



# Planning Bulletin

## 11 August 2016

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## Local Plan close of consultation

The Consultation on the Local Plan closed on Monday this week. We have had about 3000 responses. This is by far the largest response to any local plan consultation in recent years. Many thanks to all of you who have responded.

Unfortunately, because of the size of the response, we are not able to answer individual questions that you may have asked – we started to do this in the first few weeks, but quickly realised we simply do not have the resource given the level of response.

There is a wealth of information on the website, and we have also prepared a few short briefing notes on some of the more commonly asked questions.

- Princes Risborough Town Plan: We have prepared some briefing notes that deal with some of the more common areas of concern (attached to this bulletin). For more general information about the Plan, the consultation events that have been held and the role of the Steering Group, please go to: <https://www.wycombe.gov.uk/pages/Planning-and-building-control/New-local-plan/Princes-Risborough-town-plan.aspx>
- Infrastructure: again, we have prepared a briefing note on how infrastructure is delivered through the planning process (attached to this bulletin): For more general information on infrastructure, <https://www.wycombe.gov.uk/pages/Planning-and-building-control/New-local-plan/New-local-plan-supporting-evidence.aspx#Infrastructure>
- Housing, Green Belt, AONB, site assessments and many other topics: there are a number of reports, set out by topic, available on the website here: <https://www.wycombe.gov.uk/pages/Planning-and-building-control/New-local-plan/New-local-plan-supporting-evidence.aspx>

We realise, however, that written briefings can only go so far. We will therefore be holding some 'Q&A' sessions, here at the Council Chamber, early in September, to provide an opportunity to answer your many questions face to face. We will include details in a future bulletin when arrangements have been finalised. If you are interested in attending, it would be helpful if you would let Sarah Barfield know, 01494 421502 or email, [sarah.barfield@wycombe.gov.uk](mailto:sarah.barfield@wycombe.gov.uk), to help us gauge the level of interest.



# River Wye

Last week the section of the river Wye adjacent to the Police Station, Liberal Club, Fire Station and Swan Theatre went through a dramatic transformation, from a bland channel that was poor for wildlife, to a much more visually interesting attractive area of river habitat which is far more of an asset to the town.

The wildlife seems to be enjoying the improvements too! The moorhens, ducks and their ducklings are using the banks to take an occasional rest and a grey wagtail is now making frequent visits. Over time we can expect the fish to benefit from the variety of flow created by the new structures and over the coming year the plants will grow and continue to transform the appearance even further.

The delivery of the improvements in just one week was made possible, not only by careful planning and project management by Philip Simpkin (from WDC's Planning and Sustainability), CIL funding, employment of specialist contractors and the Chiltern Rangers, but also a huge volunteer effort including fire and police men and women, large numbers of young people, WDC staff and even the Council's Chairman Cllr Mahboob Hussain. In total nearly 300 individuals helped out during the week!

If you haven't seen it already have a wander past and see what you think. Hopefully the next bit of the river to be improved will be a part that which runs in culverts under the town centre, that will really make a difference!

## Liberal Club/Police Station

Before



After





Swan Theatre/Fire Station



## Staffing update

As some of you know, Ian Manktelow has been promoted to the position of Strategic Planning Manager. A similar post was deleted following the 2008 financial crisis, but, with the level of growth now required, is essential that we have greater capacity in tackling the strategic issues facing the District. Ian was previously the Policy Team Leader. Chris Schmidt-Reid has been promoted to take that role.

