

Cabinet lead Report – 16th November 2022

Councillor Gwen Robinson

Cabinet Lead for Affordable Housing, Communities and CIL

Community relations, including sport, leisure and play parks

Horizon Health Hub – Meridian Centre

Officers have secured £30,000 of S106 funding towards the refit of a vacant unit within the Meridian Centre, to transform the unit into a community Health Hub. The facility will be operated by Horizon Leisure Trust.

The Health Hub facility will include an area for health screening, a small gym section and an open studio area for small exercise classes. The Health Hub aims to specifically target inactive audiences, working to increase their physical activity levels and in turn address local health inequalities. The aims of the facility are to provide a community setting to encourage residents who may find traditional leisure/gym environments daunting or inaccessible. This partnership project with HLT will include leisure officers monitoring the delivery of initiatives at the site.

HLT will be responsible for all operational costs and ongoing maintenance. The lease for the facility is currently under negotiation and led by the Estates team.

Park Tennis Court Refurbishments & Management

Officers have secured £30,000 of S106 funding towards the refurbishment of 6 of the borough's park tennis court facilities, located at:

- Cowplain Recreation Ground
- Waterlooville Recreation Ground
- Havant Park
- Bidbury Mead Recreation Ground
- Purbrook Heath Recreation Ground
- Emsworth Recreation Ground.

These courts are in a poor condition and are uninviting as a location in which to take part in sport and physical activity. This has a negative impact on the already lower than national average rates of physical activity within the borough. Refurbished courts, with an improved offer of programmed tennis activity will seek to address this.

The total project cost is £265,000. £235,000 has been provisionally earmarked by the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) as a funding contribution towards the project,

pending confirmation of partnership funding, final refurb specification, and a formal funding agreement.

Following completion of the court refurbishments, HBC will appoint an operator to manage and maintain the courts on the Council's behalf. They will be required to activate the under used courts, to increase levels of tennis participation and provide a sustainable financial model with income generated for HBC, to be ringfenced as a sinking fund, towards future court refurbishments.

Play area refurbishments – Bidbury Mead, Front Lawn Rec, Springwood Avenue

Feedback has been received from residents through the Citizen Lab community engagement tool to understand what residents want to see in refurbished play areas at Bidbury Mead and Front Lawn Recreation Grounds. This feedback has directly informed specifications to be used in procuring a design and build contractor for each site. This tender process will be completed throughout the winter, with ambitions for contractors to complete builds by summer 2023. Each site has a budget of £115,000, funded by CIL.

Similar community engagement is due to start for Springwood Avenue, Stakes, following successfully securing £85,000 of funding from DLUHC's Levelling Up Parks Fund. Due to funding conditions, an element of this funding will be required to improve the wider open space with tree planting. A project team from across council departments is currently planning project delivery.

Emsworth Recreation Ground Pavilion Refurbishment

A total of £124,000 of S106 funds have been secured towards this project to refurbish the tired and dated sports changing pavilion at Emsworth Rec, with a welcoming and inviting facility that will support user clubs to increase cricket and football participation.

This funding allows officers to work to lever in further external grant funding towards the project and enable progression to the build phase. The current total project cost is estimated at £400,000.

Officers continue to work through the design phase, working with PDP architects and associated consultants, to provide the final technical design which will enable applications for building regulations. A fit for purpose specification will also be created to allow the procurement of a construction contractor, once full project funding is secured.

Havant Community Lottery

Havant Community Lottery currently has 107 registered Good Causes, 678 players are purchasing tickets. £190,330 has been raised for local Good Causes since 2018.

The autumn Community Fund is currently open for applications, registered Good Causes are encouraged to apply for funds of up to £2,000 to support community projects and initiatives that benefit our residents (**including Warm Hub projects**).

The next bolt-on prize draw takes place on Saturday 29th October, the prize on offer is a £1,000 Bike Voucher, any tickets purchased will automatically be added into this draw.

Due to the current cost-of-living crisis, many of our residents across the Borough are struggling financially at the moment, this has resulted in a decrease of lottery ticket sales. With this in mind, our promotion of the Lottery will focus more on how the Lottery has funded local community projects rather than asking people to buy tickets.

Executive Head - Chris Bradley has completed his licence application and will be the new licence holder of the Havant Lottery.

Ukraine family drop-in session

A family drop-in session for Ukrainian refugees and hosts living in the Borough of Havant took place at the Plaza on 11th October, it was well attended with 25 guests and 5 hosts joining us at this session.

The session provided an opportunity for Ukrainian families who have recently arrived in the borough to meet one another in a casual setting and for UK hosts to meet other hosts. Havant Borough Council staff and Councillors were on hand to listen and advise people about housing, employment, English courses and community activities.

