RICHARD BENYON VOTES FOR IRISH HILL DEVELOPMENT

Development to begin in 2017

Our local MP Richard Benyon gave a powerful speech at the parish meeting on whether the new housing should be built on Irish Hill. Plans for building were commencing next year, however after strong opposition developers held a meeting taking place yesterday (25/01/16).

After a long evening of hearing speeches and casting votes, the plans have been approved and building is to begin around April 2017.

We managed to get an interview with Mr Benyon to discuss what he thought of the vote. "It was extremely important to me as it will help create jobs and a flow of revenue for the community and so I could not be more pleased with the result. I also am glad to know a lot of constituents have agreed with me on the matter, meaning my decision is also in the interest of the public." He construction and 179 against, also leading to a record turnout.

DONNINGTON CASTLE MAKEOVER BEGINS SOON

Donnington Castle will be getting a complete renovation starting on the 20th of February 2016 until February 2017. This follows an incident in which a brick fell and hit a teenager on the head – however they were not seriously injured. Visitors will still be allowed at the castle however climbing on the ruins won’t be possible for a while!

We spoke to Sally Dawes who is head of the construction from West Berkshire council. "I’m so glad that we can do these improvements before someone got seriously injured."

KINTBURY CANAL FALLS INTO STATE OF DISREPAIR

As pictured above, we all know Kintbury canal is a lovely place for a walk with the kids, going on a quick jog or sitting down and reading a book. However in the past few weeks, us at the Newbury herald have noticed a lot of changes. After the new housing development at Blandys Hill, only a 2 minute walk away, a lot more waste has been found in and around the water. The culprits? Who knows, but it can’t be the ducks! If you have any idea of who is ruining our beautiful landscape, Brian Keates our local community support officer is on top of the case.

To keep up to date with this story, join our email system through our website – www.newburyherald.co.uk

IS THE HIGH-STREET ON ITS LAST LEGS?

We receive emails, letters and calls daily telling us about what is happening to the newbury high-street, with claims such as “It’s become a ghost town”, “All the shops have closed” we decided it was time to send someone in to investigate. Emma Mordy, our Newbury reporter found some shocking things. Firstly, yes, the town has lost a lot of the shops, following the recent closure of Cargo in the Kennet Centre, we now have a total of 9 empty shops out of the 16. Secondly, yes no one was to be seen. Emma sat in Boswells for 2 hours and saw a grand total of 6 people walk past.

After speaking to Mark Kitchin we found out this is a very recent thing. He said “It seems every time me and the wife came to town another shop was closed. Soon there won’t be no point in going to Newbury, may as well go shop in Hungerford.” Have you got any thoughts? We’d love to know them! Get in contact at (01635) 111111

HAVE YOU GOT A STORY? WE’D LOVE TO HEAR IT

CONTACT US AT: (01635) 111111,
NEWBURYHERALD@NEWBURY.COM OR TWEET US @THENEWBURYHERALD