

Memo (Agenda November 2019)

To: Parish Councillors

c.c: Nigel Jupp (County Councillor) & Toni Bradnum (District Councillor)

From: Sarah Hall

Date: 13th October 2019 (week commencing 7th October 2019)

Re: COUNCILLORS' BRIEFING NOTE

I have outlined below a number of recent developments for your information.

(1) **Planning Applications Issued**

| Number | Applicant & Reason | Consultation Closes | NPC Meeting |
|--|---|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| DC/19/1989 03.10.2019 | Installation of new external oil-fired boiler to rear of property, removal of stud-wall in ground-floor shower, installation of a cat-flap in the side wall of rear entrance porch (Listed Building Consent) Sheepwash Farm, Copsale Road, Maplehurst | 25.10.2019 | Planning Committee 16.10.2019 |
| DC/19/2001 02.10.2019 | Non material amendment to previously approved DC/18/0219 under previously approved application DC/16/1753 (Proposed residential development for 8 dwellings with associated parking and amenity space) Amendments to Photovoltaic Solar panels to the rear pitch of the roofs of Plots 5 - 8. Land opposite the Dun Horse, Brighton Road, Mannings Heath | | Planning Committee 16.10.2019 |

(2) **HDC Decisions**

| Number | Applicant & Reason | PC Observation | HDC Decision |
|----------------------------|---|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| DC/19/0744 | Erection of a two storey side extension of existing annexe accommodation Woodfield, Copsale Road, Maplehurst | No objection in principle | Permitted |
| DC/19/1355 | Erection of a detached outbuilding with internal swimming pool (Certificate of Lawful Development - Proposed) Hollyhocks, Nuthurst Road, Nuthurst | Objection | Permitted |
| DC/19/1500 | Prior notification for the erection of a steel framed extension to an existing agricultural building (DC/16/1055), constructed of cement fibre roof, concrete panel walls to rear and side with timber cladding to rear | No objection | Prior approval not required |

| | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| | and gable end Land Parcel at 518747 128789, Sedgwick Lane, Horsham | | |
|--|---|--|--|

(3) Appeals

| Number | Applicant & Reason | PI Decision |
|----------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| DC/18/2578 | Erection of semi-detached chalet bungalow comprising 2no. 2-bed starter homes The Mead, Micklepage, Nuthurst Street, Nuthurst | Appeal Dismissed |

(4) Enforcement Numbers

| Number | Nature of Complaint | |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| EN/19/0483 | Alleged: Stable building being used as dwelling Hopeland, Polecat Lane, Copsale | |

Clerks Update

- The application to register the Dun Horse Inn and garden as an Asset of Community Value has been refused by Horsham District Council
- The Government has announced that it does not propose to set 'referendum principles' for town and parish councils in England for 2020/21.

Correspondence

Email dated 7th October 2019, from WSCC
E-Newsletter October 2019



WSCC E-Newsletter October 2019

Split up with smoking this October



Smokers are being urged to break their unhealthy relationship with cigarettes as part of the national Stoptober campaign.

An estimated 87,000 adults in the county are smokers and the figures show more than one in four (27.6%) of the county's manual workers are current smokers.

Adur, Crawley and Worthing have the highest local rates of smoking in West Sussex, while Horsham has the lowest.

Stoptober is a national campaign which has so far supported more than 1.9 million people in England on their journey to quit. This year Stoptober is encouraging smokers to ‘split up’ with smoking.

It is based on the insight that people are five times more likely to quit for good if they can stop smoking for 28-days.

The West Sussex Wellbeing Website has lots of useful advice as well as details of venues that provide support to help people who want to ‘break-up’ with smoking.

Visit www.westsussexwellbeing.org.uk/smokingservices to find out more.

Age Well

New campaign to help you Age Well

We’ve launched our new **Age Well** campaign, aimed to celebrate and support our older residents.



As part of the initiative we’re running a survey throughout October, asking people what it’s like to grow older in West Sussex. Those who take part will be entered into our free prize draw to win leisure passes in their local area. We’ll keep you updated over the next few months about a range of practical information, advice and activities from how to make sure you are connected well to your local community, have good financial plans for the future, to how to be active and well as you grow older.

