

Threat to Green Belt

There is very strong Government pressure on Warwick District Council to find land for 10,800 new homes between 2006 and 2026. Land has already been earmarked for 2,650 homes (from those built since 2006 and on sites that already have planning permission). That means that about 270 hectares (670 acres) of land is still needed for 8,150 new homes.

The planners feel that many can be built on brown field sites. That would still leave around 2,700 homes that would need to be built on green field and / or green belt sites. To put it into perspective, they need an area the same size as Warwick Gates and Chase Meadow *combined*.

What are the options?

The District Council has produced a Core Strategy Options paper which lists 5 options on where those 2,700 homes could go. There is the strong possibility of development on the Green Belt to the north of Leamington.

Cllr Bill Gifford says, "It is hard to over-estimate the importance



Councillors Nick Pittarello and Bill Gifford at Cliffe Allotments off Old Milverton Road

of the Green Belt to the north of Milverton. Much of the land is allotment land that is in great demand. If it were lost, the remaining border between Warwick and Leamington would largely disappear and it would urbanise much of the countryside between Leamington and Kenilworth."

Consultation has started

If you wish to examine the documents they can be found on-line [www.warwickdc.gov.uk] or at the District Council Offices

at Riverside House, Milverton Hill, Leamington Spa.

Now is the time to comment

Whilst there is no immediate threat from a planning application, if the new policy did include the green belt to the north of Milverton, it would be very difficult to stop any planning application after 2011 for building on the green belt. We urge local residents to make their views known and make others aware.

Mayoral Year

David Greenwood's Mayoral year concluded on 17th May, during which £ 28,000 was raised for his four chosen charities. David said "Margaret and I have been amazed by the generosity of people and businesses locally and further afield.



David & Margaret Greenwood

"I have also been privileged to chair the Town Council at a time when its influence is increasing. We are working to make real change through Transition Town developments, Safer Neighbourhood programmes and the excellent Community Grants scheme, which gives money to a range of worthwhile community projects."

Waste Collection Is it Sorted?

Most problems with the waste collection are now sorted, but if you still have collection problems please contact Cllr Bill Gifford on 338776 or email [bill.gifford@warwickdc.gov.uk].

Guided Walks Round Leamington

Throughout the summer there are free guided walks round historic Leamington. The walks are on Wednesdays to Saturdays at 7:30pm and start from the entrance to Jephson Gardens. Contact Sidney Tyrrell for more details on 429826.

Consultation on Ford and Station area

The District Council, local amenity groups and local businesses have put forward ideas that form the basis of a Planning Brief for the vast area of land from Station Approach to the old Ford site.

Cllr Nick Pittarello says, "This is a very important area and getting it right is vital. If done well it can provide good housing, new employment and much better transport links. I would urge everyone to look at the details on the District Council website [www.warwickdc.gov.uk]."

Congratulations to Kate Evans and Neighbourhood Watch on winning a Civic Award, and to Annabel Rainbow and the GALS who were nominated for an Award for their work on the Dell.

Sir Frank Whittle Talk

The Leamington Society has asked us to mention a very special event which they have arranged.

The story of aviation's greatest engineer, Sir Frank Whittle, inventor of the jet engine and turbofan will be told by his son Ian Whittle.



Sir Frank Whittle

The talk is at 7.30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 16th at The Royal Spa Centre.

Ticket are £7.50 adults £5.00 students and seniors.

Box Office 01926 334418 or on-line at www.royal-spa-centre.co.uk



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