area, and include support for some Community use. The funds to come from Winchester C.I.L. funding.
6. Grants to help reduce tenant energy use will be targeted at EPC Band D or below house or bungalows; tenants will need to “opt into the new programme. Focus on “fabric first approach”. Not sure whether this in addition to the existing programme of “Retro-fitting Council homes” or is ‘new money’?
7. Subscriptions for the 2023/24 Garden Waste collection ‘license’ will open in November. The Council will no longer accept ‘new subscriptions’ for 2022/23. As yet there are no suggestions that the cost of this will increase for 2023/24.
8. The Court has rejected the challenge to Council regarding the redevelopment of the River Park site so the “partnership” with Southampton University to extend facilities for the School of Art will proceed.
9. The “Rural Crime” meeting held in Meonstoke Village Hall took place last week. Input was made by ACSO Gary McCulloch, Gary Brown ‘WCC Officer’ dealing with Fly-tipping, Donna Jones P&CC, Inspector Korine Bishop I/c Rural Crime, and Flick Drummond MP. Promise of the replacement of the dedicated patrol cars. Using crews from Fareham, or Basingstoke proved to be difficult because most did not know the area. Ref to App ‘What3Words’ which gives an exact location - much better and accurate than Post Code GPS system.
10. The proposed sand quarry/dry waste infill scheme to the south of Waltham Chase has been refused by the HCC Licensing and Regulation Cttee. Ref our HCC Cllr Hugh Lumby.
11. The proposed Council meeting scheduled for 2nd November has been cancelled - no business!

Sincerely, Frank
Cllr Frank R Pearson,
Central Meon Valley Ward