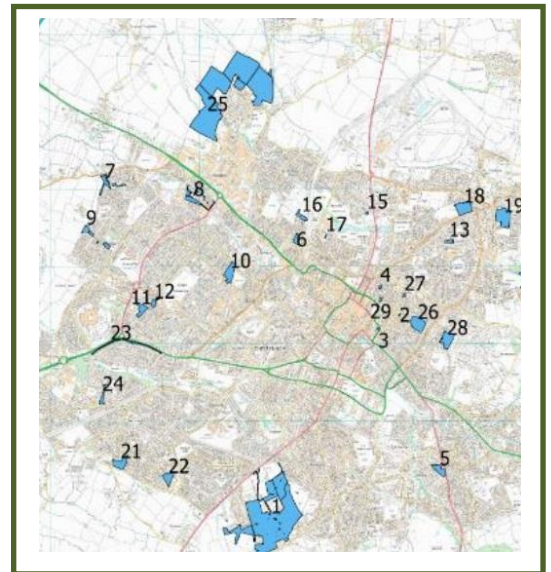


PUBLIC MEETING TO BE HELD BY LEGLAG, and PARISH COUNCILS AT THE LECKHAMPTON VILLAGE HALL, 18th APRIL, 5:30pm for Q&A ON THE REDROW 370 ONTO WHITE CROSS, FARM/LECKHAMPTON LANE 14/00838/FUL, TBC OFFICERS WILL BE INVITED

AND WALK on the WILDSIDE IN LECKHAMPTON SUNDAY, 12th APRIL, 2015, AT 2.30 pm

LECKHAMPTON LOCAL GREEN SPACE APPLICATION

We had an overwhelming response to the Parish Council's Local Green Space application for Leckhampton, with 774 completed questionnaires received representing nearly 1500 residents, thank you! The application is now one of twenty nine key green spaces across Cheltenham that could see long term protection from development, this was out of the original 110 applications submitted. Steve Jordan (Leader of the Council) understands the importance of green space to the town and is supportive. Martin Horwood MP who originally put forward the LGS concept for the National Planning Policy Framework is one of the leading authorities on this new green space designation and has written a comprehensive twenty page letter of support for the Leckhampton LGS.



STATUS OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Bovis/Miller 650 application might go to appeal, probably in September, we will be working with Cheltenham Borough Council and the Parish Council on the defence of the decision made by CBC Planning Committee. Our Borough Councillors Chris Nelson and Andrew Chard have succeeded in bringing this planning application to the attention of the Secretary of State, Eric Pickles MP, or his successor, will now be making the final decision. This appeal has seen an odd turn of events in that some of the previously developed land, the Berries Nursery, has been removed from the proposal. These changes taken together with the outline nature of the application will undoubtedly threaten the green space

allocation in the original proposal. The original proposal was criticised by the CBC Planning Committee simply on being made in outline only, and major gaps were identified in the sustainability appraisals.

The REDROW 370 SD2/Whitecross Planning Application has slowed, with many objections coming in from the public and also formal consultees, most notable the Cheltenham Planning Office. The planning application date has yet to be set by Tewkesbury Borough Council, but we need to present our case strongly to protect this area. Three times, on Appeal, an application has been refused for this part of Leckhampton, but the developers, REDROW, this time are pursuing an extremely strident approach to the proposed development. We have strong evidence to fight this dreadful application, which is extreme in its destruction of hedgerows, trees and wildlife habitats. More information and documents are published on the LEGLAG website news page.

JOINT CORE STRATEGY to 2031, DATE SET FOR THE EXAMINATION in PUBLIC

You may have had a letter from Ian Kemp (Programme Officer for the JCS EiP) dropped through the door, he has set the date for the public examination, 19th May at the CBC offices with Inspector Elizabeth Ord. The first week will be spent on the basic soundness of the JCS, has the plan been positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with national policy. The developers will be there in force with their legal teams pushing for even greater housing numbers, we will be teaming with the Cheltenham Alliance and Parish Councils. Our intention is to employ our own legal team and QC who are experienced both in planning and the examination of local plans, our focus will be on the housing numbers and lack of evidence for those inflated numbers, the £750M^(*) infrastructure funding gap for this level of growth now published in the JSC ARUP report and the failure to respond to previous public consultations. We intend to share costs and work with the Cheltenham Alliance but even with limited EiP attendance and choosing our days carefully the project will cost in excess of £10,000.