Visit www.westsussex.gov.uk/agewell to take part in the survey, sign up for an e-newsletter to receive lots of valuable information and find out more about the campaign.

Take our recycling survey today



How much do you know about recycling? What information would help you to recycle more?

As part of our mission to help cut the confusion of recycling we’re running a survey to gather information on what you’d like to know and we’d love you to take part.

It just takes five minutes and will ask you questions about your knowledge of what can and can’t be recycled in West Sussex and how you would like to receive information in the future.

Your answers will help us to help you in the future so please [take our survey today](#).

Small Schools Consultation opens today



A consultation looking for views on potential changes to a small number of West Sussex schools has launched today.

Five small primary schools have been identified as potentially vulnerable. As a result, views are being sought on options that are being explored which may include federation, merger, relocation, no change or closure, at the following schools:

- Clapham and Patching CE Primary School, Clapham, Worthing
- Compton and Up Marden CE Primary School, Compton, Chichester
- Rumboldswyke CE Infants' School, Chichester
- Stedham Primary School, Stedham, Midhurst
- Warninglid Primary School, Warninglid, Haywards Heath

People can give their views online at the [have you say website](#) or by filling in a paper consultation form, which will soon be available in West Sussex libraries. The consultation closes on **25 November 2019**.

Public meetings about each school will be held throughout October and November - see the [consultation website](#) for details. The first public meeting about Clapham and Patching CE Primary School will take place on **8 October, 6.30pm-8pm** at The Angmering School, Station Road, Angmering, BN16 4HH.

Consider a rewarding job in care

If you're compassionate, reliable, friendly and positive a rewarding career in care could be for you.

Care providers across West Sussex are actively looking for care workers in a variety of roles. The **Proud to Care** website currently has over 300 jobs advertised.



If you're based in **Worthing** why not pop into our Care Recruitment event on **Wednesday 23 October** from 10am - 2pm at Assembly Hall, Stoke Abbott Road in Worthing. Our friendly Proud to Care team will introduce you to over 20 local care providers - see the [website](#) for details.

Changes to opening hours at Household Waste Recycling Sites



Winter opening hours at all 11 Household Waste Recycling Sites (HWRSs) in West Sussex started on 1 October 2019.

Sites are now open from 9am until 4pm until 31 March 2020.

There are also some seasonal changes to the days sites are open. Burgess Hill, Chichester, Worthing, and

Crawley will open for six days a week during the winter months.

Chichester closes on Tuesdays and Burgess Hill, Worthing, and Crawley close on Thursdays.

Householders who drive a commercial-type vehicle are also being reminded to obtain a free permit before visiting the HWRSSs.

The permits are designed to help address congestion at the sites and eliminate illegal disposal of commercial waste.

Latest headlines:

Could you become our next Fostering Hero?

Space Chase’ proves a summer reading success for children across West Sussex

Have your say on your customer experience



#SaveTimeGoOnline

1. How can I request a birth/marriage/death copy certificate? Order a copy or make amendments [here](#).
2. How do I book a Registrar for my wedding? Click [here](#) for details on how to book.
3. How do I report a pothole? You can report it quickly via [Love West Sussex](#).

4. How do I find out where our grass cutting crews are working? [Click here](#).



Get ready for Brexit



Prepare for Brexit at gov.uk/brexit

Health and Wellbeing

Local information and services

Welcome to your October Health and Wellbeing update that's jam-packed with lots of information to help you improve your health and wellbeing and keep well over the winter period.

Wellbeing comes to Henfield!

Starting this October we will be offering free 20 minute wellbeing drop in sessions for residents of Henfield and surrounding areas. The wellbeing sessions aim to offer one-on-one advice, guidance and support to help you make lifestyle changes such as losing weight, eating well, becoming more active, reducing alcohol intake and stopping smoking.

You may also be interested in trying a free Wellbeing MOT – step onto our body composition scales to find out your fat percentage, muscle mass, bone mass, visceral fat, hydration levels and more! You will have the chance to talk through your results, confidentially, with a wellbeing advisor and decide on any steps you might want to take to help improve your health and lifestyle.

