

## **Wellesbourne & Walton Parish Council Meeting – District Councillor Report**

### **Wellesbourne North and Rural Ward – Anne Parry**

#### **South Warwickshire Local Plan Update**

South Warwickshire Local Plan [website](#) has been updated following the Issues and Options consultation which ran between 9<sup>th</sup> January and 13<sup>th</sup> March 2023. The representations received to the consultation have now been published and can be viewed within the [online consultation portal](#). Instructions on how to view the representations are available in the portal once you click the link at the top of the page.

The SWLP Team are currently analysing the consultation responses. Once this process is complete, the two Councils will publish their response and a summary of key issues through a Consultation Statement which will be available to view on our website.

In addition, a second Call for Sites was run concurrently with the Issues and Options consultation and these submissions have also been published on the South Warwickshire Local Plan interactive map alongside the earlier Call for Sites 1. Please note that these sites are presented for information at this stage and have not yet been assessed as to their suitability for inclusion within the plan nor are they endorsed. The interactive map can be viewed at: [www.warwickdc.gov.uk/SWLPmap](http://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/SWLPmap).

However, from a very positive perspective, the Wellesbourne Allotments site has moved from 'Red' to 'Green' shading and has been designated as Open Space/Biodiversity/Green Infrastructure which is a major step forward and follows the extensive lobbying with SDCs Policy Team and the Coventry Diocese over the last five or more years by the PC, NDP Team, Allotment Holders, Sir Jeremy Wright KC MP, Cllr Penny-Anne O'Donnell and myself.

The councils are now looking at the suitability of sites for inclusion within the Plan and are undertaking a Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (HELAA) in order to begin to assess their suitability. A revised timetable for the South Warwickshire Local Plan is expected to be issued in Autumn 2023 which will set out the next stages.

#### **Self-Build and Custom Housebuilding Regulations 2016**

Stratford-on-Avon District Council is undertaking public consultation on the creation of a two-part Self-Build and Custom Housebuilding Register through the introduction of a local connection eligibility test.

Since 2016 the Council has maintained a combined Self-Build and Custom Housebuilding Register. This provides the Council with data to better understand the demand for this type of housing in the area and plan for future needs.

The Self-build and Custom Housebuilding Act 2015 (the Act) and Planning Practice Guidance states that Local Authorities that maintain a Register can implement a local connection test. This would mean the register would include two separate parts:

- Part 1: entries with a local connection
- Part 2: entries with no local connection

The Council is inviting views on its proposals to split the Register into Parts 1 and 2 and the nature of the local eligibility criteria to join Part 1. Further information (including a list of the proposed eligibility criteria) is available on the Council's website at [www.stratford.gov.uk/scbregister](http://www.stratford.gov.uk/scbregister)

This consultation commences on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2023. All comments must be received by the District Council by **5.00pm on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> August 2023**.

### **Upper Lighthorne GP Facility**

It is understood that there are four Local GP practices that have expressed interest in running a new GP facility at Upper Lighthorne and SDC has appointed Graham Black as a consultant project manager to represent SDC on the ULJ Community Hub project.

The next stage will see the four practices respond to the brief by the Integrated Care Board (ICB) and put a business case forward to run both a temporary and permanent facility at Upper Lighthorne, thereby relieving pressures on capacity in the surrounding surgeries.

There are now 24 parish councils as part of this group and can I take it as read that Wellesbourne PC are content for me to represent the parish's interests within this group?

### **University of Warwick Campus**

As the member for the new Wellesbourne North & Rural Ward, the University of Warwick Campus near Wellesbourne is now on my patch and as the former portfolio holder for Economic Development I have been extensively involved with this initiative over the last few years and in developing relations on behalf of SDC with the University of Warwick.

As a district we have a major shortfall of employment land, and economic development is crucial in terms of generating high calibre jobs. The University of Warwick Campus SPD is centred around the concept of creating innovation hubs within different zones and these hubs would be used to promote interaction, synergy and collaboration between different organisations and their specialisms operating throughout the site. It is also focused on creating local jobs for local people and the creation of an innovative centre which aligns Stratford on Avon with a world class university.

Whilst I do have concerns about the villages of Hampton Lucy and Charlecote being used as vehicle rat runs to access the new campus, I am pleased that entry is from the A429 which leads into the Barford By-Pass and to Junction 15 of the M40.

I also undertook a facility visit and tour of the horticultural research centre and field studies at the University of Warwick's Wellesbourne Campus earlier in July which was extremely interesting and informative in terms of their research studies of plant, pathogen and insect biology through to replicated field trials for the evaluation of novel pesticides, biological control agents and new crop varieties, delivering world-class research and offering specialist services to a range of partners including breeding and agrochemical companies and growers.

It's amazing that we have this world-class facility on our doorstep.

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