

Cllr Jackie Porter: COUNTY report to Parishes January 2018- Happy New Year!

Boom Town

You will be aware that there are plans afoot to increase the number of people attending Boom Town to 75000 plus 1000 extra local residents on Sunday in 2018; and 79,999 attendees in 2019, to allow a higher decibel level 'at the deck' and increase the number of days too, starting Wednesday, in hope of a staggered entrance and exit from the site. (currently 59,999 including all staff).

Comments must be in by the 8th Jan: the Licensing Committee will determine this on the 26th January 2018. I know that the whole event is marvellous, and artistically very clever, but personally I have very grave concerns about their ability to manage the larger numbers, the greater volume of traffic, the limit of the sound (which they exceeded in 2017) and the likelihood of people using a six day ticket for five days.

Your Parish can comment on the following areas of concern to licensing@winchester.gov.uk

- The prevention of crime and disorder
- Public Safety
- The prevention of public nuisance
- The protection of children from harm.

M3 Junction 9

The first public consultation on this starts 9th January 2018. The easiest way to receive alerts is to go online at Highways England and sign up for updates. You can choose to receive alerts on this matter alone.

Local Plans

The South Downs Local Plan is causing some heated debate between residents and Councils. Most councils recognise the need for affordable housing in your Parish but you may like more information (eg: whether it should be 1,2 or more beds and what tenure should it be) as you make your decisions. If you'd like to know more detail of the applicants on your housing list, Olu Fajuyitan (ofajuyitan@winchester.gov.uk) at the City Council can help you, but it must remain confidential.

The Winchester Local Plan operates where the South Downs plan does not: 'same rules apply'.

Winchester Movement Study

The first stage of this WMS is being 'unveiled' to councillors on the 20th Feb.

Recycling and in particular, recycling of plastics

Much of the material to be recycled has historically been shipped to China. They have just decided not to accept other people's rubbish so it may have to be burned locally. This already happens in Hampshire for lighter materials like plastic yogurt pots, but each type of plastic contains different forms of hydrocarbon. I have asked a question to council about the effect of China's ban on the recycling rates in Hampshire (which are already too low)

Children absent from school without authorisation

I am reliably told that the cost of collecting the fines is greater than the income. If you have a child or grandchild at state school, I would be interested to hear your view, especially if your family has been affected. I have asked for a scrutiny of this matter at HCC.

Budget cuts real, but problem may be averted by raiding reserves

The County Council has announced that they will put £40m of reserves into the 2018-19 budget to avoid some of the more public facing cuts: closing tips, dial a ride and school crossing patrols. Meanwhile they are appealing to ministers for new legislation to charge for some services. But this doesn't help the cuts in children's and adults services, the annihilation of youth services and the *drastic* cuts in staffing so that everything takes much longer, if at all.

Happy New Year! Jackie@jackieporter.co.uk, text: 07973 696 085

