

## **District Councillor Monthly Report**

# Lawford, Manningtree & Mistley October / November 2020

#### **Planning**

- (1) Mistley Parish Council's request to have the Anchor Public House registered as an Asset of Community Value, will be considered by the TDC Cabinet on the 9<sup>th</sup> October.
- (2) The below is a copy of a letter I sent to Tendring Farms (City & County) developers, regarding the Reserved Matters in respect of their planning approval to build on land at Long Road/Clacton Road.
- "....We have considered the imminent increases in built homes in our area. We have some suggestions regarding the formulation of your Reserved Matters Application for your development at Long Road/Clacton Road, Mistley.

Some of our suggestions are based on the emerging TDC Planning Policy and others are simply a recognition of a changing world.

Our suggestions are also based on attempting to mitigate the effects of the considerable increase in constructed dwellings in our community. From the baseline in 2016, our community will see an approximate 45% - 50% increase in the number of constructed dwellings in less than eight years.

In the parish of Mistley alone, the additional number of dwellings is approaching one thousand within the next five years.

Therefore the themes of our suggestions are:

- Sustainability
- > Renewable Energy
- > Minimising the Carbon Footprint
- Community Wellbeing and Open Spaces
- > Homes which the community is proud of

We are suggesting that the development should have a small retail establishment contained within it. This would significantly reduce the need to travel by vehicle for daily essentials.

No building within the development should be taller than the conventional two stories to mitigate the visual impact of the buildings.

Affordable Housing should not be clustered in one area, but evenly distributed within the development.

The dwellings themselves should include some of contemporary design, additionally including wherever possible:

- > Triple Glazing
- > Solar Roof Panels or Solar Tiles

In order to maximise the effectiveness of Solar Panels, buildings should have a strong southerly aspect and for the south side of pitched roofs to be rectilinear and uncluttered. Dormer Windows, hipped roofs and corner tower elements should be confined to the northern side of pitched roofs.

- Air Source Heating Systems (or Ground Source Heating Systems) should be included wherever possible. The Government has dictated that the installation of Gas Central Heating Boilers will not be possible from 2025. Why not be ahead of the game?
- > Super Insulation (walls and loft void)
- > Rainwater Capture Systems

In order to reduce the carbon emissions in the wider community:

- Electric Vehicle Rapid Charging Points (a household or an adequate communal facility) must be supplied. The Government has dictated that the purchase of Petrol or Diesel cars will be banned from 2040. The effectiveness of the ban date has been reviewed and the date is likely to be changed to 2035. It is therefore essential to cater for the increased demand for Electric Vehicles and prepare your development for the inevitable.
- > Superfast Broadband must be integrated into each dwelling and a flexible space designed within each home to allow a temporary Home Office to be provided. The current upsurge in Working from Home is now unlikely to diminish. Your new residents must have a decent facility at home, which enables them to comfortably and efficiently work full time. This will collectively contribute to the reduction of the carbon impact of travel within the community.
- There should be a Tree Planting Scheme of sufficient size to contribute towards Carbon Capture.
- > There should be Wildlife Supporting Structures, such as 'Swift Bricks' incorporated into some buildings. There should also be liaison with neighbouring developers in order to plan and provide 'Wildlife Corridors'.
- > The attenuation facility should be of a sensitive design to encourage wildlife habitation.
- There must be sufficient Communal Recreational and Play Space within the development, reducing the need to travel for exercise and providing wellbeing spaces to improve mental health.

We realise that many of our suggestions are in addition to the established building codes. However we believe your company has an opportunity to create a 'future proofed' development which residents will be proud to live and grow in.

**Yours Sincerely** 

Alan Coley, Carlo Guglielmi & Val Guglielmi

These suggestions do not complete an exhaustive list. There are many other practical suggestions which could be incorporated into the local developments. Not forgetting of course, integrated public transport, which one day soon will hopefully again be the advised method of travel (Post Coronavirus).

(3) High Street, Mistley – Groundworks for the construction of 48 apartments.

Carlo, Val and I have made further enquires and met with the Essex County Council Strategic Development Engineer, regarding the temporary footpath in the High Street, connected with the demolition of the old buildings and the groundworks.

