

**PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON THE JOINT CORE STRATEGY (JCS)
15th OCTOBER TO 24th NOVEMBER, 2013 and
PUBLIC MEETING AT LECKHAMPTON PRIMARY SCHOOL,
7.30 PM, FRIDAY, 1st NOVEMBER - ALL WELCOME**

The LIB DEMS voted through a huge 24% growth in housing on the draft Joint Core Strategy on the 5th Sept, a total of over 33,000 houses across the districts to 2031. The plan is **TOTALLY FLAWED**, using numbers that predict the natural population increase over **THREE TIMES HIGHER** than measured by the 2011 census. The plan is complete madness and a betrayal of the LIB DEM manifesto promises to protect the Cheltenham greenbelt and open countryside at Leckhampton.

LEGLAG will try to answer your questions at the Public Meeting, date and venue above, and provide some background on:

- The JCS 'preferred option' is for 33,000 houses to be built across our much loved green spaces over the next 20 years, this will change forever the area in which we have chosen to live. Only two years ago, the local people requested housing targets of 16,200 with a strong brownfield first policy.
- Verification of the JCS population projection over the next 20 years, offered by the Office of National Statistics (ONS), has not been taken up. Instead the three councils are using interim, short-term figures, despite clear warnings from the ONS that birth rates could be over estimated.
- Cheltenham does not have the infrastructure for this level of development, school places, health services, transport and jobs are all under pressure. The transport/traffic modelling will **NOT** be available until **AFTER** the JCS consultation is complete. This is critical information for Leckhampton.
- If you look at what the 2011 census tells us, we currently build many more houses to cover the inwards migration of 2614 per year, five times higher than our natural increase in population of 511 for the whole county, and this is happening at a time when we are losing jobs in Cheltenham. Between 1991 and 2009 the number of jobs in Cheltenham fell by 7,600 (all data from the JCS Evidence Base).
- Evidence is needed from the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) a vital source of information on the housing need.
- The LIB DEM controlled council has not stated a clear brownfield first policy prior to the JCS becoming finalised next year, this greatly affects Leckhampton with large planning applications now submitted.
- Leckhampton with Warden Hill Parish Council has put forward a Local Green Space application for the area (as part of their Neighbourhood Planning and is compliant with the NPPF), Cheltenham Borough Council has not given this application proper consideration.

PLEASE RESPOND to this JCS CONSULTATION, (please ask other family members or friends)
We have included an addressed postcard in the pack, or please write, or email info@gct-jcs.org
JCS Team, Municipal Offices, CHELTENHAM, GL50 9SA Tel. 0800 073 1441

YOUR URGENT ATTENTION REQUIRED: OUTLINE PLANNING APPLICATION (REF. 13/01605/OUT) ON KIDNAPPERS LANE AND THE SMALL HOLDINGS, CONSULTATION to the 18th OCTOBER

PUBLIC MEETING TO BE HELD BY LECKHAMPTON AND WARDEN HILL PARISH COUNCIL AT LECKHAMPTON PRIMARY SCHOOL DATE TO BE ADVISED

A large outline planning application has been submitted for a development off Kidnappers Lane and the small holdings area for 650 houses. The site extends to 33 hectares in size. Also planned are retail units, GP surgery and offices, care home, and primary school. Further details will be found on the Cheltenham Borough Council Website, with the Application No. 13/01605/OUT, and in the Parish Council's announcement of the meeting.

The Public Consultation period is from **23rd September to 18th October**. However, we are told that it is unlikely to go to the Planning Committee of Cheltenham Council until the end of the year/early next year, however no guarantee has been given. Try to respond before 18th, but do not be put off if running late.

WE CAN STOP THIS APPLICATION IF ENOUGH PEOPLE CARE AND RESPOND; YOU NEED TO BUY US TIME TO ALLOW THE PARISH COUNCIL TO SUCCEED WITH THE LECKHAMPTON LOCAL GREEN SPACE APPLICATION.

These are some of the material objections on our list, you may have a different view:

- **Kidnappers Lane into Church Road and Shurdington Road will be closed.**
- **An additional estimated 1000 extra vehicles will ALL exit onto the Shurdington Road.**
- **Another developer has already described this road network as 'broken' and 'is over capacity', the argument being used is that the network is already broken and we cannot make it any worse. This is absolute madness, and precisely why we need the JCS transport plan and traffic modelling for Leckhampton before this application goes to planning committee.**
- **Air Pollution levels already break EU levels in the winter months on Church Rd and the A46; the whole of Cheltenham has been made a Air Quality Management Area in response to the problem.**
- **There are insufficient senior school places even now, both Balcarras and Bournside have no plans to expand but catchment areas may have to change to accommodate the new development.**

As will be seen overleaf, Leckhampton Green Land Action Group (LEGLAG) is holding an earlier meeting also at the Leckhampton Primary School, on Friday, 1st November, to cover in more detail the Joint Core Strategy (JCS) the twenty year plan for the whole of the Cheltenham, Tewkesbury and Gloucester City area.

OUR OVERALL VIEW, WHICH YOU MIGHT CONSIDER IN YOUR OBJECTION: This Application is premature, and should not go before the Planning Committee until the Joint Core Strategy for the area of Cheltenham, Tewkesbury and Gloucester City has been finalised. Also, that all aspects of planning, transport, environment and the population estimates contained in the housing targets have been verified.

The public deserves to know that the housing targets contained in the JCS are objective, transparent and in accordance with needs of the area and NOT a contrived Developer's Charter.

We have included a postcard in this pack, or please write, or email planning@cheltenham.gov.uk
CBC Planning, Municipal Offices, CHELTENHAM, GL50 9SA Tel. 01242 264328
Quoting reference 13/01605/OUT