

Public Document Pack

Portfolio Holder Reports

HAVANT BOROUGH COUNCIL
COUNCIL
16 OCTOBER 2013

Dear Councillor

I am now able to enclose, for consideration at next 16 OCTOBER 2013 meeting of the Council, the following Leader's and Portfolio Holders' reports that were unavailable when the agenda was printed.

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**Leader's Report
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Havant Borough Council Leader Portfolio Report 16 October 2013

Budget

Work has begun in earnest on this and the very challenging position for the Council over the next few years. I wish to address the Council personally about this topic at Full Council.

Corporate Strategy

As you know we have been working using a technique called 'Future Basing' to help us as the elected Councillors to determine the needs and wants of the many communities in our Borough over the next few years and beyond 2020 and how the Council will meet these needs through its services. This work will be considered at a Councillor Strategy Day on 26th November. I am very keen that all Councillors support this important work by attending please. We also have an international speaker booked that day <http://www.thesumoguy.com/>.

Dunsbury Hill Farm

Pinch point funding has been achieved. We supported a bid by HCC for Pinch Point funding to improve the ASDA roundabout, which would improve the current issues, and the links to Waterlooville and to the Dunsbury Hill Farm site.

The bid has been successful and Dept. for Transport have committed to contribute £3.7m, with HCC and developers contributing the remaining £1.6m.

The original bid is at

<http://www.hants.gov.uk/rh/transport/ASDA%20roundabout%20application.pdf>

and the DFT announcement is at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-pinch-point-fund-approved-schemes-for-tranche-3>

Other work and Meetings held in my capacity as Leader:

- Meeting with Marianne Abley, Principal Associate – IESE regarding the work they undertake in the field of procurement.
- Partnership for Urban South Hampshire Joint Committee work and Chairmanship of the ED Panel – I continue to work on the regeneration opportunities for Havant and the wider South Coast of Hampshire. This is particularly challenging in the new world of Local Enterprise Partnerships and most of the regeneration based funding moving through these predominantly business-run organisations.

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**Portfolio Holder
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Portfolio Holder Report – Council 16 October 2013

By Cllr Jackie Branson – Governance and Logistics

Legal, Democratic and Electoral

The Constitution has been adopted and will be placed on the Councils web site shortly, ensuring that the links make it easier to access. Staff training on the changes will be taking place during September and October.

Audit & Governance

The Joint Governance Committee approved the Internal Audit Charter, the Audit Plan and reviewed performance against the Audit Plan at their meeting on 16 September. The Joint Governance Committee have recommended that it be disbanded because East Hampshire District Council have set up a separate Governance & Audit Committee. Elsewhere on this agenda you will see my recommendation for the make up of the new committee to take on this important role.

Revenues and Benefits

Welfare Reform

Benefit Cap

National roll-out of the Benefit Cap has now been completed. At Havant, we have 58 households that have had their Housing Benefit entitlement capped. The average reduction in Housing Benefit is £51.02 per week.

Discretionary Housing Payments

The welfare reform changes have created a significant increase in the number of applications for Discretionary Housing Payments. The team dealt with 187 applications in the period April – August 2013 compared to 52 in the same period last year.

Universal Credit

Further details of the national roll-out are still awaited. In the meantime, the National Audit Office have published a report which has highlighted the short comings in the project to date, including poor management control, overly ambitious timetable and scope and not achieving value for money.

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Portfolio Holder Report – Council 16 October 2013

By Cllr David Collins – Environment & Neighbourhood Quality

Environmental Health

The Environment Team have written to all Pet Shop Licence Holders in the Borough to advise them and provide them with a free copy of the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health's Model Conditions for Pet Vending Licensing 2013 published in July of this year. They are intended to encourage consistency of approach across local authorities as well as minimising the risk of transmission of disease from animals to humans. They are also intending to reflect the need to protect animals from cruelty and ill-treatment, and to encourage good standards of animal husbandry in pet vending. The letter reminds the Licence Holders that Pet Shop Licences have to be reissued each year and advises them that it is intended that as from 1 January 2014, licences issued within the Borough of Havant will require compliance with the new model conditions.

The Commercial team has contacted all the registered tattooists and body piercers in the Borough to inform them of a new toolkit developed by the trade and Public Health England (with others). The use of this guidance toolkit will help to ensure the health and safety of both clients and operators. The guidance document contains useful information on topics such as infection control, before/after care of tattoos or piercings, and disposal of clinical waste. A number of client aftercare leaflets are also available and can be printed and distributed.

Parking Strategy/Management & Traffic Management

The parking team continue to enforce the restrictions around the borough and have been making a concerted effort to visit as many schools as possible when staffing levels permit as the new years intake are educated about parking near to the school.

The car park review is still underway and surveys have been carried out and the results are being compiled currently.

Copse Lane car park talks are ongoing between the community, estates and parking.

The following Traffic Regulation Orders have been implemented

Chaucher Close, Waterlooville – Live 17 May 2013

Queen Street, King Street, High Street, Emsworth – Live 9 August 2013

New Lane, Havant – Live on 21 September 2013

London Road, Waterlooville – Live 28 September 2013

Harkness Drive, Waterlooville – Live on 18 October 2013

The following schemes are in differing stages of progression at the moment.

Firs Avenue and Hart Plain, Waterlooville – Ready to go to advert

Middle Park Way, Leigh Park – Out to advert currently

West Street, Havant – Site assessments underway, plans being put together.

Lovedean Lane. Cowplain – Surveys being undertaken.

Public Realm Enforcement, including travellers

The Rangers continue to spend much of their time on patrol, concentrating on areas identified under the 'cigarette butt' initiative, and other hotspot areas. The cigarette hotspots were identified working with operations staff and retail support, with assistance from local businesses such as pubs, restaurants, coffee shops and bookmakers, many of which are helping to raise the profile of the problem with their customers and displaying the project poster. It is planned to continue this initiative into the third quarter, possibly through until March. Early morning and late evening patrols are being undertaken against dog fouling and fly-tipping in known problem areas.

With the return of many students to school and college, the Rangers have been working with several classes and Student Services at Southdowns College getting out the message that littering will not be tolerated. The rangers patrol from the college to the various retail areas locally (and back) during lunchtimes and break times to deter and prevent littering and where necessary issue fixed penalty notices. Similar patrols are undertaken from Havant College to the local retail areas and Havant Town and Park.

Since 1 April 2013, 14 fixed penalty notices have been issued for offences of littering, one of these by the Beach Patrol following assistance and supported patrols from the rangers.

The Borough continues to be visited by small groups of gypsies and Irish travellers. So far these encampments have been on public highway or private land, with one notable overnight stay at Waterlooville Swimming Pool car park. The Rangers continue to offer support and advice where appropriate and work closely with Hampshire Police and Hampshire County Council.

Sustainable Transport & Implementation

Dunsbury Way Transport for South Hampshire TfSH Scheme:

Introduction:

Dunsbury Way has been identified as requiring improvements due to the high levels of bus users and the proximity of a number of community based buildings e.g. Community Centre and Library.

