

**Planning Sub-Committee Report for the Forest Town Community Council (FTCC)  
Annual General Meeting (AGM), 17<sup>th</sup> March 2015**

FTCC's Planning Sub-Committee, established at our 2011 AGM, is empowered to make submissions on behalf of FTCC to relevant planning applications and strategies, providing the Executive with copies of submission made (or to be made) on behalf of the Community Council, and to respond to suggestions made or issues raised by any FTCC member. The Sub-Committee is open to new volunteers. This is an opportunity for anyone interested to explore planning issues in greater depth than is possible during the monthly meetings.

Since last year's AGM the Planning Sub-Committee was involved in the following:

- Vetting hundreds of planning applications submitted to Mansfield District Council (MDC), Newark & Sherwood District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council. Most had no direct impact on Forest Town, although several local applications were worth drawing to the attention of those attending Forest Town Community Council meetings;
- Attending Landowner Meetings to work with others to reduce off-road biking nuisance. This led to finding out that ownership of the former Crown Farm Colliery Tip, known locally as the conical tip, has passed to the Sherwood Forest Golf Club;
- Supporting local residents respond to the unfortunate mistake whereby MDC's sub-contractors removed a much-loved hawthorn hedge from behind Minton Pastures;
- Working together with the Environment Agency and Forestry Commission to ensure the removal, once and for all, of the tyre wall at the former Cavendish Gun Club;
- Submitting a letter of support for making permanent the temporary Tree Preservation Order covering the former Gun Club;
- Objecting to several local planning applications, including two applications for Clipstone Road East/Crown Farm Way, one for up to 190 dwellings (2014/0373/NT) and one for up to 313 dwellings (2014/0248/NT), and also an application to demolish the petrol station on Clipstone Rd West to build 14 2-bedroom apartments (2014/0394/NT);
- Submitting formal complaint to MDC on behalf of FTCC in August and reporting on progress in September - The complaint was associated with extensive e-mail about the possibility of Section 106 money being directed towards Spa Ponds;
- Making an Environmental Information Regulations request to MDC to find out what, if any, Section 106 money has been paid out by developers associated with any of the developments taking place at Sandlands, Forest Town;
- Liaising with Sgt Paul Clarke regarding off-road biking in Forest Town, including around Spa Ponds, and together with support from Councillor Barton, arranged for police action, which resulted in several notices being issued;
- Writing to Mike Avery, MDC's Principal Development Control Officer, about protected trees and the Birchlands planning application (as reported at 20<sup>th</sup> May FTCC meeting);
- Nominated Spa Ponds for Local Green Space designation;
- Attending and reported back on the September Tenants and Residents Forum meeting;
- Exchanging e-mail messages regarding MDC's current approach to doorstep glass collections for recycling, in response to the matter being raised by Mrs. Evans;

In the coming year we can expect the Planning Sub-Committee to continue to vet planning applications, and to provide input where relevant, possibly in relation to the next round of consultation for Mansfield District Council's Local Plan.