

HERE AND NOW in HUNGERFORD

No. 30 in a series of regular briefings from the Council

NOVEMBER 2015

NEW HOUSING – WBC DECIDES

The long awaited announcement from WBC on the number of new housing to be built in Hungerford over the next 9 years was released earlier this month. Whilst the number at 100 accords with your Council's view, the proposed siting to the south of town is contrary to the proposals we made in our response to their Consultative paper.

There now follows a period for further views up to 21 December during which WBC will collect and pass them to the appointed Government Planning Inspector whose decision is unlikely to be given much before Autumn 2016. HTC will be reinforcing our proposals and seeking to render the WBC proposal determined to be "unsound". This is the technical term used by the Inspector who looks at the detail presented by WBC to assess if it is correct and based upon realistic assumptions and data.

Interestingly WBC referred to the HTC submission as "not reflecting the views of all the residents". Given the nature of the issue, it is hardly surprising that this is the case. Opinions around the town are bound to differ, as witnessed in the debate at the Public Meeting last week. It was for this reason that HTC appointed an independent professional Consultant to help frame the HTC position. It is certainly not a reason to dismiss our recommendations.

CROFT FIELD ACTIVITY CENTRE [CFAC]

After considering a number of suggestions to rename this newly acquired HTC facility, we decided that it would create more confusion than if it were remain essentially the same. Renovation work continues as does our determination to have WBC honour their pledge to provide a further £8,000 towards

the cost of the problems that should have been sorted by them before we took on the 99 year Lease. We are pleased to report that bookings for the CFAC are going better than anticipated and it is hoped to attract clubs and residents as a major centre for all manner of civic events.

Currently it is the hub of the work associated with the installation of our fabulous Christmas street lights – see

separate advertisement giving full details of the **Switch-on Sunday 29 November.**



COMMUNITY OF HUNGERFORD THEATRE CLUB [CHTC]

After many months of nail biting over Planning Conditions, the containers holding all the CHTC wardrobe of costumes and props, have been installed in a corner of the Triangle Field. The preparatory work necessary to house them has given an added benefit of enlarging the Car Parking area enabling more events to be staged at this HTC owned Site.

TRAGEDY MEMORIAL GARDEN

After the completion of a further replanting exercise by Stacy Tuttle, final details are being worked on to re-site the Memorial Plaque from the present pillar for the Football Club gate to the corner of the garden to provide a more harmonious environment sympathetic to the nature of the site. Further signage will be placed there requesting respect of all visitors and reminding those that Ball Games are not permitted.

See you all on Sunday!



- Cllr Martin Crane, OBE, Town Mayor of Hungerford