

# Wimborne Civic Society 2017 Planning Report

During the year there have been over 550 Planning Applications in the Society's area of interest (which is largely in line with the BH21 Post Code Area). The Committee looked in detail at about one third of these, most of which were for extensions.

The Christchurch and East Dorset current Core Strategy and local plans were adopted in 2014. So they are now starting to think of the next one as an extension of previous plans. However, this is very dependent upon the outcome of any re-organisation of councils within Dorset. Poole are also preparing their plans which were due to go to public consultation this month but that is being delayed due to General Election.

Work has started clearing the site for the Minster Gate development along the Cranborne Road. We just hope that the consequences of this development are not as dire as we and others predict.

The Wyatts Cuthbury Estate plans have still not been approved. We are generally in agreement with these plans particularly since some of our concerns have been addressed in revised plans submitted. The old allotments were cleared some time ago but the holders have still not been given their new sites. Some work has recently been done to make an access to them.

Plans for the Parmitter Road development have been submitted in two bits and the committee are currently reviewing the second part of these. We have been pleased to see that there appears to be a generous allocation of affordable homes. We hope that this will survive and not be whittled away.

As already said, many of the applications submitted have been for extensions. There have also been those for infill or knocking down one property and replacing it with several others. So far, where we have had concerns over these, both EDDC and Poole have rejected the applications without our intervention.

A place where we have concern is the threat to the Green Belt separating Wimborne from the Poole – Bournemouth conurbation. Plans in the Bearwood area though out of our area of interest are getting close. We would urge members to consider signing up to the on-line petition to Poole to preserve the Green Belt particularly in the new Core Strategy.

I would like to thank the other members of the planning committee, Pan Shrubbs, Sue Maunder and Stephen Protheroe for their hard work, but also say that we could do with another member to swell our ranks. We particularly need someone with knowledge of the Villages to the North of our area since the Rosemary Rooke moved away having served on the committee for many years.

Since EDDC stopped making paper copies of plans available for scrutiny, we have had to work on line. We meet once every 4 weeks and project the submissions onto a screen which is not ideal but works.

Through the coming year we will continue to scrutinise applications made in the area and review the plans of both EDDC and Poole for their new Core Strategies and Local Plans.

Antony Wakeling

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