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The two identified sites for the potential development of housing are on Greenbelt and Greenfield land, which is afforded degrees of protection from development under current planning laws. Indeed, the land identified for the Crematorium is classed currently as 'Protected Open Land' within the Local Plan and is therefore protected from development to ensure Swanwick does not merge into Alfreton.

In conclusion, the Localism Bill will also introduce a new right for communities to draw up its own neighbourhood development plans, which if approved by a majority of the electorate in a referendum, then the local planning authority (Amber Valley Borough Council) is expected to bring this into force. I believe this is the next logical step for Swanwick in determining its long term future development within the village."

John G. Briggs, 210 Derby Road, Swanwick.

Steve Harvey's view of the crematorium development...

"I find it extremely disappointing that Oxford based business Memoria have selected a seven acre paddock on the outskirts on Swanwick as a proposed site for a new crematorium."

"...the resident of Swanwick need to make their voices heard..."

Steve Harvey added:

"There is still an awful lot of Swanwick residents who are unaware of the proposal. I am working with a handful of other residents on a plan to prevent this development going ahead. Our small group will use the Parish Council's web site to keep Swanwick residents up to date. In the meantime, the residents of Swanwick need to make their voices heard by writing to:

- Cllr King...Chestnut Farm, 210 Sleetmoor, Lane, Swanwick
- Cllr Hayes.....20 Burleigh Crescent, Swanwick
- Derek Stafford, Director Planning, AVBC, Town Hall, Ripley

Proposed Crematorium in Swanwick...

What is being planned?

An Oxford based business called Memoria are hoping to get planning permission to convert a paddock on the edge of Swanwick and build a crematorium and burial ground.

Where is the proposed site?

The site is immediately off the Derby Road in the middle of the three paddocks which separates Swanwick from the A38 services...see map



What stage is the proposal at?

Memoria has already undertaken a public consultation exercise which ended 31st Oct 2011. There was a chance for Swanwick

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residents to see the proposal and talk to the Directors of Memoria on Friday 21st October 2011 in St Andrew's church hall, Swanwick.

What will happen next?

Memoria are planning to formally request planning permission "early 2012".

How serious are Memoria?

Very! They are employing numerous consultants and agencies to help make their proposal truly compelling. For example, an independent traffic and highways consultancy have already surveyed the Derby Road traffic and submitted plans which Derbyshire County Council Highways department have given "agreement in principle" to.

What's the view of Swanwick Parish Council?

Swanwick PC have written to Memoria stating "...the paddock is designated as 'Protected Open land (EN5) as indicated in the Retained Local Plan 2006 Para. 6.29 onwards, and the Parish Council wishes it to remain so, to ensure the settlements' separate identities...."

How can I find out more?

Visit Swanwick PC's website and we will keep the 'news' section up-dated. See the reverse of this leaflet for more Q&A's.

How should residents register their objections?

As the public consultation closed on 31st October 2011, there are several local audiences to whom residents should write with their views/objections.

- 1) Swanwick's Amber Valley Borough Councillors: Cllr King and Cllr Hayes
- 2) Sally Leighton, Clerk to the Council [*for addresses, see the back page of the Newsletter delivered with this leaflet.]
- 3) Derek Stafford, Assistant Director Planning, AVBC, Town Hall, Ripley.

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How urgent it is for residents register their objections?

Although Memoria don't plan to submit their proposal for planning permission until early 2012, residents should act immediately to let their views be known.

Why are Developers targeting our village?

Swanwick Parish Council asked local residents John Briggs and Steve Harvey to help explain. John said...

"Following the end of the consultation period on 30th September, 2011 on the 'Options for Housing Growth' in Amber Valley by the Borough Council when two potential sites had been identified within Swanwick for future housing development, it was no coincidence to me that within a week a further pre-application community consultation on a proposed Crematorium was announced by Memoria.

The letter circulated by Memoria (inviting residents to a public exhibition) was both limited in its distribution and vague in identifying the exact location on Derby Road.

It has been clear to me for some time that with the introduction by the Coalition Government of the Localism, Act, it is envisaged the rules governing planning would be reduced from more than 1,000 pages to just 52 pages, thereby creating a 'development free for all', that prospective landowners/developers and businesses have been purchasing or buying options on land and 'hoarding' until such time as it is right for them to submit for potential development of houses or other businesses such as a Crematorium, with the view that it would pass the planning stage without too much of a problem. (cont'...)