

# THE EYEOPENER

## HURN PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER



March 2022

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### THE FUTURE OF CHRISTCHURCH and HURN WITHIN BCP

#### Presentation from “Future Places” Your Opportunity to ask Questions

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022, 7.30pm  
Hurn Bridge Sports Club**

The formation of BCP Council in 2019 brought together all the land and property assets of the three previous councils.

In 2021 BCP Council set up a company which it owns, called **Future Places**, to accelerate development and regeneration across the new BCP Council area. Future Places is funded directly from the BCP budget, which is of course paid for by residents' council tax. They have already been given £8 million of BCP funds as a working capital loan. Therefore, Hurn Parish Council believes it is in everyone's interests to understand what the company is about, and what it is being paid to do in our area. Controversially, two of the Company Directors are the Leader and Deputy Leader of BCP Council.

Their Corporate Engagement Director, James Croker, has accepted our invitation to attend the Hurn Parish Annual Assembly on 11<sup>th</sup> April, to tell us about the new Company and answer questions from you about what it is doing, what is proposed, and how it might affect Hurn.

The recent Parish Neighbourhood Plan survey showed that residents value where they live and want to protect Hurn's natural environment from over development. This new company, Future Places, will be responsible for bringing forward development across BCP, and initially they have 15 sites earmarked, mostly for residential. However, their remit in the long term, could cover anything at all, including employment sites or promoting leisure proposals such as the Lagoon, if they felt it appropriate.

**THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO ASK QUESTIONS  
about what is planned for BCP and the area where you live**

**PLEASE DO JOIN US AT OUR APRIL ANNUAL ASSEMBLY**

## **PROPOSED SOLAR FARM**

A company called Enviromena is proposing to develop, construct and operate a 42 MW solar farm on land near at Parley Green on the Hurn side of the River Stour. The application site area will be approximately 67 hectares (166 acres). The site is made up of several fields sitting between Parley Green Lane and the River Stour. An application has been submitted, No. 8/21/1067. However, due to substantial changes to that application, we are told that a further consultation will be taking place soon.



This proposal is extremely large. It will mostly be visible from the Stour Valley way on the Bournemouth side of the River Stour, where the current view across green fields and the flood plain will become covered in solar panels. For further information, you can look up the application number on the BCP website.

## **INCINERATOR**

At a BCP Planning meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> March, despite over 700 objections from residents and environmentalists, the Incinerator at the Eco Composting site was granted. The Secretary of State still has to sign it off before a final decision notice is issued as it is in the Green Belt, and a request has been made that he calls it in for scrutiny. The week after the committee decision, new long term environmental targets were announced by the Government which are the cornerstone of the Environment Act which came into law in November last year. They aim to halve both landfill and incineration of waste by 2042 which is within the lifetime of the Incinerator. Both Ward Cllrs. have asked for reconsideration of the decision as this is a new material consideration which was not discussed by the committee.

## **HURN NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE**

Although the consultation has closed, we found that BCP Council had failed to respond. Their input is very important, and we have decided to wait for their comments before publishing the results from the survey on our website. They have apologised for the delay.

## **BCP LOCAL PLAN ISSUES AND OPTIONS CONSULTATION UPDATE**

This consultation closed on 25<sup>th</sup> March. Generally, residents across the area found it very difficult and complicated to respond to. Ward Cllrs. Margaret Phipps and Vanessa Ricketts ran a “drop-in” session at Hurn Bridge Club in March which was well attended. Residents were able to see hard copies of the Consultation Documents and get advice on how to respond, whether on line or by a hard copy form.

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## **Hurn Parish Council Contact Details**

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