



News Letter Autumn 2009

The Burning Question –3000 Houses

As you know, LSWAG is a community action group committed to fighting plans to build **3000 Houses on the Fields leading up to The Outwoods.**

We were required to get our objections to Charnwood planners by July and our consultants duly did so. We followed up with a visit to the Planning Officer. He told us that a Transport Survey had been commissioned and was awaited. It was published in September and we were told to expect recommendations to be put to councillors in November.

Subsequently, Leicestershire County Council and Charnwood Borough Councils agreed that most of the land would be designated as part of a new Charnwood Forest Park, similar to e.g. the Peak National Park. This does not mean that building would be totally prohibited, but that increased regard would have to be paid to the environment, leisure and wildlife when considering planning applications. LSWAG wholeheartedly support this initiative and hope to raise its profile in the months to come.

Then, the Office for National Statistics announced that the UK population will rise to 71.6 million by 2033, if current trends continue. This equates to a city the size of Birmingham every five years.

Charnwood's share of this has to be calculated and its effect on transport, land usage, sustainability etc re-assessed.

We are told that the earliest any recommendations for the Loughborough Development Framework (LDF) will now be published is March 2010. We, and our consultants, will keep the matter under constant review.

For details of LSWAG and other groups' submissions, the Transport Survey, and the Declaration of Intent to form Charnwood Forest Regional Park do please visit our website to find links to the information you need.

www.loughboroughswag.co.uk

Otherwise, the information is quite hard to find but is still very interesting.

LSWAG DVD

No spring, nor summer beauty hath such grace,

As I have seen in one Autumnal face.

John Donne (1573-1631).

Remind yourself of the beauty of our local countryside by viewing our DVD and photos on www.loughboroughswag.co.uk Better still, take a walk from anywhere between Woodthorpe and Nanpantan up to The Outwoods.

You would not wish to lose such scenery!

Loughborough South West Area Forum

Leicestershire County Council hold Local Area Forums in each division of the County to seek the views of the public on what matters in their area.

Three members of the committee attended the most recent meeting where they were

able to bid for some of the £20k allotted to projects in this area. We are pleased to tell you that their proposal to extend the roadside footpath between Nanpantan Reservoir and Jubilee Woods or to improve other approach paths, won most votes on the night.

Officers of Leicestershire County Council will now consider the proposals and feedback to the next meeting in January. All residents of Nanpantan and Outwoods are welcomed and can raise topics of common interest or concern. Those in the Shelthorpe Ward have their own Forum.

LSWAG sees the Forum as an ideal venue to formulate suggestions about how we would like to see Charnwood Forest Park develop. With prior notice, relevant officials will attend and local councillors always try to attend.

Register by email to receive invitations. See our website for more information.

Obituary

It is with great sadness that we have to announce the death of Paul Breakwell, aged 35, who died whilst out running near The Priory Hotel on Saturday 3rd October. Paul volunteered his help to LSWAG at our inaugural meeting, attended our committee meetings, where he always made sensible and constructive comments. He also designed our graphics. Paul Breakwell was a talented artist, musician and sportsman, who possessed those qualities that define a civilised society.

His involvement with LSWAG sprang from a deep sense of concern about how the countryside he loved would be damaged if the proposal to build 3000 houses on the land leading to The Outwoods were approved.

Paul leaves a widow, Amanda, and young son, Oscar. He will be remembered with much affection and greatly missed. Our thoughts are with his family.

Membership of LSWAG

We sent a copy of our previous newsletter by email to those on our database. However, we are aware, and sorry, that some of you have not received it and therefore your address may have been lost. If that is the case, and you still wish to support LSWAG, please send an email to info@loughboroughswag.co.uk, which we will acknowledge.

The process of getting leaflets compiled, printed and delivered to some 5000 houses is lengthy and expensive. We may, if the planning situation changes, need to contact you urgently, for instance to call a public meeting. Please consider forwarding your name and email address to us at info@loughboroughswag.co.uk. They will not be divulged and will only be used to send you important local news.

If you **do not have access to the internet** but require information about our campaign, please contact Ron Lockwood (Chairman LSWAG) on 01509 554241.