The second Ukraine drop-in session will take place at the Plaza on Tuesday 6th December from 11am – 2pm. Further support will be offered on from local services such as Housing, Benefits, Community First, Libraries and more.

Officers have created a newsletter in English, Ukrainian and Russian. This goes out monthly to Ukrainian guests, their hosts and partner organisations. The mailing list is being developed to increase numbers of subscribers.

Armed Forces

Havant Borough Council is leading the way by creating a new Armed Forces Stakeholder group, the first meeting takes place on 16th November at the Plaza.

The aim of the Stakeholder group is for local organisations, services and groups that work with, or provide support for members of the Armed Forces, their families and/or veterans to share information and promote their service or project. This is an

excellent opportunity to build new relationships, reduce duplication and work jointly on key projects, initiatives, and funding opportunities.

Events

Officers have supported 59 events this year, out of that 6 were cancelled due to a variety of reasons e.g., bad weather, lack of planning by the event organiser, unable to pay for the increased insurance.

Christmas

Waterlooville: Christmas market. Confirmation was received on 26th October that the event can go ahead with the Traders Licence fee waived. Officers are now working with the Licensing team and the Waterlooville Action Group to ensure all paperwork is received to enable a successful event.

Hayling Island: Mengham Late Night Shopping Christmas event. Organised by the HIBC (Hayling Island Business Club) Officers are working with the organisers but are still awaiting paperwork.

Lighting

Working with Interim Strategic Commissioning and Innovation Manager and Chief Legal Officer and Monitoring Officer to create a 3-year contact with The Christmas Decorators. Positive move forward as a professional company who have a good reputation of Christmas lighting. They will also store the lights during the year to help reduce our storage problems.

Warm Hubs / Cost of Living

Officers are collating information on all the offers organisations are providing across the Borough this winter to combat the 'Cost of Living' crisis. This includes the locations of the Food banks, Pantries, Places to have a free hot meal and Warm space locations. Warm spaces are being provided by many different organisations such as the libraries, churches, community organisations, Horizon Leisure Trust and Community First. Officers are currently working with the public relations team to ensure this information is available on the HBC website, social media and other HBC teams.

Future plans: how to get this information to those who cannot access social media e.g., letter drops, booklets at doctors, information in free newspapers (The Directory)

Link Up Leigh Park

This programme, one of four pilot schemes funded by The Health Foundation's Economies for Healthier Lives, is now underway and steps to embed initiatives are taking shape.

With aims to support and empower young people aged 16-24-years-old living in Leigh Park to take next steps toward opportunities in education, training and employment, officers are actioning the following:

Youth Engagement

To drive youth engagement and understand the views of those aged 16-24 years, a Youth Survey has gone LIVE: Youth Survey.

This survey is being done in collaboration with HBC's Insights Team and will be promoted at pop-up events at HSDC and the Link Up Youth Hub, as well as through local community groups and with programme partners.

This survey asks questions about what is important to young people, any challenges or issues they face living in Havant, and what they would like to see in the borough for the future. This will help inform the council's local plan and give steer to the initiatives for the programme to commission in collaboration with community partners.

Initiatives

The programme is partnering with the Link Up Youth Hub to host an Apprenticeship Event for 14-24-year-olds on Tuesday, 29th November. This free event will be taking place at Leigh Park Library from 1-5pm for young people residing in the local area, as well as across Havant borough. An invitation has gone to local secondary schools and the local college to bring students along, as well as a wider public invitation to young people and their families. Employers, such as Comserv, Hampshire Constabulary and the Royal Navy, as well as careers support teams and training providers will be available to showcase their apprenticeship offer and answer questions.

In partnership with the Link Up Youth Hub and Motiv8, a targeted 1:1 Youth Support Worker will provide weekly sessions, on a referral basis, to help young people reduce barriers to education, training and employment by exploring the needs of the individual with particular focus on emotional health and wellbeing. This is due to commence from the beginning of December 2022 for an initial period of 6 months with aims for review and extension.

Link Up Youth Hub

From 1st December, the youth hub will be re-locating to Front Lawn Community Hub based in Leigh Park, every Monday to Friday, supported in partnership by Hampshire FA and the Link Up Leigh Park programme.

Since it's launch at the beginning of September, 55 Young People have been referred to the Youth Hub from the Job Centre. Various agencies are working alongside hub staff to provide CV writing workshops, Apprenticeships and Traineeships. These include NCS, Showcase Training

(Childcare Apprenticeships), PETA (Various Apprenticeships inc. IT and Engineering) and Kiwi Education (Traineeships)

One young person has started an Enterprise course with the Prince's Trust which gives them up to 4 years' worth of support in their Self Employment Journey.