The successful Local Sustainable Transport Fund LSTF bid has allocated £26,500 towards enhancements to the Bus Interchange improvements at Leigh Park Centre - Bus stop clearway or box markings, pole and flag, litter bin, good quality surfacing / pavement, seating, visible clock, paper timetables, interchange layout diagrams. An additional £50,000 from the Quality of Place QoP fund has been provided to help enhance the urban realm and complement the recent regeneration initiative in Leigh Park Centre. Consultation with existing users will be required during the feasibility stages.

Objectives:

The overall aim of this work is to provide both a high quality bus interchange and public realm.

This feasibility work provides a sketch scheme based upon information gathered from site visits and research within the local area. The scheme needs to make improvements to the Bus Interchange in line with the funding awarded through the LSTF bid however the surrounding area including Havant Borough Council land can also be considered for improvements to the street scene through the additional funding available to this project.

Aims:

- To provide new bus shelters with Real Time Information RTI on both sides of Dunsbury Way including raised kerbs
- To upgrade pelican to toucan crossing including any cycle route signing – being undertaken by HCC and programmed for site start 12th August 2013 for 2 weeks
- To resurface footway from Bishopstoke Road to Park Parade
- To construct parking lay-by in eastern footway
- To improve the public realm and approaches to public building frontages from Bishopstoke Road junction to the Library on HBC land

Description of the work to be undertaken: Required Output

Works undertaken by HCC

- Site surveys / a topographical survey – this has been provided by HBC
- Land searches/ownership investigations and liaison if required
- Liaison with HCC ITS over Toucan pedestrian crossing
- Liaison with HCC Passenger Transport over RTI in shelters
- Incorporate C2 enquiries – provided by HBC onto drawings
- Sketch scheme with sufficient detail for detail design to be undertaken
- Landscape/urban design aspects fully considered including designer duties under CDM

Start date of task: April 2013

End date of task: July 2013

Required Output

Works to be undertaken by HBC:

- Budget cost of sketch scheme
- Detail design work including any tracking required
- Consultation – HCC to assist where necessary
- Tender preparation
- Construction
- Maintenance

Start date of task: September 2013

End date of task: March 2015

Funding:

LSTF: £26,500 (Monies to be spent by March 2015)

QoP: £50,000 (Monies to be spent by March 2015)

Residual QoP: £25,000 (tbc)

External Funding: £20,000 (approx.)

Total: £121,500

Funding already allocated:

Toucan crossing upgrade: £3000

Project Budget (works and fees): £118,500

Havant New Lane Cycleway, Havant (HCC Funded)

The new advisory cycle lanes along New Lane, the central island refuge crossing New Lane to Littlegreen Avenue and improved off road cycle lane from New Lane to Crosslands Drive is completed. Third Avenue bridge works to be completed by the end of the first week in October 2013.

Trosnant Schools (HCC Funded Safe Routes to School)

Improved pedestrian crossing works outside Trosnant School along Stockheath Lane were completed on 28 August 2013.

Hambledon Parade

Public consultation was carried out in July 2013 and detailed design is in progress and expected to be completed mid November, followed by tender at the end of November. Construction is expected to start on site by end of January 2014.

Purbrook Way Cycleway

The draft feasibility report is still with the Client Manager and will be discussed with the HBC councillors after receiving comments from the client.

Rachel Madocks Crossing

The feasibility study and detailed design is underway and expected completion is end of October. Construction is expected to start on site by the end of January 2014.

Havant Park Havant Railway Station to Havant Bus Station LSTF

Design underway and expected completion is at the end of November 2013. Consultation will follow with an expected construction expected to start on site by February 2014.

Park Road South, Havant Enhancement (HBC / HCC S106 Funded)

Work is due to be substantially completed by the end of September. The only outstanding work in Phase 1 is to install short sections of railings alongside the new toucan crossing and some minor remedial works in the footway outside Rothmans' Accountants. Due to compensation events and extra work ordered in relation to the resurfacing of Park Road South and additional path slabbing, the completion date is in accordance with the agreed revised programme.

Phase 2, comprising work to create a new frontage to Bosmere Pond, with bespoke 'water' design railings, will commence in mid October with a completion date by Christmas. This will complete the currently programmed works on this corridor.

Park Road North, Havant Enhancement (HCC Funded)

Apart from minor finishing works (provision of antiskid surfacing and remedial lining) this project has been completed..

Hayling Billy Trail Phase 4 Bridge Approaches (Sustrans / HBC / HCC S106 Funded)

Following completion of works outside the Ship Inn late last year, two projects now remain to complete the unbroken cycle route between Hayling and the Mainland. The project will cover two discrete locations, both of which have been designed and are fully funded following the outcome of environmental studies; these are from the south end of the bridge to the old 'Texaco' garage, and along the frontage of the Langstone Sailing Club HQ building. Implementation is planned for the first quarter of 2014.

Morelands School (HCC Funded Safe Routes to School)

Phase 2, comprising the widening to shared cyclist / pedestrian status of the path linking Crookhorn Lane to Liddiards Way, is at the time of writing due to commence on 7 October 2013 for 5 weeks. Discussions with Portsmouth City Council to use part of the Golf Club car park for dropping off children attending the School have not progressed to a satisfactory conclusion as yet, and if agreed will have to form a future 'Phase 3'.

Emsworth Feasibility Studies

Five feasibility study packages have been awarded by Hampshire County Council to investigate the best way to implement new sustainable travel infrastructure in Emsworth, funded by S106 contributions from Hampshire Farm and Oak Tree Drive. Meetings with local members and the Portfolio Holder are being arranged at the time of writing, to gather key inputs to inform the direction of the studies.

Implementation of any schemes arising from the studies would be in the period summer 2014 – spring 2015.

West Beachlands Surface Dressing Works (HBC Funded)

Work to apply a surface dressing to the access road to Inn on the Beach and the access road leading from Central Beachlands to Inn on the Beach was completed on 27 June and finally swept to remove any surplus chippings during the week preceding the August Bank Holiday. Arrangements have been made with the Traffic team to reinstate the road markings as soon as possible.

Frendstaple Road Cycle Route (HBC Green Transport Funded)

Design on this scheme to provide a cycle route from A3 London Road to Park Lane via Highfield Avenue, The Glade and Tempest Way utilising the existing highways and footpaths wherever possible is complete and a bid to HCC extend this project to Park Lane and Sapphire Ridge has been successful. The design has been tendered and it is anticipated that the successful Contractor will commence construction work in late October 2013.

Car Park Slurry Sealing (HBC Funded)

Work has commenced to procure the slurry sealing of 4 No. car parks within the Borough, these are South Street Emsworth, Greywell Car Park Leigh Park, Rockville Drive and Wellington Way Waterlooville. It is anticipated that each car park will be either fully or partially closed whilst the works are carried out and all necessary white lining works completed before the car parks are opened. There will be extensive consultation with the Parking Partnership to ensure that any disruption is kept to a minimum. Work is anticipated to be completed before November 2013, but is subject to Contractor availability.

Bedhampton Way Pedestrian Refuge (HCC Funded)

Design on this scheme to provide a safe crossing point across Bedhampton Way opposite Keats House has been completed and consultation is underway. It is anticipated that this scheme will be tendered during October 2013, with an anticipated construction during November 2013.

