

E.V.A.D.E.

Ecclesbourne Valley Against Development Excesses

NEWS LETTER NO 2

11th October 2020

Website:

After a few initial problems we now have our website up and running. The earlier web address has been superseded by www.ecclesbournevalley.co.uk. The search engines may not yet be able to find it but if you put the address in the address line of your browser it should all happen.

Take a look, let us know what you think and please feel free to suggest additions and improvements via our e-mail 2020evade@gmail.com. We will be working to improve and expand the site progressively.

Parish Council Meetings

In these difficult times Parish Council meetings are all "remote" using Zoom or similar but the system does work! We have been in "virtual" attendance at the meetings of Turnditch & Windley, Shottle & Postern, Hazelwood and Idridgehay, Alton & Ashleyhay parish council meetings and have had the opportunity to introduce E.V.A.D.E. to the councillors and explain our aims and objectives .

In each case we received a positive response with the council giving support to our cause and undertaking to keep in touch and exchange mutually interesting information and news.

Ms. Sarah Dines, MP for Derbyshire Dales

Our letter to our M.P. has resulted in the following response:

Thank you for bringing this to Sarah's attention.

She will ensure that her constituents are aware, once the planning applications go live.

Like you, Sarah believes that whilst new housing is a good thing, it needs to be in keeping with existing local communities. I know she will monitor the situation closely.

Yours sincerely

*Chloe Sinker
Caseworker
Office of Sarah Dines MP*

This is not exactly earth-shattering but it is something to refer back to if and when we need to call on her to live up to her words.

Chatsworth Meeting.

On 1st October four members of the E.V.A.D.E. committee had a socially distanced meeting with representatives from Chatsworth. Chatsworth were represented by their Property Development Director and their Estates Manager, Derbyshire. Covid regulations meant that the meeting had to be limited to a total of 6.

The meeting was very open and informative with Chatsworth giving useful information about how their organisation was structured and what their overall objectives and policies are. Most importantly, they confirmed that the plans for the "Garden Village" had been formally withdrawn from the AVBC "call for sites" and that there were no plans to consider it again in the short to medium (5 - 10 year) term.

The two other Chatsworth owned sites in Cowers Lane were discussed and we were advised that no further work or planning would take place until the Amber Valley BC had considered all the sites proposed and decided which ones were viable. The negative impact of potentially building so many new houses in a small rural area; and the effect on the linear village format and rural nature, were raised with Chatsworth being factors important to local residents. Chatsworth have committed to contact E.V.A.D.E. and to liaise with local residents/organisations at an early stage should these proposals proceed'

Contact E.V.A.D.E. via 2020evade@gmail.com
Check Our Website www.ecclesbournevalley.co.uk
Tell your friends.

River Ecclesbourne Re-meandering.

At the meeting with Chatsworth representatives (see above) their Estates Manager explained that the Wild Trout Trust and the Environment Agency were proposing that the straight stretch of the river up-stream of the old mill could be re-routed to form a meandering water course to the west of the present river.

The objective would be to improve the habitat for fish and other wildlife and to allow fish migration . It is known that salmon have been seen in the Ecclesbourne.

The old river course might be back-filled or retained as still water.

The project is dependent upon funding being available.

It is not expected that a new bridge would be installed and the river crossing would be via a ford.

Neighbourhood Plans.

Both Hazelwood and Idridgehay have neighbourhood plans in place. Turnditch & Windley and Shottle & Postern are not there yet, but are working on it. It is not a quick process and will required a lot of hard work. If you are interested in getting involved please contact: Sam Maws: sallymaw@gmail.com for Turnditch & Windley

Ian Philips: shottleandposternNP@gmail.com for Shottle & Postern

E.V.A.D.E. and the Neighbourhood Plans have similar objectives but different emphasis. E.V.A.D.E. hopes to have short term effects on the planning process and has an interest in the whole of the Ecclesbourne Valley whereas Neighbourhood Plans are longer term and are based on individual parishes.

Amber Valley Borough Council

A recent telephone conversation between one of the E.V.A.D.E. committee and the AVBC Planning Department provided a bit more information about the "Call for Sites" situation. AVBC are now in the "assessment phase" which should be finished in the next week or so. The results will then be published on their website. There will be a public consultation phase in Spring 2021 before the draft plan is approved.

The discussion also covered matters relating to potential developments on flood plains (general policy is to avoid building on them), brown field developments (owners cannot be required to submit such sites for development) and actual housing needs (decreed by central government).

We will continue to keep an eye on further developments on this front.

A Couple of Local Residents



Committee Matters

John Williams, Co-Chair of the committee, has found that the pressures of his business mean that he has been unable to give as much time and effort to E.V.A.D.E. as he had hoped and intended. Rather than continuing in that role but with less than "full steam" he has resigned as co-chair while remaining on the committee as a "non-portfolio" member. Dick Skinner, the other half of the co-chairmanship, says that he has valued John's input and hopes that he will still be available for advice and guidance. The committee will discuss and decide any new appointments.

Photographs of Floods

If anyone has photographs of the Ecclesbourne in flood, particularly in the areas under threat, we would be pleased to have copies.

Please e-mail to 2020evade@gmail.com