

Forward Planning Group

1)-The Local Plan- the call for Greenfield Sites ended in February. The submissions are now being assessed by the Planners. Such as are required of the most suitable in order to meet the housing target, will be included in a report that will be issued for consultation in late Summer (Green-belt sites may be included if the Planners think they are suitable for release).

2)-Transform Leatherhead- a public meeting took place on 24<sup>th</sup> May. The following points were of note-

Cllr Edge confirmed that any changes to the Swan Centre /High street that may be suggested in the medium term would respect the “market town “ nature of Leatherhead.

The Environment Agency confirmed that any flood alleviation scheme put forward would attempt to protect all residential properties, but would be unlikely to protect all properties e.g. the Football Ground.

There was an acknowledgement from the Transform team that the current economic climate, especially that relating to the retail sector, is not helping the Transform initiative. There was also an acknowledgement that smaller niche retailers may have more of a role to play than the large standard high street retailers.

There was criticism of the lack of maintenance of the existing Town centre. MVDC responded that they didn't want to spend money on what may be changed anyway in due course.

Concern was expressed as to whether the eventual proposed development for Claire/James House would be too high and out of keeping on the River-side.(see later note)

MVDC stated that conducting a trial as to whether extending the hours during which parking in the High street is possible ( from 16.30 to 15.30 ) to see if it leads to an increase in shoppers needs the agreement of so many different stakeholders that no trial will be considered until the results of the Transport Study are available.

Cllr Crome said there was much concern being expressed to him about the loss of much of the Red House Gardens if the proposed “Bull Hill Development” proceeds. Cllr Edge replied that what has been shown thus far is conceptual and it is too early to say what the eventual form of development will be.

The Swan Centre: it is currently anticipated that the first phase works will start in September and run until Easter 2019, with a break for Christmas trading.

Claire/James House:-there will be a public exhibition/consultation on the proposed development scheme shortly(exact date to be confirmed ).

Bull Hill-development: proposals to be reconsidered only when the results of the Transport Study are available.

Transport Study: -in hand and survey of drivers/pedestrians being conducted.

High Street: -MVDC have bought 21 and 23 High Street (ex Halifax and hairdressers adjoining) In case they present development opportunities for the future.

3-Flood alleviation-temporary barrier now available if needed. Long-term scheme still being formulated.

4- Sustainable Transport Plan-Randalls road scheme now defunct, but MVDC advise that improvements to the bus service now being considered.

5-Kingston House Gardens-Clarion have lodged a planning application as per their last tabled proposals. The criticisms of that scheme will therefore be submitted to MVDC as a representation by the publicity end date of 12 July.

6-Other matters-none