SOUTH WARNBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE - FEBRUARY 2023

Firstly on behalf of the Parish Council I would like to thank everyone who completed the Village Survey. The number of responses surpassed expectations and highlighted how much we, as a community, value the village and its parishioners. The plan is to arrange a 'feedback session' on the results. Latest will be at the Annual Parish Assembly on 25th of May, however it may be possible to arrange a session in the Village Hall sooner. Again, Thank You. The PC looks forward to sharing the output and discussing the implications for plans and priorities for 2023 and beyond.

From now on, the Parish Council intends to provide a summary of current issues and project updates on a quarterly basis. The intention will be to post this on the Parish Council website www.southwarnboroughpc.org.uk as well as include in the Village Magazine.

As you may be aware we hold bi-monthly Parish Council meetings during the year; January, March, May, July, September and November. Agendas are published in advance and are displayed on the village noticeboard, outside the village shop, as well as on the PC website www.southwarnboroughpc.org.uk Subsequent draft minutes are also posted in the same manner.

Speeding - Speeding is a significant concern within South Warnborough, particularly on the main Alton Road and Lees Hill. I am pleased to say that, with PC project funding from the 2021/22 Precept together with a very generous community benefit donation from Rawlings Fuels Limited we have been able to green light the plans for traffic calming. The order of works is now with Hampshire Highways for the installation of village gates on both sides of the carriageways at the three entrances; from Odiham, Alton and Upton Grey. Additionally, the plan is to renew signs and road markings where relevant. We also plan to instal 4 further Speed Indicator Device (SID) poles throughout the village to allow us to vary the positioning of our SID. This, combined with our aim to set up a Voluntary Speedwatch initiative, should provide some mitigation in the short term whilst the Parish Council determines how best to approach the issue of speeding in the longer term.

Community Speedwatch - This is being led by Cllr Patricia Forsyth who held 2 well attended 'launch meetings' during the latter part of 2022, with residents who were interested in taking an active part. Unfortunately interest has since disappeared. The Village Survey confirmed that speeding is worrying for many residents in South Warnborough. We really do need the support of at least **12 volunteers** to help tackle this issue. So, if on reading this it prompts you to consider joining the programme, please contact either me Stephen.highley@southwarnboroughpc.org.uk or Patricia patricia.forsyth@southwarnboroughpc.org.uk and we will be delighted to explain the process and discuss how you can help.

New Bus Shelter - For some time the Parish Council has been looking to provide a bus shelter, with disabled access, opposite the village shop - the need is clear. However, the challenge has been funding. Cost estimates have more than doubled from initial exploration to where we are now. This is partly driven by the significant cost increase in materials and partly due to the complexity of the build given its location and the need to mitigate any issues with the protected trees in the verge. We are currently sourcing quotations but realistically, we will need to look at external funding to be able to implement.

M3 Warehouse Development - As many will know, Obsidian Strategic AC Ltd on behalf of their client have submitted an Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Opinion application (June 2022) and also an Outline Application (June 2022) to build 105,000 square meters, across 5 warehouse units, proving up to 2,400 jobs and business receipt of circa £4m to HDC. Responses have been provided by HDC planning. We awaiting to see what happens next.

Parish Priorities and Budget for 2023 - The Parish Council has approved its 2023/24 Budget following identification of projects and priorities. Feedback from the Village Survey was instrumental in providing clarity and direction as to where it should be focused in 2023/24. Details will be presented at the May Annual Parish Assembly.

How you can engage with the PC - Please feel free to come to its bi-monthly meetings. They are held in The Ridley Village Hall. We allocate 15 minutes for public participation, at the beginning of the agenda after which we run a closed session to conduct Parish Council business. It helps enormously if you submit questions in advance of the meetings to our Clerk, Susan Richardson at Clerk@southwarnboroughpc.org.uk allowing time to investigate and provide the best response possible.

If you wish to receive updates direct from your Parish Council please register your details on the Contact Form within the PC website www.southwarnboroughpc.org.uk It is not our intention to bombard you with repetitive communication but you can receive the Agenda, draft minutes and updates directly should you choose this option.

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