[More information](#)

FREE courses to help you improve your health





Mental Health Support in Chanctonbury

The Olive Tree Information Hub will provide a central point for local cancer patients and their families to access information about local and national cancer services and will also offer an opportunity to discuss any help needed.

A programme of support services has started with workshops now available, including Yoga on Friday 11th October 11.30am - 12.30pm.

To book your place or find out more contact the Hub team on 01403 627240 or email: horsham@olivetrecancersupport.org.uk

[Read More](#)



Look after yourself this winter

Cold weather can be seriously bad for your health. That's why it's important to look after yourself, especially during the winter. If you start to feel unwell, even if it's a cough or a cold, don't wait until it gets more serious. Seek advice from your pharmacist.

Don't forget you are eligible for the free flu vaccine if you are pregnant, are aged 65 years or over, have a long-term health condition, or are a carer. Children aged 2 or 3 years are also eligible.

Ask your GP, pharmacist or midwife about the free flu vaccine.

[Read More](#)

Mental Health Support in Chanctonbury

People living in Steyning and surrounding villages that make up the Chanctonbury region are now able to get community-based mental health support, thanks to Coastal West Sussex Mind, a part of Pathfinder, expanding its much needed services into the area.



[Read More](#)

Stay healthy, well and independent in later life

A campaign to help older people in West Sussex become some of the healthiest in the UK has been launched. Age Well is a West Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board initiative, delivered by West Sussex County Council, working with partners such as Age UK and other local organisations. Its aim is to improve the health and wellbeing of our county's older residents and to celebrate the contribution they make to our communities.



A [survey](#) has also been launched to find out what older residents currently do, or might want to do, to stay healthy, happy and independent

Find Out More

Upcoming events

Wellbeing Drop-ins:

Have a Wellbeing MOT and find out how you can improve your health and wellbeing. No need to book an appointment, just turn up!

Henfield Medical Centre, 3.30 - 5.30pm:

Tuesday 8 October, Tuesday 12 November, Tuesday 10 December

Steyning Leisure Centre, 10am - 1pm:

Wednesday 30 October, Wednesday 27 November

The Octagon, Chart Way, Horsham 11am - 2pm:

Wednesday 6 November, Wednesday 4 December

Pre Diabetes Courses:

Horsham: Thursday 24 October, Wednesday 20 November

Henfield: Wednesday 13 November (for patients registered at Henfield Medical Centre)



Email dated 7th October 2019, from HALC HDC & HALC Annual Meeting

A reminder for the annual meeting of HDC and HALC on Thursday 14 November 2019:

Does your Parish Council have a question for Horsham District Council?

HDC has kindly agreed to accept questions and to present answers at the annual meeting of HDC and HALC.

Please let me have your question by **12 October 2019.**

Kind Regards, Beverley

Email dated 7th October 2019, from HDC
Statement of Community Involvement 2019

The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) is a statutory document which sets out the ways in which the council will engage with residents, communities, businesses, local organisations and other groups to ensure as many people as possible are able to have a say in planning decisions that affect them.

The document provides guidance on how the planning system works and sets out how the council will inform, consult and involve people in planning decisions within Horsham District, excluding the area within the South Downs National Park.

The current document was approved at the Cabinet meeting on 26 September 2019 and now forms the adopted SCI for Horsham District Council. It is available to view on our website via the following link:
<https://beta.horsham.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy/statement-of-community-involvement>

For information; a hard copy has been sent to each library within the district.

If you have any queries in relation to the SCI please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Strategic Planning Team.

Kind regards

Natasha Robinson
Planning Officer

Telephone: 01403 215293

Email: Natasha.Robinson@horsham.gov.uk



Email dated 7th October 2019, from AirS
Mastering Social Media Workshops

VILLAGE HALLS & COMMUNITY BUILDINGS BULLETIN
Important news from the AirS Village Halls & Community Buildings Advisory Service

October 2019

Mastering Social Media Workshops

Social Media Training designed specifically for Village Halls & Community Buildings

AirS has partnered up with Brighton-based digital marketing agency, [Digital Firefly](#) to offer two social media workshops.

These 2hr workshops have been designed specifically for village halls and community buildings.



