

Cabinet Lead Report – 18th January 2023

Councillor Gwen Robinson - Cabinet Lead for Affordable Housing, Communities and CIL

Community Relations, including sport, leisure and play parks

Youth Justice Football Project

Officers have secured £20,000 funding from the Youth Justice Sport Fund, for local partners to deliver a physical activity project beginning in January 2023. This is designed to target individuals aged 10 to 17 who have been identified as at risk of entering the criminal justice system. Key aims of the project include the promotion of prosocial behaviours, reduction in anti-social activity and to foster partnership working between the sport and criminal justice sectors.

The project consists of core sport provision which is weekly football coaching sessions delivered at Front Lawn Community Hub by Pompey in the Community. In addition, Motive8, a local youth charity, will be providing weekly mentoring and personal development workshops at the site to fulfil the Sportplus requirements of the scheme. Local youth services including the Youth Crime Prevention unit, Y-Services, Early Help Hub, Park Community College, Local Children's Partnership and the Wave have been engaged to provide formal and informal referrals.

Get up and go

Officers have been mapping the existing physical activity offer within the borough, to identify gaps in provision for those people living with health conditions and who may face barriers in accessing physical activity in their community. The programme of activities to fill this gap is now being developed with existing and new delivery partners. The project aims to have a soft re-launch in Spring 2023, with an enhanced timetable of new activities, from walking sports to condition specific exercise classes. The scheme remains funded through the Hampshire County Council get going again fund.

Play Area Refurbishments – Bidbury Mead, Front Lawn Rec

Officers have published tender documents for both play refurbishment sites at Front Lawn and Bidbury Mead, the procurement process closes on the 27th January. Officers will evaluate all submissions and look to appoint a contractor shortly after that date.

Specifications for both sites were informed by resident engagement undertaken working alongside the Insight Team using the Citizen Lab System.

Works are anticipated to be completed at both sites by Spring 2023.

Both sites have an available budget of up to £115,000, fully funded by CIL neighbourhood portion.

Springwood Avenue – Levelling up Parks Fund

Resident engagement for the play area closed in December and the results are now being used to inform the specification to be used in tendering for a design and build play contractor. The tender will open in early 2023.

Officers from CELT have provided draft designs on a community orchard and allotment scheme and community officers are working with the Stakes Environmental Group to ensure this meets local need, whilst also providing support for the group to become constituted with Community First, allowing them to take responsibility for the orchard and allotments upon completion through a management plan which will be developed with the Property team.

Community officers have also secured an additional £10,000 funding from Guinness Partnership towards the project, to supplement the £85,000 DLUHC investment.

Emsworth Recreation Ground Pavilion Refurbishment

Officers have secured an additional £80,000 of CIL neighbourhood funding towards the 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.

Secured funding for the project now totals £204,000.

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 the full project funding is secured.

Play Investment 2022/2023

Officers have appointed contractors to undertake play improvement works at both Hollybank play area and Westbrook play area.

Works at Hollybank will replace the existing wooden play boat with like for like provision, the existing wooden boat has failed and is becoming unsafe.

Works at Westbrook will replace the safety surfacing, the existing carpet surfacing is damaged beyond reasonable repair. Therefore, wetpour safety surfacing will be installed across the site.

Works are expected to take place Spring 2023, once dates are given officers will provide an update.

Havant Community Lottery

The Havant Lottery currently has 106 registered Good Causes, 692 players are purchasing tickets and £196,711 has been raised for local Good Causes since 2018.

50% of every ticket sold goes directly to groups who have registered with the Lottery, players can choose which group or project they wish to support, from a range of local schools, scouts and guides, music and art groups, sports and activity clubs, youth organisations, support services and many more.

A further 10% goes into a Community Fund through which local groups can apply for small grants to support their work. The Community fund is open twice a year – spring and autumn; registered Good Causes can apply for up to £2,000 to support their projects and activities. Applying for funds is simple and managed through an application form process, a panel of Councillors and community members assess each application and decide which Good Cause are awarded funds.

In November we received 13 grant applications, the panel have awarded £14,546 to the following Good Causes:

- Off The Record - Youth Counselling - £1,950
- Final Straw Foundation - Warm spaces - £800
- Langstone Pilot Gig Rowing Club - Training, travel, equipment, and maintenance - £2,000
- Hampshire Home Start - Warm space - £1,941
- WAVE - Hayling - Warm Hub - £1,941
- Foodbank PO9 - Food, heaters and craft materials - £1,200
- Trosnant School - Climbing frame - £2,000
- Hayling Island Community Centre, Warm Hub - £2,000
- PAWARA (Purbrook and Widley Area Resident Association) - Tools and equipment - £414
- Havant Borough Tree Wardens - Fruit trees - £300

Sadly, there was not enough money available to fund 3 projects; the next funding round opens in April 2023

Armed Forces

In November, Havant Borough Council launched an Armed Forces Stakeholder group, this group aims to share best practice, build relationships with key partners, work in partnership on funding application/projects, and reduce duplication.

The first meeting was well attended, key topics included Housing, Veteran support - Health and Wellbeing (suicide and mental health), finance, signposting and also improving our web page. This group will meet face to face twice a year, relevant updates and information will be emailed to the group in-between these meetings. There are 49 interested members on the mailing list.

Ukraine Projects

A Christmas family drop-in session for Ukrainian refugees and hosts living in the Borough of Havant took place early December to offer further support. Following on from the positive feedback we received from the first drop-in session held in October, we invited Ukrainian families and UK hosts back to the Plaza, 36 people attended (5 children and 31 adults).

