

## **Cabinet Lead Reports – Full Council February 2023**

**Councillor Clare Satchwell**

### **Cabinet Lead for Planning, Hayling Seafront Strategy and Coastal Management**

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#### **Development Management**

##### Workload

*The Planner* publication has reported that, following a strong start in the first quarter of the year, application submissions have continued to fall below the levels of 2021 – with an 11.5 per cent reduction in submissions nationally in December compared with 2021.

##### Casework

A large number of significant planning applications remain under active consideration by the team, including a number of cases where technical issues and/or S106 negotiations are prolonging the time being taken to reach a decision. These include Camp Down, Purbrook (hybrid application for up to 780 dwellings, community/nursery facility, retail unit and public open space); land west of Coldharbour Farm Road, Emsworth (44 dwellings); Cabbagefield Row, Leigh Park (150 dwellings); Land north of Long Copse Lane, Emsworth (210 dwellings); Land east of St George's Avenue, Havant (184 dwellings); Southleigh Park House, Havant (reserved matters application for 70 dwellings); Southmere Field, Havant (65 dwellings); Rook Farm, Hayling Island (300 dwellings); Land rear of Fathoms Reach, Hayling Island (51 dwellings); South Downs College, Purbrook (102 dwellings); Land north of The Oysters, Hayling Island (29 dwellings); Land south of Saltmarsh Lane, Hayling Island (60 dwellings); Land at Kingscroft Farm, Havant (140 dwellings); Former Dairy Crest Depot, Leigh Park (74 dwellings); and Land at Palk Road, Havant (90 dwellings).

#### **Planning Committee**

The outline planning application for Langstone Technology Park, Havant (redevelopment of site with new employment floorspace) was considered by the Committee on 17th January 2023. A resolution was secured to grant permission subject to a S106 Agreement being completed.

The outline planning application for the development of up to 100 dwellings on Land west of Hulbert Road, Waterlooville, which was originally considered by the Planning Committee on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2021, has had its associated S106 Agreement completed and was granted planning permission on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2023.

## **Hayling Seafront Strategy**

Work is primarily focused on Season 23 however; a review of regeneration projects is also underway.

The short term plan is to bring forward ideas for the Chichester Avenue area and to review short and medium term ideas for our Beach Hut offer.

## **Communications**

### **Cabinet Lead Report for Comms, January 2023**

January was a very busy start for the year where we continued with campaigns from last year and launched new ones. Key campaigns and communications coverage have included:

- Post-Christmas fly tipping
- Front Lawn Community Open Day
- Waste Prevention Community Grant Fund
- Veteran's survey
- Warmer Homes Grant
- Recruitment marketing for HR
- Havant Borough Community Lottery raises an additional £14k for good causes
- Launched the second stage of the Youth Survey
- Sculpture in Havant Park
- Cost of Living support for residents
- Loneliness campaign to encourage people to socialise more
- Holocaust Memorial Day
- Ukraine drop-in session
- Electoral Voter ID
- Link Up Youth Hub – creating awareness about the service and website creation
- Welcome to Vote Week

## **Website information**

### **Users**

1st January to 31st January 2023 – 27,310

### **Location**

1st January to 31st January 2023 – London – 31%, Havant – 11%, Portsmouth – 11%.

### **Content**

1st January to 31st January 2023 – bin collections, council tax, contact us, search and comment, planning applications, havant, planning applications and appeals, refuse collections, jobs-us-apply-now, paying your council tax

### **Most searched for item on the website**

1st January to 31st January 2023 – jobs, planning, council tax, site search, tip, planning, housing, bin collection, household support fund

### **Devices**

1st January to 31st January 2023 – Mobile – 59%, desktop – 35%, tablet – 4%.

