

Cabinet Lead Reports – Full Council 27 February 2019

Councillor Leah Turner

Cabinet Lead for Communities, Development and Housing

Building Control

The Building Control IT procurement process is nearing completion with the selection of Tascomi Ltd as the preferred supplier. This is for a four year contract. The costs are within budget, prices however are commercially sensitive.

Rosie Long has been promoted and has taken over as project manager following Lorna's departure. Rosie has been supporting the project since it's inception so we have good continuity.

Delighted to report that Robin Seamer is making a good recovery following open heart surgery in December and is expected to be back at work by the end of February. With another surveyor also on long term sick leave, this has created significant additional work for such a small team but they have risen to the challenge superbly.

The next stage going forward is to mobilise the new IT system by June and then bring the HBC and EHDC teams together to create greater resilience.

Development Management

A number of significant planning applications remain under consideration by the team. These include the Wellington Way redevelopment, Waterlooville (264) apartments. Land off Westwood Close, Emsworth (46 dwellings) Land off Sinah Lane, Hayling Island (195) dwellings. Forty Acres Farm (320) dwellings. New 81 bed hotel at Larchwood Avenue, Bedhampton. Land west of the Crematorium, Havant (72) dwellings. Land east of Castle Avenue (69) dwellings. BaE Systems site redevelopment, Waterlooville.

Performance in the team at Q3 of 2018/19 remains strong, with determination rates against deadlines achieved of:-

92% major applications (local target 70%, national target 60%)

83% minor applications (national target 65%)

92% other applications (national target 80%)

Development Management Committee

The Committee approved a planning application for a new hot food takeaway for Domino's Pizza at the former HSBC bank premises at West Street, Havant at its meeting in January.

An application seeking permission for a further pitch for gypsy and traveller use at Long Copse Lane in Emsworth, was refused at the December meeting.

Planning Policy and Urban Design

The Pre-Submission Havant Borough Council Local Plan 2036 was unanimously approved at the Extraordinary Council meeting on 30th January. It is now out to public consultation until 5pm on 18th March.

The Council is doing everything possible to help our residents engage with the consultation including guidance and drop in sessions across the Borough.

There are a number of consultations being run at the same time as The Local Plan:-

The Draft Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule

The Local List of validation requirements

A review on how we will consider parking for residential developments in town centres in our Parking Supplementary Planning Document

A review of the Old Bedhampton Conservation Area

The Statement of Community Involvement

Following the public consultation, a summary will be prepared of the consultation responses.

The Local Plan, it's supporting documents and the consultation responses will then be submitted to the Government for the Examination. This is scheduled for Q3 of the 2019 calendar year. The Examination would then follow with an anticipated adoption date of Spring 2020

Housing

Hampshire Home Choice is the very successful choice based letting partnership covering Havant, East Hampshire, Winchester, Eastleigh and Test Valley.

The Guinness Partnership, previously know as Hermitage HA and to whom HBC transferred their housing stock in the 1990's, recently advised us that they would like to take over managing their own transfers and reducing our nominations to 80%. This concerned Officers as transfer applicants (local residents) would lose the ability to access other partner HA's properties advertised through HHC, thus reducing their choice of where they wanted to live. In addition, it would mean that we would not have a clear overall picture of demand across the Borough. We feed our register figures into planning policy for determining future demand for affordable housing.

In response to this, Officers met with senior staff from Guinness, one meeting on relationships, the stock and repairs, and one specifically on the Hampshire Home Choice Partnership.

I am pleased to be able to report back that the meetings were very successful and the following actions have been agreed:-

- 1) Clear reporting lines for repair concerns and complaints.
- 2) A commitment to HBC to rebuild relationships following a change in structure.
- 3) An agreement to sign the Hampshire Home Choice Partnership agreement for three years for 100% of the stock. We are working together on a local process to ensure the best use of the stock.
- 4). Senior Officers will attend the Board meeting, 4 a year. (Flying in from Manchester)
- 5). Front line teams will attend or dial into Officer Group meetings.
- 6). We will be looking at longer term ways of working together on some of the hard to let properties.

Any concerns relating to this item or if you have a particular concern which has been raised with you by a local resident, please contact Tracey Wood, Head of Housing and Community Engagement on 02392446626 or traceywood@easthants.gov.uk

Rough Sleeping in the Borough during the recent cold spell

During the recent cold snap we widely advertised that we had instigated SWEP. This is the Severe Weather Emergency Protocol where rough sleepers can request HBC to provide B&B, historically when the weather was forecast to be below zero degrees for three days. However only one lady came forward, she was placed whilst the weather was cold and we were also able to arrange accommodation for her dog.

We were successful in bidding for the Government's cold weather fund and should we make any other placements under SWEP we can reclaim the B&B costs,

We will continue to publicise SWEP as and when the weather changes. If any member should come across a rough sleeper, please advise them to make contact with The Housing Team.

Oak Park Extra Care, Havant

A meeting has very recently been held between our Officers and a senior HCC Officer. This update is therefore "hot off the press."

