

Cabinet Lead Reports – Full Council 23 September 2020

Councillor Narinder Bains - Cabinet Lead for Neighbourhoods, Safety and Enforcement

Safer Havant Partnership

The broader partnership which brings together the Safer Havant Partnership, Health and Wellbeing and Local Children's Partnership which has proved an efficient and effective way of getting business done for HBC and a full range of partners bring together statutory agencies and the voluntary

Civil Engineering and Landscape Team

I have great pleasure in taking on the Civil Engineering Team as part of my portfolio family. Their work compliments the Traffic Management function.

Projects currently being worked in are; -

Warblington Footbridge Feasibility – HBC CIL Funded

We are still waiting for Network Rail to complete the draft feasibility for the cost report. I am chasing Network Rail. As soon as I have the report, I plan to brief Portfolio holder and potentially cabinet before moving forward.

Havant Park – HBC Revenue Funded

Works to rebuild sections of flower bed walls has been order and waiting for completion.

Bushy Lease Cycle Route – HBC CIL Funded

The costing for CIL bid for this project was based on a 2.5 / 3.0m shared path for cyclists and pedestrians. However, new cycling guidance released by the government in July 2020 discourages shared use facilities unless all other options have been considered and discarded. The need for this facility is great and I am working with the team to ensure this is delivered.

Elmleigh Road, Havant Off road cycle route –HBC CIL Funded

CIL funded project to connect existing off-road cycle at New Road to Havant Railway Station design is underway with an option for a segregated cycle route as advised by HCC as additional funding through the Transforming Cities Fund could become available, should the bid be successful. Recent guideline changes on cycle infrastructure have meant the design will now be a segregated cycle track. As such the design has been amended to conform with the new guidelines. Due to go out to safety audit in November 2020.

Warblington Interchange Feasibility Study –HBC CIL Funded

The feasibility study to investigate the potential for implementing an A27 westbound jet lane from the A259 continues to assist traffic flow and improve safety as development in West Sussex results in additional traffic flow at this important junction. It is expected that the Study results will be presented later in the summer once modelling from the Local Plan Mainland Transport Assessment Addendum is available.

Hobby Close, Waterlooville drainage CIL neighbourhood fund & We Big Local

Phase 2 works (whole-field drainage including a land re-profiling option) are now designed in association with We Big Local team and Portsmouth City Council and planning permission has now been applied for (by Portsmouth City Council). The scheme now incorporates a redevelopment of the play area by Portsmouth City Council. Due to planning timescales it is not expected that the work on site will now commence until spring 2021.

Scratchface Lane, Bedhampton recreation ground – Not funded

A land raising option to address significant seasonal drainage issues at this site is being investigated. A revised land raising shape with less impact on surrounding residential properties has been designed. There remain concerns over the number and type of vehicles that will be needed to transport the fill material to the site, but otherwise all other issues identified by Planning colleagues have been overcome. A planning application is expected to be lodged later in the summer following possible consideration by EB regarding interim funding of the studies required to make the planning application valid.

Transforming Cities Fund – HCC Funded

The initial bid by Hampshire County Council and Portsmouth City Council for government funds to improve sustainable transport across Portsmouth, Havant, Fareham and Gosport was unsuccessful. The result of the revised bid is awaited but includes (in Havant borough area) improvements to Park Road south approaching Langstone roundabout, and walking and cycling improvements in Elmleigh Road, Leigh Road, Eastern Road, Centenary Gardens and School Lane. Bus stop improvements are proposed in Bramdean Drive and Botley Drive. A junction improvement at Belmont roundabout in Bedhampton, converting it to signalised junction, is also included in the proposals, which lean heavily on the draft LCWIP being produced by Sustrans and HCC.

Rusty Cutter Link Road congestion scheme –HBC CIL Funded

We continue to work with Highways England towards delivering a scheme on this important link road which would allow two lanes of northbound traffic. CIL funding for additional work to improve connections to the local cycle network have been approved, and we are currently liaising with developers at the Forty Acres site who are also bringing forward plans to improve pedestrian and cycle routes around the Rusty Cutter area.

Hayling Billy Trail waymarking – HCC Funded

Improved waymarking is to be introduced on the Trail. Hampshire County Council is funding this work, with CELT co-ordinating activity 'on the ground'. It is planned that a planning application for the three historic station signs will be made shortly.

Safe Re-opening of High Streets (SRHS) Fund

Social distancing measures have been implemented in Havant, Waterlooville and Emsworth centres using sign and barriers to assist shoppers and maintain social distancing on narrow footways and pinch points, to provide assurance as shops re-open.

Jubilee Park Bowls Club drainage HBC Funded

Works are being programmed for September to finish the works.

Jubilee Park, north drainage – Seeking HBC funding

A proposed project has been drawn up this is currently being finalised prior to being shared for comments. It is hoped works will be undertaken toward the end of September early October.

Emsworth Town Centre Accessibility Feasibility Study - HCC Funded

The first draft of the feasibility study into a series of interventions in the Emsworth area has been presented to HCC. Revisions have been made to report following the meeting with HCC and the final report is expected to be submitted by the end of August.

Local Walking and Cycling Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) – HCC Funded

HCC are working on the prioritisation of all primary and secondary LCWIP routes, however public consultation which was originally scheduled for July has been put back. HCC are also considering what effect the new cycling guidance will have on the LCWIP. It is expected that the Borough's LCWIP will be completed within 12 months.

Milton Road Bus layby and Elettra Avenue HBC CIL Fund

Design is complete and will require approval by HCC Asset Management before going to tender in October. Additional S106 / 278

funding from a developer might become available but this needs to be confirmed. The scheme is expected to be completed by December 2020.

