

District Councillor Report for September

Local planning issues – An application has been received for Little Rissington and another application has been received for Upper Rissington for 10 new houses on the Nursery site (the site was available for non domestic buildings). Andrew confirmed that the new build would not be agreed to commence until the contractors have finished off the other builds and handover of public open space.

CDC lead by the new lead of Liberal Democrats are now working to agree their new local plan which was last completed in 2018.

A planning white paper from the government with major changes to the way planning is done but Andrew does not believe there will be a huge impact for the Cotswolds. Basically applications will be categorised under three zones, 'Protect', 'Renewal' or 'Growth'. For example, Growth areas will have concentrated housing areas and local people will have no say as to whether they go forward or not. This white paper will impact the local plan but we are fortunate we are in a conservation area.

Parish Councils have been invited to a Climate Emergency Action Planning meeting held by CDC & GAPTC, to be held on 10th October 20. The main areas for action will be and the biggest one is transport which generates about 45% of all carbon, agriculture 5%, houses 25%, industry and commercial is also 25%. We have no control over through traffic.

For CDC the largest area of carbon emissions is the waste collection fleet therefore a plan and some action will be taken to reduce the carbon emissions and action for the recycling rates.

Discussions are beginning to take place with regards to unitary authorities with new ideas of having two in Gloucestershire centred on Gloucester and Cheltenham. If you have any opinions on the unitary discussion please send to Andrew and he will pass on to the District Council.

Finally CDC are taking action in regards to social housing as affordable housing does not work for people on low minimum wages. They are looking at building 8 small houses on land at Kemble near the station and will be working with Kemble Parish as a community land trust owning the houses. Andrew will encourage Upper Rissington who has the most land in this area to consider this type of option for social housing as a way forward.

If you have any comments on any of the above topics please contact Andrew direct at

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