Warblington School Footway (HCC Funded)

Construction work on Phase 1 of this scheme was completed in August 2013, the remaining Phase to link Southleigh Road to New Lane will be completed once the school re-development is at an advanced state. Currently the route is effectively blocked by the school sports hall and work can only commence once this hall has been demolished and the site cleared. It is anticipated that this will not happen until at least Summer 2014.

LSTF Waterlooville Cycle Strategy (HCC Funded)

The feasibility report on the options available to connect the various cycle routes leading into Waterlooville Town Centre has been prepared and is currently with HCC for comment before a formal consultation process with HBC & HCC Councillors is commenced.

Front Lawn Junior School (HCC Funded Safe Routes to School)

Design on this scheme to provide a cycle route from Middle Park Way to Dunsbury Way along High Lawn Way utilising the existing highways and footpaths wherever possible, the scheme will also encompass junction improvements at Middle Park Way and Broadmere Way. It is anticipated that design work will commence in November 2013 with construction completed before March 2014.

Hayling Sea Front Cycle Route PUSH Funded

Work started on site on 12 September constructing the second phase of the Seafront Footpath/Cycleway from the COPP memorial to Central Beachlands.

The excavation work on the footpath through the SSSI was finished by the end of September and the excavated material, including grass turves, was used to reinstate areas of redundant tarmac paving west of Central Beachlands, by agreement with Natural England. The remaining footpath sections will be completed during October and a bench seat is proposed next to the COPP memorial.

Community Safety

Supporting Troubled families – The supporting troubled families scheme has now entered its second year and has become the main focus of work for the Community Safety Team who are responsible for providing the leadership and co-ordination of the project locally. The team have had targets to identify and engage with 150 families by April 2014 and to date some 120 families have been identified and 50 are currently receiving active support.

The Havant Scheme was recently invited to address the Hampshire County Council management group chaired by Cllr Keith Mans and attended by County wide and Department of Communities and Local Government representatives to highlight best practice in the area.

CCTV – The review of CCTV continues under the auspices of the Environment and Neighbourhood Quality panel. Actions have included a street survey to gauge residents views and a survey of Councillors.

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Portfolio Holder Report – Council 16 October 2013

By Cllr Mike Fairhurst – Operational Services

Waste & Recycling Strategy & Management

The revised Christmas and New Year rubbish and recycling collection dates for 2013/14 have been approved. Further details of service changes over this period will be sent to all members early November. Residents will be informed, as in previous years, through the winter edition of Serving You, web site, social media etc.

During National Recycling Week, which took place in June this year, the council promoted the recycling and reuse of small electrical appliances. Residents brought 579 kg of electrical items to us across various sites. Two residents of the Borough won prizes after completing an awareness questionnaire. .

Although overall our contamination of recycling is not high, there are areas where there is a particular problem, and we have started to focus on them. On 18 September, a six week contamination and excess waste project started on a round in the Barncroft/Bedhampton wards.

The Waste and Recycling Advisors have been working in partnership with Wecock Housing Office to complete Phase 3 of the Wecock recycling project. All multi-occupancy flats now have access to recycling facilities and we have ensured that the rubbish bins on site have the correct capacity of to accommodate the reduced amount of waste. So far the quantity and quality of the recycling is good, and monitoring will continue to ensure this continues .

Streetcare

The team are continuing with their work in order to keep the Borough clean and tidy. We have recently undertaken concentrated work in Havant town centre – weed removal, addressing known hot spots (cigarette related litter) and leaf clearance - to ensure that the area is as clean and tidy as possible. We will be doing the same in Leigh Park and Waterlooville town centres in the near future.

Open Spaces

A major new tree planting scheme is starting at Cowplain Recreation Ground. The first phase is 21 trees to be completed by 2014, with around 40 trees planned.

Seven Small Leaved Lime and three Field Maple have been planted at the north end of Hooks Lane Recreation ground, in the final phase of the replacement of unsuitable poplars. This final phase of planting is funded by Tree Council Big Tree Plant.

Waterlooville Cemetery – there are now no new burial plots available. Funeral directors are aware and alternative options are being explored.

Havant Cemetery – the top half of existing common graves, where the first burial took place 75 years ago or longer, are being offered as new graves. This does not involve the disturbance of the original burial which remains in its original place.

College Road Open Space: HBC has £60K developer funding to be spent on children's play equipment in College Road. Officers have contacted PCC to see if they are interested in partnering in the project, and they wish to have the site transferred to them so they have control. PCC have indicated they will match the £60K from their budgets. South Downs College are interested in out door gym equipment and may be able to put some funding in as well. Discussions continue and residents are being consulted in advance of a formal consultation led by PCC early next year.

Coastal Recreation

Our 2013 Blue Flag season has now finished, and was another successful year. The Beachlands team have also supported the National Watersports Festival, which this year was bigger and better, and the recent Kite Surfing event, where a new world record was set for covering the distance of a mile in the fastest time. This was sponsored by 'Virgin' and Sir Richard Branson took part in the event.

Vehicle Workshop & Fleet Management

Vehicle workshop continue to undertake work for Crookhorn College and East Hants fleet vehicles, and we continue to work with other local authority partners within Hampshire seeking ever more efficiencies.

Two new refuse collection vehicles will be introduced in November and December replacing current end of life vehicles.

Sustainability

Following the first Switch Hampshire scheme, which aimed to save households money on their energy bills, we are extending the scheme to help small and medium businesses get a better deal on their energy bills. Switch Hampshire aims to help by searching for cheaper tariffs and assisting with the switching process. The scheme is free and businesses are under no obligation to switch.

The Havant Goes Greener Family Fair, which promotes a greener way of living, was held in Havant Park for the third successive year on Saturday, 14th September. The event was well attended and many were able to enjoy the free children's activities and live music as well as find out more about how making small changes can make a big difference.

The council has joined Solent Green Deal, a local scheme to help people make the most of the Government's national Green Deal (which offers loans for residents to make their homes more efficient which they then repay through their energy bills. Homeowners can request a council approved assessment of their property to get impartial advice on what improvements they could have done. For more information visit: www.solentgreendeal.org.uk

Portfolio Holder Report – Council 16 October 2013

By Cllr David Guest – Planning and Built Environment

Development Management

Major Developments – Progress update

Residential schemes

Woodcroft Farm, Eagle Avenue, Cowplain

Development Consultation Forum took place early 2012. A formal application has now been submitted proposing a development of 293 residential units comprising 6 x one bedroom, 115 x two bedroom, 132 x three bedroom and 40 x four bedroom houses with the retention of existing farmhouse and a new access road from Eagle Avenue. It is expected that the application will be reported to the Development Management Committee (DMC) before the end of the year.

Portsmouth Retail Park (Homebase & AMF Bowling) - 86 dwellings

The application is still under consideration, following the submission of further information by the applicant. It is likely to be reported to a meeting of the DMC in October or November.

Copseys Nursery/Manor Farm, Havant

Application for part outline and part full permission approved at the meeting of Development Management Committee on 25 April 2013. In relation to the Manor Farm (91 dwellings) phase, discharge of conditions application has been received; the developer started clearance works on site in July and has undertaken required archaeological investigations. Construction has now commenced.

In relation to the Copseys phase, a detailed (reserved matters) application for that part of the site for the erection of 100 dwellings with 65 open market units and 35 affordable units with associated parking, landscape and public open space, has been received and was granted approval under officer delegated powers on 2 October.

