

Shadoxhurst Village Forum

Notes from the 6th Village Forum Meeting held in the Pavilion on Tuesday 25th October 2016

- To maintain the quality of life for all in the village
- To generate issues that could be put to the Parish Council
- To re-ignite community spirit and engender friendship
- To build a social feeling in the village
- To suggest things that will bring people together
- **With a Vision to create and develop a positive community spirit.**

1. Welcome

Fifteen villagers attended the meeting. David Ledger chairing the meeting welcomed everyone and there was a brief introduction of those present.

2. Discussion following the last meeting

A summary of the notes from the last meeting had been previously circulated and there was no further addition to it.

3. Update on Chilmington Green

Martin Richmond-Coggan gave a presentation based on one he had attended and showed a number of slides. He took us through the current situation. There are still delays with developers agreeing the Section 106 community money. Until this is signed work will not begin. There will be four phases and Martin showed various artist's impressions. The final number of residential units has been lowered to 4,700 properties. There was some discussion and questions were answered.

4. Local Plan Update

David explained the present position that a number of 'omission sites have been put forward by developers in the public consultation period. WS33 is North of Woodchurch Road and includes the large field that connects with Bethersden Road towards Handcock's Farm. It had been put forward before but was rejected by ABC previously. Worries with this site includes access and road speeds plus lorries using Criol Lane and Bethersden Road.

WS17 is the field north of Woodchurch Road to the west of Park Farm Close. This too had been rejected by ABC and was also refused Planning Permission. Some thought that it should not be reconsidered yet again as wasting public money.

There is a new site mainly off Bromley Green Road, but features land in three parishes, including Shadoxhurst. Some residents very affected by this development were in attendance and were very unhappy about this.

David read an email he received via Cllr Mrs Hicks from Planning Policy about timing, the key bits are:

‘At the moment we are undertaking our internal assessments on the sites using the same criteria as previously used for the SHELAA and Sustainability Appraisal.’

And

‘We are anticipating that proposed changes to the Local Plan consultation to be in Spring 2017, so its likely that any consultations on sites will be held in the new year.’

5. Village Updates

David said that all the road gullies have at last all been cleaned out. There will be a meeting with KCC Highways about the speed limits in the village in early November. The Parish Council have given the go ahead for some remedial work on the recreation field to improve the drainage. There is no date yet given but hopefully will be soon before the serious wet weather comes along. There is also a plan to ask ABC to improve the damaged and sad looking street name signs in the village. One resident said that the Nickley Wood Road sign had been taken out to get a large caravan into the narrow road and not replaced. It is hoped to get someone to cut some of the encroaching bushes around the Shadoxhurst Millennium sign, cost likely to be £80.

6. Website Changes

The site is being transformed and we hope will go live in the next couple of weeks. The Village Forum will have its own page.

7. Telephone Box

The Parish Council have agreed to appeal to keep it with a phone still in it. If this fails, then we have asked to keep it to put to another use.

8. Pride in our Village

The work on the village planters in the hall car park are continuing to be renovated, so far half are complete. Does anyone have any thoughts about other improvements we need to consider?

9. Christmas Party

There was a discussion about holding a children’s party at Christmas and it was felt a bit short notice now. It was agreed to hold one in January perhaps the 7th or 14th but it depended when the Gang Show will be held in the village hall in January. It was agreed to pick a planning date one evening shortly for those in the Village Forum who are happy to help, so that ideas can be firmed up. Also decide if just do for children or include everyone. David will circulate a date with the notes from the meeting.

10. CPR Training

There will be an evening of CPR training during November, with a date to be advised subject to the trainer availability.

11. Agenda Items for future meetings

It was suggested that we have an item on fundraising and ideas.

12. Any other business

- a) Broadband, Carol updated the meeting regarding a recent call to the Project Manager at ABC. Work will begin in the next two weeks to construct three more green cabinets to extend the cabling in the village. The first will be at the junction of Tally Ho Road and Woodchurch Road, the second at Bethersden Road and the third in Church Lane near Nickley Wood Road. All to be completed by 17th March 2017.
- b) It is hoped to get a working party to do some painting and minor work on the play equipment in the recreation field. Volunteers required please.

13. Date of next meeting

Date not set but will likely be in December. David thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting.