

Portfolio Holder Report – Council 24 July 2013

By Cllr David Collins – Environment & Neighbourhood Quality

Environmental Health

Staff took an active part in Food Safety Week, an annual initiative led by the Food Standards Agency (FSA) . Social Media was used to promote the event as well as a press release resulting in a newspaper article. The theme this year was “Kitchen Check”.

Posters and leaflets were obtained from the FSA and distributed throughout the Borough. A teaching pack aimed at young children with various activities was available to download from www.food.gov.uk/kitchen-check.

In addition a display was manned in the Plaza foyer with a quiz “where should the food go” using an interactive display and a real fridge, but with fake food. Participants were asked to match the different foods to the places where they should be stored in the fridge and were rewarded with a sweet or two!

During the week 130 persons visited the display and took part in the quiz at the Plaza. In addition 32 teaching packs were given out whilst the display was manned to individuals engaged in education and also to a variety of groups that were attending meetings at the Plaza, which included a Newly Qualified Teachers meeting, the EC Roberts Centre and a Learning Disability Meeting.

Parking Strategy/Management & Traffic Management

The parking team continues to enforce the Borough with the main issues still being around the charges. There will be a petition heard at Council on July 24 regarding the recent increase in charges.

The charges for the motor homes staying over night will be changing as follows after a 28 notice has been on site. The current charges are £20 per night for March - October and £10 per night for November - February. We would like to change the charges to £15 per night for March - October and leave the £10 charge for November - February.

The Traffic Team continues to work through the list of TROs they have and we just received some good comments in the news regarding making permanent the new restrictions in London Road Waterlooville to make more parking for the businesses.

The experimental Order in Kinnell Close, Emsworth was made permanent from 8 July 2013.

The new restrictions in Chaucer Close junction Milton Road were made operational on 17 May 2013

The additional parking in Queens Street, King Street and Tower Street, Emsworth will be operational on 9 August 2013

Public Realm Enforcement, including travellers

The rangers continue to supply as higher level of patrols as possible in town centres and busy parks, while occasionally supporting the Beachlands officers on their targeted patrols. Four fixed penalty notices have been issued in the first quarter.

The next issue of Serving You will be the launch pad for our 'No Ifs No Butts' Campaign. It contains an article on cigarette butt littering which will then be followed up with specific, targeted work by the Ranger team around trying to reduce the problem in the borough.

A few small encampments have been reported but have been resolved without recourse to legal processes or have been on private land. With several large groups still in the area, regular visits are taking place to ensure that defences are in place and undamaged. The team asks that any damage to parks or car park infrastructure be reported as soon as possible to allow for repairs or extra defences, such as concrete blocks, can be put in place.

The team is still working in support of other teams in operations, neighbourhood quality and community development providing a flexible response and operational assistance in many projects.

Sustainable Transport & Implementation

Park Road South, Havant Enhancement (HBC / HCC S106 Funded)

Work is well underway in the transformation of this main route into Havant. At the time of writing, the lay-by outside McDonalds had been removed ready for the creation of a new bus stop, and kerbs were being laid on the west side of the road. The new toucan crossing is expected to be installed in week commencing 15 July, with resurfacing of the whole road (between Solent Road and West Street) to follow from the 17 July onwards. Due to the requirement to clear the road for the Plaza Open Day on 16 July, this surfacing operation (which cannot be 'spilt' into sections) has had to be moved later than expected, and will impact on the finish date of the project (originally expected 26 July). Allowing for 'compensation events' allowed in the contract for days lost to wet weather, it is now expected that works will be completed in mid August.

Work to create a new frontage to Bosmere Pond, with bespoke 'water' design railings, has been delayed and will be carried out under a separate contract later in the autumn after the school holidays are over. This is partly due to the need to design special foundations for the fencing.

Park Road North, Havant Enhancement (HCC Funded)

At the time of writing, the new three-lane layout on Park Road North has been operating for four weeks and has resulted in an approximate 11% increase in

capacity with corresponding reduction in delays. The whole west side footway, and a short section of east side footway, was changed to 'shared status' on 14 June so it is now legal for cyclists to share the space with pedestrians. We were able to add the move of a street lighting column to the works, which has removed a 'pinch point' south of the railway bridge. Remaining work to be completed are three areas of slab paving to define the extent of the shared status footway, and resurfacing of a 1m wide strip in front of the new kerb line, along with the approach to the roundabout and the section between West Street and Elm Lane; all this is programmed to be completed by the end of July.

Hayling Billy Trail Phase 4 Bridge Approaches (Sustrans / HBC / HCC S106 Funded)

Following completion of works outside the Ship Inn late last year, two projects now remain to complete the unbroken cycle route between Hayling and the Mainland. The project for the section from the south end of the Bridge to the old 'Texaco' garage is in design and fully funded following the outcome of environmental studies. Implementation is expected in winter 2013/14. The project for the section along the frontage of the Langstone Sailing Club HQ building has design approval, but additional funding is being sought to complete the widening to connect to the Langstone Bridge. Assuming this funding gap can be closed, implementation would be within the same timescale as work at the southern end. Between these two schemes an off-road cycle route of minimum width 2.02m will exist from Havant Station to the Station Theatre on Hayling.

