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ANNA SOUBRY MP
Member of Parliament for Broxtowe

NEWSLETTER



May 17 2013

www.annasoubry.org.uk

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

Hello again,

There are a number of dates for your diary and some community type announcements this week- you will see that I have kept the politics until the end!

Kimberley Town Council are looking at how to keep supporting the essential elements of the Kimberley Pram Race, namely the racing, whilst cutting down on the heavy boozing which, whilst part of the tradition, can spoil what is meant to be a great family day. I have also included the latest on a number of applications to build hundreds of houses on our Green Belt land.

Finally, thank you to everyone who attended last night's public meeting on Equal Marriage.

As ever,

Anna



Save Our Green Belt update

Broxtowe Borough Council meets on Monday (May 20th) to vote on the submission of their plans (known as the "Core Strategy") for housing development in Broxtowe to Eric Pickles, the Secretary of State for Local Government and Communities. This is the document which, in my view, wrongly puts forward a housing target of 6,150 houses in Broxtowe, meaning thousands will have to be built on our Green Belt land. It also makes Green Belt land at Stapleford (Field Farm) their preferred site (Please click [here](#) for STRAG's field farm fact sheet).

The recommendation for Monday's meeting is to not include the Green Belt land at Toton as a preferred site, following the amended consultation earlier this year. The Core Strategy has been consistently opposed by Conservative Councillors and supported by both Labour and Lib Dem Councillors, with one notable exception.

There are applications to build hundreds of houses in Toton and Nuthall and the deadline for your objections is nearly up. So, if you haven't already, please make your views known.

Toton: The amended plans are for 695 houses, a hotel, a care home and shops. I object to hundreds of houses being built on this Green Belt land and believe that any development on this land should be to create jobs and growth stemming from the HS2 Hub at Toton Sidings. Have your say by clicking [here](#) and following the links; the deadline is 21st May- this Tuesday.

Nuthall: The outline application for Woodhouse Way has also been amended; the plans are now for 555 houses instead of 734, despite plans to build HS2 right through the land! The consultation deadline is 29th May and you can have your say by clicking [here](#). There's a public meeting to oppose these plans at Mornington Primary School, on Saturday 15th June, 3pm-4pm.

Giltbrook: There is an outline application for housing on the land off of Acorn Avenue. You can view these plans by clicking [here](#). This is not Green Belt land but there is considerable local concern about the plans. Greasley Borough Councillors Margaret Handley and Mick Brown have organised a public meeting at Greasley Parish Hall on Thursday 23rd May at 7:30pm.

Equal Marriage Public Meeting

Many thanks to everyone who attended last night's meeting to discuss the Equal Marriage Bill.

It was an opportunity for people to speak out freely. It is fair to say there was considerable opposition to my decision to vote in favour of the Bill (again) and one of the many attendees, who has subsequently emailed me, described the meeting as "a lion being thrown to the Christians". To be quite clear, many of those who plucked up considerable courage to speak in favour of the Bill were Christians and their support was clearly based on their faith. I was also struck by the power of the arguments presented in favour of the Bill by young gay people.

I held the meeting for many reasons- not only to listen and understand but also to explain my own view. I did take away some important messages: many Christians who oppose the Bill are deeply upset and feel excluded, indeed in fear of being persecuted for their faith and belief; similarly, prejudice, misunderstanding and fear of gay people still exists. In short many wrongs remain in need of being set right.



Kimberley Pram Race - Saved?

You may have seen recent news about the threat to the future of the Kimberley Pram Race- you can read the background to the story in the Nottingham Post [here](#).

Yesterday, I had a long and very positive chat with the Chair of Kimberley Town Council and know that the Council feels somewhat misrepresented on the matter. I made a number of suggestions during our conversation: the possibility of bringing the starting time of the event forward, which will allow us to keep the race element of the event, and a suggestion that the prams process to the park for a family fun day after the race. It is my belief that this would reduce disruption to the town and cut excessive street drinking, without spoiling a great event that I've enjoyed many times in the last few years.

I understand that the Town Council have met to discuss their options and are keen to find a way forward to keep the Pram Race running in the future. It is likely that the next Pram Race will be in September.

Ilkeston Train Station Re-opening

The campaign led by Erewash MP, Jessica Lee, and the Ilkeston Advertiser will see a re-opened £6.5 million station in Ilkeston. It was a pleasure to back Jessica's bid to the Government and I know it will be welcomed by many commuters who live in Broxtowe.

Chilwell School

Chilwell School Debating Society has successfully got through to the national finals of the Debating Matters competition- one of the toughest debating competitions in the country. This marks them as the best team in the East and West Midlands. The finals are at the end of June.

This week the school's Council came to visit Parliament and it was a great pleasure to meet them for a chat and a quick question and answer session before they were whisked into the public gallery. After their long tour of the House of Commons, they have invited me to the finals and to meet the team at the school - I'm looking forward to both! Serious congratulations to Chilwell School - getting through to the finals is a fantastic achievement.

