

Renhold Parish Council: Report from Cllr Moon and Cllr Corp – May 2017

Local Plan Consultation

As a reminder, a consultation is being held from the 24th April – 9th June on the Council's Local Plan 2035. This will give residents the opportunity to have their say on the proposed sites for 500 new homes adjoining the village, as per our report last month and set out in the below table taken from the Council's report. We have registered our opposition to these plans given the effect they would have on the character of the village:

Site number	Address	Estimated capacity	Comments
Salph End			
205 / 209	Land at Ravensden Road	500	Accesses to the sites would need improvement. The Ravensden Road site is large enough to provide a site for a primary school.
581	27 Hookhams Lane		
198 / 610	Land east of Hookhams Lane		
Total Salph End			
Freemen's Common/Graze Hill			

For more information see www.bedford.gov.uk/localplan2035

Children's Services Inspection

At the beginning of April, Ofsted published its report on the Council's Children's Services function following an inspection undertaken in January – February.

Overall, the Council requires 'improvement to be good', although adoption performance and the experience of care leavers was judged to be 'good'. The Council has produced an action plan in response to the report and is seeking to employ more social workers in the coming years.

Special Constables

Bedfordshire Police is undertaking a recruitment drive to bolster its cohort of Special Constables.

Special Constables are volunteers who have the same powers as Police Constables, including powers of arrest and the ability to stop vehicles. They must volunteer for a minimum of 16 hours a month. There are currently 250 Special Constables in Bedfordshire.

For more information call 07590465193 or email BeSpecial@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk. Further details can also be found at http://www.bedfordshire.police.uk/recruitment/special_constables.aspx

East West Rail

A planned consultation on the implementation of the East West Rail scheme has been deferred in the midst of the General Election on the 8th June. A consultation was originally to be held between the 5th May – 16th June on the planned rail link but this will now be held at a later date.

The western section of the East West Rail scheme will connect Oxford, Milton Keynes and Bedford. In addition to this, a central section is planned which will extend the line to Cambridge.

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