

## A new parish for the new development?

Have you had a consultation document from the City Council delivered through your letterbox? Unexpected? Well please read on.

Working with Southwick & Widley Parish Council, Denmead Parish Council has considered what the future holds now that the development at 'West of Waterlooville' is well established with over 900 occupations to date. As part of that partnership a body called the West of Waterlooville Advisory Group (WoWAG) has been set up and it has become the voice of the people who live there, making views known to the developers, to Winchester City Council and to Havant Borough Council. Subjects such as post code allocation, broadband and bin collection have been tackled.

Since it began work in 2011, WoWAG and the Parish Councils have developed the idea of a new parish council to represent the residents of the new development. It seemed that as all these new homes were separated from both Denmead village and the heritage village of Southwick there was a very strong case for a new parish to be created for these residents. During last year the idea was developed and the doors of these new homes were knocked. The response was very positive and over 200 signatures were soon collected to support the idea. The concept was put to Winchester City Council in the form of a petition asking for a *Community Governance Review* to be carried out to assess the viability and benefits of a new parish, and proposing the name of 'Newlands'. That Review has led to the document that came through your door. This news may ring a bell in your memory because I have written about this project several times in the Denmead Scene.



You will see that WCC staff has set out four options. Choose from (1) do nothing – which will leave the development split between two parishes; (4) put the whole area into Denmead; or (3) put the whole area into Southwick & Widley parish – which both existing parish councils consider as unworkable because our volunteer effort in running the councils is at full stretch already.

**Denmead Parish Council is united in STRONGLY supporting the petition (OPTION 2) and invites you please, to join in the consultation, saying that you too think that a new parish for the new development is a good idea.**

Cllr Neil Lander-Brinkley  
on behalf of Denmead Parish Council  
18<sup>th</sup> January 2018

