

THE EYEOPENER

HURN PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER



March 2022

BCP LOCAL PLAN ISSUES AND OPTIONS CONSULTATION

Your BCP Ward Cllrs. Margaret Phipps and Vanessa Ricketts
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Invite you to a “Drop In” at Hurn Bridge Sports Club
Wednesday March 9TH, 6pm to 8pm

THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO COMMENT TO BCP ON THE PROPOSED HURN LAGOON

You may or may not be aware that a public consultation is currently ongoing until 25th March which is very important to the future of Christchurch including Hurn.

The outcome of this consultation about BCP Council’s Local Plan for the whole conurbation could have huge and detrimental consequences for Christchurch Borough in terms of development, our open spaces, the character of the area and many other issues. **It is really important that you have your say.** We think that the way you are being asked to respond is very difficult and complicated. You are asked to look at the Plan on line and also respond on line. Please do so if you can: <https://haveyoursay.bcpcouncil.gov.uk/localplan/> In addition, you need to click on several different interactive maps and register in order to pinpoint, and then comment on individual sites, such as those in Hurn which are under the heading “**Visitor Attractions**”.

We know that many people may have difficulty trying to do this. To help you understand it all we are holding this “Drop In” at Hurn Bridge Sports Club.

Please come and talk to us. We will answer your questions and have hard copies of the Plan Documents for you to look at, and also hard copies of the Response Form for you to fill in on the night or take away to fill in, if you can’t do it on line.

This is a very important consultation which could shape how Christchurch looks for years to come. WE DO HOPE THAT YOU WILL DROP IN TO SEE US AND HAVE YOUR SAY

The Plan covers big issues for the whole of Christchurch including Hurn, such as:

- The suggestion to be part of a “City Region”
- The number of future homes to be built - there are 2 Options being 42,672 (2667 per year to 2038), or 25,600 (1600 per year)
- Where these houses could be built - suggestions include many sites in Christchurch Town and the Green Belt
- Visitor Attractions in the Christchurch Green Belt – including the Hurn Lagoon
- High Streets and Retail Areas
- The Natural Environment
- Transport Infrastructure

LAGOON BOUNCE BACK GRANT INFORMATION

Many of you came to the Hurn Parish Council meeting on 11th October 2021, when we had invited Cllr. Broadhead, Deputy Leader of BCP Council to answer your questions as to why a Covid Bounce Back grant of £70,000 had been given to a company hoping to develop a surf lagoon in Hurn's Green Belt.

You may recall that originally the grant application had been rejected as it did not score highly enough against specified criteria, particularly the deliverability of such a speculative project. However, BCP Council later altered the score, which made it eligible for a grant.

At our meeting, it was felt that Cllr. Broadhead gave the impression that the award was for the submission of a planning application by the end of March 2022. Cllr. Margaret Phipps has subsequently discovered that this is not the case, and the £70,000 was actually awarded for the developer to engage a consultant to produce some reports in preparation of a planning application. Therefore, all that has to be demonstrated within the agreed timescale is that these initial reports have been progressed.

We consider that the grant money could have been much better spent by giving it to companies which were in genuine difficulty and need of Bounce Back funding, instead of to investigations and reports in connection with a speculative proposal in the Green Belt.

At BCP Full Council on 22nd February 2022, Cllr Phipps asked a question of Cllr Broadhead regarding the impression given to the Parish Council and Hurn residents at our meeting. He did not answer the question.

HURN NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

The Parish Council held two "Drop In" Events in February, thank you to those who attended and also to those who have already filled in the consultation survey form. For those who haven't, there is still time until 14th March – The link to the Plan and Survey is www.hurnparishcouncil.org.uk

ANOTHER DIARY DATE

HURN PARISH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY
Monday 11th April 7.30pm, Hurn Bridge Club

Our Speaker will be James Croker of Future Places Ltd.

Future Places is a new BCP fully owned company, especially formed for "regeneration" of Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole. Mr. Croker will explain what the company is going to do and how it will spend the budget which it has been allocated by the Council. You can ask him questions relating to Hurn or any part of the BCP area.

Hurn Parish Council Contact Details

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