

Borough Councillor's Missive September 2011

The Diary.

In the July Missive I was commenting how we were enjoying our holiday in Italy, what a rude awakening we had on our return to Sywell. Arriving back late on the Sunday evening of 17th July we did some unpacking and opened the usual mountain of mail. At 07:30 on Monday morning our phone was ringing. A very agitated voice was telling me *"they are felling all of the trees in Mo's place and there is a TPO on them"*. In what seemed like a drunken stupor I rapidly dressed and whilst doing so could hear the noise of the chainsaws. I went to the site and could not believe what I saw 80 year old oak trees felled apparently indiscriminately. After some research with Officers at BCW it was confirmed that there was no Tree Preservation Order (TPO) on any of the trees. Together with the Officers at BCW it was decided to place a TPO on all of the remaining trees on the site simply to get some control. I was later informed that the felling crew came in on the Saturday morning because they knew that there would be no one working at BCW! The site now has planning permission for two dwellings not the four or six some were predicting! I have seen the designs and they are excellent so hopefully once the work and disturbance is over they will prove to be a valuable asset. Talking about disturbance I had a number of calls regarding the burning of "rubbish" on the site. Indeed I experienced it personally and it made me feel quite ill for some days. The conclusion to this hiatus is that we can now be sure Mos will have the assets to provide him with the best care possible in Brampton.

Development

This month the Development committee spent a significant amount of time discussing planning and development. The new coalition government is committed to the Localism scenario I totally agree with the principle but there are some "nitty gritty" details which need to be resolved very soon. In particular the presumption of saying "yes" to a planning application could, unless properly controlled, result in a developers "paradise". There is however a modus operandi that we should take advantage of. That is, Parish Councils will be given more power to approve or reject planning applications, as we live in a rural area any development should be under our control but it will only happen if there is an approved plan. So we need to develop the Parish Plan throughout the West Ward. It is absolutely the responsibility of the Parish Councils to create (with help from BCW and myself) a new Plan with a consideration that the document is a "living entity".

Billing Sewage Treatment Plant Working Group

The first meeting of this group took place at BCW on 1st Sept. AWA were unable to attend but I am reliably informed that they will attend the next meeting. We look forward to hearing what they have to say and certainly we would wish to see early plans to prevent the kind of odours experienced over the past few months. Peter Simpson the CE of AWA has signalled his support and we look forward to next meeting in October. For details and developments of this group please go to my new web site at <http://jamesbass.yourcllr.com/> .

Sywell Aerodrome Working Group

This group also had its first meeting a few weeks ago on 31st August. The main issues under discussion at the moment are:

- 1) Runway location
- 2) Drainage System
- 3) Ancient Woodland
- 4) JCC

We generally discussed the above issues and the group were shown some evidential documents. It is fair to say that "some eyes were opened".

At the next meeting we hope to discuss in detail some of the technical issues and review far more evidence and add the issue of Community Safety to the agenda. I have recently been informed that the Mr M. Bletsoe-Brown, MD of Sywell Aerodrome Ltd has refused to attend the Working Group meetings.

I would like this group to become a standing committee used to examine all aviation issues on an ongoing basis.

Most of you will have no doubt read the recent version of the Aerodrome Magazine in which I am given a fairly rough "going over" by the company. Unfortunately the company provides no evidence to support its views. In reality most of the relevant comments are incorrect and you can see the definitive evidence on my web site at <http://jamesbass.yourcllr.com/> which will negate all of the significant points.

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)

e-mail: jim.bass@sky.com Tel+44 1604 647594 Mob +44 7711 103816

The full Missive can be viewed on web sites: www.ectonvillage.co.uk
www.mearsashbyparishcouncil.com , <http://jamesbass.yourcllr.com/>