

## **LITTLE BADDOW PARISH COUNCIL**

The meeting of 7<sup>th</sup> January 2016 had an extensive development item. Whilst there were no objections to proposed changes to a house in Spring Elms Lane, Council wanted the entrance onto this protected lane to remain in keeping. Also whilst not objecting to the overall development of a house on North Hill, Council wanted the issue of its overlooking High Pastures properties to the rear to be readdressed.

After noting that the latest proposal for the old Mushroom Farm had gone to Appeal, Council agreed that nothing further could be added to their written very strong objections in which they had referred to the great number of objectors who had come to their meeting which discussed this latest plan.

A member of the public questioned the proposal to build 5000 houses at Hammonds Farm. They were reassured that the City Council had listed 10 reasons why it had categorically rejected the owner's suggestion. This area is apparently one of several nominated in the consultation paperwork for the new local plan as "green wedge" ie. sacrosanct from development. Therefore, although future proposals maybe made, it is extremely unlikely that they would ever gain agreement. However Council would try to reinforce City planners' resistance by emphasising that this is a flood plain area and any such building could have extremely disastrous consequences including run off to the nearby A12.

An answer was agreed for the whole local plan consultation. One key criticism was that there was inadequate infrastructure planning eg some already overcrowded roads will be affected without proper solutions!

Other items discussed included planning an informal social event at the Memorial Hall to mark the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, and postponing the bollard erection in Spring Close for three months to review parking problems. Following a public question, booster possibilities will be reinvestigated to improve the quality of generally poor mobile phone signals in the village.

Bob Shepherd MBE will write in his role as City Councillor to the Manager of Trifarm to point out that any arrangement for a cycle event at Boreham Reservoir is illegal. It will also be stated that he has still not removed Little Baddow from his many websites. It was noted that the new Village Memorial Hall sign was deliberately created by traditional methods to look aged, but there would be a check of the Village Sign to see if it needs renewing. Skippers will now do grass cutting as they will be cheaper. Also goal nets will be ordered for Wickhay Green for use once the turf is ready. *Details of items in this independent report can be obtained from the Council. GH*