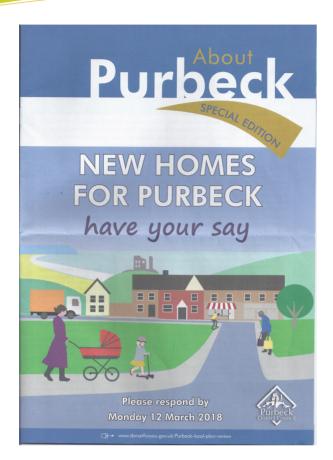
ISSUE 62
Spring 2018

The Lytchett
Matravers
Parish Council
News Letter





Do You Need An Extra Questionnaire?

Each household should have received a questionnaire through the post entitled 'NEW HOMES FOR PURBECK have your say'.

Every person is entitled to complete their own questionnaire. Lots of people in each of the affected areas of Purbeck are filling in their own individual questionnaires. The total number of questionnaires is critical in making sure PDC received as wide a range of answers as possible and as many answers as possible.

If you want to get an extra one for each person in your house, then either call

Freephone 0800 533 5386 or email purbeck@publicperspectives.co.uk

and they will send you extra copies.

Lytchett Link



urbeck District Council have distributed their consultation questionnaire to all homes throughout the district. The consultation runs until March 12, 2018 and all replies must be received by that date.

This is their second questionnaire about new homes in Purbeck following the overwhelming criticism of their last proposal

for an additional 3,000+ homes. This questionnaire is now based on providing an additional 1,700 new homes. Additional because this is on top if the already scheduled 1,200 new homes approved under the previous 2012 Purbeck Local Plan. This questionnaire sets out has 3 main options for new home building up to 2033. With respect to Lytchett Matravers these options are summarised below.



150 new homes in 3 sites (between Flowers Drove and Wimborne Road, between Wimborne Road and Freeland Park and between Burbidge Close and Glebe Road).

B

No specific number or location has been defined, but this option allows for a number of smaller sites of up to 30 homes, of which some could be in Lytchett Matravers – probably the same sites as in option 1.

C

No specified new homes in Lytchett Matravers

Residents should be aware that Purbeck District Council have given themselves, within the Small Sites Policy, the option of allowing smaller site development within the Green Belt However, residents should also be aware of the many homes being built and in planning that are not included in the above.

- Lytchett Matravers already has allocated planning permission for 50 homes (50% of which are planned to be affordable homes) in Huntick Road next to Freeland Park.
- Wessex Water at their reservoir site on Purbeck Road have applied for planning permission for 22 homes, which has been refused mainly due to the lack of affordable homes. They are expected to reapply.
- The Royal British Legion site, which the Parish Council tried to retain for community use, has had an application submitted for 9 homes.
- Chequers Place behind the Chequers pub has just been completed with 9 new homes.
- •There are many other sites where homes have been added within existing sites. For example, the closed shop in Wareham Road will be demolished after being granted permission to build a smaller shop and 5 flats.

Since the 2012 Local Plan, Lytchett Matravers has seen the number of homes in the village increase by 45 with another 81 in the pipeline. That's a total of 126 over the last 6 years.

These 126 new homes are not included in any of the options

These are the critical issues with additional homes in Lytchett Matravers:

- 1. The village is surrounded by Green Belt and this is intended to prevent Lytchett Matravers being merged closer to Lytchett Minster, Upton, Poole and Corfe Mullen. The Green Belt is not to be built unless there are very exceptional circumstance. The Government stated in October 20917 that 'the simple unmet need for housing is unlikely to outweigh the harm to Green Belt policies.' The Purbeck District Council consultation documents do not identify any very exceptional circumstances or justify any consideration other than unmet need.
- 2. The local primary school is full and village children should be able to go to the village school.
- **3.** The local bus service is minimal and since almost certainly work for new residents will be outside of the village, this will create additional traffic in and around the village.
- **4.** The local health centre is already under severe pressure and Purbeck District Council has indicated in their Environment and Infrastructure Capacity Study that the overflow be sent to Sandford.

In their Infrastructure delivery plan, Purbeck District Council have included:

- A cycleway to/from Lytchett Minster, but at a cost of £500,000.
- Improved morning bus service, but at a cost of almost £200,000.
- Recognised that the primary school is at capacity, but have no committed to any expansion
- Recognised that the Health Centre is also at capacity, but again no expansion.

All the above were highlighted in the Lytchett Matravers Neighbourhood Plan.

What does the Parish Council recommend?

The Parish Council will continue to work hard to ensure that all developments include affordable housing for those with a Lytchett connection. Only 9 homes were built behind the Chequers, below the limit of 10 for having to supply affordable homes. There has now been an application for 9 homes on the Royal British Legion site, again below the limit of 10.

The Parish Council believes the current level of infill and windfall building has place a significant burden on village infrastructure. Without significant investment in the school, village amenities, the

cycleway to Lytchett Minster and an improvement in transport, Lytchett Matravers cannot support the growth that PDC are planning to implement.

The Parish Council are concerned both about the level of windfall/infill and the loss of Green Belt. However, to limit windfall/infill building it may be necessary to agree to a limited incursion into the Green Belt. Any incursion should be in the opposite direction of the Poole/Upton conurbation.

Cllr Alf Bush

Lytchett Link

Mobile Phone/3G/4G Coverage in Lytchett Matravers

arge areas of Lytchett Matravers now enjoy
High Speed Internet, but still there are many
areas which do not, with no imminent plans by
BT or Virgin to improve this in some areas.

