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Anna Soubry MP

working hard for Broxtowe

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E-newsletter | July 13 2014

Hello again,

Some of the great pleasures of this time of the year are the various ceremonies staged by our schools and Academies. So it was a great treat and honour to attend and speak at the Kimberley School award evening on Thursday. This school goes from strength to strength under the considerable leadership of head teacher, Chris Teal powered by his excellent staff, pupils and parents, grandparents and carers.

I have some news about the plans of another of our schools (please scroll on) and some bad news about the Open Cast mine plans between Cossall and Trowell. Plus a tram update following Friday's meeting.

Have a good week ahead,

As ever,

Anna

Open Cast set back - but we battle on!

Despite letters and a meeting with Eric Pickles I am sorry to report the Secretary of State for Communities has decided not to "call in" Notts County Councils plans to allow open cast mining at Shortwood.

Eric takes the view that the decision is one to be taken locally. I am grateful to County Councillor Philip Owen who has reminded me that when this matter last went before a Labour Sec. of State in 1998 he made the same decision. Philip points out that it is somewhat concerning that it's being put around that the last Government decided otherwise. The previous application failed on a technicality exposed in a High Court action



brought by campaigners. Full credit goes to all of them.

This campaign is not over and we will battle on. I have arranged a meeting with Notts County Council, Trowell's County Councillor Ken Rigby and Philip who represents Nuthall which will bear much of the HGV movements. Given UK Coal's perilous financial situation and claims they have not been able to satisfy existing opencast contracts, it is still open to Notts County Council to stop open cast mining on this particularly lovely Green Belt land. I will keep you fully informed and organise another public meeting in Trowell.

Beeston Carnival



The sun shone and we braved the tram works to enjoy this years' Beeston Carnival. Congratulations to everyone who organised it and took part.

There was a rich mix of stalls and I particularly want to mention the Beeston Memory Cafe which is opening soon and is specifically for people with dementia, their families, friends and carers and Forces in the Community, which is a great local charity for veterans doing first class work.



With Civic Society members and Borough Councillors Joan Briggs and Eileen Atherton

It was also very good to catch up with the Beeston Civic Society who have (at last!) invited me to be a guest speaker.

[Click here to read more about Beeston Civic Society](#)

[To get more info on the Beeston Memory Cafe email \[beestonmemorycafe1@btinternet.com\]\(mailto:beestonmemorycafe1@btinternet.com\)...](#)

[Click here to get more info on Forces in the Community...](#)

Friday's Tram Meeting - some good and bad news (and a fencing update)

Friday's meeting with the City Council, the constructors

TWA, and the County Council went well (ish!). I have raised a large number of smaller matters and specifically, the following.

Dates

To be frank TWA gave me some dates when they assure me the roads will be open - we had a bit of a heated discussion as I can see no point whatsoever in raising peoples hopes again only to have them dashed. But the end of September is the more sensible way of describing when the tracks will be laid and roads open. As for the starting date of the tram - certainly before June next year. I know - it's infuriating but we are where we are. I requested longer working hours in non residential areas but to no avail.

I was told Cator Lane was opening on Monday and then was told "better say Tuesday er... perhaps Wednesday". Let's just say Cator Lane will be open by Friday! The bad news is Bramcote Lane will be closing again.



Compensation

I am very pleased that Notts County Council is re-considering a number of applications for compensations from buisnesses hit by the tram works; the exceptional hardship fund will be topped up for traders on High and Chilwell Road.

the 10% reduction in rates because of the works has had mixed reviews!

I was told it is far too soon to discuss where any compensation for late delivery of the tram will be spent but residents would not be compensated.

Fencing latest

No-one from Broxtowe Borough Council attended the meeting which was unfortunate. TWA categorically stated the following has been agreed with Broxtowe. Residents will get a 2.4 metre fence. However, depending on where you live some residents will also get a trellis of up to 1metre in height. Every resident will be written to by TWA - I will also contact residents on some related matters.

St. John's Beeston

NET have informed me that following my letter on behalf of St John's, they have agreed to make good the anticipated takings from this years annual Church Fete, cancelled because of the tram works.

Lower and Fletcher Road

The wonderful Alison Dobbs is making sure communications remain good and things are improving.



