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Anna Soubry MP

working hard for Broxtowe

www.annasoubry.org.uk

E-newsletter | December 23 2013

"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*

Hello again,

My Christmas begins with the candlelight carol service at St Michael's, Bramcote and it was a pleasure, as ever, to read one of the lessons last night.

My thanks also to everyone who came to my drop in surgery at The Bean in Beeston on Saturday – we were somewhat overwhelmed by the response! But it was a great success.

Finally, there are some important dates and information below.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year,

As ever,

Anna

Well done Sophia!

It was a delight to meet Sophia Lindson from St John's C of E Primary in Stapleford on the last day of term and present her with a prize for winning the Christmas Card Competition.

Nine year old Sophia's drawing has featured on

3,000 cards, and e cards to almost 5,000 constituents and MP's including the Prime Minister.

Thank you to everyone who has praised Sophia's card (and the runners up), I will pass on all the compliments.

Time to defend Trowell

Trowell is facing what I call a "triple whammy" from the open cast mine, proposals for hundreds of houses on the surrounding Green Belt and HS2.

My very real fear is that Trowell is in danger of being subsumed into "Greater Nottingham" and risks losing what remains of its village community.

I have written to Eric Pickles asking him to call in Notts Council's decision to allow open cast coal mining at Shortwood Farm between Trowell and Cossall. You can read the letter by clicking [here](#)

As you will see I have relied on a number of features of the application which is on Green Belt land, would take five years to produce 16 weeks of burning coal and require more than a hundred HGV lorry movements, six days a week on roads that are already overly congested.

I am meeting Eric Pickles for a formal meeting when Parliament returns on January 6th but have already spoken to him about the matter. I have also spoken to the Transport Secretary, Patrick McLoughlin about the adverse affect on roads and will write to the Energy Secretary, Ed Davey for his view on the future of UK Coal and their ability to restore the site and honour bonds. Patrick is coming to Broxtowe for a surgery with individuals directly affected by HS2 (see below). I will use the beginning of his time to discuss both the implications of open cast mining at Shortwood and housing development at Toton (also see below).

I am far from convinced that the community fund is sufficient and I share many people's concern at the proximity of the planned site to Trowell Primary School.

I have met some members of SOCO and the Parish Council meets on **Tuesday January 14**, with everyone welcome to attend.

In the meantime I will be writing to everyone in Trowell and asking people to

complete a short survey. This will cumulate in a surgery on **Saturday January 25**.

Both events are at Trowell Parish Hall.

HS2 surgery with Transport Secretary, Patrick McLoughlin

The Secretary of State for Transport, Patrick McLoughlin will be holding a surgery at Strelley Hall on **Monday January 13** for individuals whose home or property will or may be affected by the planned HS2 route. This is not an event to lobby Patrick about the wrongs of HS2.

Patrick is bringing along teams from HS2 and they will stay until noon. Patrick's surgery is from 9.30am until 10.30. If you would like an appointment then please either email me or call the constituency office on Monday January 6.

There is also a public meeting **Saturday January 11** about HS2 at Strelley Hall from 2pm til 3pm, which I will be attending.

Tram works - enough is enough

I am told NET have distributed hampers to people surviving the tram works on Lower Road and Fletcher Road. I am not sure this will make up for the considerable opposition to their plans to work between Christmas and the New Year, despite assurances to the contrary.

Meanwhile on High and Chilwell Roads there is much anger amongst traders and representatives of all political parties at NET's plans to close yet another road in the area. The announcement came after we learnt the works are so far behind schedule the road will not open until March possibly May.

I have written to Jon Collins, Leader of Nottingham City Council asking him to meet with traders and visit both roads as a matter of urgency.

An apology

My web site is not up to scratch! I will be improving it in the next few weeks so bear with me or rather, it. However, all news, campaign updates and documents are on it.

Save Toton's Green Belt

New members of TEPS have given the group a fresh lease of campaigning life. Please check out their Facebook page and join them by clicking [here](#). If you are not on Facebook please email them on savetoton@gmail.com.

Meanwhile there have been further, somewhat ludicrous, allegations about the recent inquiry into the Borough Councils plans for future development in the constituency.

Campaigners and I discovered that at a secret meeting of Labour and Lib Dem Councillors they voted in favour of allowing at least 500 houses on Toton's Green Belt land. At a public meeting the other week and in newspaper reports, two Councillors (Steve Barber and David Watts) have blamed the Planning Inspector saying she left them with no choice.

Now, Jenny Page from Brinsley who has led the campaign against development in the village, has stepped in. In a letter to the Inspector, Mrs Page says "With regard to the latest accusations that you directed Broxtowe to allocate 500 houses to Totonmy recollection is that you did not direct them to do that, but were pleased when Broxtowe said they were going to meet with the developers to consider a way forward.....I fail to understand the quoted comments by two Broxtowe councillors that they have been directed and given no choice but to include an allocation of housing numbers to Toton. I certainly do not recall any such action or direction by you and I did listen very carefully to everything that was said and made copious notes of all the proceedings."

I think we are all beginning to see where the truth lies and I hope the Inspector will set the record straight.

***The constituency office will be closed over Christmas and the New Year re opening on Friday January 3rd 2014.
I will be checking my emails every day after Boxing Day.***

Anna Soubry MP, Barton House, High Road, Chilwell, NG94AJ

0115 9436507

anna.soubry.mp@parliament.uk

anna.soubry.org