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# Hilperton Update



The 'no political spin' newsletter from

## Cllr. Ernie Clark.

Your Independent County and District councillor.

**Experience Competence Energy Action Results**

### Speeding traffic

This is a continuing problem for most of the village with Hilperton Drive, Devizes Road, Church Street, Hill Street, Marsh Road, and Horse Road being amongst the worst affected.

The Neighbourhood Police Team and the 'camera van' Safety Partnership are aware of the problem and do what they can, but both suffer from a lack of manpower and the fact that speeding is such a widespread problem these days.

### The Hilperton Relief Road

Many people are asking me "What is happening about the road through The Gap?" The simple answer is "Nothing at the moment".

Planning permission for the road was granted to Persimmon Homes in 2006 and is linked to the legal agreement for the East of Trowbridge housing development.

This development will see about 600 houses added to Paxcroft Mead with Leapgate being extended to join West Ashton Road.

However, due to the financial downturn, Persimmon has called a halt to nearly all their major developments and, if they don't build the new houses, they are not required to build the road through The Gap.

This will be a purely commercial decision by Persimmon over which the parish, district or county councils have no control.

## **Pub or medical facilities at Paxcroft Mead?**

The owner of the site adjacent to Star East at the local centre (Marston Inns), has tried on several occasions to secure a 'change of use' for the land. This is because they want to build a public house on the site rather than see it used for its original purpose, which was for medical facilities.

Myself and other councillors have repeatedly convinced the district council planning committee to refuse to do so and Marston, frustrated by their failure to get what they want using the planning process, started High Court action against the council.

Myself and Trevor Carbin were due to give witness statements and attend court to defend the council standpoint but Marston has now withdrawn the action.

Instead, probably in February 2009, they intend to apply for a variation to the extant legal agreement that requires the land to be used for medical purposes.

## **The old nursery site, Marsh Road.**

As you may know, this site is outside the Hilperton Village Policy Limit which restricts how it can be used.

One of the allowed uses is as an 'exception site' for 100% affordable housing to be allocated exclusively to those with a Hilperton connection.

It would seem that Selwood Housing is hoping to build a small development on the left hand side of the site as you look at it from Marsh Road and a full planning application is expected soon.

### **How to contact me**

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