Session overview:

This session will introduce the main differences and benefits of each major social media platforms and help you understand how to use them.

We'll discuss the current state of social media marketing and help you understand the principles to follow to see success from your social media strategies, from explaining what metrics are and choosing the right ones to measure to creating content and engaging audiences. This session is suitable for any business or organisation looking to learn more about using social media to see real life results.

By the end of the session you'll have a better understanding of social media and how to use it to your benefit and the benefit of your communities and audiences.

Tuesday 10th December 2019

6.30pm – 8.30pm

Pulborough Village Hall, Swan View, Pulborough RH20 2BF

Wednesday 22nd January 2020

6.30pm – 8.30pm

Battle Memorial Hall, 81 High St, Battle TN33 0AQ

Prices:

£24 per person for AirS Subscribers

£30 per person for Non-Subscribers

For more information, please email villagehalls@ruralsussex.org.uk

[CLICK HERE TO BOOK](#)

**Email dated 11th October 2019, from SSALC
Named PCSO for every local community – Sussex Police**

Every community in Sussex will have a named PCSO starting from next month, Sussex Police has announced.

The confirmation follows an investment in 100 extra PCSOs, secured through local funding by Police & Crime Commissioner Katy Bourne – bringing the total number to 296.

Chief Constable Giles York said the decision will put 'eyes and ears' into every part of the county and give local people a direct point of contact for local policing issues and concerns.

“When we introduced the new local policing model three years ago, we said it would be scalable. Now, thanks to this additional investment, we’re in a position to strengthen local policing and we know this is what local communities want to see,” said Mr York.

“Our PCSOs do an incredible job, every day, working alongside their police officer colleagues to prevent and detect crime and tackle anti-social behaviour in our local communities.

“This change means communities will soon begin to see and feel the benefits of their investment as new PCSOs are deployed over the coming months, where they will provide a visible policing presence and be a point of contact for local policing issues.”

The change will take effect from November 4, when all existing PCSOs will adopt responsibility for a defined geographical area, and be rolled out over the coming months as the additional PCSOs are recruited and deployed.

It comes in addition to recent announcements on the recruitment of 379 additional police officers for the county over the next four years.

Police & Crime Commissioner Katy Bourne said:

“My focus groups and conversations with local people clearly show that the public want PCSOs back in their communities, forming that essential and reassuring link with police. Neighbourhood Policing needed modernising five years ago and that included giving PCSOs the necessary skills to help support police officers and investigations.

“Since then, Sussex Police have transformed the role of PCSOs by equipping them with more knowledge, skills and powers, but at the same time keeping the best of the old model where PCSOs were known in their local communities. I know that communities across the county will be delighted to hear Sussex Police are making their PCSOs more accessible and visible by increasing the numbers on our streets by 100 and providing a named PCSO for each ward area.”

PCSOs will continue to form part of wider local prevention teams, ensuring that finite police resources can be focused on the most critical issues.

The uplift in PCSOs includes six new rural PCSOs who will provide specialist support and advice to those in rural communities.

The increase will help address some of the low level issues affecting communities, preventing the escalation of more serious crime and violence.

The decision complements ongoing transformation plans by Sussex Police to strengthen local policing, modernise to respond to changing patterns of serious crime and the ways in which the public can contact the police.

These additional PCSO posts are being recruited throughout the financial year with intakes of 18 in July 2019, 36 in September 2019, 36 in January 2020 and 36 in March 2020 under the PCSO apprenticeship scheme.

The 100 new posts will be allocated based on demand with details available locally and at www.sussex.police.uk from November 4.

