**News from St Helens Parish Council – December Meeting**

The latest meeting of **St Helens Parish Council** was held on the 10th December and discussed a range of local topics, including preparations for a community dialogue with the National Trust over the maintenance and up keep of the Duver.

The key topic of the evening was the urgency to raise public awareness over the **IW County Council’s** **draft Planning Strategy consultation.** This is a very important consultation as it will impact everyone. You can find a copy of the document on the IWCC home web page and the consultation ends on the 28th January.

The Planning Strategy includes **a specific planning policy proposal for St Helens** **involving the development of ‘at least 100 homes’** – see pages 28 and 194 of the document. The IWCC refer specifically to an ‘aspiration’ for landowners to have worked together to develop Guildford Road campsite and Fakenham Farm with at least 100 new homes!

So if this matters to you, then please take the time to respond to the IWCC, as highlighted on page 12 of the document. Alternatively, discuss your views with a Parish Councillor and/or come along to the **next meeting of the Parish Council set for Monday 14th January, at 7.00pm** in the Community Centre, where the topic will be debated in readiness for the PC’s submission to the consultation.

Members of the public are most welcome and encouraged to attend to meet the Councillors (including the IW Council Ward Member) and discuss their concerns and ideas for the Parish. An informal Members' Surgery is held before each Council meeting, commencing at 6.40pm.

See the parish website for more information on all the news above.

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