Getting that vital planning expertise has worked in the past, LEGLAG consultants on both planning and transport/traffic really made the difference on the Bovis/Miller 650 which was refused 10 votes to 1 by the Cheltenham Planning Committee. To help us pay for all that we have achieved, residents have contributed generously in the past to a fighting fund to pay for legal experts, planning consultants and for distributing flyers across much of Leckhampton. Every penny has been carefully spent and is shown in our accounts. We can tell you that some £3,210 has gone towards Planning Consultants and other expertise and some £2,638 in printing and delivery costs. (At least 70% of the deliveries has been done by voluntary helpers, thank you)

So if you can help us on the funding we would be very appreciative, it allows us to access the professional assistance we need to even the odds when dealing with developers, this is a critical time for Leckhampton with the strategic plans setting policy to 2031.

LEGLAG FUND RAISING FOR THE FINAL ROUND - HOW TO DONATE

There are two ways of making a donation to LEGLAG:

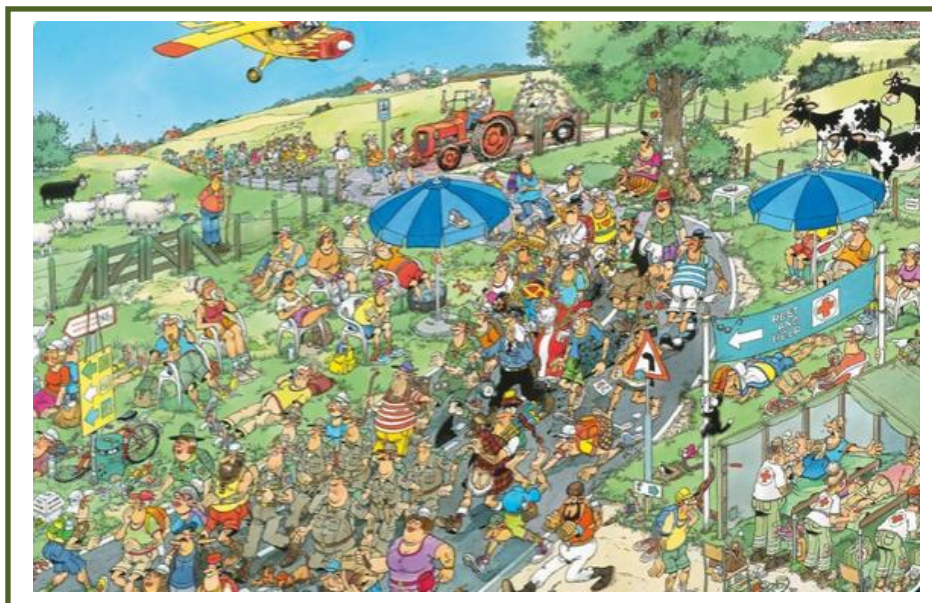
Direct to LEGLAG account:
Leckhampton Green Land Action Group Ltd.
Sort Code: 401710 -Account Number 62363925

OR by sending a cheque, payable to LEGLAG LTD,
to our Secretary: Mrs Margaret White, 11 Arden Road ,
Leckhampton, GL53 0HG

Any sum large or small will be very much appreciated. PLEASE HELP IF YOU CAN, FOR NON MEMBERS IF YOU INCLUDE YOUR EMAIL or ADDRESS WE WILL THEN MAKE YOU A MEMBER. The LEGLAG accounts are verified annually by an independent Actuary, LEGLAG is now a limited company and administered in accordance with Company House regulation, all donations are logged, and our accounts are open to the public for inspection.

(**) We believe that the huge JCS infrastructure funding gap of £750M and the building of so many houses will mean there will be insufficient resources to support all the necessary "add ons" for such a large increase in population. For instance, insufficient road provision, insufficient hospital facilities/beds, medical/GP services and emergency services, a shortfall of primary and secondary school places, we already bus the equivalent of one secondary school out of Cheltenham each morning, this will bring hardship to all across the area. Building houses without investing in schools, hospitals and roads is yet another way of central and local government to borrow from future generations.

A WALK on the WILDSIDE of LECKHAMPTON, SUNDAY, 12th APRIL, 2015, at 2.30 pm



The Community Voice on Planning (CoVOP) a nationwide group has suggested a national action day against the way the present planning and building rules are being implemented, and how our green areas and greenbelts are being swamped by too many houses.

LEGLAG with several other groups around the Cheltenham area are joining in on a National Protest Day.

The LECKHAMPTON walk will commence at 2.30 pm on Sunday, 12th April with the start point at Burrows Field. There are normally parking

places there and surrounding roads. **ALL ARE VERY WELCOME.** If the weather is uncertain you might need your wellie boots. The walk will take a circuit of 2.5 miles around the local fields, with local ecologist Dr Elizabeth Pimley and the LEGLAG team.

For children there will be a fun quiz for them to work on with Mum and Dad, and different animals, trees and other things to spot on route, first prize - Camo Compact Binoculars, runner-up wins the hilarious **Van Jan Haasteren** 1000 piece Jigsaw (above).

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