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Anna Soubry MP
working hard for Broxtowe

www.annasoubry.org.uk

E-newsletter | November 23 2014

Hello again,

There seems a good deal to report back on this week so this quite a long email newsletter.

Some notable matters; firstly the Beeston Players are very keen for me to plug their latest production "Murder for the Asking" which opens this week. They remind me they were established 46 years ago and there are full details of their performances in the diary.

Secondly, Ukip have called a by election in Toton and Chilwell Meadows following the death of Marilyn Hegyi. I first met Mia Kee over a year ago when she was keen to join my campaign to defend the Green Belt in Toton. Mia lives in Toton, is the governor of her daughter's school on Banks Road and in short will make a great Borough Councillor; if you would like to help get Mia elected please contact me. The election is on December 11 which is also the date of the Boris Johnson Dinner. We have almost sold out so if you would like a ticket please let me know as soon as possible.

As ever,
Anna

Planning Minister makes it clear "If local residents are unhappy with the planning policies of the council they can vote in a different administration."

In a letter to me the Planning Minister Brandon Lewis MP, has said that Government policy remains in favour of protecting Green Belt, but he cannot intervene to stop Broxtowe allowing thousands of houses on Field Farm at Stapleford, at Toton and Kimberley.

I wrote to Brandon asking him to consider Field Farm after the Government "called in" Broxtowe's decision to allow 450 houses on it.

Brandon replied saying "*While I understand and sympathise with your points, I must explain that the proposal now accords with the recently adopted Greater Nottingham; Broxtowe Borough, Gedling Borough and Nottingham City Aligned Core Strategy which was adopted by the elected council. Within the plan it is stated that Field Farm is allocated for development.*

Call-in powers are used extremely sparingly, as they take the decision out of the hands of the elected local council. Ministers no longer felt that the call-in criteria were met following the change in local circumstances, given the application was consistent with the Local Plan allocation."

In other words - the buck stops with Broxtowe Borough Council. No doubt voters will remember that every Labour and Lib Dem Councillor supported the "Local Plan" when we elect a new Borough Council next May.



Beeston Rylands development gets go ahead



Plans to develop Beeston Business Park and the old Plessey site in Beeston Rylands have been approved by Broxtowe Borough Council.

Thank you to all residents who raised their concerns with me about this development. I put these to the developers on a number of occasions and I am glad they listened to the majority of issues. Given the size of this development, I know that locals will still have worries, particularly about increased traffic.

The plans include 185 homes, new businesses, a new medical centre, state of the art sports facilities and a new 60-space car park next to Beeston Train Station. If anyone does have any specific concerns let me know and I will pass these on to the Borough Council.

Given the scale of this development, I know that many residents have concerns, particularly about increased traffic. The plans include 185 homes, new businesses, a new medical centre, sports facilities and a new 60-space car park next to Beeston Train Station. If anyone does have any specific concerns let me know.

Bramcote residents meeting to discuss Golf Course plans

Bramcote residents are being urged to attend a public meeting to discuss plans for a retirement village on Bramcote Golf Course land. The meeting is this Wednesday (November 26) at 7pm in the main hall at Bramcote College.

Full details are available on the excellent community web site [Bramcote Today](#)

Failing to do the right thing

A motion that would have stopped the closure of the Kingsbridge Way Centre and secured the future of the Middle Street Resource Centre, was defeated on Thursday at a meeting of Notts County Council. Labour Councillors, including Beeston and Attenborough's Kate Foale, voted against saving both these valuable services.

It was, by all accounts a somewhat heated meeting; Conservative and Lib Dem County Councillors Richard Jackson, Dr John Doddy, Philip Owen, John Handley, Ken Rigby, Stan Heptinstall and Steve Carr all voted to save Kingsbridge Way which provides respite for people with profound learning disabilities, and the Middle Street centre which help people with mental health problems.

Police launch fresh investigation into "cover up" allegations

I had a very important meeting on Friday with the family of John McGrath and the police. Stapleford man, John who was killed by his grandson, William Barnard who was profoundly mentally ill at the time.

DCI Windmill Jones is responsible for professional misconduct and has undertaken to investigate our outstanding complaints about the way Notts Police covered up their failings which meant William was "at large" and free to kill John. Will was wanted for an attempted robbery involving a knife in Bramcote in May 2009 but the police did not arrest him. They finally decided to arrest William on July 24 2009 but failed to and that evening he stabbed John to death and seriously injured his grand mother. The family is adamant they were never told about a secret inquiry into the failings of the police and that there was a deliberate attempt to conceal what they had to do.