At least 6 of the hub's referrals have gained employment with more success stories awaiting start dates.

These include employment with companies such as Premier Inn, Musto, iRed and TK Maxx.

Housing

Major New Development sites

Work continues to support 5 major new developments across the Borough. Castle Avenue, Warbington will likely be completed by the end of 2022. Bartons Road has completed ground works and highway access but is yet to start building houses on site, the committee date is impending. Lower Road, Sinah Lane and Forty Acres continue with their build. Currently, Lower Road has 39 dwellings in build out of the proposed 50 and Sinah Lane has 40 dwellings in build out of 195. 50 dwellings are currently occupied out of 320 at Forty Acres.

A Breach of Condition Notice was issued by our Enforcement Team to the developers of Sinah Lane due to vehicles not parking on site. Officers from various teams across the council continue to treat Sinah Lane as a priority site due to issues that have occurred.

Affordable Housing delivery

Q2 has seen a confirmed additional 33 affordable new homes (as opposed to the 36 in the last report) across 3 sites in the borough, Horndean Road Emsworth, Castle Avenue Denvilles & Forty Acres Bedhampton. All have been delivered by VIVID housing Association.

Bedroom size	Shared Ownership	Social Rent	Affordable Rent	TOTAL
1				
2	2	6	6	14
3	1	8	6	15
4		2	2	4
TOTAL	3	16	14	33

This takes our current total for 22/23 to 39 new dwellings which includes 6 Affordable Rents (4 no 2B, and 2 no 3B) delivered in Q1 by Aster on the Catherington Park site in Cowplain.

Although VIVID forecasted an additional 37 potential completions in Q2, this has been subject to slippage as suggested in the last report. The Colt site in Havant has suffered from ongoing delays, most recently the requirement to get the NHBC 10 Year warranty signed off, plus ongoing Highway issues. VIVID hope the first of the new homes to be ready for letting in the New Year.

Homelessness

Numbers in temporary accommodation saw a decrease in September compared with August 2022, but unfortunately an increase in October following additional demand. Completion of Brent House has suffered a slight delay due to utility installation issues, but Two Saints are still hopeful that this will be within the next few weeks. The 29 new units will provide temporary accommodation and enable the Housing Service to place some of our homeless residents in our local area and nearer to their support networks.

Last 2 months temporary accommodation figures:

September 2022

Total Number in TA -71
Shared accommodation– 50
Self-contained– 21

Number in TA outside of area – 44
Shared accommodation – 30
Self-Contained - 14

October 2022

Total Number in TA – 93
Shared accommodation– 31
Self-contained– 62

Number in TA outside of area – 53
Shared accommodation – 27
Self-Contained - 26

Ukraine Project work

HBC currently has 47 hosts in our area accommodating 94 guests. This is broken down as below and is all extracted from the Hampshire County Council Portal

April	13 hosts	27 guests
May	10 hosts	23 guests

June	8 hosts	14 guests
July	6 hosts	11 guests
Augusts	3 hosts	7 guests
September	6 hosts	9 guests
October	1 host	3 guests

Additional information:

- Six monthly host/guest visits have now begun, using our own team members. Hosts contacted and scheduled in, April, May, June = 46 visits. 14 visits from the month of April agreements to complete in November. This will be an ongoing month by month exercise. Funding to be determined by county for any additional costs with funding agreed by HCC for additional costs.
- Majority of hosts that have returned contact still appear happy with arrangements and will be seeing through to the new year.
- We currently have 9 cases. 2 potential homeless cases. 1 is a visa issue, wrong visas issued to guests, host not receiving funding. Resulted in complaint from Lee Ward, our project worker, to the Home Office. 2nd is a suitability of a current arrangement, may result in homelessness. Social services have been involved.
- **2 rematches successful** and currently no guests in B&B
- Majority of approaches to the council are around future options and assistance to move on from Host. Advice has been and continues to be geared towards accessing accommodation in the private rented sector.
- Our Project Worker Lee Ward has reached out to 12 local letting agents in the Havant area to establish if we can work more closely with them for the purpose of what has been a charitable exercise. Have advised what we can offer in terms of financial assistance and ongoing support i.e., monitoring the success of the tenancy, payments, benefits etc.
- Hosts have raised the issue of the Cost-of-Living Crisis as a barrier to sustain matches current matches. Housing team management will review opportunities to financially assist from current grant, or alternatively seek additional funding from County if required.

Housing Association Liaison

Regular meetings are scheduled in at Senior level with The Guinness Partnership as the organisation that we transferred our stock to under Large Scale Voluntary Transfer (LSVT).

