

Winchester City Councillor Monthly Report June 2017

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Firstly, apologies that this report did not arrive earlier. Hope to be back to normal come July but there are a few things for you to make your residents aware of.

Bishops Sutton Road (improvements)

Some may have noticed the length of the path from Alresford to Bishops Sutton has recently been swept with a machine to return it to its proper width. It is rather potholed but I am assuming (and will follow up on this point) that it will be resurfaced in the near future.

A new crossing point has been installed from the footpath opposite Long Barn Lavender entrance; this includes a ramp! And, there are two poles for a new bus stop in either direction (I would imagine they will come into effect when the new timetable is published in September).

It seems regular nagging and lots of patience has finally paid off!

Winchester Sport & Leisure Park

As you will know from previous reports, the new facility to replace River Park Leisure Centre is to be based at Bar End. The first phase of consultation begins on the 23rd June to inform an Urban Design Framework (UDF) for the site itself and the adjoining area residential and business areas. The appointed consultants (Stride Treglown/LA Architects) are leading the consultation process on behalf of Winchester City Council and our partners, University of Winchester. They will be asking how people currently use and access the site, what facilities they use at River Park and Bar End. This will help ST/LA to build a picture of what residents wish to see for that wider area. Link to consultation and further papers : <http://www.winchester.gov.uk/events/details/15459/>

Future consultations will take place in respect of the building and planning. WCC is expected to submit a planning application in Spring 2018 and the plan is to open the new facility late in 2020. The facility mix for leisure in the new building is fixed to enable a costing exercise to be undertaken – the project is estimated at £36m.

WCC intend that River Park is operational until the new facility is opened.

Central Winchester Regeneration (previously known as Silver Hill)

JTP, the consultants appointed to develop a Supplement Planning Document which will guide the future of this area, will present their findings to the public on 4 July 2017 at the Guildhall. This will produce a vision from comments made by district residents.

The bus station is now owned by WCC, and a planning application is awaiting a decision of a new configuration within the bus station (used by 65,000 people each week!). This is expected to bring positive impacts to the public realm in a busy area for residents, commuters and visitors. The bus station will undergo a series of modernisations that will see a dilapidated building removed and safety improvements introduced. The area is also set to benefit from the decision to allow the

'meanwhile use' of existing frontages that could see pop up shops, start up businesses and creative hubs benefit from the high footfall around the station. Without doubt, a very welcome move.

Sun Lane Development

WCC has recently received an outline application for the Sun Lane site. The new junction is a roundabout on the A31 for traffic to travel east and west.

Keep an eye on the WCC website for when the application is to be heard. We will of course include details in our monthly newsletter as soon as we know.

Hat Fair 2017

The Hat Fair organised by Theatre Royal, sponsored by WCC and others, takes place 30 June to 2 August 2017.

Health & Wellbeing

There are many activities, for all age groups, in the District. If you know a group or individuals who might be looking for inspiration for activities and socialising, please make them aware of the information on the WCC website. There is a huge amount posted on both HCC and WCC websites of things residents can do. For example :

Links for older residents : <http://www.winchester.gov.uk/community/health-wellbeing/older-people/>

Neurofit classes. Residents can be referred by their GP :

<http://www.winchester.gov.uk/activewinchester/active-lifestyles-scheme/steady-strong-better-balance-life/> These classes receive excellent feedback from participants for improving health and mobility in gentle and relaxed sessions, adapted to individual requirements

If you fancy attending an event in Winchester, such as the Dementia Friendly Films regularly shown at the screen, might be worth contacting : <https://www.cfirst.org.uk/transport/individuals/call-and-go-and-dial-a-ride/dial-a-ride-winchester/> These are for dementia sufferers and carers.

There are outreach possibilities for some activities run by the City Council and partners, so do contact me if you are involved in a group that might benefit.

Cultural innovation grant funding.

Your group might qualify for grant funding. Find out here :

<http://www.winchester.gov.uk/news/2017/jun/new-cultural-innovation-grant-funding/> (Application closes 30/6/17)

EU funding for rural business.

Details of how to make contact to find out if your business may qualify for some of the £1.6m LEADER funding in the District. <http://www.winchester.gov.uk/news/2017/jun/live-eu-rural-funding-programme-benefits-locally/>

Employment and training opportunities :

If you know someone who is looking for an employment opportunity, please see the attached link for how help can be provided : <http://www.winchester.gov.uk/news/2017/jun/city-council-scheme-opens-doors-employment-training-opportunities/>

Flytipping.

If you come across flytipping, please do not touch it as it may harm any evidence which can be gathered by WCC for prosecution. Please report using the following page and link :

<http://www.winchester.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling/flytipping/>

What can I comment on?

The waste and recycling contract, which includes the grass cutting/maintenance schedule, is due for renewal in 2018. A first round of consultation is taking place.

<http://www.winchester.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling/environmental-service-contract-consultation/> (Consultation closes 14/7/17)