

Ravenshead Parish Council

Gedling Housing Plan- Reasons to be concerned?

It was in the November 2024 edition of the Newsletter that I first raised concerns about the possibility of nearly 1000 extra homes being planned for the village. Fortunately, at the time, allocations of land were found elsewhere in Gedling Borough. Some residents made accusations of scaremongering. but were warned that this would not be last we heard of additional homes being built in Ravenshead, possibly on current greenbelt land. Myself and fellow Gedling Councillors, Bestwick and Pickering, have been working tirelessly to keep the number of allocated homes to a minimum.

Gedling will be announcing their plans later this month and whilst we do not know yet what these will be, the Parish Council is making plans to fight anything that will severely impact on our village. Some residents, of course, may welcome additional housing. Consequently, we have provisionally made arrangements to discuss the plans at a **Public Drop In session**. This will be held at Ravenshead Leisure Centre on Thursday 4th June, 4-9 pm. Further details, once we know the exact plan, will be published in the next edition of the newsletter.

Road repairs

Working in conjunction with County Councillor Stuart Bestwick, the Parish Council has been strongly lobbying to have more permanent road repairs made across the village. Stuart has been able to announce that the following roads are being scheduled for surface dressing in this financial year. Ashford Drive, Caroline Close, Cheriton Drive, Downham Gardens, Lea Close, Lea Road, Longdale Avenue, Milton Drive, Southview gardens, Tideswell Close, Vernon Avenue and Wood End Drive. In addition, the following pavements will also be resurfaced, Ashford drive, Cheriton Drive and Linwood Crescent.

Bigger projects are scheduled for large stretches of the A60. We all know this is only the tip of the iceberg, but the pressure on the County Council to spend money in Ravenshead will continue to be exerted.

Leisure Centre information

Fees for all users have recently been increased by a modest amount of 5%. Costs have grown enormously over the last 12 months. The recent rise in the Living Wage and National Insurance contributions for our employees, are two significant factors leading to this increase as well as the huge rise in utility bills.

As previously mentioned, the kitchen is about to be transformed after the offer of new units and appliances from Howdens in Mansfield and the Football Foundation. To keep the costs down, Councillors and local resident Nils Morpeth, have stripped out the old kitchen before

the installation begins. For regular users, it may be a good idea to bring filled water bottles from home whilst there is a disruption to the fresh water supply.

Dogs on the Leisure Centre site

Once again, we are having to appeal to dog owners not to bring dogs anywhere on the Leisure Centre site. This also includes using the Common as a cut through. Our volunteers who strim, cut and maintain the Common are faced with discarded and full dog bags and piles of mess in the grass which can be very unpleasant when strimming. As adults, please set the youngsters of the village a better example by obeying some simple rules. What message does it send to our youngsters if we decide not to follow the rules? There are other places to exercise dogs apart from the Leisure Centre.

Ravenshead in Bloom

Planting of the barrels in the precinct will take place on Wednesday 3rd June at 2.00pm. If you would like to be involved in either planting or watering, please contact the Parish Clerks on 01623 490035 or office@ravensheadpc.org.uk

Alan Browne has already planted out the flowers in the newly painted telephone box, we are very grateful to him. John Lamb continues to put on a fantastic display on the corner of Chapel and Longdale Lane as do so many other helpful volunteers around the village. Thank you to you all.

Annual Parish meeting

Each year, the Parish Council holds its Annual Parish meeting where the work of the Council in the previous 12 months is reported on, to any members of the public who wish to attend. It is also an opportunity to ask questions of Councillors. This year's meeting will be held at the Leisure Centre in the Loneran Room at 7.00pm on Monday 18th May. Please contact the Parish Clerks for any further details at office@ravensheadpc.org.uk

Martin Smith

Chairman, Ravenshead Parish Council