

Borough Councillors' report to Keyworth Parish Council on 26 February 2007

(1) The Council's Cabinet has provisionally awarded the contract for the **management of leisure centres** to Parkwood Leisure Ltd. The transfer will take place on 1 June 2007, and the company will operate under a normal profit-making commercial arrangement instead of (as previously intended) a non-profit trust. The long-term vision for leisure in Rushcliffe still does not include a place for Keyworth.

(2) The **traffic and parking situation in and around Church Drive** is becoming chaotic. All spaces in the Council's car park behind Budgens (and some of those at the Leisure Centre) are taken up all day and every day by school traffic. The Tavern's licensee has stopped all non-customers from parking at the pub, following news of a hefty repair bill for the pub car park. The Council's property manager visited the site and agreed that there is a problem, and Keyworth is being added to the borough-wide parking review. Possible measures might include a time limit on Council car parks and agreements with private landowners.

(3) A decision is expected soon on the planning application for the **Selby Lane flats**. There have been many expressions of concern from local residents about the size and massing of the blocks, the shortage of parking space, and the inability of the narrow pavements in Selby Lane to cope with the elderly residents' electric buggies.

(4) There will not be any more **unitary councils** in Nottinghamshire, for the next few years at least. The County Council voted not to press for a county-wide unitary council, so Rushcliffe is "safe" for the moment. However, this does not rule out the possibility of Nottingham City Council bidding to annex West Bridgford and other parts of the urban fringe.

(5) The **public right of way alongside the Health Centre** (between Commercial Road and the Brookview estate) is due to reopen on 1 March after the tarmacing of the road surrounding the new building.

(6) **Bottle banks** are still due to be reinstated at the new Health Centre, though the Council is trialling soundproofed bins and assuring residents that early-morning collections will not be carried out. There is now a growing campaign by residents against these bins, especially against early-morning collections.

(7) The **wind turbine at BGS** has been given planning permission, despite concerns about possible noise. It will be open to residents to complain to Environmental Health if they feel the noise is intrusive.

(8) The **rail test track** has been leased to Metronet for testing London Underground trains.

(9) **Stanford Hall** has been bought by Mr. Chek Whyte, who also owns Bunny Hall, Clifton Hall and Colwick Hall. He has met the Stanford Hall Users' Group (including representatives of Keyworth Dramatic Society), and the future of the theatre is now looking encouraging.

(10) The Council's **customer service centre** is set to be reorganised in partnership with the County Council and other public-sector organisations and to be based on a "hub and spoke" model, with the hub being at a central location in West Bridgford and the spokes in the villages, possibly at parish council offices.

(11) The **Borough Council's precept** is set by rise by 3.8% in 2007/8.

(12) Two members of the Council's **anti-social behaviour team** have resigned.