West of Waterlooville MDA

Pre-application work is under way on Phase 2 of the Grainger part of the MDA, with a presentation to be made to the West of Waterlooville Forum in the coming weeks.

Land at Station Road, Hayling Island

Outline application submitted in late June for 60 dwellings and 1250sqm of Class B1 business space. The applicant has previously undertaken independent community consultation/exhibition and the application is likely to be considered by DMC in October or November 2013.

Land south of Scratchface Lane, Havant

Following the granting of outline planning permission, a Reserved Matters approval application for 92 dwellings has now been submitted and was reported to the meeting of the DMC held on 3 October.

Commercial schemes

Dunsbury Hill Farm - 61,000sqm mixed B1, B2 & B8 plus 95 bed hotel/conference facility

Following the DMC resolution to grant permission at the meeting held on 28th March 2013, outstanding matters relating to Ecology have now been settled to the satisfaction of the Council's Ecological advisor. The S106 between the Borough and County Council's and Portsmouth City Council is nearing completion and will cover the provision of funds and land by PCC as part of the future improvement works to the 'ASDA' roundabout at Purbrook Way/Hulbert Road, which is a separate but related project. It was announced recently that the roundabout project has been awarded a national Pinch-Point grant of £3.7M

We understand that PCC has prepared marketing plans for the site in order to take it to the market after the planning permission is issued.

BAE site, Waterlooville - mixed redevelopment

An application for mixed commercial development was approved earlier in the year. A new application has now been received proposing a mixed-use employment, leisure and retail development involving the demolition of main building and the erection of a hotel, cinema, three restaurants, a public house, a drive-thru restaurant, a food store and the retention of existing buildings for use as either offices or conversion to a bowling complex/health and fitness centre & restaurant.

Planning appeals decisions

The Kench, Hayling Island – conversion of barge

Appeal against enforcement notice - Public Inquiry took place in June and was adjourned until early August. The Inspector's decision has allowed the retention of a former barge which had been brought to an existing mooring and converted to a houseboat. The Inspector has allowed the houseboat to remain but has agreed with the Council that the use of the mooring does not lawfully cover the carrying out of conversion works.

Goldring Close, Hayling Island - 130 dwellings

This application was refused on policy grounds. An appeal was lodged and a Public Inquiry concluded June. The Inspector decided to allow the appeal. Members have received a written briefing on the implications of the decision.

Development Consultation Forums

Following a quiet period on the DCF front – whereby we have seen a number of schemes that have been the subject of a Forum move forward to applications – there is renewed interest from developers on a number of sites which feature in the Publications Local Plan (Allocations) and there are likely to be 2 or 3 DCFs coming forward in the period leading up to Christmas.

Planning workloads

The Development Management team are continuing to receive a high workload, particularly of major planning applications and pre-application enquiries. Planning application fee income is again significantly ahead of budget, reflecting the number of major proposals under consideration.

Changes to the constitution

As part of the recently approved changes to the constitution, third parties, applicants or their agents are no longer able to directly request that a planning application be considered by the Development Management Committee. This change is aimed at ensuring that only those applications which require consideration by the Development Management Committee (DMC) are placed before the Committee.

If an applicant, agent or third party wishes an application to be considered by the Committee, and officers are minded to determine the proposal under delegated powers, they can approach their local ward councillor and ask them to make a written (e-mail) request on their behalf. The ward Councillor can consider the request and decide whether they believe there are sound planning grounds for seeking a referral to the DMC. The final decision on whether the matter is considered by the Committee rests with the Chairman of the Committee, who will have regard to the reasons given for the referral.

This initiative should remove from the Committee agendas some of the very minor items that regularly appear and allow the Committee to focus on the more significant proposals.

A training session on the new constitution and scheme of delegation for the Planning and Built Environment Service will be held on Monday 25 November at 5:00pm.

Planning Policy

The extraordinary Council on 2 October had an excellent debate around the merits of the Local Plan (Allocations) and unanimously (1 abstention) agreed to support the Publication of the Plan. The Plan identifies specific sites in the five areas of the Borough for new housing and employment land to meet the targets set in the Core Strategy. No changes are envisaged to the Local Plan now unless significant new evidence emerges. The public consultation on the Publication Local Plan began on 11 October and runs until 22 November. All comments will be summarised and then sent on to the Planning Inspectorate as the formal Submission in January 2014.

The Planning Inspector will then consider all the comments made. The Inspector will Examine whether the plan as Submitted in 'Sound' in May 2014. If he agrees that the Plan is Sound then he will recommend that the Council adopt the Plan. This could be as soon as July 2014. At this point the Local Plan provides the best tool for managing development and would put Havant at the forefront of Councils having full local plans in place.

Until the whole Local plan is adopted then developers may speculate on sites and submit planning applications. If a site is proposed to be allocated in the local Plan (Allocations) then the Interim housing Policy Statement would encourage planning permission to be granted. If a site is not in the Local Plan (Allocations) then the developer should promote their site at the Examination, as the recommendation is likely to be for refusal on the grounds of prematurity. How strong this position turns out to be is unclear and is likely to be tested before July next year.

CIL has now been used since August 1. The process seems to be working fine. Hampshire County Council continue to seek significant sums for Education contributions on top of CIL and this could affect development viability.

Building Control

In the previous report in July it was identified that new Fire Risk Assessment and Code for Sustainable Homes assessment services were being developed by Building Control to help generate additional income and these were due to be marketed by the end of summer to customers. This marketing is now underway and the first piece of work was recently commissioned. Over the next year it is anticipated that there will be a slow growth in these new income streams. Other new income generating opportunities are also starting to be examined and implemented such as involvement in the Solent Green Deal Project.

Income up to the end of August 2013 for Building Control is approximately £15,000 up on the same time last year. This represents a 12% increase.

Coastal Management

Eastoke Point Coastal Defence Works

The Eastoke Point works have continued to progress well over the summer months, with the placement of 69,000 tonnes of rock to complete the construction of the 650m rock revetment and three new rock groynes. The main rock placing element of the scheme was completed in September in line with the original programme despite a 4 week delay to the first rock delivery.

Work continues with the import of over 30,000 tonnes of shingle to cover the new rock revetment and raise the level of the beach in front of the new structure. The majority of imported shingle is being brought to Eastoke by road from aggregate suppliers who have screened the material and are providing only the coarse gradings between 20mm and 63mm as this material will perform better as a coastal defence. Between 5,000 – 10,000 tonnes of shingle will be imported to Eastoke by road during October to complete this phase of the work. In addition 7,700m³ of

mixed sand and gravel has been deposited on the foreshore at Eastoke by rainbowing the material directly from the Sospan Dau dredger. This material has been sourced from the entrance channel to Chichester Harbour as part of a required maintenance dredge and the operation delivered in partnership with Chichester Harbour Conservancy.

The concrete works are progressing well and the drainage ramp at groyne 8 was completed mid-September. The ramp at groyne 10 will be completed during the first week of October. The pedestrian access ramp at Nutbourne Road is in place and all concrete work is complete. The handrails and anti-slip surface are yet to be placed. The access steps at Bosmere Road are also complete save for the anti-slip surface and handrails. Both areas are yet to be re-surfaced.

