

Borough Councillors' report to Keyworth Parish Council on 16 April 2007

- (1) The plan for **two blocks of flats at the Wrights Garage site** was rejected because the buildings would have been too big and too close to the road, creating an overpowering effect on the street-scene and affecting the amenity of nearby residents. The developers (William Davis) are currently considering whether to appeal against the refusal. There is poor communication between the Borough Council, Rushcliffe Homes and William Davis on this matter, and more urgency is definitely required. A slightly revised planning application would be much quicker and would be likely to meet with success.
- (2) Rushcliffe Homes are encouraging **Debdale House residents** to find alternative sheltered accommodation outside Keyworth, with the (unproven) possibility of returning to Keyworth at some unknown time in the future. A meeting with residents was poorly received and led to accusations of insensitive behaviour and poor planning on the part of Rushcliffe Homes.
- (3) A plan for 4 semi-detached homes on a small site in **Thelda Avenue** was refused, and the developer has submitted a revised plan for only 2 homes.
- (4) A meeting about the **Church Drive parking situation** was held in March, and the Borough Council is now initiating a parking review in Keyworth. Time-limited parking might be on the agenda.
- (5) The Primary Care Trust are objecting to the Borough Council's plan to reinstate **recycling bins** next to the new Health Centre.
- (6) Discussions are continuing within the PCT to find a way of accommodating **NHS dentistry** in the new Health Centre. There is currently a funding gap because of unusual expenditure on other dental practices in Rushcliffe.
- (7) The relevant documentation has been sent to the County Council for defining **the footpath between Rose Grove and Villa Road** as a public right of way. Although the County Council have informally indicated that the application has a good chance of success, the process could take up to 5 years because of a lack of resources. However, the property owner who had been threatening to close the path has now withdrawn the threat following protests from nearby residents.
- (8) The Borough Council are asking residents not to put **unsuitable items into the blue wheelie-bins**. These include carrier bags, food trays and Tetra Pak waxed milk and juice cartons.
- (9) **Two new scrutiny committees** are being set up by the Borough Council - "Place Shaping and Community Engagement" and "Partnership Delivery".
- (10) The Council's **community grants scheme** is being revised, and each councillor will be able to distribute up to £500 a year to local projects in their wards.
- (11) In an **internal reorganisation of senior management**, two Borough Officers have taken early retirement and their posts have been abolished, and two additional posts of Deputy Chief Executive have been created (one already existed as a vacancy). The effects will be to save money and flatten the management structure.