**Email dated 11th October 2019, from NALC
Chief Executives Weekly Bulletin**

Meeting with Alzheimer's Society

On 8 October our head of membership services, Charlotte Eisenhart, and policy intern, Claire Goldfinch, met with the Alzheimer's Society to discuss our joint work under the [strategic commitment signed almost two years ago](#). Issues covered included the role of local (parish and town) councils in building dementia-friendly communities, sharing of information and goals and aims for our joint work over the coming year. A key policy theme for NALC in 2020 will be health and wellbeing so I am really looking forward to continuing to work with the Alzheimer's society to create real change. And if you haven't read it already, do check out the [Dementia-friendly rural communities guide](#). I'm also delighted that Alzheimer's Society champion Ian Sherriff will be delivering dementia friends training on 13 December at the NALC office – we have two additional spaces available on a first-come, first-served basis – please email claire.goldfinch@nalc.gov.uk

LCR magazine interview with new LGA chairman

Our senior communications officer, Marie Dill, recently met with Cllr James Jamieson, the new chairman of the Local Government Association (LGA), for LCR magazine. The interview revealed he is hugely supportive of the local council sector, saying: "Local councils are sometimes better placed to develop and deliver targeted services and solutions for hyper-local communities in a way that principal councils are not." And looking forward, he sees the two associations working together "better, closer and less adversarial". But he also adds: "If local councils are to play a role in helping to shape and build communities, then they need to step up to the challenge and work with principal authorities." To read more from this interview, which appears in the Autumn Annual Conference Special issue, subscribe to LCR at www.nalc.gov.uk/lcrmagazine. You can also hear from James direct as he is among the brilliant line-up of speakers at the Annual Conference, book [here](#).

Consultations

We have two consultations running at the moment and we'd love to hear from you: firstly on the [consultation](#) underway on proposed reforms to support the deployment of 5g and extend mobile coverage, but do be quick to email claire.goldfinch@nalc.gov.uk by the end of today; secondly [we will be responding to government's independent review of local government audit](#) so please complete this [survey](#) to share your views, the deadline is 8 November.

Larger councils, choose your representatives in NALC!

And we've also has opened up the online voting process for NALC's Larger Councils Committee for candidates for 2020-1. Can I urge all member larger councils (those with a precept income or annual turnover of £600,000 plus, or an electorate of 6000 plus) to vote online now, more information including candidate nominations are [here](#).

Smaller councils, get involved in NALC!

This week we opened up the nominations process to NALC's Smaller Councils Committee for directly elected candidates for 2020-21. The Committee is a key special interest group for NALC and represents the interests of all smaller local councils in England. There are three [elected councillor and elected clerk](#) places available, more information including the nomination form is [here](#).

Out and about

I was delighted to attend and speak at the very busy annual general meeting of the Northamptonshire County Association of Local Councils (NCALC) on 5 October. Sarah Mason, chief executive, Cornwall Association of Local Councils also spoke and provided some brilliant insights into the experience of going unitary which should help Northamptonshire's transition next year. At the event NCALC's chief executive, Danny Moody, launched an excellent report on how the unitary process could be managed to maximise the support of local councils – you can read more in the [news story](#) and his [blog post](#).

And finally...

Parliament was prorogued again this week by the Prime Minister ahead of a Queens Speech on 14 October in which the government will set out new legislative plans. Prorogation – or the suspension of Parliament – means that no debates, select committees or other usual business that goes in Westminster can take place until after the Queen has reopened Parliament. Our battle to get the 'toilets bill' enacted continues...!

Having trouble viewing this email? [View it as a Web page.](#)



Latest news

and information

New £8 million Piries Place Car Park open

The brand new £8 million Horsham Town Centre car park at Piries Place has officially opened to the public.

The new five-level multi-storey car park is larger than the previous car park and has 516 spaces, 189 more than previously, which have both wider and deeper bays than before. Other features include eight electric vehicle charging bays and an iconic 14.5 metre high living wall.



[Read more](#)

Keep the kids active over October Half-Term

With October half-term fast approaching, it's a good time to start thinking about the kids' plans for the holiday.

Here are just a few of the activities that we have organised to keep your kids entertained over the October break.



- [Horsham Halloween Party](#)
- [Sport, Art and Play Day Camps](#)
- [Sport-Only Workshops](#)
- [Horsham Park Tennis is available all year round!](#)
- [The Gruffalo, The Witch and The Warthog with Julia Donaldson](#)
- [Children's activities at Horsham Museum & Art Gallery](#)

Support the Horsham District Community Lottery and win an entertainment bundle!

This new community lottery for the Horsham District got off to a flying start last month with over 80 community groups and 660 supporters signed up so far, and over 1200 tickets purchased in time for the inaugural prize draw on 28 September.



