

I am here to represent SDC and my fellow ward members Julie job & Keith Pearson , who send their apologies .

As you know we share out the responsibility of reporting to the five parishes across the whole ward between us.

Update on Covid related Council activity.

The Council has continued to operate under challenging conditions and adapting as required. In particular the Revenue and Benefit Section was tasked with distributing the various grants from central Government. At the latest count SDC has distributed £38.1m in grants to support local businesses, £99k in isolation payments to individuals, and almost £70k to Community groups

Local Plan progress

I advised at last months meeting concerning the Local Plan review. I can now report that Environment Committee met yesterday and recommended the draft revised local plan to Council , meeting on April 29<sup>th</sup>, to approve before further public consultation and submission to the Planning Inspectorate , hopefully by September 2020. An appointed Inspector will then examine the plan to see if it is sound, this will likely involve a number of public hearings (when objectors can voice their opposition and propose changes . If the report from the Inspector is favourable the Council will have to incorporate any recommendations before eventually adopting the “new” Local plan by end of 2022.

The Government expects all Local Authorities to have a Local Plan and update it every 5 years. Our current plan was adopted in November 2015, so it is not up to date. This does increase the risk of planning by appeal, so this review is important.

The revised plan will run to 2040 and we use the current Government figures for population growth and housing numbers. These stipulate we must plan for 630 new dwellings per year, that’s a total of 12600 in the plan period. There are already almost 5,000 outstanding permissions. The revised plan sets out the various strategic sites for housing which can accommodate over 8000

dwellings and also some smaller sites and an allowance for “windfall” sites. Public focus tends to be on where development is planned to take place, but of course there is much more in the plan as it sets all our rules and policies regarding all development. These rules are similar to the existing plan and have been modified in the light of experience and very importantly to reflect Council’s approved Carbon Neutral 2030 strategy.

### Farewell

This is the last Painswick Parish Council meeting I will be attending as I am not standing for re-election next month. For 9 years I represented Rodborough and from 2012 I have represented this ward. I must say that I have thoroughly enjoyed being a Councillor and being involved with local communities, and I have learnt a lot.

It has been a privilege to serve this ward , in which I live, as your elected representative, and I wish you all the very best for the future.

Kind regards

Nigel Cooper