

1. Budget debate – scheduled for the next Council Meeting.
2. Impact of the Environment Act 2021. This builds on each of its predecessors.
 - a. Sections to note: Part 3 Waste and resource efficiency; Part 4 – Air quality and environmental recall of motor vehicles; Part 5 Water; Part 6 Nature and biodiversity;
 - b. Ref: legislation.gov.uk (Environment Act 2021)
3. Things to Come: “Crystal Ball”
 - a. Changes in ‘what waste is to be collected’, and the ‘responsibilities of both residents, collectors, and waste disposers.
 - b. Bin 1 – Food Waste (weekly): hopper in the kitchen, possibly a 120litre bin to go for kerb-side collection;
 - c. Bin 2 – Dry recyclables – Paper and Card only
 - d. Bin 3 – Dry Recyclables – cans, plastic bottles, plus pots eg yoghurt, tubs, trays (clean) and glass bottles (crates will be withdrawn);
 - e. Bin 4 – Green Waste as now, plus WEEE and batteries as now.
 - f. Bin 5 – Residuals
4. This is a system that has been used in Germany for 30 or more years. There is a STRONG DEPENDENCY on householders doing the Primary sorting of the waste. The German system has by-laws/spot fines for those that put the wrong material into each bin. Will we – Unknown as yet.
5. The Food Waste is likely to go into Anaerobic Digesters – the methane gas being used to generate electricity. Emissions deemed to be less harmful than methane. Sites unknown as yet.
6. It seems likely that business may have to pick up the bill of ‘one use plastic’ disposal; many bottles likely to be returned to stores for collection, and return to their source.
7. Home composting might well be encouraged – good news for gardeners!
8. Aim is still to reduce food waste – we throw away £800 worth of food waste per person per year!
9. Section on Air Quality (weakest Part, in my view) targets vehicles, and garden bonfires; along with central heating (oil, coke, gas)
10. Strong section Parts 5 & 6 – Water, and Biodiversity. Both likely to impact on “wilding”, and Town Planning via the NPPF.
11. Encouragement being given to ‘home insulation’, and methods of ‘home heating - from gas to ‘air or ground source heating, along with solar units.
12. Swanmore College gained grants to improve their laboratories.
13. The Repair Café has now been officially opened. It is in the basement café area of The Waltham Chase Methodist Church.
14. We are still waiting for the SHELAA sites to be chosen. Swanmore has already started to consult with residents prior to their ‘consultation’ with the Strategic Planning team in WCC
15. District Council Elections 5th May. Not too late to register if you are not yet on the Electoral Roll for voting.