

Hayling Island Infrastructure Group Meeting

Havant Public Service Plaza, Tournurbury Room, Wednesday 22nd November 2017, 16:00
to 18:00

Notes of Meetings

Present:

Community representatives:

Elaine Kilbey (LRA), David Pattenden (LRA), Ann Griffiths (LRA), P. R. Sebley (Cycle Hayling), Paul Millman (NEHRA), Jim Palmer (HIRA), Anne Skennerton (HIRA), Anthony Higham (HIRA), Robin Davison (Save our Island), David Parham (Save Our Island), Richard Coates (Governor for South Central Ambulance), Rosie Law (South West Hayling Group) and Ray Rowsell.

HBC Representatives: Andrew Biltcliffe (Head of Planning), David Hayward (Planning Policy Manager); Linda Jewell (Planning Consultant), Jade Ellis (Principal Planning Policy Officer) and Lewis Ford (Planning Policy Officer).

HBC Councillors: Cllr Michael Wilson (Chair of meeting), Cllr John Perry, Cllr Tim Pike and Cllr Joanne Thomas.

HCC Representatives: None.

Apologies: Louise Berridge (HBC), Holly Drury (HCC), Chris Hirst, Cllr Andrew Lenaghan (HBC), Steve Mountain (HBC), Mike Owens (Hayling Informer), Cllr Leah Turner (HBC), Stuart Wood (HBC) and Graham Wright (HCC).

1. Introduction & Initial Discussion

Cllr Wilson began by welcoming and thanking all of those present for attending at such short notice; Cllr Wilson also highlighted that this was an extraordinary meeting.

Mr Palmer began by thanking the group for the opportunity to discuss the Draft Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP), but ultimately that he was disappointed that elements of the report regarding Hayling Island were not highlighted, and that it would now be difficult to get changes made due to the time constraints. Mr Davison also raised concerns of items "slipping through" due to time constraints.

On the matter of future meetings with HCC; Cllr Wilson asked Mr Parham if he had requested such. Mr Parham confirmed that he had followed up the invitation by HCC but had had no success.

ACTION – David Hayward to contact Graham Wright about setting up smaller meetings with HCC in the future.

Cllr Wilson stated that he shared the frustrations of the attendees that the Borough wide Transport Assessment will not be available before the Cabinet meeting on 18th December 2017. However, Cllr Wilson did outline that there is also a need to keep moving forward as the borough is currently vulnerable. The recent Development Consultation Forum (DCF) for a proposal north of Sinah Lane was highlighted as evidence of this.

Mr Parham spoke about road capacity – for ease of clarity in reading these meeting notes, Mr Parham’s comments have been moved to section f.iii) under agenda item 3.

Questions were raised by Mr Davison, Mr Rowsell and Ms Skennerton regarding how up to date the Draft IDP was and if some organisations were missing. Ms Jewell confirmed that she had sent out emails to all infrastructure bodies and providers requesting; 1) current levels; 2) how much increase current services can take; 3) what is maximum capacity, and; 4) what had the providers planned for the future regarding growth etc. Ms Jewell stated that she had a mixed response and some providers did not keep to the standard answer form for various reasons. Ms Jewell also conducted a number of 1-2-1 meetings and chased up the providers and services that did respond via further emails, telephone calls and phone messages. Annual Reports from infrastructure providers and services were also obtained and used; where inconsistencies arose between the annual reports and the information received via email, Ms Jewell then chased up the respective bodies for clarity.

Mr Biltcliffe highlighted that the Draft IDP had the latest information from those who responded. All infrastructure providers will be given the opportunity to read the Draft IDP during the consultation on the Draft Local Plan 2036 in the New Year. They will therefore have an opportunity to make any further alterations before the document is updated and published in full.

Cllr Perry suggested the individual representatives from the infrastructure providers and services could be named in the Draft IDP.

2. Notes of the last meeting and matters arising

Ms Skennerton asked if notes from the last meeting and any other business/matters arising would be discussed at the end of the meeting. Cllr Wilson confirmed that this would not be the case as the meeting was extraordinary, and that this can be discussed at the next meeting; the primary aim of this meeting was to discuss the Draft IDP.