A wind turbine named Winston

Awsorth residents may have given it their own (unprintable) name but pupils at Awsorth Primary School have settled on Winston as the name of the huge wind turbine set to be built by Severn Trent in the village.

You can read the full story on the Kimberley and Eastwood Advertiser web site by clicking [here](#).

Beeston Bus Station changes

Due to the tramworks, significant changes to Beeston Bus Station have come into force today. Please click [here](#) to get the full details of where you can catch your bus from the excellent Bramcote Today web site.

Ilkeston Road Recreation Ground Improvements

Stapleford resident Richard MacRae is attempting to secure funding for improvements to the recreation ground and is keen to hear from residents about what they would like to see. If you would like to express your views, please contact Richard at staplefordcommunitygroup@gmail.com.

Toton Tornados set to take off!

Toton Tornados Football club have received a Grow the Game grant of £5,000 from the Football Foundation which means they will be able to create new teams!

HS2 consultation- final reminder

A final reminder for those affected by HS2 that the deadline for the Exceptional Hardship Scheme for Phase Two of HS2 is on Monday. You can view the consultation [here](#). I will place my submission to the consultation on my website in the next few days.

Dates for your diary and surgery details

Saturday 18th May:

Bramcote Old Church Tower Quiz Night

Bramcote Memorial Hall at 7.30pm.

Monday 20th May:

Beeston Market

Relaunch of Beeston Market, taking place between 9am and 5pm. Stalls are £10 and can be booked by emailing Carly at enquiries.stallit@gmail.com.

Monday 20th May:

Bramcote History Group Talk

Talk from Roger Jones on local railways. Taking place at 8pm at St Michael's Church, Bramcote.

Thursday 23rd May:

Stapleford "Top Shops" tidy-up

Free rubbish disposal for residents. Advice on disposal will be given by Broxtowe Borough Council. Taking place in the car park off Melbourne Road, between 9am- 4pm.

Thursday 23rd-27th May 2013:

White Lion Beer Festival

Bank holiday beer festival featuring 10 LocAles. Taking place at the White Lion, Town Street, Bramcote.

24th-27th May 2013:

The Stag Beer Festival

Annual beer festival with over 20 Cask Ales. Barbecue Saturday and Sunday. Taking place at the Stag Inn, Nottingham Road, Kimberley.

24th-27th May 2013:

Beauvale Priory Beer Festival

24 Beers and Ciders available, alongside live music and a BBQ. Taking place at Beauvale Abbey Farm, New Road, Moorgreen, NG16 2AA.

24th-27th May 2013:

Royal Oak Beer Festival

Bank Holiday beer festival featuring 10 LocAles. Taking place at the Royal Oak, Main Road, Watnall.

Saturday 25th May

Advice Surgery

From 10am until 12pm at the constituency office. Please call or email the constituency office for an appointment.

Saturday 25th May

Stapleford Fundraiser

Fundraising opportunity for local groups, taking place outside Simply First in Stapleford.

Sunday 26th May

Stapleford Walk and Talk

Enjoy Field Farm before it's handed over to the developers. Meet at 5.30pm for a great walk with family, friends and neighbours.

Monday 27th May 2013:

New White Bull Beer Festival

16 beers and live music, with all proceeds going to Haywood House. Taking place at the New White Bull, Nottingham Road, Giltbrook.



From Parliament
£10 million for homeless/ EU referendum

Homelessness Announcement

It was a pleasure to announce on Monday that the Government is providing £10 million to fund projects to improve the health of homeless people. We know that many homeless people suffer from bad health because of their situation and it is made worse when they are discharged back on to the streets or into shelters from hospital. This fund, which has been hugely welcomed by a number of organisations and charities, will make a significant difference to some of the most needy members of our society.

EU Referendum

We need a referendum on whether we should remain in or leave the European Union. If a Conservative Government is returned in 2015 then that referendum will be held in 2017. I am of the view that the EU needs reforming - it costs too much money, it has galloped from its original remit, is plagued with bureaucracy and regulation, and is not particularly democratic. However, I believe we are better off in than out.

"Europe" or rather our future role in the EU, is an important issue and is particularly important to a number of people who, with few exceptions, passionately believe we should leave the EU. I respect their views and recognise the strength of their conviction. But I believe the Coalition Government should remain focused on rebuilding our economy, reforming our public services, reforming our benefit system, securing a future for our children and grandchildren and taking better care of our older citizens.

and finally...

My thanks to everyone at Havelli Restaurant in Chilwell last night who gave me a lift to the public meeting after my tyre popped on the way to the Equal Marriage meeting. It was a good job I was passing them and the beer and nibbles later helped ease the wait for the AA man!

Contact Anna Soubry MP

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