

District Councillor Debby Hallett's Report to North Hinksey Parish Council

25 July 2013

- 1. Tilbury Lane Development:** In July, public presentations were offered in Cumnor and North Hinksey, with a joint public meeting held in North Hinksey. I expect the next step to be Planning Committee consideration (since there are so many objections), but I have no date as yet. I expressed my views, including my opinion about the creation of an orphan North Hinksey estate that cannot be accessed from other parts of the parish without travelling outwith the parish. You can see the plans, reports and comments here: <http://bit.ly/1389WfK>
- 2. West Way Redevelopment:** The next consultation, originally scheduled for the summer, has been postponed until September. Get latest info: <http://westwayconcern.wordpress.com/>
- 3. Lime Road Development:** This month, in preparation for a meeting with Bovis homes, I've consulted with hundreds of residents living near the site. Scores of people replied, providing a range of concerns and mitigation ideas, which I'll take to the planners and developers. One oft repeated question was why the parish council didn't hold any public presentations or meetings, as they did with West Way and Tilbury Lane? Good question. Why is that? To see the development plans, reports and residents comments: <http://bit.ly/142m5IW>
- 4. Oxford Brookes University Master Plan:** The master plan has been withdrawn; it will not be a Supplemental Planning Doc associated with the Local Plan (currently under development). I was told it had to do with Vale officers not being satisfied with how the identified transport and access problems were being handled, but I haven't been able to confirm that. Probably, the university will manage planning by individual planning applications, via the normal route.
- 5. CIL and Section 106 changes:** Work is underway on a strategy for the collection of developer contributions for the provision of infrastructure, affordable housing and other community benefits. There will be two main elements to the strategy. First, a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedule sets a out how we will collect funding to provide for infrastructure and services. Consultation is expected on a Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule in Nov-Dec 2013. Second, a Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document sets out how CIL will combine with Section 106 obligations. The strategy will set out what would be collected through Section 106 and CIL. The timetable for this work is being developed.
- 6. Community Capital Grants.** Last year's applicants didn't include any organisations from North Hinksey parish. Grants of up to £5,000 are available for a wide variety of community projects. The fund helps with capital expenditure, such as spending on buildings, extensions or equipment (that can be listed as a capital asset). Applications open now thru 30 Sep. For details: <http://bit.ly/1bLTvs5>. There's a pre-application workshop to assist potential applicants at the council offices on the evening of 12 Sep 2013. Organisations considering applying to this round of funding are being strongly encouraged to attend before submitting an application. To book a place, or get advice about funding, contact grants@southandvale.gov.uk
- 7. Festival Grants.** The Vale gave a generous grant to the LM Pavilion Trust for the North Hinksey Festival on 13 July 2013. Costs not covered by this and other gifts from The Horticultural Society and The Sprout were met by the Trust. Applications are welcome all year, until the fund runs out. <http://bit.ly/11dcWEj>

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8. **Decision to close all local recycling centres (bring banks)** - (see last report for context): I've led the call for debate on this decision. On 25 July, Scrutiny Committee members will question the Cabinet Member for waste about the process he went through in coming to this decision. Scrutiny cannot reverse this decision, but we hope that by pointing out where he didn't consider alternatives to completely shutting it down, nor more proportionate responses, nor inconvenience to residents, he'll be of a mind to reconsider. In his decision, he said the only alternative was 'to do nothing'. There was a consultation on May, <http://bit.ly/167Bs9x>, where more than half of respondents opposed the closing of bring banks. I'll report back.
9. **New shortcut phone numbers are available at Vale:** Hopefully you can more easily get the help you seek: <http://bit.ly/12i08iA>
10. **Community Governance Review.** The Vale received comments from North Hinksey Parish Council about including the west side of HRR and CRR, and all of Hutchcombe Farm Close in the parish. Of course, that would also change the new district ward boundary recently decided upon by the LGBCE (Boundary Commission). Next steps are for the Vale to set up a working party. I'll keep you informed.
11. **Town & Parish Forum 2013:** To be held evening of 13 Nov at Guildhall in Abingdon. Parish Clerk should have had invitation.
12. **Tilsley Park, Sunningwell:** The Vale is to lease the popular athletics and sports facility to Abingdon School on a long-term basis with effect from September 2014. Under the terms of the 125 year lease the School will take on the responsibility for managing and developing the site on the Vale's behalf. More details in a press release: <http://bit.ly/13CZB97>, but we aren't able to see the details of this lease, apparently. I'll report more when I know.
13. **Consultations:** To participate, register: <https://consult.southandvale.gov.uk/portal/vale/>
 - Gambling Policy in the Vale. Through 2 Aug 2013
 - Local Plan: Sites & General Policies. Through 5 Aug 2013
14. **My portfolio responsibilities are Legal & Democratic Services, and IT, HR, Customer Services and Projects and Performance.** Regular meetings with Heads of Services in these departments keep me aware of what's going on. If I can ever help the council or residents in any of these areas, I'm happy to do it.
15. **Facebook – see my page.** You can easily find current North Hinksey planning applications and other relevant info on my public-facing Facebook page: www.facebook.com/DebbyHallettLD (you don't need to be a registered Facebook user to see this page). I add planning application info as soon as I receive notice from the Vale. Included: consultation period, targeted decision date, and a link to the Vale Planning site so you can see all information about the application.