

Cabinet Lead Report – Full Council 7 November 2018

Cllr Leah Turner

Cabinet Lead for Communities, Development and Housing

HOUSING

Hampshire Home Choice (Choice Based Lettings/Allocations Scheme)

Along with Tracey Wood, I attended the latest meeting in Winchester on the 19th October 2018.

Items on the agenda included The Green Paper, GDPR, partnership working and nominations and the budget for the scheme.

Social Housing Green Paper

Cabinet considered the paper and have agreed to providing feedback on the consultation.

The key themes are:-

Tackling stigma and celebrating thriving communities.

Expanding supply and supporting home ownership.

Effective resolution of complaints.

Empowering residents and strengthening the regulator.

Ensuring homes are safe and of a decent quality.

Homeless Reduction Act

We are now six months into the new legislation, and as expected are spending much more time accessing and supporting households facing homelessness. Each resident approaching us has their own personal housing plan and we work with each one to find a solution to their problems.

Households are spending longer in B&B, due to the 56 days required before we can make a decision. Access to the private sector is becoming increasingly difficult. The team is currently focusing on landlord's incentives to try to improve access.

A very successful Homelessness Partnership has been held. 30 partner organisations working in the homelessness sector attended. Officers are currently working on a homelessness review and will be bringing a new Homelessness Strategy and Action Plan to Cabinet ready for implementation in April 2019.

SPORT AND LEISURE

Open Space, Sport and Recreation Strategy

This strategy is nearer completion and will provide an evidence base to the Havant Borough Local Plan. It comprises three assessment based documents relating to Open Spaces, Built Leisure Facilities and Playing Pitches. There have been delays from the consultants leading on the work and it is now expected that the strategy will be adopted by December. Both Cllr Pike and myself along with officers from Planning Policy and Communities are involved in the review of this strategy.

Waterlooville Recreation Ground

Officers will be working with the Waterlooville Action Group to develop a feasibility study looking at the use of the facilities at the recreation ground. This is funded by a successful CIL application in the last round of funding. The study will identify the best use for the pavilion, sport and play facilities and will be presented back to the community group with recommendations to improve the provision at the site.

Bidbury Mead Tennis

Officers have begun work to look at the refurbishment of the tennis courts at Bidbury Mead, and to look into the installation of a booking and access system. Feasibility work has been undertaken to understand the costs of the project. Officers are working to identify available funding to provide the best value for money for the council. Officers will look to utilise the relevant developer contributions as match funding towards the project. The project is dependent upon us securing external funding and identifying an operator through the formal tender process.

Hampshire Farm Play Area

Utilising S106 monies officers are currently working to install additional items of play equipment. There is potential to engage with the community to understand their wishes for Play equipment.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Safety Advisory Group has now met to review the arrangements made by the new Stockheath Common Fireworks Committee. It has given approval for the event to go ahead on Monday 5th November. This is the first time this large scale event has been organised by a community group and has been funded by a mixture of donations and external grants. NORSE is also providing support with road closures and fencing at no cost to the group. Although HBC have made no financial contribution we have worked closely with the volunteer committee, advising and mentoring them to ensure the event is run safely and professionally, and are providing the information and skills for the committee to continue independently in future years. The committee is trialling new ways to generate funds to continue the event for years to come, including increasing the number of stall holders at the event. To reduce costs there will not be a bonfire at this year's event.

CHRISTMAS IN THE BOROUGH

We will once again provide Christmas trees and lights for the key locations in the borough. Havant town centre, Waterlooville town centre, Mengham in Hayling, Park Parade in Leigh Park and Emsworth. The trees have been ordered and will be installed in late November. Last year's move to battery operated lights was very successful and the new style of installation was well received by our communities and will be repeated this year.

ARMED FORCES -THERE BUT NOT THERE PROJECT

After strong community support for the project, a second application to the national There But Not There campaign has secured a further four silhouettes, bringing in total 14 across the borough. These have been awarded to the community groups who had made

applications. They have been issued for installation with photos and stories being gathered for the supporting social media campaign.

Invitations have been issued to the Havant's Heroes event which takes place in the Hurstwood Room on 19th November between 1pm and 3pm. This event will bring the different groups together and enable the public to hear what has taken place to remember The Fallen from our Borough from WW1.

The accompanying Tommy sculpture is to be officially unveiled at a short ceremony on Friday 9th November at 11am outside The Plaza. All members are very welcome to attend what will be a moving occasion.

DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT

A number of significant planning applications remain under consideration by the team. These have received high levels of public interest.

These include The Wellington Way redevelopment, Waterloo, 264 apartments. Land off Westwood Close, Emsworth, 46 dwellings, Land north of Sinah Lane, Hayling Island, 195 dwellings and Forty Acres Farm 320 dwellings.

The performance of the team during Q2 of 2018/2019 has been strong. The determination rates achieved against deadlines are:

100% on major applications against a local target of 70% and a national target of 60%

77% on minor application against a national target of 65%

92% on other applications against a national target of 80%

DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The DMC approved planning applications for a new dwelling at Blendworth Crescent and the retention of a vehicle parking compound at Mill Rythe Lane, Hayling, at its meeting in August. Two new dwellings at Redlands House in Long Copse Lane in Emsworth were approved in September.

An application seeking permission for the use of land as a touring holiday/tourism caravan site at St Peters Road, Hayling, was refused at the September meeting. The site is subject of a current enforcement notice.

PLANNING POLICY AND URBAN DESIGN

Work continues on preparing the pre-submission Havant Borough Local Plan 2036 and its supporting evidence base. The council has commissioned Hemingway Design to undertake a feasibility study of the regeneration of Hayling Island Seafront.

The first stage of this work involved a seafront survey which took place towards the end of the summer holiday period, to involve visitors to the island. The Facebook campaign which supported the survey reached the accounts of 57,040 people on or close to Hayling Island. This included people who live elsewhere and were visiting the island. Of these, 1408 then clicked through to the website. Overall 868 people answered the survey. As part of this, respondents were also asked to sign up to a mailing list so that the council could give regular updates about the seafront. A prize draw of £100 of shopping vouchers was offered as an incentive and the winner has since been notified. The results of the survey will feed into Hemingway Design's work and the proposals for Hayling Island Seafront.

The aim is for Cabinet and Council to consider the pre-submission Havant Borough Local Plan on 30th January during Extraordinary Cabinet and Council meetings. This will be

dependent on the plan and all of the evidence being complete and robust. Briefings with members are ongoing to make sure that they are involved into the plan's preparation process. In addition discussions are continuing with statutory consultees on specific topics to make the plan as robust as possible.

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY

A councillor workshop to introduce CIL bids for 2018 took place on 3rd October 2018. There is currently a four week Councillor Consultation on the bids received, this ends on 2nd November 2018.

CIL income for the year continues on track, with £945,538 being received between 1st April and 30th September 2018.

A review into our current CIL policy is underway, with discussions now taking place between the CIL Officer, Head of Planning and myself as Cabinet Lead.

Notable S106 headlines:-

MDA Phase 9 Employment and Skills Plans funds awaited of £9,087.10

Ranelagh Road permission: affordable on-site housing provision complete. Site transfer to management company is pending.

S106 spending decisions on projects are being led by the Community Team.

a) Decision 015 £86,000 towards the refurbishment of the Barton's Green Pavilion attracted funding of £203,451 from the Football Foundation.

b) Decision 016 £19,500 for new equipment at the Hampshire Farm Play Park.

C) Decision 017 £15,000 attracted £835,000 of match funding towards the Havant Rugby Club Artificial Grass Pitch Project.