We also suffer from poor mobile phone coverage in much of the village.

The Parish Council have been approached and is looking into tackling both of these problems, possibly with one solution. Decent quality 3G or 4G signal provides good data connectivity, and phone calls, wherever it can be reached. It doesn't require the same "road digging" or

limitations of distance from the exchange and it actually future-proofs us. Indeed Ireland realised many years ago that the only way they could get decent internet coverage across the rural country was to develop it's 3G and 4G network rather than relying on copper.

The key phrase is "wherever it can be reached": Clearly improving this coverage would necessitate new transmitter masts, although these can be quite discrete and even be incorporated in lamp posts. Currently we have no public network masts within the core of the village. Maybe now is the time to change that?

Cllr Andrew Huggins



Chairman's Update



IHE BIG ISSUE this month is The Local Plan, again! The planners are consulting residents on the number and siting of new houses that will be included in the Plan to be submitted to the Inspector this time next year. The number being proposed for Lytchett Matravers is considerably down on the amount in the previous version. You can't have missed the view that the country is short of a few million houses. The Planners' reason for proposing some for Lytchett Matravers is that there are

local people who need houses. Can those people afford what the developers build? To fulfil everybody's needs will require a proportion of social housing, but who will build them? Man can send a red sports car into space but we don't seem able to solve that one!

You have until 12th March to have your say and, if there's more than one opinion in your household, you can submit more than one questionnaire

Meanwhile the Parish Council is continuing its regular maintenance of the village. Our Big Issue is 'benches'. Whether donated or Council provided they take considerable maintenance time and expense so the Council is experimenting with recycled plastic benches which will hopefully last longer without maintenance. If this works well we will progressively replace the existing and we'll insist that any donated benches conform to the new standard to serve their purpose for longer. You can see and test a sample at the Annual Parish Meeting on 19th April at the Methodist Hall.

You may have noticed a major pruning of the undergrowth between the library and the pharmacy. This has grown up over time and needed opening up as part of the plan to create a 'green corridor' from Purbeck Road to the rear of the Primary School. We're hoping to find a safer crossing of the High Street and an upgraded route through the Recreation Ground. All ideas for this welcomed.

On the Recreation Field you'll see the Sports Club pavilion is looking very sorry for itself. Some time ago the Council was asked by several residents to look into the 'parlous' state of the Sports Club and its pavilion. That wouldn't normally be a task for the Council but we soon discovered that governance of the Club was poor and action was needed. The Village owns the field and is thus landlord to the Sports Club. We are doing what we can but the ultimate remedy may require more 'pruning' than we originally thought. Sport for all is a high priority so we will ensure it thrives, even if it has to undergo a few changes first.

The County Council have agreed to give us the land that the Youth Hall stands on (behind the ATC HQ). We'll need to agree it remains 'for community use' in perpetuity. The Council's intention is to then grant a long lease to the Scouts so they can fulfil their long-term ambitions for a bigger space.

Talking of space, BT have decided to decommission their two Tardis's in the village. We couldn't persuade them against this course of action so we've bought both for a pound. At least one will house a defibrillator and we're still open to proposals for the othersuggestions to martyn@colvey.tv

I'm pleased to say the Parish Council have chosen Julia Gracey as the villages' Volunteer of the Year. A presentation will be made at PDC HQ on April 12th. There's another opportunity coming up for you to help keep the village beautiful! The next Litter Pick is on Saturday 23 March, friends of the village should meet in the car park at the Village Hall end. Will you 'friend' the Village? Cllr Martyn Colvey

Lytchett Link **Directory**



Parish Council Website: www.lytchettmatraverspc.org

E-Mail: lytchettmatravers@dorset-aptc.gov.uk

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COMMITTEES

Finance & General Purposes Committee Cllr K Norris, Cllr J Taylor Cllr A Huggins, Cllr R Carswell, Cllr A Cottman, Cllr M Colvey, Cllr Alf Bush Cllr Ralph Watts, Cllr P Webb, Cllr C Wood, Beverly Barker. **Planning** Cllr R Carswell, A Huggins, A Cottman, Cllr J Taylor, Cllr Ralph Watts, Cllr P Webb, Cllr C Wood (Chairman).

Note: The Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Parish Council are ex officio members of all committees.

District Councillors

Peter Webb peter4lytchett@gmail.com 01929 459232 Wendy Meaden cllr.meaden@purbeck-dc.gov.uk

County Councillor

Peter Wharf The Old Vicarage, Bere Regis Dorset BH20 7HH, 01929 472246 peter.wharf@btopenworld. com

Time Table of Full Council Meetings

Wednesday 28th Mar Wednesday 25th Apr

Wednesday 23rd May

Wednesday 27th June Wednesday 25th July

Annual Parish Meeting

Thursday 19th April 2018 at 7 pm in the Methodist Church

Meetings will normally take place at Village Hall commencing at 7.00 pm. Agendas are displayed on the Parish Council notice boards and website.

Members of the public and the press are welcome to attend all meetings and some time is allowed at the commencement of the meetings (i.e. Immediately after 7.00 pm) for members of the public to raise matters of concern to them.

Lytchett Matravers website...

www. parishcouncil.lytchettmatravers.org.uk/

Facebook: Lytchett Matravers

Twitter: @lytchmatravers

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