

County Council – East Gartree Division (June2002)

Kibworth (both Beauchamp and Harcourt) is the 4th largest settlement in the Harborough District, followed by Fleckney and then Great Glen. It is vital all levels of local government work together to raise the profile of this ward with local authorities. Councillors and residents working in harmony for the good of the ward have a much better chance of succeeding in raising awareness and increasing priorities. I am therefore delighted to support the two Kibworth Parish Plan (Village Appraisal) projects now underway. The results of Parish Plans provide important information about the needs of local communities. I support co-operation between the two groups to share resources, to look at common survey sections, and pool grants whilst still retaining the individual styles and wishes of the two villages. Analysis of the results will provide evidence of the whole community's facilities or lack of them, as well as those of the individual parishes. Please support the work of the Kibworth Parish Plan groups over the coming months.

The Highways Agency are comparing the A6 entering Kibworth Harcourt from the north with the A6 southerly entrance to Kegworth. I have visited Kegworth and spoken with the County Councillor, and it is clear that the Kegworth traffic calming measures have had a limited effect on speeding. The measures include signing both beside the road and on the road surface. I am calling for more physical measures to slow the traffic entering Kibworth. A number of people are helping raise the awareness of this problem (see elsewhere in this month's Chronicle).

After an initial site visit, the County Council has produced some preliminary options for calming the traffic passing through Tur Langton and the parish council will be considering which, if any, to fund over the next few months.

The Director of Education has confirmed that the LEA do not have any problems, in principle, with an area within the KCC grounds being used as a site for the community skateboard park. Clearly, the headteacher and Governing Body also need to approve any proposals on the site and I would hope that common-sense will prevail and open discussions now take place.

The Boundary Committee for England published their recommendations for District electoral ward changes on 6 June. They have listened and moved Thorpe Langton back with the other Langtons, all of which will be combined with the Kibworth ward to form a new three councillor Kibworth ward. My suggestions that this new ward should be renamed Kibworth & Langtons, and the enlarged Billesdon ward could be named Noseley ward to reduce confusion, were rejected. An Order to endorse the recommendations could be made by the Electoral Commission from 18 July 2002.

I hope all Chronicle readers have a wonderful summer.