

Concerned about Housing Development in the Parish? Maybe you've seen a small yellow sign appear on a nearby post or fence or a lot of tree felling going on?

Want to know how can you find out more or comment on the plan? Read on.....

East Dorset District Council are the Local Planning Authority, responsible for approving all planning development within the Parish. The Parish Council is a statutory Consultee and is supplied with copies of all full and outline planning applications to comment on, on behalf of the residents of the Parish. The time that the District Council has to make a decision is laid down by regulation, because of this most applications are decided by the Case Officer and the Parish Council is only given 21 days to respond to an application. The Planning Committee of the Parish Council meet every three weeks to ensure that they can comment on each application. All the meetings of the Parish Council are open to the public, and the public can get involved in a number of ways if they wish to give an opinion, whether you are in favour or not. So if you "hear" that some development or extension is planned near you, or just spot the yellow sign and want to know more you could:-

1. Attend the Parish Council meeting and speak in the public forum. This forum is limited to 10 minutes so if there are several people you will be limited to 2 minutes.
2. Write in to the District Council – if taking this course we would encourage you to copy your letter to the Parish Council as well. The Parish Council is your elected body and does try to represent the Parishes view.
3. Go on the Dorset for You website www.dorsetforyou.com select "planning applications" on the right hand side and then select "East Dorset Planning Applications Search". You can then find the property and application. There is a facility to comment direct as well, you can even track it. We would encourage you to email the Clerk at the Parish council with your comment on stleonardsstives@dorsetparishes.gov.uk so that the Parish Committee know of your views.

Viewing Plans

You are welcome to look at the plans at the Parish Office, rear of the Village Hall, Braeside Road, St Leonards. During office opening hours of 10.30am to 12.30pm Tuesday to Friday ring the Clerk to make sure the plans are still available as we are only able to keep them for a limited time. Alternatively they are available at the District Council Offices at Furzehill, near Wimborne.

Meetings

To find out when meetings are taking place look at your nearest Parish notice board (sited at: Doctors Surgery; One Stop; Post Office; A31 end of Boundary Lane; Oaktree Caravan Park; Hurn Road and on the Village Hall) or on the web at www.stleonardspc.org.uk and you will see the agendas displayed and information of what will be discussed. Please note the Council can only discuss matters on the agenda.