I fully support the family and continue to do all I can to make sure we get to the truth. In the meantime the family of John and William are due to give evidence before the House of Commons Home Affairs Select Committee.

A week of gridlock and poor communication

Last week saw some of the worst traffic gridlock in and around Beeston, Bramcote, Chilwell and Toton that we have suffered since the tram works began.

I contacted NET on a daily basis (see below!) and was told the congestion was variously due to vandalised traffic lights near University Boulevard, works at the junction of Middle street and station Street in Beeston requiring all night working and sets of temporary traffic lights on Toton Lane running up to Bardills.



The tram stress buster at last night's party

As always, communication on this has been poor. I have been back in touch with NET to ask them to be up front about essential works which will cause significant delays for a short period of time. I am sure local people would then be more understanding and could plan their day accordingly.

I dropped into the beginning of last night's party for Lower and Fletcher Road residents hosted by NET. It was good to see so many people there and I was particularly interested in the children's goodie bags which included (along with a nail file and a bottle opener....) a rubbery tram "stress buster". Not quite sure why these haven't been issued to everyone who has put up with the tram works, though we would need them replacing on a regular basis!

The great fence fiasco continues!

Just when I thought I had sorted out the fencing situation along the route through Chilwell, the tram constructors say they can't give residents what they want because Broxtowe Borough Council has still not sent them the finalised plans, despite agreeing to them over 2 months ago. Needless to say I have written to Milan Radulovic, the leader of Broxtowe asking him to sort it.

"Tell Anna Soubry to stop sending us emails"

I am told that representatives from TWA and NET have told residents to tell me not to email them! As you might expect - I am not impressed. TWA/NET seem to have forgotten that I am merely passing on the totally justified and reasonable complaints from my constituents who have put up with atrocious bad management and pitiful communication for almost two years.

The only place where white vans are not welcome!

There will be much rejoicing when white vans disappear from the tram works throughout Beeston and Chilwell - because it will mark the end of the works which are now 6 months late. Otherwise, and unlike a certain Labour MP, we are neither surprised nor snobby about them in Broxtowe.



One of many white vans on the tram route in Beeston and Chilwell

Abandoned dogs

I have had a number of emails about abandoned dogs which claimed there had been such a rise in numbers local authorities were struggling to cope.

As a result I wrote to Broxtowe Borough Council who have been very helpful. They tell me the number of abandoned dogs has been "fairly constant" in the last two and a half years but dog wardens are seeing a slight increase in the number of "welfare and neglect" cases.

I am pleased to allay people's fears but it still remains a concerning fact that so many dogs are simply abandoned by their owners, often after they have been cruelly treated.



Newthorpe flooding update

I have written (again) to Severn Trent Water, Broxtowe Borough Council and the Environment Agency about flooding in Newthorpe. At a residents' meeting in September, there were concerns that a new housing development had made flooding in the area worse. I wrote to the developers who replied that Severn Trent and the Environment Agency had signed off their drainage plans before the Borough Council allowed construction. If mistakes have been made, I have asked those responsible to hold their hands up and come together to fix the problems.

Meanwhile, thanks to the efforts of County Councillor John Handley, Notts County Council have agreed to improve drainage on Portland Road and Nottingham Road in the area. Work begins in two weeks.



Working for you in Parliament

There have been a number of debates in Parliament this week that may be of interest. On Monday I listened to the debate on reforming tied pubs. I was far from convinced that an amendment, which its supporters claimed would give greater freedom to pub landlords, was proportionate and would actually assist landlords.

I am a great supporter of CAMRA and our great pubs in Broxtowe so I listened carefully to the debate. I was won over to opposing the amendment by an impressive speech from Burton MP Andrew Griffiths. In the event, the amendment was successful and the Bill has now moved in to the Lords. It will be interesting to see if they seek to reverse the amendment!

On Friday a Private Members Bill about the NHS attracted the support of the Parliamentary Labour party and the two new Ukip MP's. I don't agree with the Bill and accordingly spent the day in Broxtowe notably hosting the meeting between the police and John McGrath's family (see above). You can read both debates on the links below and will need to scroll down to get to the relevant parts.