[Click here to read the full statement from White Hills Park on Bramcote Today ...](#)

£20 million new school plans for White Hills Park

The photo may not do it justice, but there are plans to build a brand new Bramcote School, Bramcote College and transform Alderman White. The White Hills Federation have issued a press release stating

"As well as high quality and well-equipped classrooms, the buildings on The Bramcote site will include new science and technology areas, indoor and outdoor sports facilities and a theatre and performance area, which will help to extend

the use of school facilities by the local community. In the autumn, the Federation will also take possession of new land with two premium quality sports pitches."

I have seen the outline plans and it would be rather silly to deny not being enthused and impressed by this project.

However, the plans will be controversial because they include the sale of land owned by the Federation, for housing development. This raises a number of issues in addition to the obvious concerns about pressure on roads, and the loss of green space (there is some confusion as to whether the land is Green Belt). What is for sure is that these plans are not in Broxtowe Borough Council's "Core Strategy" even though I understand Broxtowe Borough Council has been in discussion with the Federation for some time.

So yet again we discover more land for housing that is not only in our so called "local plan" but when you tot up the number of homes it could all provide, it's as many as Broxtowe want to build on Field Farm and almost as many as at Toton - two Green Belt sites we want to save from development. Yet more evidence of how poor our "Core Strategy" is and I will raise all this with the Inspector.

Beeston Heart Foundation Shop

I visited the shop on Friday and met their great staff - special mention goes to all the volunteers. The tram works have seen a decline in the amount of donations and so the team has had to go out far more and collect. There has also been a drop in foot fall - in plain English - fewer customers. However, they battle on raising funds for an excellent charity.



Borough Council boundary changes - have your say!

The independent Boundary Commission has been examining our Borough Council wards and has made a number of proposals to ensure Councillors represent a similar number of constituents. Apparently some currently represent 30% more than others.

Within the constituency the most controversial plan is to link Attenborough and Chilwell West as one ward with three Councillors. The ward would retain the Attenborough name but I can understand why some Attenborough residents may want to keep their own Councillor.

The other proposal is that Trowell, Awsworth and Cossall come together as a two member ward. It may be some people in Trowell would want to keep their own Councillor and equally in Awsworth.

The consultation ends on July 21st and please have your say by clicking [here](#).

Working for you in Parliament



Israeli air strikes

A number of constituents have contacted me about the situation in Gaza as thousands of Palestinians flee from Israeli air strikes. I am sure there will be a cease fire but unfortunately later rather than sooner. I will certainly raise everyone's concerns with William Hague's team when Parliament resumes tomorrow.

What's on in Broxtowe and surgery details

Tuesday 15 July

Beeston Rylands CAT meeting

7:30pm till 9pm

Beeston Rylands Community Centre.

Thursday 17 July

Silver Surfers in Bramcote

1pm till 3pm

St Michael's Church Centre, Church Street, Bramcote.

Afternoon tea and up to 2 hours free IT tuition. The first visit is Free, £3 entrance thereafter includes tea, coffee, cake and biscuits.

Chilwell West CAT meeting

7pm till 8:30pm

Chilwell Community Centre.

Friday 18 July

Nottingham Country Market

7:30 till 11:45am

Wollaton Road Methodist Church, Beeston, NG9 2NG

Every Friday morning, everything is home grow, home baked and hand crafted.

Appointment only advice surgery - Chilwell

Please call the Constituency Office to make an appointment.

Saturday 19 July

Drop-in surgery - Stapleford

12 noon till 2pm

The Magpie Pub

Your chance to meet with me to discuss any issues you may have.

Mayor's Garden Party

4pm till 9pm

8 Cranston Road, Bramcote, NG9 3GU

Tickets cost £12.50, there will be a BBQ and music. Money raised will be donated to the Mayor's charities; Hope and Cancer Research UK.

Summer Fair - 1st Attenborough and Chilwell Scout Group

12 noon

1st Attenborough and Chilwell Scout Hall, Chilwell

And finally

He knows who he is - the teacher who stopped for a chat after Saturday's play at Trent Bridge. He'd "had a good day at the cricket"; he insisted I was a Labour MP despite me assuring him I really am a Tory. Then my pal Jonathon Agnew walked up, gave me a hug and then shook the teacher's hand like a long lost friend. I left him sitting on a box of beer shaking his head in disbelief Wonder if he will share his day at the Test with his East Leake Academy pupils or maybe he put it all down to too much sun?!

"a decent Conservative" *Kevin McGuire, Daily Mirror*

"If only all ministers answered questions like Anna Soubry does." *David Aaronovitch, The Times*

"she has a record of unusually free speech" *Simon Carr, The Independent*

"part of the beating heart of the parliamentary Tory party" *Quentin Letts, The Daily Mail*

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