

Cabinet Lead Reports – Full Council 19 July 2017

Councillor Tim Pike: Cabinet Lead for Cabinet Lead for Strategic Innovation, Infrastructure and Projects

Innovation

I was invited to participate in the recent joint meeting of the Corporations of Havant College and South Downs College as they work towards their merger. We are fortunate to have such outstanding centers of further education in the Borough, and it is pleasing that the joint working with the Borough Council paying off. The merger brings a number of opportunities, and I will be continuing to work with the Principal and Governors to achieve a single college that is even better than the sum of its parts.

Property Investment

Members will remember that our February 2017 meeting, the Leader (in his budget speech) committed to engaging members further in the proposal to invest in additional property to increase our income. Our existing property portfolio is performing well, but there is still room for improvements. We also have opportunities for investment as part of the regeneration projects referred to later in this report.

Therefore, a paper outlining our approach has been prepared, and has been presented to the Budget Scrutiny Panel chaired by Cllr Hughes for their comments and suggestions for improvement. I am sure they would welcome contributions from any member wishing to understand more about this proposal, or who has recommendations to make.

I hope that the process will conclude by the revised paper coming to Cabinet and Council in September. However, it should be noted that no additional income is required in the current financial year from property investment.

Infrastructure Improvement: Cycling and Walking, Public Transport, Roads, Traffic and Parking

The Civil Engineering and Landscape Team are busy delivering improvements to infrastructure, in particular those that promote walking and cycling:

Bedhampton – following consultation with members, potential

improvements that will be funded by the S106 money from the Scratchface Lane development have been prioritised. These improvements will include the upgrading of pavements to a cycle route from Park Road North to the Hermitage Stream (including an improved crossing at New Road), and upgrading the link from South Downs College across the A3M to the south west.

Hayling East – cycling improvements resulting from the Goldring Close development S106 have been agreed, which will result in additional off-road routes and safer on-road options. This includes the upgrade of the Zebra crossing in Mengham to a Toucan crossing.

Langstone – A more limited scheme is being implemented, which will include measures to prevent junction blocking at Langstone Technology Park and an improved bus stop by Langbrook Close. The works will be taking place overnight, as they have the potential to impact the A3023.

Southmoor – Proposals for improving the junction of Harts Farm Way, Southmoor Lane, Brockhampton Road and Brookside Road have been agreed. The scheme should deliver improved ingress and egress from the industrial areas.

The Hayling Island Infrastructure Advisory Committee continues to meet, and has received presentations from the HBC Transport Team regarding SUDS schemes and from the South East Hampshire Clinical Commissioning Group regarding primary healthcare on the island. Ideas are being developed that should improve traffic flow, increase modal shift and remove the need for some journeys to the mainland.

I have initiated some work on the provision of electric vehicle charging points within the Borough and will be bringing forward proposals to Cabinet about how best to ensure residents and businesses are enabled to use this technology.

Strategic Projects & Town Centre re-generation

The strategic plan for Hayling Beachlands is currently in development. A dedicated project manager is in place, and member engagement forum is being held every six weeks. Cabinet has approved some additional funding which are allowing detailed proposals to be drawn up.

The Leigh Park regeneration project is underway, examining options for the public services delivered in Leigh Park – focussing on the area off Dunsbury

Way currently utilised by a number of public bodies and charities. I have chaired the first meeting of the Project Board, and a first meeting of the member engagement group has taken place.

The redevelopment of areas of Havant Town Centre is a much more wide-ranging and complex project. Initial work is taking place as part of the 'One Public Estate' agenda, and options are being examined for the replacement of the Havant Station footbridge (the publicly accessible bridge to the west of the station). A first member engagement meeting has taken place, but I am expecting interest from members across the Borough in this project, so a larger seminar will take place later in the year open to all Councillors.

I have met with the traders in Waterlooville to discuss subjects of their choosing. One of the issues at the forefront of our deliberations was the problem with pigeons in the town centre. I'm pleased to report that the Neighbourhood Quality team has grasped this problem, and new signage has been ordered and a press release issued. Further enforcement activities will take place if the problem persists.

Development of the Strategic Site

Two design workshops with local residents have taken place at Emsworth Baptist church, facilitated by our consultants. Overall, I am confident that the process has brought the local issues to the fore, and the next iteration will address some of the key concerns raised. The next draft of the strategic site documentation will be issued as part of the Local Plan consultation at the end of 2017.