[Click here to read the debate on tied pubs.](#)

[Click here to read the debate on the NHS.](#)

What's on in Broxtowe

Sunday 23 November Vintage Craft Fair - Kimberley

10am till 4pm

Where: Kimberley Parish Hall.

What's on: Victorian themed vintage fair with craft stalls with a hog roast and roasted chestnuts.

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Christmas light switch on - Nuthall

6pm

Where: 1 Laurel Crescent, Nuthall, NG16 1EW.

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Tuesday 25 November

Bomb Disposal Open Evening

Where: Chetwynd Barracks.

What's on: The Bomb Disposal unit will be holding an open evening for anyone interested in their work.

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Wednesday 26 November

Nuthall and Kimberley Memory Group

10:15am till 12 noon

Where: Rumbletums Cafe, Kimberley.

What's on: Self-help group meeting to offer support to dementia sufferers and their carers.

- -

Cabaret Show

8:00pm

Where: The Boat and Horses, Beeston Rylands

What's on: "Carnaby Rocks", a lively swinging 60's band on their Farewell Tour. Admission £5 on the door.

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Thursday 27 November

Forever Stars fashion and ladies night

7:30pm

Where: The Village Hotel, Chilwell.

What's on: For full details of the event please click [here](#).

- -

Stapleford South West CAT meeting

7pm till 8:30pm

Where: The Meeting Place, Stapleford.

- -

Beeston Players present "Murder for the Asking"

7:30pm

Where: Round Hill School.

What's on: Please click [here](#) for full details.

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Friday 28 November

Trowell Festival Village Committee Christmas fayre

6pm till 8pm

Where: Trowell Parish Hall.

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Bramcote Hills Community Association Annual Dinner

7:30pm

Where: The Victoria, Beetson.

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Christmas Light switch on - Kimberley

6:15pm pm

What's on: Parade will begin at Holy Trinity Church Hall and will finish at Talbot Square. Fireworks will then start at 7:15pm.

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Forever Stars - Race night at the Dogs

What's on: Tickets cot £4 and must be bought in advance.

Click [here](#) for full details.

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Saturday 29 November

Christmas Bazaar - Attenborough

10am till 12 noon

Where: Attenborough Village Hall.

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Christmas Craft and Gift Fair

10am till 2pm

Where: Rumbletums Cafe, Kimberley.

What's on: A traditional seasonal fair offering a range of craft items and gifts, including Fair Trade food and gifts.

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Victorian Christmas market - Greasley

10am till 3pm

Where: St Mary's Church, Greasley.

Please click [here](#) for full details.

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Christmas Lights switch on - Beeston

12 noon till 6:45pm

Where: Broadgate Park, Beeston.

For the full line up please click [here](#).

- -

Season of Light event

2:30pm till 5pm

Where: Chilwell Road Methodist Church.

What's on: The Broxtowe Community Celebration Group will be holding the event, celebrating many religious and cultural festivals.

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Monday 1 December

Attenborough Village Hall AGM

Where: Eric Mason Room, Attenborough Village Hall.

- -

Bramcote CAT meeting

7pm till 8:30pm

Where: Memorial Hall, Church Street, Bramcote.

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Thursday 4 December

Stapleford Candlelit Christmas Concert

7:30pm

Where: St Helen's Parish Church Stapleford

What's on: A repertoire of Christian, Pagan and folk traditions.

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The Greasley Christmas Cracker

6:30pm

What's on: The Greasley Christmas Cracker is Greasleys Christmas light switch on, there will be entertainment from Greasley Beauvale Primary. There will also be a fireworks display for the finale at 8:15pm.

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Friday 5 December

Homecoming Parade - Troops 64 Works Group, 170 (Infrastructure Support) Group

10am

Where: Beeston High Street.

What's on: Come and show your support to the troops who will be returning home from duties in Afghanistan for the last time. The parade will march along Broadgate and Beeston High Road along with the Queen's Division Marching Band.

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Saturday 6 December
Lions Santa Collection Day

10am till 4pm

Where: Beeston High Street.

What's on: The club's annual Christmas collection, Santa will be around too.

Sunday 7 December

Bramcote Crematorium Service of Remembrance

2pm

Where: Bramcote Crematorium.

What's on: Annual service to remember lost loved ones the service includes readings, lighting a carol for a loved one and carols. All are welcome.

PLEASE CALL THE CONSTITUENCY OFFICE TO BOOK A SURGERY APPOINTMENT ON 01159436507.

"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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