

Cabinet Lead Reports – Council 22 July 2015

Councillor David Guest: Cabinet Lead for Planning and the Economy

Coastal Management & Climate Change

Coastal Partnership General Update

The Coastal Partnership Service revenue budget in 2011/12 was £574k (HBC element £218k) but through Partnership working efficiencies and additional income achieved by the Team this sum for 2014/15 was reduced to £238k (HBC element £76k) which therefore resulted in a saving of £336k to the Partner Authorities (HBC, PCC, GBC & FBC) and a saving to HBC of £142k. At the same time the Team are also offering a higher quality service and have grown in size to over 20 highly motivated officers. The Team continue to lead numerous high value and politically sensitive projects across the East Solent with a Capital Programme in excess of £150million over the next 10 years.

Beach Management Activities 2015

This spring, the East Solent Coastal Partnership (ESCP) supervised the beach management operation and recycled c. 33,000m³ of beach material back to the Eastoke Frontage. This operation had a contract cost of £155k and lasted 4 weeks. 100% of the cost, including ESCP officer time, was recovered via EA flood defence grant in aid. The operation ran to programme and was within budget, and the operation was met with positive feedback from the public and residents.

We are monitoring the beach profile and plan to carry out a dredge of Chichester Harbour in the late summer/ early autumn to maintain the design profile of the beach and also to maintain safe navigation to the Chichester channel entrance.

A meeting has been arranged with Hayling Island Golf Club on 13th July to discuss integrating them into our Beach Management Plan, mitigating the risk of erosion in front of their eastern frontage whilst using the shingle accretion at Gunner Point as a source for recycling (another win-win situation).

The EA Grant funding allocation this year is a total £288k, and with an internal carry over of £24.3k from the 2014/15 grant fund, giving a total budget of £312.3k for 2015/16 to continue to provide flood risk management to the residents of Eastoke.

Broadmarsh Armoflex Sloping Revetment – Repair Works

APA Concrete Repairs Ltd returned to site beginning July 2015 to carry out repair works to the revetment of Broadmarsh and are expected to continue works for 8 weeks. The repair works are to rectify recent failures to the

structure. The costs for these repair works are estimated at £70k, with the contractor paying for 50% of the cost, EA Flood Defence Grant in Aid for 25% and HBC Coastal Maintenance 25%.

Timber Maintenance Repairs, South Hayling Frontage

Repairs to the timber groyne structures along the Eastoke Frontage are proposed for this financial year.

Other timber structures along South Hayling frontage are being monitored:

- The timber splashwall of Eastoke Corner Car Park,
- the sloping timber revetment at the Coast Guard Station (Bound Lane – St Andrews Rd),
- and the sloping timber revetment at West Beach,

all of which are showing signs of deterioration. ESCP will continue regular monitoring to inform the recommendation for maintenance for these structures.

Hayling Island Coastal Monitoring Surveying Update

We continue to monitor our coastline through a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with the Channel Coastal Observatory (New Forest District Council). These surveys inform both our coastal risk management practices and wider coastal research themes as part of the South East Regional Monitoring programme. 100% of the cost, including ESCP officer time and equipment is recoverable under the SLA. We have recently upgraded our survey equipment pool, including a new handheld GPS unit and survey quad bike. These are enabling more efficient data collection and an improved coastal monitoring service.

Defra Efficiency Target on Risk Management Authorities

Defra has set the following Target with respect to flood and coastal risk management over the next 6 years:

- 300,000 houses protected from flood & erosion risk over 6 years.
- further efficiency improvement of 10% in delivering capital programme for all Risk Management Authorities from 2015.
- at least 15% in Partnership Funding contributions from other sources.

We have developed an 'Efficiencies Bank' to collect evidence on how our projects contribute to meeting these targets in order to support our business cases and funding applications to the Environment Agency. Since the 1st May 2015, the Partnership has accrued £24,115 in savings.

Planning Development

Major Developments – Progress update

Development Consultation Forums

Two DCFs are due to be coming forward:

1. Land South of Bartons Road – Local Plan Allocation (UE3) for 203, likely that proposal is C.180. Reduction in numbers to take account of market conditions and DCF due 10 September.
2. Portsmouth Water Company – proposals for the relocation of the PWC HQ to a site on Solent Road, and the subsequent development of the existing PWC site to provide c.160 dwellings didn't happen on 2nd April, awaiting new date.

Dunsbury Hill Business Gateway

Infrastructure works adjacent to the A3M are progressing at pace as is the associated ASDA roundabout works. Portsmouth CC considered at report at Council to invest additional funds into the site to bring it forward as quickly as possible. Discharge of conditions and other applications are currently in hand and will be prioritised to support the delivery of this strategic site.

Solent Retail Park, Solent Road

Works continue to deliver this major new retail space; M&S and Next are still hoped to be the occupiers.

Land north of Portsdown Hill Road, Bedhampton

Site allocation UE5 for 46 dwellings works are under way in connection with the delivery of this development.

Land adjacent to Langstone Technology Park, Langstone Road, Havant

Work is progressing on the 82 bed hotel for Premier Inn on land to the north of the Langbrook Farm pub/restaurant.

Stanbridge Road, off New Lane Havant

Following the recent grant of planning permission for 120,000 square feet of commercial floorspace the existing (former Pfizer) building is now being demolished. The approved proposals should attract a new high quality employer to the borough.

BaE site, Elettra Avenue, Waterlooville

Permission has been granted for the road to serve the mixed uses at the site. The potential for a leisure use continues to be the objective for the site and the market continues to be tested. The individual elements of the site are likely to come forward separately.

West of Waterlooville MDA and environs

WOW Forum was held on 6 July and discussions on the progress of the cemetery were positive. There was also discussion around the management of open space as the proposal is for a Parish Council on the Winchester side of the boundary and discussions are taking place on the most effective way to coordinate the recreation provision in the two administrative areas.