Hambledon Road – HBC CIL & WCC Funded

The design is still ongoing but is expected to be completed by mid-September. Design approval by HCC is required before going to tender in October 2020.

Brockhampton Lane – Not Funded

Project to create a layby parking area on Brockhampton Lane to stop cars parking on the footway. Project has gone through internal peer review and has been costed.

Awaiting instruction to continue with project should funding become available.

Emsworth Rec PetanqueCourt – Not Funded

Project to design and cost for a Petanque court in Emsworth Park. Design and costings have been complete and presented to the community group. We are currently awaiting further instruction from Leisure Officer.

Havant Rugby Football Club – HBC CIL Funded

Awaiting final arb comments. Undertaking team design check 11/08/20.

Upon completion of design check, RSA stage 2 to be sent out. Soon to send out for planning permission

Hooks Row, Leigh Park Shared Path – HBC CIL Funded

Scheme awarded to contractor – start date TBC.

Havant Park Feasibility Project – HBC CIL Funded

CIL funded project to draw up a master plan incorporating all the future aspirations for Havant Park. The plan will illustrate what the park will look like in 20 years' time and show how the regeneration of the town centre and surrounding infrastructure will integrate into the park and enhance with the town centre. We are currently engaging with relevant stakeholders to fully understand the requirements and constraints of Havant Park. Due to be complete by October 2020.

St John Ambulance Car Park Fraser Road HBC Funded

Works costs have been estimated and awaiting feedback and away forward with car parks manager. Area has been had safe and is being monitored monthly.

Harts Farm Way, Havant closure of layby

Design is still on course for completion by the end of August with approval by Asset Management by the end of September 2020.

Future Role of Hayling Route, Billy Trial

Works on the feasibility study has now commenced. The feasibility will need to tie into the re-refresh of the Hayling Coastal Strategy and hence delivery will be completed summer 2021. Planning policy comments requested.

Northey, Surface Water Drainage – Not funded

A report is being prepared to understand how surface water affects the drainage system around North Common and what measures could possibly be introduced to alleviate issues arising from surface water runoff. The report will look at relevant partners and stakeholders to understand if there are wider opportunities to obtain funding. The initial report is currently being drafted and opportunities being assessed this should be available by November.

Emsworth, The Promenade HBC Funded

A survey is to be undertaken of the Promenade to understand the structural stability of the Promenade and to look at possible solutions for any identified repairs which could be needed in the short, medium and long term. Currently in the process of tendering the surveys and associated reports.

Hayling Island Access Improvements Phase 2 –HCC Funded

This phase covers the Hayling Park footpath upgrade, footpath 89 upgrade and footpath 102 resurfacing works.

The HCC Project Appraisal stage is complete. Tender documents are being prepared and the project will be tendered by mid-September.

Scratchface Lane Bridlepath Bedhampton –HCC Funded

Phase 1 - On-road cycleway from Hillmead Gardens through Newbarn Road to its junction with Hulbert Road. New off-road shared cycleway from Newbarn Road to Willowdene Close which will link into an existing shared cycleway towards the Asda roundabout.

Phase 2 – Off road shared path between Hillmead Gardens and College Road.

HCC Project Appraisal stage is complete. The projects were tendered on 17/08/2020 with a tender return date of 04/09/2020

Enforcement/Community Safety

The team has continued to operate during the pandemic providing a front-line call and home visit support to the most vulnerable members of our community. Investigations into offences and unlawful encampments has

continued with an increase in people camping out in a range of vehicles across the Borough but predominantly on the sea front.

The seafront has perhaps seen the biggest demand on services with combination of fine weather and staycation bring up to three times the normal visitors which has led to an amount of concern amongst residents who are supporting lockdown whilst others are clearly seen to be ignoring the rules and putting lives at risk. This community concern in turn has led to an increase in complaints and indeed antagonism from our community who pushed back at what was seen as authority figures.

The team have also been involved in providing ambassadors to welcome people back into the town centres wearing the “here to help” tabards.

Environmental Health

The workload for Environmental Health continues to increase due to the additional responsibilities placed on us from COVID 19.

EH departments are responsible for enforcing part of the Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (England) Regs 2020, as well as providing advice and support to businesses to ensure they can operate whilst protecting the health and safety of their staff and customers. The team have been crucial to the reopening of high streets workstream and will continue to be involved for the foreseeable future.

In addition, Environmental Health have taken the lead for the council on aspects of HCC's Local Outbreak Control Plan by identifying higher risk settings in our area and making initial contact with those businesses or organisations to offer support.

Many parts of the service are now operating; however, we are having to review our workload frequently to ensure that priorities are addressed.

Parking Strategy / Management

Meridian – reviewing the parking opportunities to help support businesses and increase footfall and parking within the Centre

Bulbeck- reviewing opportunities to encourage business users to park – be more competitive with the railway parking – consider options of 24 hr parking in Bulbeck to encourage those travellers and consider local taxi firms to have somewhere safe to park their fleet

Considering flexible parking permits – more personalised options via RingGo (still haven't got the option to set up DD at HBC) however RingGo can offer flexible permits and payments – continue to think outside of the box to look at what we can offer

Consideration of experimental order for Warblington Road, Emsworth to begin in April 2021

Bellair Road – residents consultation letter drop with plan and questionnaire to get feedback of issues and what residents would want

Managed retreat from the beach – disabled bays on the beach are being removed as they are eroding due to the weather

Postponement of Drone footage due to low tide not being until 12 noon (horseboxes will not be on the beach at this time) and unfavourable weather forecast

There was a physical assault on a Civil Enforcement Officer in Emsworth since my last report. The officer was back to work the next day supported by his team. I am sure you will join me in acknowledging how dedicated our front-line teams have been and what commitment they show to deliver their duties so professionally, at times, pitting their own safety on the line.