



**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> May**

**2:30 until 5:00**

**at St.Swithun's, Nately Scures**

**followed by**

**Choral Evensong at 6:00**

Come and enjoy a cream tea at St.Swithun's and hear how the funding for the building works is progressing



### SOLVE Report

Local Plan sound says Inspector – Good news for the Loddon Valley. The Planning Inspector has accepted the Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan as sound. He agreed the Council figure of 850 houses per annum and did not suggest any further Greenfield sites. The news for Old Basing and Lychpit and sites in the Loddon Valley is excellent. Lodge Farm, Poors Farm and Hodds Farm, sites in the Loddon Valley, were put forward as 'omission sites' by Taylor Wimpey in an attempt to get this area developed. However, The Inspector considered that they were not suitable on several grounds, e.g. environmental, biodiversity and flood risk. He also cast doubt on the future viability of all these sites beyond this Local Plan (2029 onwards).

In reply to those who thought that the housing allocations were skewed towards the West and South-West, the Inspector echoed our views in a number of comments. These are best summed up by - recent growth has been to the north and north-east, the west and south-west plan can be viewed as catching up.

SOLVE would like to thank all our supporters who contributed in any way to our campaign to save the Loddon Valley from inappropriate development. A special thank you to our Local Borough Councillors, Sven Godesen, Onnalee Cubitt and Clive Pinder (also founder member of SOLVE).

A further report appears on the SOLVE website at <http://www.solveloddon.org/> The Inspector's report is at <http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/planningpolicy>

Peter Bloyce  
SOLVE



## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

### Newnham Parish Assembly

Thank you to everyone who attended the Newnham Parish Assembly, the fourth and final assembly of this serving Parish Council. Numbers were down rather this year but there was still a good mix of fun, social event and parish information. An entertaining and memorable royal-theme quiz was devised by quiz-master Clive Pinder, the winning table comprising Joanna Bell, Linda & Robin Dixon, and Angela & Nigel Downes who share a £50 voucher kindly donated by the Hatch, Old Basing. In spite of his supposed day off, PC Andy Reid attended to share the event and present his local policing report. Massive thanks were extended as always to Andy. Clive Pinder, who chaired the event, said Andy was a paragon of commitment, effort and attitude; that he represented authority and commanded respect without any of the negative connotations that may come with that. Revd Jane Leese who will be retiring in July thanked the communities she had been part of for the past eight years. Jane's last weekend as our local vicar will be 9th and 10th July with a tea party on the Saturday and Service on the Sunday, with details in the Villager nearer the time. Peter James reported on Newnham Green ponds which have been assessed as A1 status for wildlife, and in John Broughton's absence, Clive reported on the highs and lows of this year's litter pick with thanks to all those who took part; a regular weekend litter pick along Newnham Road was suggested.

Clive thanked the many Village volunteers: Footpaths officer Nigel Downes; Carolyn Peck and all those who helped with the Newnham BBQ; Monica Wardrop for leading the church community initiatives and the Nately Scures summer fun day; Richard Wilson and the St Nicolas' churchyard maintenance team; also to Chris Broughton and her team who look after the church and flowers; Colin Lewin & Michael Crockford for mowing the Green; Peter James and the pond working parties including Chris Bingham, Marcus Jefferson, John Broughton & Nigel Downes; Becky Brookes, Kate Guy and Richard Fouracre for their hard work on the Oppé Garden; Philippa Heffner and Jackie O'Regan for taking the lead in organising the Newnham Open Gardens, as always with thanks to the hard work of the Clubroom Committee. Michael Rogerson thanked Peter Brown in his absence for his pivotal role in the Clubroom rebuild and therefore its current success.

The efforts and success of SOVLE, Country Watch and Ward & County Councillors were recognised in protecting the Loddon Valley; the Chairman said that the major tasks of the next Parish Council were to keep their pub – the Old House at Home – and to prevent Newnham being linked to Hook as part of the new Hart Local Plan.

Thanks are due to all Parish Councillors for taking on the role over the past four years. Both Clive Pinder and Peter Lumley are stepping down this year and Richard Wilson thanked Clive on behalf of the Parish Council for his role as chair, saying he had been a brilliant chairman and would be a massive loss.

The Parish Annual Report, unaudited Accounts and full report of the Parish Assembly are available on the Parish Council website.

### Local Elections 5th May

The six Newnham Parish Councillor roles have been filled for the next four-year term by uncontested election. Ward Cllr Sven Godesen will be standing for re-election as will the Hampshire Police and Crime Commissioner.

### BDBC Local Plan 2011-2029

The Planning Inspector has approved the final draft of the Basingstoke & Deane Local Plan which is expected to be adopted at the full council meeting of 26th May.

SOLVE's report reflects relief that major sites in the Loddon Valley put forward again by Taylor Wimpey as 'omission sites' in a last ditch attempt to have them included for development, were rejected by the Inspector. Massive thanks are due to SOLVE and CountryWatch for their roles in a process that started in early 2010 – with 10,000 houses being proposed for the 'Loddon Village' – and then centred on the legal challenge to BDBC in 2011/2012 resulting in the inclusion of Manydown in the site selection process. Land East of Basingstoke (Pyotts Hill) is now allocated 450 houses for this Plan Period.

Despite successes in the Loddon Valley, the Local Plan figure of 850 dwellings per annum equates to a total of 15,300 – including approx 7,690 on Greenfield sites – over the 18-year Plan period 2011 to 2029. This is 1,800 dwellings above the Council's original recommendation. Cllr Onnalee Cubitt commented that: 'Monitoring of the river and water quality will remain paramount and we need to ensure we watch that data carefully.'

### Next Parish Council meeting

AGM Tuesday 17th May, 7pm Clubroom. This is the first meeting of the new Parish Council who are due to serve for a term of four years. Everyone is very welcome to attend.