

Pucklechurch Parish Council Open Meeting. 12/9/17

Opening:

Welcome:

Firstly thank you for your attendance to this meeting tonight, it clearly demonstrates the solidarity of the people against an unsavoury proposal to put a Motorway Junction and associated link roads and roundabouts through the Parishes of Pucklechurch, Siston and Westerleigh with other surrounding parishes being impacted.

Sat with me tonight is the Parish Council who have been working at all levels to ensure that our collective voice is heard.

Gail Boyle, Lesly Putt, Rick Dunning, Craig Stephens, Tina Symons, Caroline Phillips and Lynne English.

Our Speakers tonight will be Gail Boyle giving an update on the Parish Council's response to the consultation, Martin Smith, Jacki Berry and Rick Dunning will be sharing their views and Mary Webb will be giving us a personal approach.

There will then be a question and hopefully answer session. Can I remind you that we are not the enemy, South Gloucester or a group on which to vent your anger, we are all here working together for one aim.

I've been told a number of times that it's inevitable, we can't stop it, and they will just build it regardless of what we do.

My response is – do nothing and it will be seen as apathy and as there would be no opposition it could just happen –

BUT - People make a difference

In June we had a meeting in the car park, followed by two MPs at a meeting on the green, we then met with South Gloucestershire, we

had amazing press support, and we've been on the radio frequently and television. Siston residents have formed a group and they are now working with us

– What is the impact?

Mathew Riddle Leader of SGC, Tim Bowles West of England Mayor, our local MPs are all expressing the importance of the Green Belt and all know about Pucklechurch and Siston and our opposition to the junction.. All have spoken about it on the radio, all with non-committal responses but it's on the radio.

Why is this happening?

We have people who have delivered leaflets, put up posters, given technical advice, helped the hard to reach people, printed information, made stickers, written letters, filled out the consultation responses, attended meetings and made their voice heard in as many ways as is possible.

To those of you who have done those things I thank you, to those who are yet to do something please do it right after this meeting or tomorrow or next week, but not next month, it will be too late!

For those who remember Wolfie – Power to the people!

Now for a silent movie of the path of the link roads through the green belt.