The splash wall repairs east of Bosmere Road are progressing well after some initial problems with workmanship. Some sections of the splash wall are complete and the work has been carried out to a high standard.

The current estimated outturn cost for scheme completion is £5,350,000. HBC has to date claimed and received £5,107,000 in grant aid from the Environment Agency for the scheme. £4,349,861 has been paid out by HBC to the contractors to date. The project remains on programme for completion in October 2013

New ESCP Website

The Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership (ESCP) recently launched a new ESCP branded website. The website has been developed to act as a central hub of information for the work we undertake, our key projects and our latest news.

The new website will enable all of the ESCP's professional partners and the public to access and download key information about our service and will also provide a valuable educational and engagement tool for many of our key projects.

Please visit our newly launched website at <http://www.escp.org.uk>

Asset Management Investment Plan

Asset Inspections for HBC owned and maintained coastal frontages were undertaken in Spring 2013 and the assets with the highest maintenance urgency identified for maintenance repair.

The Asset Inspections identified that a further section of the Sloping Timber Revetment required emergency works to demolition a further 150m to prevent a potential health and safety risk. In June 2013, Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership (ESCP) were successful in gaining Emergency Funding through the Environment Agency for the demolition of this part of the sloping timber revetment at Inn on the Beach, Hayling Island. ESCP were successful in gaining 77% of this demolition cost via Flood Defence Grant in Aid, the 23% being met through HBC Coastal Maintenance Revenue Funds. Through smarter working, utilising plant from the Eastoke Point Coastal Defence Works which would have been sat idle due to

weather delays, demolition costs were kept to a minimum through mobilisation cost savings. The total demolition cost of this phase of works was £66k.

This phase of works took 4 weeks to carry out and ESCP worked closely with the HBC Operations Team, HBC Engineering Works Team and the individual Beach Hut owners to ensure a smooth operation in removing the failing section of revetment whilst successfully re-locating the beach huts further back.

Other Asset Maintenance works this year also include Timber Maintenance works along the Eastoke Frontage in March and April 2013, of which £20k was taken from this years maintenance budgets. The Asset Inspections identified a failing section of Sloping Armorflex Revetment located at the north of Langstone Harbour, near Broadmarsh. These works are expected to cost approximately £20k and will be carried out this financial year.

The Asset Investment Plan is a live document and will give a priority rating and estimated costing to maintaining the defences along the HBC owned and maintained coastline. A copy of this will be available end October 2013.

ESCP have also been working with 'The Friends of Nore Barn Woods' who have raised £22k to build an 83m section of Armorloc Revetment to provide protection to the trees and footpath at Nore Barn Woods, to the north of Chichester Harbour. ESCP will procure these works via the Minor Works Framework and supervise the works on-site. The Friends of Nore Barn Woods will finance the operation whilst also paying for ESCP staff officer time for managing the project. These works are also expected to be completed this financial year.

Coastal Communities Adapting to Change - (CCATCH)

The CCATCH project aims to raise awareness of coastal change in 5 at risks communities in the Solent region. One of the chosen communities is Langstone in Havant.

The project has moved forward significantly since the last briefing and has a clearly defined set of objectives which the community have set for the project team.

These objectives are:

- 1) Production of a community level flood plan- The hope is that this will help all those in Langstone to organise themselves in what can be a fairly chaotic event. The plan will give each home owner clear instructions as to what they need to do and will define roles for the wider community who wish to help;
- 2) Guide residents on Property level flood protection and Home and contents insurance- The National Flood forum will be attending a community meeting on the 2nd October 2013 to provide information to residents on property flood protection, they will also look to assist residents in finding competitive insurance quotations as many have difficulty insuring their properties due to the perceived risk of flooding.

The project is due to finish in December 2013 and the project team aims to have achieved its goals of raising awareness of coastal change in Langstone and helping the community adapt to that change. The Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership have played a key role throughout the project and will continue to do so until project closure.

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Portfolio Holder Report – Council 16 October 2013

By Cllr Yvonne Weeks – Economy & Communities

Housing Services

Development Update

I am delighted to report that in Quarter 2 (July- September) of 2013 we have seen a record total of 63 new affordable housing units delivered across the borough:

31 Affordable Rent homes
4 Shared Ownership homes
2 Shared Equity homes (Merlion Homes- South Park Court, Havant)
26 Help to Buy homes

These units are spread across various sites including:
Redlands Grange Emsworth, 158 Hart Plain Avenue, Cowplain, Purbrook Place, Waterlooville and Berewood, Waterlooville (MDA).

Current development sites

- **Hampshire Farm, Emsworth** - 75 affordable units in total, all units now delivered in Phase 1, Bellway. Phase 2 under construction with a further 49 affordable units to be delivered by Bloor Homes in partnership with First Wessex. 4 Shared Ownership units delivered Q2 with 4 Affordable rent units due March 2014. Timescales for other Bellway units to be confirmed.
- **Mary Rose House, Woolston Road**- 25 affordable units, to be delivered by Guinness Hermitage. Start on site achieved, slow build and completion dates yet to be confirmed
- **St Michaels Convent** - 25 affordable units to be delivered by Linden Homes in partnership with Guinness Hermitage. Completion expected from 12th November 2013 for first 4 flatted units. Anticipate slippage due to unexpected asbestos issues within demolition.
- **Dukes Meadow** - Phases 3 & 4, 88 affordable units, mixed tenure to be delivered by Taylor Wimpey in partnership with Radian, application granted 28/06/2013. Start on site achieved. First units in Havant area due for handover August 2014.
- **Berewood, Waterlooville MDA** - Phase 1, Bloor Homes (194 units in total), 78 affordable homes, rented to be delivered by Guinness Hermitage (Social & Affordable), intermediate to be delivered by Grainger. First completions now confirmed as October 2013.

Housing Options

During Quarter 2 recruitment to vacant posts has taken place resulting in the new structure being in place in preparation for tackling the potential impact of the Welfare Reform.

The team has placed fewer households in B&B this quarter and for one week there were no households in B&B. At the end of the quarter there were 3 households in B&B with two of these in the process of moving to alternative accommodation. The reason for the slight reduction in B&B use has been attributed to the prevention and early intervention work being carried out. Emphasis is always on prevention or sourcing alternative forms of accommodation.

Hampshire Home Choice

The final changes to the Allocations Policy are now being implemented – removal of Band 5. Applicants have all been written to and given a three month transition period which is now coming to an end. I will be attending a Hampshire Choice Board meeting later in the month to consider the impact of the changes.

A Hampshire Home Choice staff conference was held for all the partners on 9 October 2013 at Test Valley giving officers the opportunity to consider the impact of the first six months of the revised Allocations Policy,

Sport & Leisure

The National Watersports Festival took place for the first time in it's new format from Friday 30 August – Sunday 1 September. This year the festival took a larger area of land at Beachlands to offer competition and taster sessions in four watersport disciplines. Havant Borough Council provided the opportunity for local residents to book onto windsurfing taster sessions over the course of the weekend and provided a total of 80 places for residents aged 8+. The taster sessions were delivered by the Official Test Centre. Overall it was estimated that 8000 people visited the event over the course of the weekend with over 600 competitors. Another strong positive from the event was the partnership that has been developed with South Downs College to provide an opportunity for Public Service students to gain valuable work experience. The National Watersports Festival organiser has requested a provisional date of 5, 6 & 7 September 2014.

