Supplementary Information

HAVANT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLANNING COMMITTEE MONDAY, 13TH FEBRUARY, 2023

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Please note that the attached supplementary information was unavailable when the agenda was printed.

Agenda No Item

5(a) APP/22/00681 - Havant Thicket, adjacent to Sir George Staunton Country Park, Middle Park Way, Havant

Proposal:

Application for approval of all Reserved Matters relating to Phase 1 (northern access route from Manor Lodge Road (B2149)) of the Havant Thicket Reservoir Project (Hybrid permission APP/20/00990) and approval of condition Nos: 2, 13, 20, 27, 28, 32, 36, 37, 38 and 39 also in relation to

the northern access route.

Additional Documents



Deputation for HBC Planning Committee 13th February 2023

<u>Script for address by Atkins, on behalf of Portsmouth Water as applicants, on</u>

Phase 1 Reserved Matters Application (Up to 3 minutes allowed)

- 1. Havant Thicket Reservoir is an **environmentally-led** scheme reducing abstraction and safeguarding two of Hampshire's internationally-protected chalk streams the Test and Itchen. It would supply Portsmouth Water customers nearby, enabling a transfer to Southern Water from other sources. This is the first of potentially 10 reserved matters applications to be determined over the next 4 years.
- 2. The Reservoir planning permission gives outline permission for the Northern Access Route and we have worked within the approved development parameters to develop the detail further, ensuring it respects the site constraints. The Scheme will accommodate two-way traffic at the new access with the B2149. The route then becomes single lane carriageway with passing bays to ensure that the footprint of the works follows the existing track and is kept to a minimum. This will minimise the loss of trees and Ancient Woodland. A combination of both "dig" and "no dig" approaches has been selected, to ensure trees in close proximity are protected.
- 3. The Highway Authority has raised no objection to the proposed access road. The passing bays will help to limit tailbacks and it is considered that the design is appropriate for the level of traffic expected. The passing bays are set at a recommended distance apart. The traffic will give way when required and use the passing bays to allow vehicles to pass. This will be signposted to advise traffic when they have right of way.
- 4. This will be a high-quality and accessible route for both visitors and Forestry England, who will use the route for operational purposes. The environmental and ecological effects, noise, air quality, drainage, heritage and the cumulative impacts have all been considered.

- 5. Tree planting, landscaping and ecological enhancement measures will improve the biodiversity and amenity value of the site. The proposal has received no objections from statutory consultees including the County Ecologist and Natural England.
- 6. Safety is our number one priority, and our independently-chaired Havant Thicket stakeholder group continue to be vital in shaping many aspects of the plans. Engagement was undertaken last year with the stakeholder group, Forestry England and with officers and statutory consultees. The observations raised helped to refine the design in preparation for application submission.
- 7. We have responded to all issues raised and continue to fully engage with the stakeholder group. We are addressing unauthorised motorcycle access with appropriate use of gates, bollards, fencing and landscaping. It is anticipated that the proposed development will help to address wider antisocial behaviour in Havant Thicket through natural surveillance from increased numbers of recreational users, site management and by providing good quality recreational facilities. During construction the access and security would be controlled by the contractor.
- 8. In relation to the wider access to Havant Thicket, the Access and Recreation plans submitted for information with this application have since been updated as part of the preparation of an Access and Recreation Strategy, considering comments from the Havant Thicket Stakeholder Group, Forestry England and Hampshire County Council. This strategy is currently focused on the construction phase and will be subject to further consultation as it evolves to consider the operational phase in more detail.
- 9. We would welcome your support today which will allow construction to start on this important project to provide much-needed resilience for water supplies, protect rare chalk streams and deliver the wider scheme recreational and wildlife benefits.