

## **LITTLE BADDOW PARISH COUNCIL**

Most of the meeting of the Parish Council on 3<sup>rd</sup> November was taken up with concerns about proposed developments. There were no objections to any of the five housing applications in the village. However the Council will note serious concerns about the absence of possible parking if 2-4 Vica Cottages, North Hill is restored to three bedroom houses with 1- 3 cars each. The road in front of them is only single track and opposite to the junction with Spring Close. My last report noted the protest advert about the proposed housing developments in the eastern part of Danbury. Council had concerns due to the effect on our local roads. It has still not been formally consulted on the outline planning application for "Land east of Runsell Green View, Danbury for up to 140 residential dwellings .....play area and 2 vehicular access points"! There had been attendance at a big protest meeting in Danbury and the details noted then were discussed at length. In particular there was major disagreement over the traffic statistics presented within a 220 page document. This alleged that there would, for instance, be only a 5% increase in traffic going up Runsell Lane. Most of Hopping Jacks Lane towards Little Baddow would be left as single track with passing places to discourage vehicles! It was noted that the sat nav factor was missing! A draft detailed protest will be prepared for the next meeting, with particular reference to the effect on our village, including an effort to examine critically most of these traffic statistics.

Additionally the Council has refused the City planners request to consider the enlargement of our village envelope. Councillors said that in view of all above it is vital that our village has our Neighbourhood Plan as soon as possible, as the influence of our Village Design Statement is waning. There are now four volunteers for the necessary fully representative committee and ideally 15-16 villagers need to be involved. This Plan is now vital to the interests of our village as we know it, so Council wants more volunteers as soon as possible and meanwhile is applying to the January meeting of the relevant City Council committee for permission to start work. On a happier note our Sports Ground has won two awards from the Essex Playing Fields Association & the Memorial Arch looks good. *Details of items in this independent report can be obtained from the Council. GH.*