### **Social media update**

We kicked off the New Year by sharing content advising our residents on how to recycle their Christmas waste. We continued to promote the Veterans Survey and launched the second stage of the Youth Survey. We also promoted grants such as the Warmer Homes fund plus the Waste Prevention Community Grant Fund. On the events side we shared information about the Front Lawn Community Open Day, Ukraine Drop-in and the Holocaust Memorial. The main focus this month and going forward is creating awareness about the local elections and making sure residents know they need to bring photo ID to vote. We also teamed up with Link Up Youth Hub to promote Welcome to Vote Week, which was a campaign to encourage young people to vote.

#### **Facebook**

Gained 61 new followers

Reached 7,100 people

Posted 60 times

#### **Twitter**

Posted 77 times

4.1K followers

#### **LinkedIn**

Our page reach was 1.875K

We have 40 new followers

Posted 11 times

#### **Tiktok**

We now have 48 followers to this new platform being used by Havant Borough Council.

Videos include Christmas messages, Bin collections, Bird Aware and Link Up Leigh Park, with the most popular topics being viewed by more than 1040 people.

We continue to review our channels and work to ensure content is specific to each.

### **Coastal Management**

#### **South Hayling Beach Management Activities (BMA) (2017-2024)**

Emergency beach works were completed on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023, with approximately 8,000m<sup>3</sup> shingle recycled from Gunner Point. This enabled the beach crest to be reinstated along the full length of the Eastoke frontage.

Further storm events since this date have meant that the beach crest at Eastoke Corner has reduced in width, with some overtopping. The promenade was cleared by Norse during w/c 16<sup>th</sup> January, with the material placed back on the beach. The Eastoke frontage is being regularly monitored by Coastal Team staff to determine whether any further works are required before the next planned beach management campaign.

An emergency funding application is currently underway and will be submitted to the Environment Agency retrospectively to request the value of £87,705. This will cover the construction costs and staff time for the works which were undertaken in December 2022.

### **West Beach – Scoping and Regeneration**

As previously updated, there is some change identified to the eastern end of West Beach which happened over the past winter. The current position of the beach crest lies within the estimated initial cutback risk zone area identified prior to the structures being removed. It is expected that over time, under average wave and weather conditions the beach crest will continue to roll back into the 'rebound zone'. A recent crest survey has been undertaken and monitoring of the poor condition breastwork for damage continues.

With the emerging coastal strategy policy and renewed interest in coastal management at West Beach, an internal workshop is proposed to review the wider council ambitions for this frontage and priorities.

### **Hayling Island Coastal Management Strategy**

The 3-month public engagement on the draft coastal management strategy ended on 30<sup>th</sup> December 2022. Over 230 people attended the public drop in events held during this time and 75 consultation responses were received. The project team are now going through a period of reviewing all comments received following the consultation.

The project team is also finalising the Habitats Regulations Assessment, Strategic Environmental Assessment and Water Framework Directive Assessment ready for statutory consultation.

### **Langstone Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) Scheme – Detailed Design**

The project team continue to work collaboratively with AECOM and our other Consultants as the project progresses through Detailed Design. The 80% design review comments have been returned to AECOM and continue to be incorporated into the design. Since receiving the 80% detailed design we are continuing to reassess and refine the design to seek design efficiencies, to provide an affordable and deliverable scheme. As part of the ongoing assessments, we are looking at re-visiting a previous design option for Frontage 2, that will potentially provide cost and programme efficiencies, and assist with the environmental improvements. An alternative options appraisal report for the Mill Lane residents, has been developed by AECOM and reviewed internally by Coastal Partners ahead of a consultation event scheduled for February 2023.

The project delivery cost estimates now reflect the increase in material prices and inflation the construction industry is currently experiencing. These costs have been updated based on the 80% design cost estimate by the Cost

Consultant. Actions from a cost and risk reduction workshop will continue to be implemented by the Designer, ECI Contractor and Cost Consultant as the design progresses to 100% detail.

The project team continue to seek additional funding sources for the scheme, and bids to the Environment Agency for Frequently Flooded Communities Allowance for £2.5million is awaiting response. Assessments for potential inflation uplift with funding from the EA are currently being investigated by the Project Team.