Thanks to this level of interest the lottery will have raised at least £39,000 for good causes in the Horsham District over the first year!

Entertainment bundles

This autumn there are five Entertainment Bundles up for grabs nationally, promoted by Gatherwell who work with councils across the country to help manage their community lotteries.

To enter just buy one or more tickets before Saturday 2 November 2019 at 8pm. If you are already a current regular supporter, as long as you play the lottery during the qualifying period you will be entered in this additional draw.

[Buy tickets](#)

The Lady Vanishes

The Capitol Theatre, 21-26 October 2019

BAFTA-nominated Gwen Taylor and 'Villain of the Year' Andrew Lancel are reunited for the first time since their two years together in Coronation Street as Anne Taylor and her evil son (who she killed!) Frank Foster.



Andrew and Gwen are back in this devilishly fun stage adaptation of Alfred Hitchcock's [The Lady Vanishes](#) by The Thriller Theatre Company showing at Horsham's Capitol Theatre from 21-26 October.

[Buy tickets](#)

Keeping your home warmer this winter

The [Warm Home Discount](#) is a Government scheme giving qualifying households £140 credit into their electricity accounts.

The discount can be applied to energy accounts between from 14 October until the end of March 2020.

[Read more](#)

Finalist for international technology awards

The Council's Community Link service has been announced as a finalist in the 2019 International Technology Enabled Care (ITEC) Awards - celebrating the very best in health and social care innovation.

[Read more](#)



Email dated 11th October 2019, from SLCC
SLCC Bulletin

We start this latest Bulletin with the news that referendum principles (capping) will not apply to English parishes for the coming financial year. This is very welcome news but the message about councils needing to exercise even greater restraint is also very clear. We would suggest that members may wish to advise their councils that any significant increases in council tax (for example those necessitated by taking on additional services) are clearly articulated to the local community and, if at all possible, have already received their support.

I would also like to congratulate Helen Ball, Town Clerk to Shrewsbury TC on her success in the recent contested by-election for a Director to serve the Midlands. Her term of office (and that of other recently elected Directors) started immediately following last week's AGM.

Your News



No Referendum Principles for 2020/21

The Government has announced that it does not propose to set 'referendum principles' for town and parish councils in England for 2020/21. However the Government 'remains concerned about the pressure placed on taxpayers from thousands of town and parish councils across England' and expects them to exercise 'even greater restraint' for 2020/21. The Government will keep the matter under 'active review' for future years.

SLCC's Board's External Affairs Group are currently reviewing the consultation along with the national advisor team with a view to submitting a formal response on behalf of SLCC.

This announcement has no effect in Wales.

For further information click the button below

[More...](#)



Linda is new SLCC President

At the SLCC Annual General Meeting held in Hinckley, Leicestershire last week members unanimously confirmed Linda Larter MBE, the Town Clerk to Sevenoaks TC as their President for the coming year. Linda has been a clerk since 1990, working for councils with population ranging from 250 to 80,000 plus. These varied size councils have provided her with the experience of working as the only member of staff and in positions managing a large team. In 2000 Linda was nominated by the Millennium Commission for an MBE for raising funds and completion of a community centre.

[More...](#)



SLCC Board Minutes now available

The draft minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors held immediately prior to National Conference are now available on the SLCC website. Supporting papers and reports presented to the Board are also available. The discussions included updates on action being taken in relation to standards and bullying and a new proposal (suggested in the current edition of The Clerk magazine) of a “Week of the Clerk”.

To view the minutes please login to the website and click the button below.

[More...](#)



Action Against Climate Change

At last week’s National Conference, attendees were fortunate to hear an excellent presentation from Mike Childs, Head of Science and Research at Friends of the Earth in which he suggested some practical steps that town, parish and community councils could be taking with regard to climate change. He has now kindly shared with us the 20 point checklist which he provided at Conference.

[More...](#)



Government pledges increase to National Living Wage

The government has announced plans to increase the National Living Wage (NLW) to 66% of median earnings over the next 5 years.

