**Monthly Report to Parish Councils – September 2023**

**NDPs**

Both Hermitage and Cold Ash have their Neighbourhood Development Plans going to Full Council at West Berks Council on 5th October – to seek approval for the submission of the NDPs for independent examination, and then if approved out to referendum.

Note these were approved at full council and both commended on the depth of information included in them.

**RAAC**

You will have seen a number of weeks ago in the press reports about the problems relating to Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC). Officers have not identified any RAAC in our schools – however, they are doing some extra due diligence and re-visiting schools and looking again and more closely – nothing has been identified thus far.

**SEND Strategy**

Every five years the council has to prepare a new SEND (Special Education Needs and Disabilities) Strategy – the draft one is available here: https://www.westberks.gov.uk/draftsendstrategy. This is currently out for consultation, please do have a look and comment, and there will be a question and answer session Wednesday 18th October over zoom.

**Members Bids**

Bids are currently being prepared for presentation by both Cold Ash and Chieveley – hopefully both applications will be successful.

**Ward Matters**

As ever there have been a number of residents who have been in touch, covering matters such as: planning; home to school transport; SEND funding; hedges not being cut back (these can be reported directly to the council via the website [Report a Problem - West Berkshire Council](https://www.westberks.gov.uk/reportaproblem))

Please feel free to pass on my contact details to any residents who may need to get in touch.

Heather Codling

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Chieveley and Cold Ash Ward, Liberal Democrats

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