

Borough Councillor's Missive July 2011

The Diary.

For most of June we have been away in continental Europe having a thoroughly relaxing time, recharging the batteries! Even so for those of you who contacted me by e-mail I was able to respond within a few days. What kind of a blessing is e-mail! Unfortunately I missed the emergency Full Council meeting, called just after we left, to determine the initial and immediate future of the Castle Theatre. I had however attended the presentation from both parties which left me somewhat undecided. I am a great supporter of the Castle and fully understand the difficulties any Theatre and Art facility will be experiencing in the current economic climate. The Council's Officers determined that there were two possible options going forward, one was to continue with the current management team, The Castle (Wellingborough) Ltd, who incidentally had shown a small profit for the current year, and an alternative offer from Phoenix Leisure Ltd. The Council voted to award the contract to The Castle (Wellingborough) Ltd. I have a feeling more work will be necessary on this subject.

Planning

There were two applications of note in the ward this month, one in Mears Ashby, the second in Sywell. Both exhibited similar elements and without discussing the specifics, the application in Mears Ashby, will, I believe, now succeed due in no small measure to positive discussions between the applicant and the nearest neighbour. The other in Sywell has been rejected on the grounds of "overbearing impact on neighbours". The moral of these two issues is quite simply if you are considering extensions or any developments to your property give me a call. Whilst I cannot determine applications I can most certainly "point you in the right direction" and equally almost certainly save you a lot of money and heartache. That's what we are here for!

For our colleagues in Ecton there is the issue of the application to extend and modify the Three Horseshoes Pub. I will always support entrepreneurial activities and this application is indeed one of those. I have discussed the proposals with our Officers, recognising that great care and sensitivity must prevail with respect to the very close proximity of many neighbours, we owe them the privacy they deserve and we will ensure that any disturbance will be absolutely minimal.

Development

The Working Group into Sywell Aerodrome has now been finalised and the next objective is to set down the Terms of Reference and meeting dates. The new Leader of the Council, Paul Bell, approves the idea of Working Groups and this is a process I am in favour of. It will therefore come as no surprise that we are going to set up a Working Group with other authorities to resolve the ridiculous odour problem from the Billing Sewerage Treatment Plant. I have had many complaints during the past few weeks and these odours are totally unacceptable. Watch this space!!

Have a good summer holiday

As ever if you have any queries please contact me and remember, I cannot help you if I do not know of your problems.

Jim Bass

(Councillor for Sywell, Ecton and Mears Ashby, Wellingborough Borough Council)

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The full Missive can be viewed on web sites: www.ectonvillage.co.uk

www.mearsashbyparishcouncil.com