Planning Policy

Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH) - Spatial Strategy update

The PUSH spatial strategy update takes account of the latest government population and economic growth forecast to consider the options for new housing, employment and infrastructure. It is anticipated that the work will show an increased need for development that will impact on Havant borough. As that work progresses it will mean that the Havant Local Plan becomes increasingly out of date. The options for growth in our physically constrained borough are limited and a concise new Local Plan will be developed to manage this in the Council's interest.

Prosperity Havant

A successful £50k bid to CLG to create a Local Development Order (LDO) is progressing that focuses on creating a development framework for the Market Parade area of Havant town centre. Feasibility work on the Havant rail footbridge is programmed in HCC's programme and maintenance works to replace the bridge roof will be starting soon.

Car Parking Guidance

Consultation on a car parking Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) started on Friday 10 July running until XXXX. The SPD proposes to change the existing minimum standards to maximum in line with government principles in the NPPF.

Enforcement Plan

Consultation on an Enforcement Plan also started on 10 July. The main reason for this is to set how the Council will prioritise enforcement cases and is fulfilling one of the recommendations from the Peer review. After the consultation the Enforcement Plan (and the car parking SPD) will come back to Council for approval.

Building Control

New Building Regulations

New Building Regulations come into force in October 2015 which include new requirements for security to new build dwellings and optional requirements for water use and disabled access to homes, which are set through the Planning system. Building Control are due to meet with Planning Policy in August to discuss the implications and implementation.

Code for Sustainable Homes

The phasing out of the Code for Sustainable Homes means that potential income generation opportunities in this area of work are reduced.

Dangerous Wall North Street, Emsworth

Following complaints from the public, previous inspections by Building Control and a structural survey carried out by an independent engineer, the Council have acted under Section 78 of the Building Act 1984 (Emergency Dangerous Structures) and arranged for the fencing off of this wall by the railway bridge at Emsworth and the closing of the public footpath. This is due to the risk of imminent collapse of the wall and danger to the public.

The Highways authority has enacted a diversion route, which because of the location of the wall, lack of footpath on the other side of the road, and public highway network has meant a particularly long route. Semi-permanent signage on the approaches to the bridge and the diversion route warning motorists of the likelihood of pedestrians crossing the road in the vicinity of Coldharbour Farm Road, and the lack of footway under the rail bridge has also been installed.

Legal investigations have revealed that there is no owner of the wall and therefore, following discussions with the Executive Head of Service, the Council is taking responsibility for its long term safety following the closure.

A design for the removal and replacement of the wall has been done and a planning application for the works submitted which is going to Planning Committee on the 13th August.

The tender document to procure a contractor is currently being worked on and it is intended for this to go out at the end of July.

Negotiations with adjacent land owners to which the wall supports are yet to be completed.

Budgetary approval from cabinet will also be requested from Cabinet once the costs of the works are known as this is an unbudgeted item.

Assuming satisfactory outcomes to all of the above, the works would start around mid September. The work will involve excavations up to 3.5m deep (measured from garden level) immediately adjacent to the carriageway, movement of large and / or heavy plant, use of cranes and lorries, delivery and installation of pre-cast concrete units, construction of in-situ reinforced

concrete members and extensive inbound and outbound earthworks. It involves temporary propping of excavated surfaces, installation of drainage and alterations to public utility apparatus; materials storage and provision of statutory working and safety zones. There will be a need to close the road during the period of the works. The original programme was for 16 weeks and this has been reduced to 10 weeks by value engineering. The footpath would then re open early December.

Building Regulation Income

The Q1 return shows Building Control income on target to hit budget in terms of Building Regulation income.

Economic Development

Town centre improvement programme

HBC has approached property owners in Havant town centre to encourage them to make physical improvements to the exterior of their premises. So far 25 business have been visited by the relevant ward Councillors and asked to make the necessary improvements, 8 have responded with dates of when the work will be carried out with 2 completing the work immediately. Businesses who have yet to respond will be followed up and the scheme is being rolled out to Waterlooville Town Centre and Leigh Park.

Business support

A priority of the Prosperity Havant Strategy is to connect businesses based in the borough to grant funding and support programmes. The Economic Development team is currently providing practical support and assistance to businesses in the bid development process and has helped Hi Tech Engineering based in Waterlooville to attract over £370,000 in funding from Solent LEPs Advanced Manufacturing Expansion Fund. The total investment is £1.4M and this will enable the company to move to larger premises in the area, invest in new equipment and take on additional staff.

On 17th June 2015, HBC hosted a LEP business support event, hosted in Havant for the first time at Langstone Technology Park. Over 50 local businesses attended to engage with the Council, LEP and other providers and learn about the grant funding and support available for their businesses.

HBC's Small Business Support Programme has been developed for 2015-16 to provide grants of £1000 and training workshops. To date 11 business are signed up to the scheme so far with funding available for 22 businesses. The businesses have embraced and welcomed the additional support of the workshops provided by South Downs College. The first workshop took place on 24 June with a further 2 booked for October and February.

Waterlooville Classic Motor Show took place on 4th July in Waterlooville precinct. The event attracted 40 classic cars and at least 30 classic

motorcycles with music provided by the Stokes Bay Strummers and the Havant Clarinet and Saxophone Choir, Angel Radio compared the event.

Forthcoming events programme for 2015

4/5/6 September	National Watersports Festival, Hayling
18 Sept - 16 Oct (weekend tbc)	Virgin Kite Surf Armada
19 Sept – 04 Oct	Emsworth British Food Fortnight
05 November	Stockheath Common bonfire
Nov - Dec	Various Christmas Lights switch-on events across the Borough