Free face to face advice and support was available from the Community and Housing team, Job Centre, Health service, Citizens' Advice, Community First, Rural Refugee Network and Havant and East Hants MIND. The next drop-in session is planned for Tuesday 7th February, 11am – 2pm at the Plaza (Hollybank room).

There are currently 58 Ukraine families (111 people in total) living in the Havant Borough area.

Along with the successful drop-ins, Officers have also provided 3 Bulletins direct to the Ukrainian community in Havant and from December these publications will be/have been fully translated into Ukraine and Russian. Funding for this has come from HCC.

HBC is the lead organisation in a monthly Ukrainian support meeting. This is to bring together those working, in the Borough, with Ukrainian families and hosts. This is very well attended and the Social prescribers have started to attend now as it gives them a lot of information for those who are joining their Dr's practices.

Christmas

Officers have worked with a new company this year, The Christmas Decorators, who installed the lights around Havant, Leigh Park, Waterlooville, and Hayling Island. Emsworth were provided with some new lights but installed them themselves. There were the normal issues with the lights not working, being stolen and battery damage. Officers are continuing to work with the Christmas Decorators to iron out these problems for next year.

Officers will be meeting soon to put plans in place early in the year to ensure smooth delivery next year

In 2022, three Christmas events took place: Waterlooville, Hayling Island and Emsworth.

Events

There have been about 65 events throughout the year, (slightly lower than pre-covid figures), however Officers are expecting a larger number this year with the Coronation. The team will also have to consider a new process for Road Closures and closer working with Licencing. The priority for Officers this year, along with the increased number of events, will be to get paperwork for events updated to enable smoother process. The webpages will be updated with the costs and timescales for paperwork to be received by the Council and this will be strict and adhered to.

Warm Hubs

Officers from the Community Team, alongside those in Comms (website and media), have set up the cost-of-living page on Havant Borough website. The information has been collated from the Community and will continue to be added to. Officers will be contacting those who are reporting being Warm Hubs to ascertain the success of the provision. This information has also been collated via our community news bulletin and What's On in Havant Facebook page.

Tree Sculpture Havant Park

Officers liaised with Bosmere School to create a design for the fallen tree in Havant Park. The school has visited it several times to see the tree sculptor in action. This work will continue into 2023 as the actual sculpture is created. Once this is done (probably in the Summer), the Team will make sure suitable comms takes place.

Communities Involvement on New Developments

Work continues to support 5 major new developments across the Borough.

Castle Avenue, Warblington, is now complete other than the S278 works, (an S278 agreement allows developers to enter into a legal agreement with the Council to make alterations and improvements to a public highway, as part of a planning application)

Bartons Road has completed ground works and highway access but is yet to start building houses on site; the reserve matters application was recently agreed at committee.

Lower Road, Sinah Lane and Forty Acres continue with their build.

Currently, Lower Road has 44 dwellings in build out of the proposed 50 with 5 first occupancies moving in before Christmas.

Sinah Lane has 70 dwellings in build out of 195 with the first occupancy expected towards the end of February.

At Forty Acres, 50 dwellings are currently occupied out of 320.

Affordable Housing delivery

Q3 has seen a confirmed additional 24 affordable new homes across 3 sites in the borough, Castle Avenue - Denvilles, Forty Acres - Bedhampton, and Woodcroft Farm - Catherington Park in the Wecock area of Cowplain. All have been delivered by VIVID housing Association.

Bedroom size	Shared Ownership	Social Rent	Affordable Rent	TOTAL
1BF			10	10
2BF			4	4
2BH	2		4	6
3BH	4			4
TOTAL	6		18	24

This takes our current total for 22/23 (Q's 1, 2, and 3) to 63 new dwellings

VIVID are forecasting a further 156 potential completions in Q4, which includes 94 new homes on the delayed Colt site. The development 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 or around 01/03/2023.

Brent House

This new project was able to welcome it's first residents just before Christmas, and 6 single people were nominated, accepted, and moved into this temporary accommodation in the centre of Leigh Park. Work is ongoing by Two Saints to have all other rooms/flats completed to allow the scheme to be fully operational in the next few weeks.

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

All meetings for 2023 are now scheduled in with the first being on 24/02/2023

Hampshire Home Choice (HHC)

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

	Band 1	Band 2	Band 3	Band 4	Total
1		90	700	50	840
2	2	30	547	12	591
3	2	19	343	5	369
4		9	57	2	68
5			2		2
Total	4	148	1649	69	1870

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

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

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/>. We are however pleased to report on the following spends:

Neighbourhood CIL

Since the 27 October 2022, we are pleased to confirm the following CIL spend is either complete or in process of being completed (data collected 19 December 2022):

Exacom Project Ref.	Name/Description	Amount
201	Widbrook Utd - Bartons Green Store Room Doors	£2,050

S106

Since the 27 October 2022, we are pleased to confirm the following S106 spend is either complete or in process of being completed (data collected 19 December 2022):

App No	Exacom Project Ref.	Site	Amount
07/71455/002	218	Hayling Island Beach Volleyball Court	£9,490

The Council is required to produce an Infrastructure Funding Statement for 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022, to comply with the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations, which came into force 1 September 2019. This document has been published on our website during December and is available to view from this page: www.havant.gov.uk/community-infrastructure-levy-cil/cil-and-s106-monitoring