

**Date: 8<sup>th</sup> December 2011**

### **TOWN COUNCIL PUBLIC MEETING A RESOUNDING SUCCESS**

Over 300 people came to Newbury Town Council's public meeting at the Rugby Club last night. The Town Council called the meeting to establish local views on the District Council's consultation about certain aspects of the draft core strategy.

All of the 200 seats were taken, and there were people standing at the sides and at the back in order to hear what was said and to take part in the meeting.

Cllr Julian Swift-Hook (Leader of Newbury Town Council) said, *"I'm absolutely delighted by the turnout and I want to thank everyone who made the effort to attend. We had a lot more people there than we'd anticipated, which is great, and just goes to show that calling this meeting was the right thing for the Town Council to do.*

*"It's very disappointing that no officials from West Berkshire Council were able to attend, but our two expert speakers were able to give the meeting both sides of the arguments.*

*"We now need to analyse the feedback in detail so that we can take it into account in preparing the Town Council's response to the consultation next week, but the mood of the meeting was very much against the District Council's proposals to permit up to 2,000 houses to be built next to Wash Common."*

The District Council's consultation closes in a week, on 16th December. If you would like your views to be taken into account by the Town Council, please write to the Town Hall or e-mail [consultations@newbury.gov.uk](mailto:consultations@newbury.gov.uk).

**END**

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