

Our AGM in May was centred around the villages concerns about the A5 – M1 link road and over 40 people came to the meeting. This was followed up by a village meeting to set up a working party to campaign for local roads connectivity to the M1 at the newly planned Junction 11a. This campaign has led to the posters around the village and the petition which you may have signed up to by now. The petition is based around this explanation.

“We the undersigned petition the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government and the Secretary of State for Transport to reject the Published Scheme for the A5-M1 Link (Dunstable Northern Bypass) because it does not provide the desperately needed local road links to the proposed new Junction 11a on the M1.

More details :

The signatories to this petition consider the decision to remove local road connections from the Published Scheme to be perverse and not in the public interest. Failure to provide a link from day 1 for the B579 Luton/Toddington Road, which runs from north of Leagrave, past the Vauxhall facility, through the villages of Chalton and Fancott to the B530 Bridleway (which provides a connection to the M1 Junction 12) would be detrimental to the environment and more importantly the social and economic well being of residents, local businesses and communities further afield. After originally publishing the scheme with local connectivity it is misleading to now remove it.

Whilst the scheme claims to address transport problems which have been identified on the A5 through Dunstable, we foresee that these problems will only be pushed upstream to the above mentioned villages and beyond, which already experience high density traffic flow at peak times and especially when accidents occur on the M1 (which is frequently). Moreover, HGV vehicles primarily from the Vauxhall facility on the B579 Toddington Road, together with vehicles from other industrial

units in Houghton Regis, Dunstable, and Sundon Park thunder through our villages on a daily basis endangering the lives of everyone but especially the lives of our children and elderly residents, to access the M1 at Junction 12.

Chalton is a small village subjected to traffic speeding through it, often far in excess of the 30mph limit. The road going through the village is narrow and has a hairpin bend only 50 metres from the village primary school. School buses taking children to local middle and upper schools stop in the village at peak times to pick up and drop off. Not so long ago, a vehicle collided into a wall next to the village school by the school crossing, thankfully just before the children were making their way to school. It has been acknowledged by the local police, and Central Beds Council there should be a 20mph limit and a 7.5 tonne vehicle limit imposed.

Fancott hamlet also needs a 7.5 tonne limit for the same reasons. The road twists and turns and there is poor visibility.

The local roads leading from the industrial areas to the M1 Junction 12 are simply not suitable for HGV vehicles. Connectivity to the M1 is essential for the well being and safety of the local residents, for the growth and prosperity of local businesses and to provide emergency vehicle access to the M1 when hard-shoulder running is introduced. We recognise the problems in Dunstable need to be alleviated BUT this cannot be allowed to our detriment.

We Need a Local Connection Now!”

The Highways Agency keep saying that they are minded not to allow connectivity, but with Central Beds, CPRE and many other groups and individuals voicing similar views, we hope they will see sense and allow the access.

Ten years ago, we were part of a campaign to keep lorries out of our villages as part of the Sundon Landfill site application. This campaign has far more importance to it, as this is going to a permanent situation and it is therefore going to be a harder fought campaign. We are hoping to

be allowed to speak at the Public Inquiry, which was due to take place on Tuesday 29th June 2010 at Superdrug Stores Plc, Distribution Centre, Unit 1, ProLogis Park, Arenson Way, Dunstable, LU5 4RZ.

It was announced on Thursday 10th June that the Public Inquiry has been postponed. We will continue to work on the campaign so that if and when it is rescheduled, we will be ready.

Many thanks to all of those who are involved with the campaign, made up of villagers, Parish Councillors, County Councillors and even non villagers.

Russell Currell, Chairman, Chalton Parish Council.

Future Parish Council meeting dates for 2010:

June 14th

August 9th

October 4th

December 6th

At present the venue is the school, but may be in the Village Hall at times.



Chalton Lower School will be holding an Open afternoon for Prospective Parents On Thursday 24th June 1.30. - 3p.m.

If you know anyone who is interested in

their child coming to our school or if you have a pre-school child that is not already registered please do come along or alternatively phone for a visit.

It is never too early to register your child.

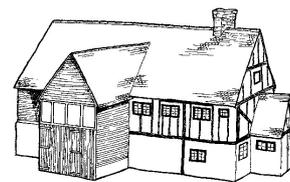
Telephone: 01525 872354

Visit our website for more information about the school

www.chalton.beds.sch.uk

CVA News

Just a short update for you this time round, here are few dates for your diary when events are being held at the village Hall and grounds.



WORLD CUP FOOTBALL FEVER

Come and watch the game on a 6X 5 metre screen

Sat 12th June Kick off 7.30pm doors open at 6.45

Fri 18th June Kick off 7.30pm doors open at 6.45

Wed 23rd June Kick off 3pm doors open at 2.15

(depending on demand)

All residents should have received a flyer with info but in case you need it again the contact numbers for tickets are: Lisa Ayres 07926390845 and Jo Evans 07803591693, £2 per adult per game. Thanks to all those involved who are involved with organising this event.

CAR BOOT SALE

We are going to be holding another car boot sale due to popular demand on **Sat 10th July 2-5 pm**, keep a look out for more details or call 07775836945

RAFFLE

We have very kindly had the services of complimentary therapist donated for the day of the 7th of June Tickets will be available soon to buy for £1 each. There are a choice of therapies for the winners, the draw will take place on the afternoon of the Big Lunch.

THE BIG LUNCH

Yes it is that time again and as the 1st national big lunch day was a huge success the Eden project has decided we should all try and do it again! The date this year is **Sunday 18th July**, it is going to be held in the grounds of the village hall, so come along and bring you picnic and enjoy the fun, keep a look out for more info around the village.

A big thank you to all of you that are continuing to help and support the CVA.

Nicky Noble (CVA Secretary)