In a speech at the Conservative party conference the Chancellor, Sajid Javid, said this would see the NLW rise to £10.50 an hour by 2024. He also said that the NLW, which is the statutory minimum wage for anyone over the age of 25, would be expanded to cover those over the age of 21 within the same five year timeframe. Previously it had been planned to increase the NLW to increase to 60% of median earnings by 2020.

The NLW is currently £8.21 per hour, with the minimum wage set at £7.70 for those between 21 and 24.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING AND COMMUNITY
HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Councils will recall the CIL Briefing sent out earlier this year by NALC Legal Services, and in line with neighbourhood planning, All Things Neighbourhood Planning consider that Councils could and should go one step further and this article looks to explore health and wellbeing through neighbourhood planning.

As Councils will know where a Neighbourhood Plan is in force, they will receive a greater share of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funds. This additional funding places greater responsibility on the council to deliver infrastructure and facilities, and local councils may wish to consider how they can use this funding to improve the health of residents.

Through neighbourhood planning, local councils have the opportunity to create places which will enhance the health of the communities they serve. Neighbourhood Plans can address health and well-being in a wide variety of different ways - from tackling pollution, encouraging healthy eating, improving access to open space and the countryside, requiring new development to be designed to encourage healthy lifestyles, and improving local services and facilities. Health and wellbeing are not isolated issues and should be a central theme to any neighbourhood plan.

Improving health and wellbeing through neighbourhood planning

Our environment greatly affects our health. At its most extreme, the World Health Organisation estimates that globally, 12.6 million people die each year as a result of living or working in an unhealthy environment¹. In the UK, some of the nation's greatest health challenges, such as obesity, mental

health issues, physical inactivity and the needs of an ageing population are influenced by the quality of our built and natural environment².

¹ WHO 2016, An estimated 12.6 million deaths each year are attributable to unhealthy environments, available at: <https://www.who.int/news-room/detail/15-03-2016-an-estimated-12-6-million-deaths-each-year-are-attributable-to-unhealthy-environments>

² Public Health England - Written Evidence (BEN0186), available at:

To illustrate how communities can tackle issues of health and well-being through neighbourhood planning, this article draws on real examples from Neighbourhood Plans in force across the country.

Minimising exposure to pollution

According to the nation's Clean Air Strategy, air pollution is the top environmental risk to human health in the UK³. Recognising the threat of air pollution, the *Godaiming and Farncombe Neighbourhood Plan's* "Healthy Air" policy requires all development proposals to assess their impacts on air quality⁴.

Similarly, exposure to noise can impact on quality of life and give rise to adverse health effects by causing annoyance and sleep disturbance⁵ ⁶. Addressing specific local concerns about noise levels, the *Lewes Neighbourhood Plan*⁵ requires new developments to assess the effects of traffic noise.

Healthy eating

The *Standish Neighbourhood Plan* identifies obesity as a local issue affecting resident's health. The plan seeks to instil healthy lifestyles in young people by controlling the number of hot food takeaways opening in the town, particularly in proximity of the secondary school.

ALL THINGS NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING

A planner's view on the world of Neighbourhood Planning

National Association
of Local Councils

Local food production is encouraged by the *Harvington Neighbourhood Plan*⁷ which protects land in use for agriculture and horticulture, and includes a community project to analyse rare fruit trees in the area's many orchards, thereby preserving such crops for future generations.

Access to open space and the countryside

The Government's 25 Year Environment Plan (2018) recognises that access to nature is important to both physical and

<http://data.Darliament.uk/writtenevidence/committeeevidence.svc/evidencedocument/built-environment-committee/built-environment/written/22901.html>

³ Department for Food, Environment & Rural Affairs, Clean Air Strategy, available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/770715/clean-air-strategy-2019.Ddf

⁴ Godaiming and Farncombe Neighbourhood Plan, available at: <https://www.waverlev.gov.uk/info/200358/neighbourhood-plans/2164/godaiming-and-farncombe-neighbourhood-plan-referendum>

⁵ DEFRA, Noise Policy Statement for England 2010, available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/69533/ob13750-noise-policy.pdf

⁶ Lewes Neighbourhood Plan, available at: <https://www.southdowns.gov.uk/wd-content/uploads/2019/04/Lewes-Neighbourhood-Plan-Made-Plan.Ddf>

⁷ Harvington Neighbourhood Plan, available at: <https://www.wvchavon.gov.uk/documents/10586/9654909/Harvington+NP+Referendum+Version+RFS-min.odf/aa58df99-789b-e1e7-edb6-cc98eb0230dc>

mental health⁸ ⁹. The *Pebworth Neighbourhood Plan*⁵ supports the dual purposes that public rights of way and bridleways provide in enabling people to access the countryside by walking, cycling and horse-riding, and their benefits to flora and fauna in providing 'green corridors' between habitats.