3. Infrastructure Delivery Plan

Cllr Wilson raised each infrastructure topic, one by one, to allow for further comments.

a) EARLY YEARS, PRIMARY & SECONDARY EDUCATION:

Attendees first referred to the IDP’s statement that 30 school places would be required for every 100 dwellings. Cllr Pike confirmed that Hayling College was currently undersubscribed; this was seconded by David Hayward whom stated that HCC had confirmed that Hayling College would be able to accommodate new pupils.

b) HEALTH:

Mr Palmer began by highlighting that the Draft IDP included information from the area health authority (the South East Clinical Commissioning Group – CCG), but that the primary health care providers (the Hayling Island surgeries) had not been given a chance to comment; Mr Palmer stated that he did not agree with this approach. Mr Palmer continued by saying that there was a problem in communication between these two organisations; Mrs Law added that the CCG were hiding behind statistics. Both of these comments were seconded by Mr Parham.

However, Mr Hayward stated that after having a meeting with the surgeries and the CCG, that he believed the CCG and the Hayling Island surgeries did have a good working relationship. Mr Hayward added that the council will be sending their Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) to the organisations each year so that they are aware of what is coming in the future. Mr Millman requested that this information was also given to the surgeries on the mainland as he, and other north Hayling Island residents, go to the surgeries in Havant.

ACTION – The Council's AMR to be made available to all surgeries and the CCG in the future.

Mr Palmer commented that even though the Hayling Island surgeries have the best doctor to patient ratio in the area (according the CCG); this statistic did not take into account that the surgeries on Hayling Island have the highest number of disabled and chronically ill patients.

Mr Coates raised the fact that the Hayling surgeries do not provide a service at the weekends, during the night and on the bank holidays. As a result, residents then have to travel to the mainland or call 111; this puts a burden on the ambulance service.

c) EMERGENCY SERVICES:

i) Ambulance

Mr Parham noted that the Draft IDP recommended that first responders should be located in one area; Mr Parham suggested that this should be the Hayling Island Fire Station. Mr Coates replied that there were no such plans at present due to resources and that there was no plan for an ambulance station. Ms Jewell added that this was a conversation which was had with Hampshire Fire & Rescue.

Ms Jewell highlighted that all of the consultees, who provided information for the Draft IDP, would have an opportunity to comment on the Draft IDP again during the public consultation on the Draft Local Plan 2036. As such, any amendments can be made for the next version of the IDP document.

ii) Queen Alexandra (QA) Hospital

Mr Coates stated that there had been no great change in the situation; there were, if anything, increases in delays where ambulances had to queue to get into QA. Mr Rowsell commented that the hospital was forced to discharge patients with no where to go. Cllr Pike highlighted that developments, such as those in the pipeline like Oak Park, are parts of the jigsaw that will help contribute to these issues.

iii) Police

Ms Skennerton asked where the Uniform Patrolling Officers and PCSOs would go once Havant Police Station was closed down. Cllr Pike replied and explained that the Strategic Teams (i.e. firearms and roads) would be relocated to the new headquarters in Hilsea. However, the Neighbourhood Teams would move into the Public Service Plaza, and interview suites will still be available at Waterlooville Police Station.

Cllr Wilson confirmed that there would 1 PC and 3 PCSOs on Hayling Island.

iv) Fire & Rescue

Mr Coates observed that the Draft IDP stated that the Draft Local Plan 2036 would identify a new site for a fire station along the A3(M) corridor. He believed that this would lead to services at Havant, Waterlooville and Emsworth being taken away. Mr Coates highlighted that this would deplete the back-up resources for Hayling Island which are called upon around three times a year; he also stated that the resources at Hayling Island must not be downgraded. Ms Jewell replied that there was no intention of closing Hayling Island's fire and rescue services and that the intention of Hampshire Fire & Rescue was to relocate the Havant service to a new A3(M) location. Ms Jewell added that she was uncertain about Hampshire Fire & Rescue's intentions regarding the services at Waterlooville and Emsworth. David Hayward also added that Hampshire Fire & Rescue have acknowledged Hayling Island as unique.

