

# *BYGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL*

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## **CHRISTMAS 2023 NEWSLETTER**

To the Residents of Bygrave

We hope you are all keeping safe and well at this time.

We apologise for the lack of newsletter over the past months but we had little firm information to pass on to you. However, now an update.

### **BALDOCK EXPANSION**

You will have received notification from Urban and Civic (HCCs Consultants) that invited you to view their vision of how the new development sits with the existing town of Baldock. The consultations were Friday and Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> November and Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> November - we do hope you found time to visit.

BPC attended one consultation and the following was noted particularly:-

- That Ashwell Road from the new proposed roundabout where the new road through the new estate joins the Ashwell Road will become a greenway i.e there will be no vehicles allowed into Baldock from this point. This will mean for Bygrave and Ashwell we will have to turn left onto the new road and join the roundabout at the A505 and Royston Road Junction. At peak times Bygrave and Ashwell will be joining the new estate traffic (from 3000 dwellings) to enter the new road. In addition to go to Baldock down the Royston Road will mean that we will encounter all the HGVs and vans servicing the expanded industrial area.
- It is proposed that under the railway bridge there will be single line traffic both ways to allow sufficient room to install a cycle track. This single lane will be operated from another set of traffic lights aligned with the ones at the junction. These two sets of lights may cause holdups if not aligned properly
- It is not intended to increase car parking at the station. If one lives 2miles or less one is expected to cycle or walk
- It is proposed that there will be no left turn at the filter from Whitehorse Street into the A507 Great North Road preventing vehicles to get to the station or return from Tescos from town. Instead the route will be via South Road up to the Buntingford Road and then straight across at the Whitehorse Street traffic lights.

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- There is a possibility that the Surgery may be moved to another location so parking may become an issue if parking is not allowed

Should you wish to raise objection or make comments to any or all the above points please email our Clerk address above and we will ensure that Urban and Civic are copied in. This requires to be done by Christmas please.

### **PROPOSED SOLAR FARM**

To confirm that Bygrave Parish Council **is** in favour of a solar farm but not on the site put forward by PACE the developer on land immediately adjacent the upper village and encompassing the last dwellings.

BPC set up a separate working party 'BAG' to deal with this specific issue. The Team have spent an inordinate amount of time researching and composing reports for HCC Highways; NHDC Planners and for the Planning meeting itself. We have contended that PACE have not been entirely open book with their submission and in turn HCC and NHDC have not challenged PACE sufficiently on what has been submitted. The Planning Application has been heard by NHDC and they voted to obtain further information and the next time the application will come before the Planning Committee will be in February 2024.

### **PARKING**

BPC has been asked to request that pavement parking be avoided please. In the village we have wheelchair users, in the recent times crutch users, and also families with pushchairs. It is quite difficult to pass vehicles as we only have the one pavement.

### **DEFIBRILLATOR**

We are trying to obtain one/two defibrillators for the village and are trying numerous sources but so far quite expensive.

Bygrave Council wishes all in the village Best Wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