Morelands School (HCC Funded Safe Routes to School)

The scheme has now been split into phases. Phase 1 has been completed and phase 2, comprising the widening to shared cyclist / pedestrian status of the path linking Crookhorn Lane to Liddiards Way, is at the time of writing out to Tender with a return date of 16 July. Construction is due to be carried out between 5 and 30 August. Discussions with Portsmouth City Council to use part of the Golf Club car park for dropping off children attending the School have not progressed to a satisfactory conclusion as yet, and if agreed will have to form a future 'Phase 3'.

West Beachlands Resurfacing Works (HBC Funded)

Work to resurface the toilet car park and café bench area was completed in early March and the remaining funds will be utilised in the repair of the road surface leading to both Beachlands and West Beachlands from Inn on the Beach.

West Beachlands Surface Dressing Works (HBC Funded)

Work to apply a surface dressing to the access road to Inn on the Beach and the access road leading from Central Beachlands to Inn on the Beach was started on 25 June and completed on 27 June. It is anticipated that the Contractor will return after a minimum period of 2 weeks to sweep the surplus chippings up. Once the surface has been swept, arrangements will be made to re-instate the road markings.

Eastoke to Beachlands Footpath/Cycleway

Work has commenced on the construction of a pedestrian / cycle-path from Eastoke corner to Coastguard car park, and is proposed to be complete by Easter. This will help to meet one of our Blue Flag aims for this year to improve sustainable transport links to the beach.

Frendstaple Road Cycle Route (HBC Green Transport Funded)

Design on this scheme to provide a cycle route from A3 London Road to Park Lane via Highfield Avenue, The Glade and Tempest Way utilising the existing highways and footpaths wherever possible is complete. A bid to HCC extend this project to Park Lane and Sapphire Ridge has been successful. Work is anticipated to re-commence in August 2013 to combine the projects.

Footpath 88 Hayling Island – Mill Rytte / Hayling College to Tournerbury Lane (HCC Funded SRtS / Access Team)

Construction work to widen this path and to improve the quality of the surface commenced on 18 February and was completed on 22 March. The footpath was closed during the duration of the works. The local and county councillors are in agreement with the project.

Car Park Slurry Sealing (HBC Funded)

Work has commenced to procure the slurry sealing of 4 No. car parks within the Borough, these are South Street Emsworth, Greywell Car Park Leigh Park, Rockville Drive and Wellington Way Waterlooville. It is anticipated that each car park will be either fully or partially closed whilst the works are carried out and all necessary white lining works completed before the car parks are opened. There will be extensive consultation with the Parking Partnership to ensure that any disruption is kept to a minimum. Work is anticipated to be completed before September 2013 but is subject to Contractor availability.

Havant New Lane Cycleway, Havant (HCC Funded)

The new advisory cycle lanes along New Lane, the central island refuge crossing New Lane to Littlegreen Avenue and improved off road cycle lane from New Lane to Crosslands Drive is nearing completion. Third Avenue bridge works are to start in late July 2013 and will be completed by the August 2013.

Trosnant Schools (HCC Funded Safe Routes to School)

Improved pedestrian crossing works are start outside Trosnant School along Stockheath Lane at the beginning of the school summer holidays in July 2013 and to be completed by end of August 2013.

Hambledon Parade Improvements (HBC S106 Funded)

A Public consultation is to be carried out on the 11 July 2013 and detailed design will be commence immediately after. Construction is expected to commence in winter 2013 and to be complete by March 2014.

Purbrook Way off Road Cycleway Study is Underway. (HCC S106 Funded)

Community Safety

CCTV review

Joint Executive Board (JEB) considered the matter on 16 April 2013. It was agreed

- that the staffing and maintenance contracts be continued in line with the existing contracts until June 2014 (included in budget);
- that a review of the service be undertaken forthwith in order that it may inform the 2014/2015 budget setting deliberations; and
- It is intended that this review be completed by Autumn 2014.

Before progressing it is intended that the views of the Environment and Neighbourhood Quality Panel be sought.

Key areas for consideration identified to date

- Are the current objectives in keeping with HBC priorities?
- Is CCTV supporting Council needs - i.e. Emergency Planning (are the cameras in the right locations)?
- What other benefits could CCTV bring to HBC - Plaza?
- To identify opportunities to reduce the net cost to the Council.

Work undertaken since 17 April

- Draft public consultation questionnaire developed.
- Meetings held with key officers re HBC Economic Development, Estate and Emergency Planning needs
- Contact made with Local Government Association to identify whether other work ongoing elsewhere
- Peer review to identify best practice commenced across Hampshire and IOW
- Review of trade magazine – CCTV user group
- Review of developments on internet.
- Consultation of key partners i.e. The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner commenced.
- Future of Public Space CCTV scheduled for discussion at the Safer Havant Partnership strategic group meeting (17 June 2013)
- Meetings held with CCTV staff to inform them of the review.
- Meeting held with landlord to inform them of the review.
- Attendance at the Westminster Briefing event on 19 June to get updated on new legislation and network with National contacts.