Unfortunately the scheme was delayed following the appointed nursing home provider having to withdraw from the development. HCC have now been able to go out to tender again and this process is due to close at the end of February 2019. It is anticipated that a decision will be made on a new provider in April 2019. This will be followed by approx, 3 months of legal work and an additional 3 months period set aside for mobilisation of all parties to allow the build to commence. The scheme is expected to be ready for first occupation towards the end of 2021.

The scheme will be delivered as per the existing planning consent, i.e. an 80 bed nursing home, 51 Affordable Rent Flats, and 48 Supported Living Apartments. 36 of which will be sold on the open market with the remaining 12 offered for Shared Ownership.

HBC will be working closely with HCC throughout the development and will have an active part in a nomination agreement that ensures that the extra care homes are made available to those that really need this kind of enhanced accommodation.

Sport and Leisure

The Open Space, Sport and Recreation Strategy has been completed and formally adopted by the Council. This strategy provides the details of the future sport, leisure and open space requirements and is an evidence base to the Havant Borough Local Plan. This comprises of three assessment based documents relating to open spaces, built leisure facilities and playing pitches.

Waterlooville Recreation Ground

A feasibility study has been completed by Officers on behalf on the Waterlooville Action Group, to review the viability of improvements to the Recreation Ground. Focus areas include the play area, the tennis courts the pavilion and general appeal of the area. Recommendations and an action plan have been delivered to the Community Group for them to fundraiser towards their chosen priorities.

Stakes MUGA refurbishment

This work is now completed, funded by S106 contributions at a cost of £34,000.

In a First for the Borough, sustainable solar powered lighting has been installed to enable longer use of this facility. Using the latest technology it will be monitored by Officers to gauge the use of this.

Barton's Green Pavilion Refurbishment

This is also completed and was officially opened by our Mayor on 13/1/19. The project was jointly funded by S106 contributions and The Football Foundation at a cost of £289,000.

The facility will provide a number of Community Health, Wellbeing, and social outcomes for the Borough.

Get up and Go Havant

Funded by Sport England's Tackling Inactivity Programme, it has reached the end of the development year and has secured funding for a further two years to the value of £127,500.

Community Development

The Havant Youth Conference 2019, Make it Count, will be held on Friday 15th March this year.

Secondary School Pupils from across the Borough will visit the Plaza for this annual event, which this year focuses on Democracy and Citizenship. Guest speakers will include Cllrs Wilson and P Baines, also East Hants Mind. Workshops include Work out your money, a Citizens Advice project and Young Citizens. As in previous years there will be a Q&A session with Councillors, this has increased timing allowed based on the feedback received.

The Approved by You voting activity will take place where attendees will award a total of £4,000 to three shortlisted groups. These are Motiv8, Oarsome Chance and Off the Record.

Havant Community Lottery

7th April 2018-11th February 2019

Registered Good Causes. 60

Tickets sold for Community Fund. 21132

Tickets sold for Good Causes. 33715

Total tickets sold. 54847

Community Fund to date. £16050.70

Total Fund for Good Causes £16857.50

Total Funds raised. £32908.20

Current Weekly tickets sold. 1235

Current Players. 633

The Community Fund will be distributed among Charities and Good Causes who have submitted an expression of interest in grants of between £1,000 and

£5,000. Decisions will be made by a Panel of Council and Community representatives who will meet twice yearly, the first meeting is in early April 2019. To date there is £16050.70 to distribute. This will of course increase in time.

Tilly Shilling Plaque

To celebrate and commemorate the life and achievements of Beatrice Shilling, a plaque has been installed on Waterlooville Library Wall, and a small celebration ceremony will take place on 8/3/19 on what would have been her 110th birthday.

Beatrice known as Tilly who was born in Waterlooville was an aeronautical engineer and amateur racing driver. (cars and bikes) She invented a critical mechanical part which enabled the Spitfire plane to match the manoeuvres of enemy planes. This made a huge contribution to the war effort.

There are also plans for a street to be named after her, she will feature in the Council's Social Media Campaign around International Women's Day.

Leigh Park Community Engagement Project

Working with colleagues in Regeneration, a new Community Engagement project to evidence the need for Community Facilities has started. Funded through the Feasibility Grant an existing member of the Community Team has increased their hours and is now spending two days a week solely on this project. The focus is to engage with residents and other stakeholders to determine what current Community Facilities and Services are available in the Leigh Park area. What is needed and what will be required in the future. The final report is due in December 2019.

Events

Key Applications currently being processed :-

Kids Party in the Park.Havant Park, Sunday 5th May

Hi 5 Family Fun Day, Hayling College April

Armed Forces Day event, Inn on the Beach, Hayling 6th-7th July

Silent Cinema, Havant Park, 9th August

Health and Well-being

Following a recent presentation to the Operations and Place Shaping Board, training sessions in the following subjects could be offered to Councillors if there are sufficient numbers.

Making every Contact Count

Mental Health Awareness

Suicide Prevention

If you are interested in this training please contact the Community Team.