We understand that the engineering solutions to this matter are complex. As soon as we receive further information and timescales, parish councils will be updated.

#### **Halloween Celebrations & Plastic Waste**

Last year it was estimated that over 2,000 tonnes of plastic waste (equivalent to over 80 million plastic bottles, will be generated from throwaway Halloween clothing sold by leading retailers in the UK.

An investigation by an environmental charity, into the seasonal outfits available from many supermarkets and retailers, found that 83% of the material used was polluting oil-based plastic likely to end up in landfill.

More costumes are being bought each year as the number of people participating in Halloween increases. All parents in Tendring can avoid buying new plastic costumes and still dress up for Halloween. Some suggestions are to buy from charity shops or re-using costumes, or making their own from non-plastic materials.

Pleas to manufacturers and retailers are increasing, for them to rethink their product ranges for all seasonal celebrations. As well as costumes, parents and children are tempted with plastic-based accessories including synthetic wigs, hats, masks, buckets, party decorations, glittery makeup etc.

Many millions of people in the UK dress up for Halloween and research shows that around seven million outfits are thrown away each year, and only a tiny proportion can be recycled.

The total plastic waste footprint of Halloween is even higher once you take into account other Halloween plastic such as party kits and decorations, much of which are also plastic.

Some large retailers are making consistent efforts to remove the plastic content from celebration party costumes and accessories. However the solution lies, as always with you, the consumer......

#### **Tree Planting**

Tendring District Council has successfully obtained a £43,000 grant from The Tree Council in order to plant trees on private land.

TDC have been in negotiation with local landowners and to date agreement has been reached to plant approximately 30,000 trees on land in Wix, Great Bromley and Weeley. The species include Hawthorn, Blackthorn, Field Maple and Oak.

#### **Tendring Shop Safe - Shop Early this Christmas**

It's never too early to get ready for Christmas, and to shop safe this year.

COVID19 has changed the way we live. Shopping is one aspect of that. Tendring District Council is extending its Shop Safe campaign, funded by the Government.

The campaign has focused on shopping safely in Tendring, promoting all what the district has to offer, whilst reminding visitors, residents and shoppers to stay safe. Local businesses have been telling customers what measures they have put into place, such as sanitiser at the door, floor stickers to mark out safe distances and protective screens at the till points, all to keep people safe.

You can view some of the campaign videos on the Tendring District Council's YouTube Channel https://youtu.be/63d4ax0NaRs.

With the Government issuing new guidance which restricts more than six people meeting, it is important that we all make Christmas shopping as safe as it can, when traditionally it is a time when shops can get very busy.

To try to reduce large numbers of Christmas shoppers in the lead up to Christmas, Tendring District Council, alongside local businesses, will promote Christmas shopping early this year.

Tendring District Council has created a Facebook Group for businesses and shoppers. Businesses are encouraged to promote their products and shoppers have a chance to shop local.

Please join the Shop Safe at Christmas Facebook Group here: https://www.facebook.com/groups/ShopSafeTendringChristmas

Councillor Mary Newton, Tendring District Council Cabinet Member for Business and Economic Growth, said that the Council wants to support businesses. "For many businesses Christmas is their busiest time, so we want to help support them and do it in a way to keep people safe. We would like to help people shop early for Christmas, to avoid a crowd within shops. We could all do with some festive cheer so it's never too early for me to get organised."

To find out more about Shop Safe please visit www.tendringdc.gov.uk/shopsafe.

### District Report on Behalf of: Alan Coley, Carlo Guglielmi & Val Guglielmi

03<sup>rd</sup> October 2020

Covid-19, All residents are reminded to continue to be vigilant and observe the social distancing/gathering, mask wearing, hand washing and sanitation rules. The pandemic is not over, and we must not be lulled into a false sense of security.

In an emergency which requires TDC's assistance residents can contact the council's Control Centre on 01255 222022, available 24/7.

General Information: If anyone witnesses any fly tipping occurring, please contact TDC's Waste Management Team on 01255 686768.