The latest meeting was held on 01/11/2022 and subjects discussed included:

1. Housing Support Grant spending opportunities.
2. Housing First Pilot
3. Update on incoming regs for fitting of smoke and CO detectors & discussion on the challenging timescales on these.

4. Vacant property & the lack of information from Guinness when advertising properties through Hampshire Home Choice.
5. What support does TGP offer their tenants re rent arrears, cost of living rises etc

Date of next meeting TBC

Hampshire Home Choice (HHC)

Current active applications to Havant Borough Council through Hampshire Home Choice:

Bedroom Need	Band 1	Band 2	Band 3	Band 4	Grand Total
1	4	84	714	46	848
2	2	25	553	13	593
3	2	19	352	5	378
4		7	63	2	72
5			3		3
Grand Total	8	135	1685	66	1894

This total of 1894 shows an increase of 74 new applicants compared to the last report in August 2022 as we see more residents registering for social housing.

Annual Lettings: 1 October 2021 – 30 September 2022

During this period, across the Hampshire Home Choice Partnership there were 2269 offers accepted, tenancies started, or nominations/allocations approved by RPs and WCC Landlord Services.

This includes 263 in Havant which represents 12% of the total number of lettings.

Brent House

This new project has unfortunately been delayed for an additional period due to installation and commissioning of the electric meters by the supplier. Currently, Two Saints are waiting for an appointment date for the works and then once that's done there will be a further 2 weeks required for testing. At this stage there is no indication as to how long the wait will be for the initial appointment.

Allocation of neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy to projects and other developer contributions expenditure

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

This financial year to-date we have agreed the following Neighbourhood Portion CIL Spends, with project delivery being undertaken by the Community Team:

Exacom Project Ref.	Name/Description	Amount
246	Bidbury Mead Play Area Refurbishment	£115,000
247	Front Lawn Play Area Refurbishment	£115,000

Recent Expenditure (Strategic CIL)

Since the 21st September 2022, we are pleased to confirm the following CIL spends are either complete or in process of being completed (data collected 26/10/22):

Exacom Project Ref.	Name/Description	Amount
20	Warblington Footbridge	£191,900.00
113	Reconstruction of Hayling Billy Feasibility	£ 42,488.75

S106 Allocations

The following additional funds of £70,000 (authorised 26/10/22) have been allocated to Project 174, Refurbishment Emsworth Recreation Ground Pavilion. These funds are in addition to the £54,218.91 authorised on 16/06/21:

App No	Site	Amount
03/61332/002	Ramsdale Playing Fields, Woolston Road, Havant	£3,769.22
05/54824/011	The Courthouse PH, West Street, Havant	£1,944.33
06/59751/009	9 Sea Front, Hayling Island	£434.00
06/70652/000	17-21 St Georges Walk, Waterlooville	£5,575.00
07/50614/007	42 Highfield Avenue, Waterlooville	£2,177.26
07/68557/006	Land at Applewood Grove, Waterlooville	£5,310.00
08/53894/021	Silvester House, Silvester Road, Waterlooville,	£4,248.00
08/71508/004	47 London Road, Waterlooville	£2,655.00
08/72338/002	132-136 London Road, Waterlooville	£2,832.00
APP/12/00612	Land South of Scratchface Lane, adjacent to A3M and West of Brooklands Road and Hillmead Gardens, Havant	£32,077.04
APP/14/00774	Barncroft Infant School, Barncroft Way, Havant	£3,668.15
APP/11/00893	158 Hart Plain Avenue, Waterlooville	£5,310.00
Total		£70,000.00

We have also agreed the following new S106 allocations:

Tennis Court Refurbishment Project 2022 (Project ref. 241), this was agreed on 7/10/2022. The following S106 funds have been allocated to this Project:

App No	Address	Amount
10/53728/009	92 London Road, Widley, Waterlooville	£22,036.50
05/69944/001	35-37 East Street, Havant	£131.04
03/61332/002	Ramsdale Playing Fields, Woolston Road, Havant	£7,829.46
APP/12/00205	Former Purbrook Park Playing Fields, Stakes Road, Waterlooville	£3.00
Total		£30,000.00

Horizon Community Health Hub (Project ref. 254), this was agreed on 18/10/22. The following S106 funds have been allocated to this Project:

App No	Address	Amount
APP/12/00407	Land east of New Lane and west of Warblington School	£30,000
Total		£30,000

The Community Team are leading on the delivery of these schemes.

Recent Expenditure (S106)

Exacom Project Ref.	Name/Description	Amount
224	SINC Contribution in association with Mitigation Land - APP/19/00768	£2,412.64

Our public facing Exacom System (which we use to monitor Developer Contributions) provides up-to-date information on CIL and S106 income and expenditure and can be viewed via this link: <https://pfm.exacom.co.uk/havant/>