

AGENDA ITEM 13

Report to: Chichester City Council

Report from: Chichester City West Ward

Councillor Sarah Quail

Date: 14 December 2022

Subject: Ward Report

1. White House Farm (WHF) Phase 2 Planning Application 22/01485/OUTEIA

As Chair of the Westgate Residents Association (WGRA), and a Chi West City Councillor, I manned a stall with fellow local residents on Sunday afternoon, 23 October 2022 (Councillor Clare Apel was also present) at **ChiCycle's Exhibition of Miller Vistry's plans** for Phase 2 of the WHF development. We are particularly concerned about those parts of Miller Vistry's proposals which relate to the southern access road (SAR) which essentially is a series of staggered junctions at the bottom of Sherborne Road; the entrance to Bishop Luffa School (BLS) - and how they all inter-relate with Centurion Way.

Well over 100 people were present and many were shocked to learn what these plans will mean for their quality of life. Realisation is also dawning on residents that not only Sherborne Road risks becoming by default a rat run for car drivers between the A27 and the B2178 but **the WHF spine road (the SAR is its southern end) will become Chichester's western bypass!** As for the residents of Westgate, vehicle movements are now back at pre-Covid levels, and they are concerned that with another 1600 houses on WHF, the sheer volume of traffic on Westgate will be more than that community and many of its timber-framed buildings at its east end can support.

As I reported in my capacity as Chair of Planning and Conservation at our meeting on 10 November 2022, **Phil Wilson Associates (PJA)** were appointed by Chichester City Council to advise the City Council on Miller Vistry's plans for the SAR. PJA have now reported, as councillors will hear tomorrow at the Planning and Conservation Committee. I will confine my comments at this stage only to saying that **our initial reservations were well-founded.**

The WGRA continues to urge its residents to object to the above planning application and the Parklands Residents Association is now mobilising its membership as well.

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2. Westgate's Planters

WGRA continues to maintain the District Council's planters on Westgate which were constructed some forty years ago as part of the then 'Tesco' traffic mitigation scheme. On Saturday 5 November 2022 WGRA organised a Planters Day and after morning coffee at the Crate and Apple, a number of residents met to tidy up the planters for the Autumn and Winter.

3. WGRA Annual General Meeting 19 November 2022

After the business meeting, there was an updated presentation on traffic issues. Mark Record of ChiCycle took the audience through Miller Vistry's SAR plans. The Safer Traffic Group demonstrated very effectively how lethal these plans are for pedestrians including school children, the elderly and disabled as well as cyclists.

4. Parklands Residents Association (PRA)

The present writer is ill-qualified to write about the PRA, but I have attended committee meetings since the summer at the invitation of their Chair, Ash Pal. Most impressively, the PRA pays the rent for the Scout Hut at the bottom of Sherborne Road when they organise the Pop-up Pantry there every two weeks. Their Community Warden reports to Community Affairs, and you can read her reports in the Minutes of that Committee.

Between them, the PRA Committee has also taken part in the tree-planting programme on Parklands, organises very popular Garage Sales and a wide-ranging social programme for their residents.

And, as I report above, the PRA is currently mobilising its residents to object to Miller Vistry's plans for the SAR.