

BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORT TO DORDON PARISH COUNCIL

Date: - November 9th, 2022

ITEMS

1 A5 DORDON TO ATHERSTONE public consultation

The extended public consultation about the proposed options for dualling the stretch of A5 between Dordon and Atherstone and for roundabouts at Grendon and Holly Lane has now closed.

Both Borough councillors have submitted formal responses [copies sent to PC Chair and Clerk]

The Borough Council's formal response was discussed at the Executive Board and LDF subcommittees. Link to the councils response as submitted can be found here :-

https://www.northwarks.gov.uk/download/meetings/id/2718/download_the_agenda_reports_and_appendices_-_part_1

Here is an extract from the CEs accompanying letter to National Highways

A5 Dordon to Atherstone Options Consultation

“In addition, the Borough Council would like to emphasise the need for further improvements along the A5 to deliver the full amount of Local Plan growth (housing and employment land). It is vital that the RIS3 project for the A5 is progressed and delivered to ensure the amount of growth envisaged in the North Warwickshire Local Plan can and is delivered. Without these works growth along the corridor will be severely restricted. This situation is further compounded by speculative developments that take up the capacity within the A5. “

2 COST OF LIVING

BOROUGH COUNCIL'S APPROACH

The NWBC held a Cost of Living engagement forum on 29th September . More than 47 organisations were invited including Parish Councils. All Borough Councillors and attendees were sent the presentations which included :-

1 National and local picture - the “poverty premium “

2. Act on Energy

3 **Council Tax Rebate scheme** - £550 and £150 discretionary per household repayable – Total managed by NWBC £3.57 million [there has apparently been a 94% uptake / delivery of main energy rebate scheme]

4. **Family Information Service** – providing information and 1:1 support to struggling families on a range of issues – including finance , housing , child care , family relationships www.warwickshire.gov.uk/fis Tel 01926 742274

5. **Housing** – tenancies, homelessness , housing benefits

6. **DWP** – job centres, cost of living support ; help for households

<https://helpforhouseholds.campaign.gov.uk>

7. **Warwickshire Welfare Rights Advice Service** - Charity whose purpose is raise awareness and improve uptake of benefits – Send referrals to info@wwras.org.uk

Mark Stanyer Tel 02476372069

8. **North Warwickshire Financial Inclusion Partnership** - helping families /tenants with complex needs, who are falling into debt + Positive Energy , Holiday Hunger , Edible links, + various projects and web site pages

[Help and support with the rising cost of living | Cost of Living Help | North Warwickshire \(northwarks.gov.uk\)](#)

[Energy Advice | Energy Advice and Help | North Warwickshire \(northwarks.gov.uk\)](#)

Energy saving solutions and energy savings clubs – contact

financialinclusion@northwarks.gov.uk

If Dordon Parish Council would like to see these presentations and /or make any of the material /information leaflets made available on the PCs website [eg Warm home Hacks; Positive Energy Solutions; Help and Support Available] please contact Sally Roberts at NWBC or myself .

FOOD POVERTY AND FOOD BANKS

I attended a 'Fair Food' World Food Day event on Saturday 15th October in Rugby which was focused on how to deal with food poverty. Speakers included Ian Byrne MP who is campaigning for the Right to Food

Maria Marshall from IFAN, Lopa Saxena from CAWR, Clean Slate and Coventry Social Supermarket.

Key messages were need to :-

- a) develop a “ cooperative membership approach “ to food banks / social supermarkets and develop a contact data base / register of users , volunteers and donors - which can also be used for prioritising support for most vulnerable households
- b) coordinate regular food provision /opening times with other debt and benefits advice sessions or other types of provision eg childrens toys
- c) hold in a venue where possible to top up income from sale of foods with other community use
- d) offer several standard food basket /list options for basic staples for [eg £5 single / £10 couple etc] rather than a “pick and choose” approach , which for some people may be uncomfortable because they appear “greedy” or nervous about taking too much .

Comment

Much of the information available from the BC is only available online - and so Cllors Morson and I are developing a 4 page newsletter based on the Worried about Money and “ Where to find help “ leaflets for distribution to all households in Dordon before Christmas.

We will send Parish Councillors a draft for comment and suggestions before printing.

3 Hodgetts Junction 10 /A5 Lorry and Logistics Park application

Issue of access onto A5 and impact of proposed development on traffic / congestion still under consideration – application not yet scheduled on Planning Board

3. Other issues

- Co-op noise nuisance for residents of Roman Way – new wall and floor sound coverings are being installed by CO-OP
- Insulation – tenants request for home insulation has been accepted and will be dealt with before Xmas

- Continuing complaints about grass verge in Browns Lane and parking in Barns Close referred to County Councillor Andy Wright. Unfortunately, it seems WCC Highways Authority are unable to process many referred issues because of inability to recruit staff. Complaints about parking on verges around Derek Avenue especially at weekends have also been referred.
- Planning application received for new houses off Long Street – Cllor Morson has more details.