The Community Officer (Leisure and Sport Development) has been representing Havant Borough Council on the community access to schools strategic group. This group is driving a Sport England pilot project looking at how best to utilise school sports facilities for community use, linking in with local sports clubs. This project continues to move forwards and has developed strong links with the Havant Federation Heads. As part of a strategic approach the group is developing a vision for sport and physical activity in Havant which will support the development of the project as a whole.

The Community Officer (Leisure & Sport Development) has been working closely with the Havant Borough Sports Association to support their growth and development. The Havant Borough Sports Association play a key role in supporting local sports clubs and individuals to work together and achieve their objectives. The Mayor of Havant hosted a Havant Borough Sports Association Networking event on Thursday 10th October at Havant Leisure Centre.

The Havant Borough Sports Association have confirmed that the Havant Sports Awards will take place on Thursday 13 February at Havant Leisure Centre.

The Community Officer (Leisure and Sports Development) is working with a variety of sports clubs and organisation, including schools, on developing their sports facilities and infrastructure. Many of the projects are at different stages of development, covering a number of different sports and activities.

Economic Development

FSB Business Friendly Awards

At the Hampshire Federation of Small Business Awards, Havant BC was Highly Commended in the Best all round Business Friendly Award. The award recognises the hard work of the economic development team and wider council services in supporting local businesses and will be formally presented at the next Full Council meeting.

Asda Roundabout – Pinchpoint Funding

Hampshire CC was successful in its bid to the government for Pinch Point funding for improvements to the Asda roundabout. The bid which was supported by HBC and Portsmouth CC enables the delivery of part of the infrastructure required to unlock Dunsbury Hill Farm and the creation of up to 3500 new jobs in the borough in the future. The Department for Transport have awarded HCC £3.7m for the project.

Leigh Park High Street – improvements

Over the past 2 years, local entrepreneur Mark Smith has acquired and refurbished a number properties in Park Parade, Leigh Park. As a result of his work, 14 retail units have now been let to small businesses at sensible rents bringing new life back into Park Parade.

While this is an example of strong private sector led regeneration, HBC have supported this initiative by providing start up grants to some of the new tenants, installing vinyl images on empty units prior to their occupation and providing support and assistance to Mr Smith through the planning process. This latest phase of the project culminated in the official opening of four of the new shops by the Mayor of Havant on 1st October.

Mayors Business Reception

The Mayor of Havant will be hosting a business reception on Tuesday 15 Oct 2013 (1830 -2030) at Public Service Plaza, Havant. The event will include introductions from the Mayor and a keynote speech from Solent Local Enterprise Partnership. The event will also include a small exhibition of business support products available from Govt and local authorities. All Havant businesses are welcome and up to 100 local businesses are expected to attend.

Leader Rural Development – transition funding

West Sussex CC's bid to Defra for LEADER Transition funding for 2014 of £30,000 for Three Harbours & Coastal Plain Local Action Group has been approved in full. The bid which is matched by a £2,000 contribution from HBC, allows programme capacity to be retained allowing the Hayling and Emsworth area to be positioned to benefit from the next Leader programme that commences in 2015.

Tourism

On Sunday 15th September 2013 at Hayling Island, Sir Richard Branson joined 317 other kitesurfers as they attempted, successfully to break the world record for the 'Largest Parade of kitesurfers' ever assembled. HBC staff assisted with the practical arrangements for the highly successful event which further cements Hayling's reputation as a watersports destination.

Unemployment figures

Unemployment continues to fall. Numbers are down from 2028 (2.8%) in July to 2000 (2.7%) in August.

Unemployed Claimants and Residential Unemployment Rate: August 2013						
Havant						
Census Area Statistic Ward	Males		Females		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Barncroft	116	6.4	52	2.7	168	4.5
Battins	156	8.0	93	4.4	249	6.2
Bedhampton	54	2.0	42	1.5	96	1.8
Bondfields	144	6.9	62	3.0	206	5.0
Cowplain	49	1.7	30	1.0	79	1.4
Emsworth	55	2.3	34	1.3	89	1.8
Hart Plain	118	4.2	60	2.0	178	3.1
Hayling East	64	2.5	32	1.2	96	1.9
Hayling West	55	2.5	27	1.1	82	1.8
Purbrook	58	2.1	35	1.2	93	1.6
St Faith's	61	2.5	38	1.4	99	1.9
Stakes	121	3.9	77	2.4	198	3.1
Warren Park	164	8.0	94	4.0	258	5.9
Waterloo	70	2.5	39	1.4	109	1.9
Havant*	1,285	3.6	715	1.9	2,000	2.7

Community Development

Havant

Havant 50+ Forum & H50 Coffee mornings – a timetable has been arranged to take older persons groups to each H50 coffee morning. The groups will be invited from Hayling Island, Emsworth, Leigh Park and Waterlooville. The aim is to then attract new members to join the Havant 50+ Forum from different areas of the borough. Asda are very kindly providing free transport.

The V Team, a Community First (CF) project, has been shortlisted for a Cash for Communities Grant; officers have been promoting the project and aiming to gain as many votes as possible to help CF obtain funding. If successful, CF will be made aware by 7 October 2013.

Hayling Island

Hayling Island Community Network are planning to publish the completed community plan and share the results with members of the public and partner agencies.

The first Heritage Lottery bid for the Hayling Billy 50 Project was unsuccessful; therefore a second application has been submitted taking on board comments from the panel. A decision will be made within eight weeks.

Emsworth

The Community Team has been approached by the Emsworth Community Association who have requested assistance in recruiting a newly created post within the Centre and to help with some wider consultation in the area.

Waterlooville

Waterlooville Community Forum

Events team - The 'Waterlooville Events team' organised the 'Waterlooville Summer Fete' which was held in Jubilee Park on 18th August. The fete was very well attended by all ages of the community. The feedback from attendees was extremely positive with many asking for the date of the next one.

Community Planning - Havant Borough Council have been recording and analysing the responses collected from the Waterlooville Consultation surveys. 1,100 were completed by local residents. The results have been passed to the Waterlooville Forum. The issues highlighted from the surveys will be a focus of a meeting between residents and partners who will discuss the issues and negotiate actions to be taken and a Community plan will be produced.

Wecock Big Local (£1million Lottery Funding)

Wecock residents and supporting agencies who formed the 'Big Local group' in December have been busy over the summer months 'consulting' with local residents of all ages to find out what they feel the £1million should be spent on. The group attended several venues and events including the Acorn Community centre, Hart Plain Infants school fete, Woodcroft school fair, Living Waters Big lunch, Asda and WACA Community Awareness fun day and the Waterlooville Summer Fete. All of the ideas and suggestions are currently being collated and the priorities will be identified.

As requested by members of the group a 'Big Local' American supper took place at Living Waters Church as a way of attracting more local people to the project and as a way of existing members to get to know each other better.