The postponed Stakeholder Working group, originally programme for November 2022, has been provisionally rescheduled for February 2023.

### **Broadmarsh Coastal Park, Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) Feasibility Study**

Following a meeting with colleagues from the planning and CIL team, details of the project costs and funding needed to take the design stage of the project forwards have been shared. Ongoing monitoring continues of this key sea defence infrastructure to check for storm damage. The site was visited by ITN News in January, in an interview with Mark Stratton, to raise awareness of landfills at risk of coastal erosion.

### **Warblington Seawall Repairs**

There is no change currently with the Warblington seawall repairs, following a report of erosion of land from the farmer at Warblington. An inspection was carried out during early January 2022, and it was established that the seawall fronting the farmland had become undermined due to lowering beach levels, and a small void has formed on the face of the structure. Discussions are ongoing regarding the environmental impact of repairs to the structure, and applications for consents for work will be considered over the coming months.

### **Wade Lane Seawall Failure**

A third councillor working group meeting was held 27/01/2023 with all the interested parties working to help facilitate a solution here. Coastal Partners have commenced an assessment of temporary repair solutions, to enable liaison with key bodies and groups to review both short and long-term solution for the Wade Lane section of the Solent Way.

### **Coastal Environmental Initiatives**

The Coastal Environment team are actively working across several initiatives that aim to protect and improve the natural coastal environment within the Havant Borough, such as:

- **Hayling Island Coastal Management Strategy – additional studies:**  
The team are investigating priority intertidal habitat creation opportunities

on Hayling Island. Since initial discussions with landowners of potential sites, we are now considering potential payment opportunities / options that could meet multiple objectives. If successful, this could lead to the creation of new intertidal habitats to replace those that have been lost within the harbours through climate change, including saltmarsh, mudflats, and coastal grazing marsh.

- **Langstone FCERM scheme – Saltmarsh Feasibility Study:** Officers have now reviewed the conclusions of the saltmarsh feasibility study for Langstone, which has raised some concerns regarding the viability of full-scale saltmarsh restoration at the location proposed – given a significant number of pressures on the environment at this location. The study recommends undertaking trials initially, to determine whether any intervention could be scaled up. Alongside this, Natural England (NE) have commissioned a study to identify and prioritise sites within Chichester Harbour that may be suitable for saltmarsh restoration, by raising silt levels using dredged sediments. Therefore, we will work alongside NE and wider partners to confirm if and how we move forward with this initiative.
- **Chichester Harbour Protection and Recovery of Nature (CHaPRoN), Southern Water Summit and linked initiatives:** CHaPRoN has a vision of ‘working together for the protection and recovery of nature’, focussed on Chichester Harbour – [www.chapron.org.uk](http://www.chapron.org.uk)

Alongside Chichester District Council, we have applied for funding to produce a strategic environmental management plan for the whole of Chichester Harbour. Funding from the Environment Agency’s Environmental Statutory Allowance has now been allocated to this, but we need to prepare and submit a business case, to unlock this funding, which will be a focus within 2023.

We are being approached frequently by CHaPRoN partners to discuss failing defences (mostly of private ownership) around the Harbour and how these should be addressed going forward, with consideration requiring a balance of risk vs. environmental harm or opportunity. This again highlights the need for a harbour wide management plan, to set a clear and planned direction, rather than ad hoc, piecemeal advice.

- **Habitat Compensation and Restoration Programme (HCRP):** Nationally, the HCRP is on track to deliver its legal requirements, but progress needs to be increased. Within our region, it has highlighted the need to submit a funding application for a Solent wide coastal grazing marsh study (prioritising opportunities to create this habitat, which is critically important to the harbour’s bird networks). We are currently preparing a scope for this study in attempt to unlock funding, as the Solent’s FCERM programme relies on successful delivery of the HCRP.