

REPORT FROM NFDC CLLR CHRISTINE FORD
DECEMBER 2008

Since my last report I have undertaken the following commitments.

26th November

Together with RTC Cllr Don Cole and the Head Groundsman Mr Clive Wentworth, selected a site on the **Bickerley Common** for the installation of the new bench. The final choice being dictated to a certain degree by land ownership and the height of the water table on sections of the Common. The bench is being funded by my NFDC Community Engagement Allowance.

3rd December

Attended a meeting of the **NFDC Cabinet**. The main item concerning Ringwood was the adoption of the amended motion by Cllr Thierry, seconded by myself and supported by this Council, of the proposed 50 mph speed restriction on the Ringwood section of the A31, and other road measures for traffic calming. The amended motion was supported by the Cabinet and was to be brought to Full Council on 15th December.

This was followed by a meeting of the Council's **Green Audit Board**. This was mainly a discussion on the practicalities of 'how we operate our own premises', followed by plans for a challenge event on the subject of the procurement of goods and services incorporating sustainable sources.

4th December

As a member of the Public Convenience Project Board I attended a presentation from the companies tendering for the **new conveniences in Fordingbridge**. A company was selected and work is likely to commence early in January.

8th December

Attended a presentation of the developing **NFDC GIS System** – a particular enthusiasm of mine! – It is planned that a selection of the data layers would be made available to Parish/Town Councils (for a financial contribution for updating) to assist in identifying, inter alia, land ownership (for maintenance, and fly tipping clearance purposes for example), areas vulnerable to flooding, footpaths and rights of way, refuse collection rounds, aerial views for views of housing density to assist planning decisions, and very much more.

11th December

A Conservative Group meeting to discuss policy on possible Budget cuts. Also on whether to commit the NFDC to signing the central government/EU driven Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change. I have further information on this should anyone wish to discuss it with me.

Continued

12 December

Was present at the **challenge event** for NFDC Officers, and staff to discuss goods and services procurement policy as mentioned above. This is part of the fact finding and ideas gathering process for the council's **Green Audit**.

13th December

Monthly surgery with Cllrs Thierry and Rippon-Swaine. A quiet morning due to the foul weather I suspect !

Advice was given on a planning matter.

15th December

NFDC Full Council. The Proposal for the A31 50mph speed limit was agreed so the motion will go forward to the Highways Authority. The only real sparks raised at this meeting were concerning the Nottingham Declaration. Members, with very few abstentions, voted to sign and fall in with the majority of English Authorities.

18th December

I am due to be present at the **Environment Portfolio Holder's briefing**, which will be my last official commitment for 2008.

WISHING ALL COLLEAGUES AND FRIENDS A JOYFUL CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY AND PEACEFUL NEW YEAR.

Christine Ford

17th December 2008