



Parklands People - Autumn 2011

Parklands Residents' Association Newsletter

PRA Committee

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How many new houses and where? Time to speak up!

For some years the district council (CDC) has been preparing what is called "the Local Development Framework". This is essentially a local plan and the council has produced alternative proposals for housing in the district for the period up to 2028. The Council is required to take the community's views into account when deciding how many houses need to be built to meet the changing needs of local people and the future workforce. Now it's time for you to make known your views on how Chichester is to change over the next decade or so.

This plan will shape our future. Currently the land to the west of the Centurion Way is not included in any proposals; but do not be deceived by this omission, as the landowner is almost certain to claim that their land at Whitehouse Farm is the best there is for development!

Is there a Parklands view? PRA is concerned about the large number of houses that the council is suggesting should be built around Chichester – a minimum of 305 and up to 418 – each year in the period up to 2028. We think this is too many. We also feel that priority should be given to the needs of local people.

The council suggests a number of places where these houses could be built. Fortunately for Parklands there are no proposals for new houses near us at present. However, if we don't make it clear that we don't want large scale development here, it may be assumed that we don't object. So it is very important that you make your views known.

The consultation period runs until **23rd September**. CDC wants to consult us all "online". In other words you have to make your views known through a computer. You can look at the proposals on the District Council's website and give your comments at <http://chichester-consult.limehouse.co.uk/portal>. Access to a computer may be easy for some, but very difficult for others. You can use those in the library or ask to use the council's computer in East Pallant House - we are told that the council staff will be able to help. If you want to discuss how these proposals affect Parklands, get in touch with either Chris Cousins (07801 313078) or Richard Cole (839225). What of those of us who can't or don't want to use a computer? **Written comments** can be sent to: Freepost Chichester LDF or you can phone the CDC planning team on **01243 534571**. Please let your local district councillors know your views too!

Deadline for comments is **before 23rd September**. Make your views known. Help us to help you.

Inn on the Green - Update

Around 150 people attended the public meeting in July about the future of the Inn on the Green site, with the majority against the proposal to turn it into a supermarket. We were delighted so many people cared about its future use at the heart of our community, and also at the amount of interest generated through the Chichester Observer's letters page.

By the time you receive this newsletter, the District Council will have held a public hearing on **Monday 5 September** to consider the many objections local people submitted and decided whether or not to grant the Southern Co-op group a license to sell alcohol until 11pm.

The PRA is exploring if the first floor could be used as a community resource, but there are issues about access for anyone with a mobility problem - it is difficult and expensive to install an appropriate lift. We've had an offer of help to run youth activities but we'd need to show there is enough demand to make it happen. If you have ideas or can help, get in touch.

Thank you to Chichester City Council! PRA has just been awarded a grant of £375 which covers the normal cost (before sponsorship) of producing three issues of this newsletter for delivery to all residents and businesses in the Parklands area, so we can share information on what is happening and consult you on issues affecting us.

This newsletter has been sponsored by Henry Adams, local estate agents.



Copy date for next newsletter: 31st October 2011

Keeping you in touch with your community

It's NOT all BORING!

You may associate Parklands Residents' Association with Public Meetings and "worthy" causes, but the day after the Public Meeting about the pub found a few of us enjoying Parklands' version of the Big Lunch (unexpectedly in St Wilfrids' Hall because of the rain!). One conversation led to another and we ended up discussing how we could put on film nights, quiz nights and even a rock concert – all on our estate! After all, the Public Meeting concluded that we want a Community Centre of some sort, so why not? If we put the effort in, get membership up, pin down a venue (there are options) and check our insurance, some of these could happen, so if you want more social events on your doorstep, please get in touch. **Please help make things Happen!**

20's Plenty – The PRA is supporting the reduction of speed limits in residential areas in Chichester to 20 miles per hour. This initiative will help to make our roads safer for pedestrians as well as cyclists, and perhaps encourage children to cycle to school rather than taking the car, helping them to keep fit whilst also reducing the amount of traffic on our already crowded roads. The proposal will be discussed at Chichester South County Local Committee on **1st November**. If there is sufficient support there will be further public consultation. So if you think that "20's Plenty" then there's still time to sign the petition. Go to the website: <http://20splentyforchichester.moonfruit.com/>. To find out more get in touch with Sarah Sharp by email: sarah.ccc@virgin.net, or phone 01243 790077 or 07789 843556.

Do you have a child due to start primary school in September 2012?

If your child is due to start primary school in September 2012, please do consider looking round Parklands School, as places for starting this September were significantly over-subscribed - you can arrange a visit by 'phoning the School on 788630. West Sussex County Council should send you a letter setting out how to apply for your choice of school. We understand applications can be made online from 10th October 2011 until 15th January 2012. Parklands Primary School was inspected by Ofsted in January 2011 and was judged to be good with outstanding features (see: <http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report/provider/ELS/125921> or a copy can be requested from the School Office).

Why not ADVERTISE HERE?

Every issue of this Newsletter reaches 1500 homes in the Parklands area. Why not encourage your community to use your local business/service and help keep this Newsletter going? (Preference given to local advertisers) Please **contact:** paula@parklands-chichester.org

NEXT COPY DATE: 31 October 2011

Not-for-profit organisations: why not send us details of your local group's activities/events for display on our Noticeboard by the Post Office?

Dates for your Diary - Everyone welcome!

- **Saturday 17th September** - Jumble Sale, 12th Chichester Scout Hut, Sherborne Road, from 2 p.m. (jumble collections will be made on Thursday 15th September from 7p.m.)
- **Saturday 26th November** - Scouts Christmas Fair at the Scout Hut from 2 p.m.
- **Friday 2nd December** - Parklands School Christmas Fair 6-8 p.m.

Down Memory Lane ... Last year volunteers from our estate met children in their final year at Parklands School to share their memories of what it was like to live through World War Two. The experience was a privilege for everyone involved, with memories shared leaving a vivid impression. At the end of the project, both generations shared a WW2-themed tea organised by the children to celebrate their learning. Everyone who took part last year will be invited back to talk to this year's Year 6, but if you would also like to be involved, please ring the School Office on 788630 and leave a message for Mrs Carolyn Reynolds or Mrs Alison Sole to call you back. It was inspirational for the children to hear what life was like from so many different first-hand experiences, so please get in touch if you can.

✂ **Finally, we need you!**

Join the PRA ... Join the PRA ... Join the PRA ... *Thank you*

✂

Please return this form with your subs for **2011** (£4 per household or £2 for single persons) to Joan Whibley, 26 Beech Ave.

Please **enrol/renew** us/me: (name/s)

Address:

Contact details (phone/email): **Date:**