

Ravenshead Parish Council

1000+ houses planned for Ravenshead

The Parish Council was recently shocked to hear of the plans put forward by Labour led Gedling Borough Council, to include over 1000 new houses for Ravenshead. This forms part of the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan which looks at the allocation of housing in the Greater Nottingham area and the City, up until 2041.

To give residents some background to this, landowners across the Borough were asked to express an interest in making their land available for housebuilding. Numerous sites were considered and the site that was chosen and affects Ravenshead, is North of Main Road, all the way up to Ricket Lane.

Not surprisingly, at the first opportunity available to register a protest to this, myself and fellow Borough and Parish Councillors, Cllrs Bestwick and Pickering raised an objection. Unsurprisingly, all of the Labour group voted in favour of a six-week public consultation beginning on November 2nd. We argued that the site, which sits in the greenbelt, should not be in the plan at all.

Residents are therefore urged to take part in the consultation being organised by Gedling. It will then be up to individuals to comment on whether the village can cope with additional housing, a further strain on local health provision and increased demand for primary school places. Another consideration is the removal of good quality agricultural land which is within the greenbelt.

There is no doubt that the country has a housing shortage, but the Parish Council objects to the huge increase in the target set for rural areas, whilst the City, with abundant brownfield sites, has had its target reduced.

As soon as the consultation details are known, which will be on the GBC website, a link from the Parish Council website and on our Facebook site, will be shared. It is also envisaged that a petition will be organised by residents.

Ravenshead Litter Force

15 brave residents and Councillors braved the wet and miserable conditions on the morning of Saturday 19th October and collected 34 bags of rubbish, car parts and a TV from the roadside. After lobbying Gedling, we are pleased to report that an additional waste bin has now been placed in the lay by on the A60, north of Ricket Lane. Let's hope that those who park there, actually use it!

The Parish Council litter picking equipment has also been used by the Scouts, who did a fantastic job within Newstead Abbey grounds.

Planting in the precinct and in barrels around the village

Thank you to all the volunteers who have again assisted the Parish Council in planting the barrels with Autumn/Winter plants.

Leisure Centre reburishment

I urge you to read the article from Cllr Bestwick, elsewhere in the newsletter, about the excellent news regarding this project.

Armistice Day

Do join us at the Armistice Day Service, held outside the Village Hall on **Monday 11th November**, starting at 10.55 am. The short service, led Rev Kate and the Royal British Legion, will focus on the 11 young men from the former hamlets which now make up the current village of Ravenshead, who lost their lives in the two World Wars. Musical entertainment will be provided, as usual, by children from our two primary schools, inside the Village Hall after the event. Teas and coffees will also be provided, for a donation to the poppy fund.

Martin Smith

Chairman, Ravenshead Parish Council