

Chairman's Comments October 2020

We are living in unprecedented times and I thank you all for your time and forbearance.

Covid 9 has changed the way we operate as an SSG and introduced us to the wonderful world of 'OnLine' meetings. I am not convinced that Wonderful is correct. Most of my meetings are now conducted under the Skype, Teams or Zoom format and this has succeeded in taking away the personal touch.

I am extremely pleased to see that any news etc has been sent out to ALL by Jill in a very timely manner, if you have any problems please let me or Jill know. It is also very good to have Gemma back amongst us, welcome back Gemma!

Our June SSG was cancelled but we did have a SSG in July that I freely admit was not the best. It was not the fault of the SSG but the operating system we endeavoured to use. Some were able to 'log in' others not I sincerely hope this meeting via Zoom will be more successful.

I have been attending quite a few NuLeAF meetings on behalf of Sedgemoor District Council since the last SSG and apart from the presentations we receive as an SSG it is clear that a dialogue should exist between the SSG's and NuLeAF. Remember that NuLeAF represent Local Authorities but WE represent the local people.

Over the period of the 16th, 17th and 18th of September which culminated with a Chairs event it was ratified that the National Chairman, (Chair of the Chair's Forum) should also attend NuLeAF meetings and the Chair of NuLeAF should attend the Chairs meetings. Incidentally he does because he is vice chair of Oldbury SSG.

There was very little of consequence to report from 'A' site but 'B' site report into their plans pre ceasing operation was commendable. We all know that the indicated planned shutdown is 2023 but this is forward planning. We all await the decision on Who, What, and When that, no doubt, will be the Government of the day's decision.

We continue to have regular meetings with the two Peter's and I thank them for their updates

Hope to see you, albeit on a screen, on the 23rd

Mike