Lytchett Matravers

Dorset Councillor report.

Cllr Starr and Brenton visited the **Wessex Water** Sandford waste treatment plant and were impressed by the Nitrogen removal tanks and the UV treatment system. They questioned any changes in procedure following the Clean Rivers campaign and learnt of a massive increase in investment in Wessex Water Sewage Treatment system in the next 5 year plan. This is mainly due to the concern and pressure groups objecting to storm water discharges over the last few years and the poor state of many rivers. Sandford waste plant is well above Environment agency standards for the quality of discharges. We had a report on Lytchett Bay sewage treatment plant which has been rebuilt and concrete lined and hope to visit there next time.

Black Heath treatment plant which serves Morden and Lytchett Matravers is due for a large upgrade in the next 5 years. Work on a reedbed waste water system is already being built to take overflow from the Bulbury Pumping station.

An **Economic strategy** for Dorset has been published with various plans to increase investment and jobs. The report goes to Place Overview soon. Largely they involve Winfrith and Weymouth as the sites where Dorset council input can make the most difference as they own land there which can be developed faster. The Council did not want to declare an emergency as actions are already being taken to address problems and an emergency would indicate that Dorset was a basket case.

Cllr Robinson has organised a day conference for many involved groups and we await formal agreements between organisation. Bringing numerous services together under the same mission: **"Communities for All",** with Dorset's Place Based partnership ambitions fitting with the NHS's Integrated neighbourhood Teams and the Better Care Fund outcomes.

He chairs the Health and Wellbeing Board which has set up and is leading the **"Futurecare"** programme that we commissioned back in August. This is already seeing positive outcomes but we anticipate that across BCP and Dorset over the coming two years;

- 27,000 NHS bed days will be released through people coming out of hospital as soon as they are ready and not having to wait in hospital longer than necessary.
- 570 more people every year supported to recover at home
- 420,000 fewer hours of homecare needed and,
- 50 fewer people every year needing to start long term residential care. All of these will have a significant impact, not just on delivery systems, but on individuals, often at some of the lowest points of their lives.

The Housing board has met several times and the Housing Strategy is being formalised. Councillor Brenton chaired the Empty Homes Strategy Panel which will offer incentives , advice and some funds for bringing back unused empty homes (such as where someone has died and the family are not sure what to do) into use. Empty homes are defined as usually unfurnished, neglected homes which have been empty for more than a year without any indication that they will be used in the near future.

Dorset Councillor report. May 28th 2025

Bed and Breakfast accommodation in cheap hotels is largely being phased out through the leasing of private rental housing for short term lets until more Housing Association properties are available.

The area around Bakers Arms Roundabout has been checked and ditches cleaned and widened the culverts and drains have been jetted but there will be a continual problem in high rainfall periods especially at high tide. Various options have been discussed with Highways team and water engineers. The option to close the A35 and put in a bigger culvert is still being discussed as to its efficiency and the traffic chaos it would cause.

Councillors Starr, Brenton Robinson 28/5/25