Members of the 'Big Local' group continue to promote the project via word of mouth, email and through Social Media. Letter box mail shots have been requested by residents as another way of keeping them up to date. The website has proved to be a good source of information, plans to develop this site are ongoing www.webiglocal.org

Residents have decided that a 'project officer' should be employed as part of the '£20k Getting started grant', this money is in addition to the £1million Lottery funding. Interviews have just taken place, Community First HEH will act as the 'employer' and the project officer will be based at the Acorn Community centre.

Monthly meetings take place and are held at the Acorn Community Centre.

Community and Housing – Community Advice Day

The 'Community Advice day' which was held at the Plaza on Monday 16th September was a huge success. Over 150 Havant Borough residents attended to seek advice and guidance from a range of exhibitors about changes to their benefits including under occupancy (bedroom tax), debt, money advice and tenancy issues including rent arrears. Free guidance and support was on offer from a range of local services including Housing benefit, Guinness Hermitage, Citizens Advice Bureau, Community First, Southern Domestic Abuse Service, Southern Scottish Electric and the Waterlooville Food Bank. The aim of the event was to offer help and support to those families facing difficulties in today's economic climate. 14 residents won gift vouchers from local food stores such as Tesco, Asda and Iceland in the free prize draw. Children were kept entertained by Peppa Pig and a local children's entertainer. The event is the first of its kind but after receiving positive feedback from residents it has been decided that this event will return next year.

'Community Development in Waterlooville' Facebook page

The HBC 'Community Development in Waterlooville' Facebook has attracted another 163 new followers totalling 873 people. Interaction from members of the public has increased resulting in increased participation in local projects and events.

Age Concern

Members of the Cowplain community are being encouraged to attend monthly meetings at the Borrow Centre to participate in the 'Cowplain History project'. 50 members of the Community attended the first meeting. Old photos and maps of the area are being sourced in order to develop the project.

Leigh Park and Bedhampton

New Team Member

A new Community Officer for Leigh Park and Bedhampton was successfully appointed and joined the team in early August. Andy Wheeler has been settling in well, spending a majority of his time making contact with individuals and local groups in Leigh Park and Bedhampton. Andy used to work for HBC back in 08/09 overseeing a lottery funded play project within the Communities Team. He organised the running of events such as 'Play Day' at Staunton Country Park and co-ordinated play development projects such as the 'Adizone' on Hayling Island.

Community First Funding Panels

The Barncroft and West Leigh Community First Panel year three applications have now been uploaded onto the Community Development Foundation (CDF) website. The CDF should be distributing the £8,489 per ward shortly and will be liaising with each recipient on their grant allocations. The Community First panels will meet soon to discuss year three activities, and funding allocations for the final 2014/2015 year.

Leigh Park Community Forum

The last Forum meeting was held on 16th September where a discussion took place around the continuation of the group. A sub group met the following week to discuss how the group could improve and become a useful resource for local residents. It was felt at this sub group that the Forum had been in the same situation for over a year and had always struggled to engage residents. The Forum has now been suspended for the immediate future.

Leigh Park Community Led Planning

Consultation has now been extended until a greater amount of surveys have been completed. Approximately only 300 surveys have been completed and the group's aim is to try and obtain 1000. Plans to increase survey up take will include future engagement with groups, who already have hard copies of the survey and reaching out to the community with days at ASDA supermarket.

Making Space

A representative from the team will be sitting on the Making Space heritage project advisory group, 'On The Street Where We Live'. Advising on the

project's planned activities, helping the group to make relevant contacts and promote the project within the wider community.

Leigh Park Activity Challenge Enterprise (ACE)

The Leigh Park ACE group are aiming to obtain charitable status by March 2014 and officers are supporting with this.

Parchment Place

The play equipment at Parchment Place, which was due to be removed in May 2013, has now been removed.

West of Waterlooville Community Development

Children and Young People

Links have been made with Denmead Youth Club to engage with and support young people from the development. Youth Workers from HCC and the Youth Club will be visiting the development on a regular basis between October and Christmas, getting to know the young people and helping to arrange joint activities. The longer term aim is to use the Communicare minibus to take a group to the club on a weekly basis. Should the detached youth work be successful then further funding can be secured based on the ideas and needs of the young people.

Subject to securing external funding, agreement in principle has been given for a partnership with Action for Children (who run both Happy Valley/Denmead and Mill Hill/Waterlooville Children's Centres) to employ a Family Outreach Worker and Play Worker for the development. The outline aim is to provide weekly play sessions on both the Taylor Wimpey and Grainger sites, to work with those families needing additional support and linking them back to the activities being offered by the Centres. More details will be available once a suitable funding source has been identified and further discussions have taken place.

Halloween Event – Thursday 31st October

A Halloween event is planned for children and young people during half term. Winchester Theatre Royal will be hosting a Zombie workshop to teach children costume design and face painting as well putting together a short performance. This will be followed up by a taster session at a later date for those interested in joining the drama group in Denmead. Denmead Youth Club, Happy Valley and Mill Hill Children's Centres and Winchester City Council Neighbourhood Wardens will be also be supporting the event and it is hoped the activities will encourage a safe, trouble free Halloween.

Pride in Old Park Farm

The early problems of young people visiting the development on pushbikes have been resolved and residents have reported a quiet summer. The few isolated incidents that have occurred have been dealt with quickly and efficiently by the police to the satisfaction of residents.

Some repairs have been made to the Play Area but unfortunately the swing seat is still missing. There is a lot of litter and damage to the bench and bin which has been reported to Taylor Wimpey but has yet to be addressed. HBC are ready to inspect and adopt the play area, but this cannot take place until the repairs have been made and the site inspected.

Old Park Farm Residents Association

The AGM took place on September 12th 2013. The Management Committee (4 residents) and Committee members (7 residents, 3 vacancies) were elected, providing a good mix of skills and backgrounds and geographically covering the whole development. Residents present were given the opportunity to put forward their top three priorities and these are being firmed up to create a plan for the development.

Neighbourhood Watch

A number of interested residents have come forward and a pilot scheme is being established in Coulter Road and Sickle Way. Once this scheme is up and running it is hoped to roll it out into other areas on the development.

Portakabin

The Community Officer Portakabin is now fully installed (except water) and equipped and provides a base for the Development Officer, however as it is situated in the Bloor Compound it is not yet accessible to the public.

Household Waste

Discussions have begun between HBC & WCC. Should it be decided that a single authority take over the collections there would need to be some synergy over customer service and expectations as these are different for each authority (for example response times for missed bins). A meeting is due to take place soon.

Waterlooville Baptist Church Minister

Rev. John Thompson recently joined the Baptist Church as an Associate Minister with a focus on Families, Children and Youth Work, but also working half time as a Community Minister to the new Berewood Estate. The Community Officer and Minister have met and are already working on a number of initiatives to engage with the new residents of the Berewood development.

Public Art Programme

Three events took place throughout August and September, arranged by Clare Halstead. Activities included Free Running, Table Tennis, Story Telling and Drama Games, along with a photography project. Partners included Winchester Theatre Royal, The Spring, Motiv8, WCC, HBC & Radian and more. The events were well attended, particularly by children. Partners commented on the good sense of community and the positive attitude and

behaviour of the children. These events are the last to be funded through the Public Art Programme.

There is still funding for a further two commissions but following consultation with the Residents Association and with the issues of not being able to install work on the development until the land is adopted, it has been agreed that these commissions will be put on hold for the time being while further consultation with residents can be carried out. This also ensures the public art is spread across the whole development, including Phases 3 and 4.

