

Local issues ...

Holmer Green shops

Rumours continue to abound with regard to the future of some of the shops in the village. Rest assured that your councillors fully support the wishes of most residents who want the retention of the individual shops. We do not believe that the (rumoured) introduction of a national supermarket chain into the precinct would be beneficial for the residents of the village. Julie and David recently attended a meeting with Paradigm Housing (the landlords) to discuss this matter and left them in no doubt about the strength of feeling that exists within the village.

The state of our roads

Your County Councillor Francis Robinson has confirmed that the County Council has allocated an additional £3.25 million towards the maintenance of local roads and we hope that, before long, all those potholes will be a thing of the past.



Planning applications

Your Councillors all take a keen interest in planning applications affecting the village and welcome any comments that residents may have on either specific or general planning issues. We are of course supporters of the retention of the green belt except in very exceptional circumstances.



Local bus services

The Chairman of your Parish Council Ian Harvey, and District Councillor David Schofield attended a meeting at Amersham police station where they met the management of Carousel Buses to discuss the problems caused by the criminal damage to one of their buses within the village. The matter has now been resolved and the buses are now operating on their normal route. In the future they will be looking at new ways of dealing with these emergencies.

The showmens site

As a result of an appeal from the showmen the courts have now given permission for them to stay on the site for a temporary period. A temporary planning permission, for 5 years, has now been issued for the Earl Howe Road site. This will expire in March 2013 and is for a nominated 14 families and associated equipment.

Join us... make change happen...

The Holmer Green and Beamond End Conservatives are a very diverse group and made up of residents from all backgrounds and all ages. We welcome as new members anyone who wants to help in making change happen. You could help us to

campaign or deliver leaflets at election time, or you could attend social events both in the village and throughout the Chesham & Amersham area. We have political groups, womens groups, supper clubs and many other functions.

Most importantly joining the Conservatives is the opportunity to have some fun. If you are interested in joining please send us your details using one of the methods below, and we will then contact you. We look forward to hearing from you.

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BUCKINGHAMSHIRE Councils ripped off yet again ...

ONCE AGAIN this Government's grant settlement for the residents of Buckinghamshire is not only very disappointing but is also very unfair. Although we have become used to being treated badly this year the increase of just 2% is not only derisory but is well below the level of inflation.

- Dorset received 11% and
- Lancashire 8.7%

Not only does Buckinghamshire County Council receive only a 2% increase in grant, but we are already paying 80% of the costs of our council services, whereas in the Durham County Council (a very strong Labour area) the residents only have to pay 20% – the remainder coming from the Central Government grant. This means that we receive smaller increases from a (much) smaller base line.

Chiltern District Council is to receive an even lower increase – **1%** this year which will be

decreased to 1/2% next year – **both well below the rate of inflation.**

REMEMBER: Your Local Council services are funded jointly by both a grant from Central Government and the Council Tax that you pay. This unfair settlement from the Labour Government means that although your local councils are efficient and are making every saving that they can, the under funding that we are receiving every year is the reason that your Council Tax is increasing.

Your local councillors

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Julie Burton is now Deputy Chairman of the Planning Committee at Chiltern District Council. Francis Robinson has just commenced his second term as the Chairman of Buckinghamshire County Council and David Schofield continues for a third term as Chairman of the Licensing & Regulation Committee at Chiltern District Council.



**Your MP
Cheryl
Gillan
writes...**

Many constituents have written to me about the consultation on air routes and about the expansion of Heathrow Airport.

Transport infrastructure is something which could well be affected by the Planning Bill currently going through Parliament.

The Government's proposal is to set up an independent planning commission. This would decide on planning applications 'of national importance', such as power stations, major roads or airports.

My concern is that local residents and district councils will be disenfranchised by the new commission. County councils will be consulted, but district and parish councils will have no statutory role in the planning procedure.

Local people deserve a strong voice in planning proposals which will affect them directly. This Government is devising a way to take your say from you and the councillors you have elected to decide local planning policy.

This is a Government which wants to impose its views about housing, transport and other infrastructure projects – without listening to the people.

Cheryl Gillan MP
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