

## Massive Increase in House Building Proposed

5,150 homes could be built in Purbeck over the next 20 years if the Government accepts recommendations of the Panel who conducted the Examination in Public into the Regional Spatial Strategy - the planning 'blueprint' for our Region.

The figure represents a 145% increase over the 2,100 homes proposed by the Regional Assembly and accepted by Purbeck planners as achievable without damage to the district's environment.

Purbeck District Council's January meeting unanimously resolved to fight such a devastating increase. Some 2,750 homes, a town the size of Wareham, is proposed north of Lytchett Minster on land currently protected by Green Belt policy. A further 2,400 dwellings are proposed elsewhere within Purbeck, which will inevitably impact on Wareham St Martin Parish.

"Such a huge increase in housing will inevitably increase the amount of traffic on the A351, which will be totally unacceptable without the provision of a by-pass" says District Cllr Beryl Ezzard, who is also Secretary to the Purbeck A351 Action Group.



Green Belt - under threat

The Government will publish a response to the recommendations in the spring, followed by a 12 week consultation period. The final modified Regional Spatial Strategy is expected to be published in autumn 2008.

**Annette Brooke MP said "This is an appalling blow for local democracy and our area. Issues such as infrastructure and our inadequate local roads, encroachment into our green belt and flood plain issues have been totally ignored. I have already written to the Secretary of State".**

## NEW LANDFILL SITE TO REPLACE OLD



Cllrs Beryl Ezzard  
& Keith Green at  
new Landfill Site

The new landfill site at Trigon is expected to receive its first loads of domestic and commercial waste from April 2008 following waste management contractors Viridor's proposed closure of the Tatchells landfill site by 31 March, reports Cllr Keith Green.

Keith is one of the Purbeck District Council representatives on the Trigon Landfill Site Liaison Group, which, as a condition of the planning approval, has been set up to monitor the operation of the new site.

County Cllr David Budd reports that Viridor have applied for planning permission to install a new high temperature landfill gas flare and ancillary equipment to replace the existing plant at Tatchells.

"This together with the sealing of the landfill should put an end to the odour problems local residents have experienced in recent times" he said.

Annette Brooke MP  
and New Lib Dem  
Leader Nick Clegg



# Welcome to Nick Clegg - Our New Leader

Nick Clegg has been named as the new Leader of the Liberal Democrats and has now set out his vision for the party.

Nick said "Firstly, I want to say thank you to members who have voted me Leader of the Liberal Democrats. This is a very exciting time to be Leader of our Party".

Nick continued: "my three main priorities as Leader are: to support Britain's families so every child gets the best start in life, to take real action to tackle crime, and to improve our NHS so it delivers the care people need".

Local MP Annette Brooke commented: "Nick Clegg will be an excellent Leader. As a spokesperson for Children and Schools I am thrilled that our new Leader is putting Britain's families and education at the forefront of the Liberal Democrat agenda and look forward to this new and exciting time".

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### ↓ Road Repairs DELAYED

Cllr David Budd has been informed that repairs to the A351 road between Blackhill and Bakers Arms roundabouts has been delayed for a year due to lack of money in the highways budget.

### Bid to Cut Secrecy

Purbeck's Liberal Democrat Leader, Councillor David Budd, has called for the District Council to open its influential Policy Group meetings to the public and press.

A final decision will be made at the February Council meeting.

Watch this space for updates!



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