Community Notice Board - Two notice boards were installed, one on The Green and one by the Play Area and a third one stored until the footpath through to the school on the Grainger site is complete. It was agreed by the Advisory Group the standard of workmanship on the Boards was not acceptable and a list of required works has been identified. The Boards were collected September 17th for repairs and should be reinstalled within 6-8 weeks.

WoW Pod versatile meeting space - The WoW Pod is complete and is being stored in Brighton (at the artists studio). Taylor Wimpey will not permit the Pod on site until the land is adopted therefore an interim location is needed. An agreement has been reached with Cowplain Secondary School to locate the WoW Pod near the Business Centre with the a clear understanding that the Pod was created primarily for the enjoyment of the West of Waterlooville residents and must be accessible for wider community groups and events. The school site is busy and overlooked with activities on site until 10pm and this arrangement means the Pod will be used day and night by a variety of groups and ages. This is a temporary arrangement until the Western Open Space is adopted or other sites become available and can be reviewed at any time.

Taylor Wimpey are holding an exhibition on the revised plans for the Phase 5 Development of Old Park Farm on **Wednesday 16 October 3.00 - 7:30pm** at Basepoint, Waterberry Drive, Waterlooville. Taylor Wimpey have been given outline planning permission for employment/industrial units in this area but wish to submit a revised planning application to include 103 residential dwellings.

Portfolio Holder Report – Council 16 October 2013

By Cllr Michael Cheshire – Marketing & Development

Marketing

The Marketing team have produced a Stakeholder Engagement model, aiming to measure stakeholder (Customer) satisfaction. We will be carrying out an extensive set of surveys including the residents survey, on street surveys and opinions carried out by Councillors, focus groups and we have an ambition to have an on-line forum. The results of this survey will provide valuable information on how we, as a Council can do even better and engaging with our residents.

The Marketing team have completed a review of the customer access points needed in the south of the Borough and a recommendation has been prepared for the Joint Executive Board.

I would urge Councillors to keep an eye on forthcoming events as there is a strong possibility that the “Portsmouth Military Wives” will be singing for us in the Atrium around “Remembrance” time.

Councillors will also be pleased to know that the Marketing of the Events Suits is doing well and on track for our income for this financial year.

Communications

Press cover has been largely neutral in tone. We anticipate continued press cover throughout the release of the Core Strategy, the first article already hit the front page of ‘The News on Saturday 28 September 2013. PR will be maintained as positive as ever, always emphasising that the Planning team have carried out thorough the Consultation period thus ensuring that there are no ‘surprises’ in the plan. The Planning team have been commended on their first class approach on this difficult matter.

Human Resources

We continue to work with our strategic ‘People Plan’ as our HR guide and it is proving to be an important tool for the team. Progress on the plan is on target and progressing as expected. We are working towards the streamlining of many of our processes and we are collaborating with our colleagues in Corporate Support in order to enlist resources ensuring that this process is delivered within the agreed time.

In order that we monitor our effectiveness on an ongoing basis, we will be providing our colleagues and ‘internal’ customers the opportunity to give feedback via a questionnaire in the coming weeks. This will ensure important guidance in the areas where our service users require and need our help and support. It should be noted that the portfolio holder assisted with a Customer Exit Survey recently, and there was a unanimous declaration by those who he survey how friendly the staff were, how light, modern and airy the Atrium is and how modern and 21st Century the whole Council now looks.

The Employee Survey was launched in September following some initial work by the Staff Focus Group and we look forward to the results which are due during November.

Learning & Development

The Corporate Training Plan, consisting of 23 training days in total, has been well received with 11 dates already fully booked. Our employees have taken the opportunity to develop themselves in a number of areas, as shown in the sample below.

- Negotiation and Influencing Skills
- Working Smarter and Effective Delegation
- Financial Management
- Contract Management - An Introduction
- Strategic Contract Management
- Budget Control
- Managing Conflict
- Managing Stress in the Workplace
- Effective Communication

In addition, employees have the opportunity to gain accreditation with the Institute of Leadership Management (ILM) by attending some of the courses above and we have 20 employees working towards this accreditation.

Finally, we have provided the opportunity for employees to attend a course in coaching skills which began on 20 September and there are 20 employees who will be undertaking this process of development. The course comprises six training dates and will conclude in January 2014. The Councils will then benefit from a pool of trained Internal Coaches, which is, clearly a cost effective and efficient way of developing our staff.

ICT

The ICT team has been focusing on the upgrade of it's Planning system to implement a structured trigger based approach to how planning application are prioritised. Additionally the project to upgrade the Hantsnet desktop has kicked off with Microsoft Office 2010 being the new version to be rolled out early next year. Alongside this, HBC is currently preparing for it's next annual Public Service Network compliance submission.

User satisfaction levels around the services supplied through Hantsnet are showing improvements as staff are becoming used to the configuration and also Hampshire IT are starting to feel more comfortable with our HBC systems.

Business Transformation

It has been a busy time for Business Transformation, who have been working closely with finance staff to develop a programme of work to set draft budgets for the forthcoming year. This programme of work will also align the budget with new ways of

working and incorporate the principals of the Marketing Strategy. In conjunction with this work the Business Planning is well underway and will deliver on time.

Customer Service

The Customer Service team experienced a challenge to their service levels during an unanticipated dip in staffing levels over the summer. The team met the challenge well and received no adverse customer feedback on the dip in the time it took us to answer our calls.

The progress in delivering the customer access strategy was reported at Overview and Scrutiny, the full update report can be found at:

<http://havant.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=123&MId=262&Ver=4>

Safer Havant Partnership

The Safer Havant Partnership met on 23 September, amongst the business transacted was a review of the Partnership Budget and projects for 2014/15. It is worthy of note that the Partnership has agreed to continue to fund a Partnership Project support post within the Community Safety Team. The Partnership has also agreed to provide support in the form of staff time in relation to Supporting Troubled scheme.

Hampshire County Group – I attended the recent County Crime and Disorder Group to represent the Safer Havant Partnership area and in my role challenged the fact that the many and various emergency services and other groups are still using separate data collection schemes. It seems to me that in this day and age there should be a more joined up approach. I will be raising this locally with Partnership representatives and at a Hampshire wide level with Simon Hayes, the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Halloween/Guy Fawkes – As Chair of the Partnership I have attended planning meetings to challenge Anti Social Behaviour over the forthcoming festivities. There will be joint patrols of HBC Rangers, Police and Fire Service to engage with young people and to identify and dismantle unauthorised bonfires. I will also be writing to the media and local businesses to seek their support in keeping flammable materials out of harms way and to encourage sensible use of fireworks. All members are asked to recommend the HBC Firework Display as a family event for all!

Junior Citizen – This years junior citizen event which is funded by HBC the Safer Havant Partnership and the Hampshire Police and Crime Commissioner will be held at Fort Purbrook between 11 – 22 November. Over 1,000 children from across the Borough will be guided through a day of scenarios including. Domestic Abuse, First Aid, Fire Safety, Alcohol abuse, Graffiti and littering and general good citizenship. Members are welcome to attend. Please contact Tim Pointer to arrange.

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