To protect their parks, allotments and other publicly accessible green areas from the pressures of development, many, if not most, neighbourhood plans designate such areas as *Local Green Spaces* - granting protection equivalent to "green belt" status.

Designing healthy developments

There are a range of nationally-recognised standards and toolkits which can be employed through neighbourhood plans to enhance the quality of new development - some of which have benefits to health and well-being.

To meet the needs of older people, people with limited mobility, and wheelchair users, the *Goring Neighbourhood Plan*¹⁰ requires a proportion of

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new homes to be accessible and adaptable, by meeting *optional technical housing standards* set out in Building Regulations¹¹.

Responding to projected increases in the number of people suffering from dementia, the *Aylsham Neighbourhood Plan*¹² encourages new developments to be designed to be 'dementia-friendly', meeting the design principles set out in "At a Glance: a Checklist for Developing Dementia Friendly Communities"¹³.

Building for Life 12 is endorsed by the government's national planning policies and sets out standards for the design of new developments¹⁴. Building for Life 12 promotes well-being¹⁴ by requiring new developments to create places within a development where people can meet each other, such as public spaces and community buildings. The

⁸ HM Government 2018, A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment, available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/693158/25-year-environment-Dlan.odf

⁹ Pebworth Neighbourhood Plan, available at: <https://www.wvchavon.gov.uk/documents/10586/0/Pebworth+Parish+NP+Referendum+Version.odf/879f1370-93f2-18d4-d99e-7d742d531b61>

¹⁰ Goring Neighbourhood Plan, available at: <http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/sites/default/files/GNP%20Plan%20Document%20Referendum%20version%20comDressed.Ddf>

¹¹ Building Regulations Part M4(2) & M4(3)

¹² Aylsham Neighbourhood Plan, available at: <https://www.broadland.gov.uk/info/200164/neighbourhood-plans/376/avls-ham-neighbourhood-plan>

¹³ Housing LIN, At a Glance: a Checklist for Developing Dementia Friendly Communities, available at: <https://www.housinglin.org.uk/assets/Resources/Housing/Support-materials/Viewpoints/Viewpoint25AtAGlance.pdf>

¹⁴ Design Council, Building for Life 12, available at: <https://www.designcouncil.org.uk/resources/guide/building-life-12-third-edition>

*Stowupland Neighbourhood Plan*¹⁵ requires new developments to be built to the Building for Life 12 standard.

Becoming a victim of crime, or living in fear of crime, will also affect people's wellbeing. The *Rye Neighbourhood Plan* requires new developments to meet the "Secured by Design" standard, a police initiative to guide the design and specification of new homes to reduce opportunities for crime¹⁶.

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Local services and facilities to improve health

Neighbourhood Plans can identify priority projects to be delivered in the area, or as part of a package of facilities to support major development. For example, the *Sutton Neighbourhood Plan*¹⁷ requires its major site allocation to deliver expansion of local medical facilities, and provide specific sports and recreation facilities.

These are just a sample of some of the initiatives being used by local councils to meet their community health and wellbeing needs, and will hopefully provide 'food for thought' to other councils developing their plans.

To discover more about Neighbourhood Plans, or for further advice on writing or drafting a plan, visit www.neighbourhood-planning.org.

¹⁵ Stowupland Neighbourhood Plan, available at: <https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/planning/neighbourhood-planning/neighbourhood-planning-in-mid-suffolk/stowupland-neighbourhood-plan/>

¹⁶ Secured by Design, available at: https://www.securedbydesign.com/images/downloads/HOMES_BROCHURE_2019_NEW_version_2.pdf