Ms Jewell informed the group that the Hayling Island services are on standby to attend incidences off the island when necessary. Ms Jewell also confirmed that 75-80% of the fire services' activity was not attending to fires, but instead other activities such as cutting out individuals from cars during road accidents etc., and that this why Hampshire Fire and Rescue would like to be based near the motorway. David Hayward reminded the group that this was a Hampshire-wide issue.

v) Coastguard

No questions or comments were raised.

vi) Emergency Plan

Mr Palmer commented that this was not a plan, but instead a "wish-list". Mr Palmer then reminded the group that the Emergency Plan was a non-statutory document and that in his opinion it was "meaningless". Ms Skennerton said that she agreed with Mr Palmer's comments and that she had tried to contact Stuart Pinkney with updates for the Emergency Plan but that she had not received a response. Mr Hayward explained that there were numerous documents for emergency planning but that some, due to confidentiality and safety, were not in the public domain. Mr Hayward reminded the group that a degree of community resilience is required at the borough, county and national level.

d) BLUE & GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE:

i) Parks

It was noted by Cllr Wilson that Hayling Island Park is to be refurbished.

ii) Flooding and the Coast

Ms Skennerton stated that Storm Brian had caused the shingle (which was relocated as part of a £3 million shoreline management plan) to be shifted. Ms Skennerton wanted confirmation of whether the full £3 million had been spent for the shingle movements this year alone; Mr Biltcliffe replied no, and that this money was for an annual rolling program.

Mr Parham reminded the group that there were nine plans regarding flood protection on Hayling Island and that three projects had been set up to create three marshes. In doing so, the latter allows Hayling Island to flood legally for a return of around £8 million. Mr Hayward confirmed that the three marsh projects will lead to habitat creation (the example of Selsy was highlighted). Mr Hayward continued that, via the Shoreline Management Plan, a large proportion of Hayling Island was "hold the line", i.e. flood defences were to be maintained. As such, this leaves limited options for habitat creation. Mr Higham asked if the Farlington Marshes (SSSI) could be used for this purpose; Mr Hayward replied that the SRMP highlighted Farlington Marshes as 'hold the line' in the short term as the marshes are important for protected bird species.

iii) The Hayling Billy Trail and Stoke

Mr Hayward informed the group of potential initiatives to realign the Hayling Billy Trail due to coastal erosion.

iv) Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS)

Mr Parham reiterated his thoughts regarding SuDS which were discussed at the DCF last week. As such, Mr Parham asked who wrote the briefs for management companies regarding SuDS. Mr Biltcliffe confirmed that it was the respective developer in consultation with Southern Water, and that this would also be addressed through a S106 legal agreement.

Mr Parham noted that the SuDS proposed at the Sinah Lane DCF were designed for more than 160 homes; as such, he asked if this suggested further development. Mr Biltcliffe and Cllr Wilson highlighted that over-designing the infrastructure was ultimately beneficial.

Ms Skennerton also reiterated her comments from the DCF last week and stated that mosquitoes around stagnant water were a health and safety issue.

v) Ecology and SPA mitigation

The group confirmed that Mrs Law's presentation at the recent Development Consultation Forum (DCF), regarding a housing proposal north of Sinah Lane, had covered all of the points to be raised.

e) SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE:

i) Community Centres

No questions or comments were raised.

ii) Libraries

No questions or comments were raised.

iii) Leisure

No questions or comments were raised.

f) UTILITIES:

i) Broadband

Ms Skennerton stated that there had been “endless complaints” regarding the quality of broadband on Hayling Island.

ii) Electricity

Mr Coates commented that the national intention to increase electric cars will mean that there will not be enough electricity infrastructures in the future; observations were also made regarding examples (not borough specific) where individual’s had used cables from their homes to charge up their cars on the street – this is a safety hazard. Cllr Pike replied that there will be references to electric car infrastructure in the Draft Local Plan. The issue is therefore how to accommodate the borough’s existing housing stock for electric cars.

iii) Gas

Mr Millman commented that this utility had improved in recent times. Cllr Pike added that there had been a “boost” in the north of the island through Hampshire County Council (HCC) funding; Cllr Pike then highlighted that this information could be found on the respective HCC webpages.

iv) Water Supply & Waste Water Disposal

Mr Rowsell began by raising concerns over sewage on Hayling Island and that he believed Budds Farm was nearing capacity. Mr Rowsell then stated that around 6 to 7 years ago the pipes were already above design capacity; though he did stress that this was not maximum capacity. Ms Skennerton seconded these beliefs and referenced the letter she received from Southern Water. Mr Parham also added that the information he had received from Southern Water (under a Freedom of Information [FOI] request) was contradictory to the information the Hayling Island Infrastructure Group had received from Southern Water’s presentation a few meetings ago. As such, Mr Parham concluded that information in the Draft IDP was also contradictory.

Cllr Perry reminded the group that Southern Water had offered to conduct a technical tour of the current sewage infrastructure for all attendees; however, no such tour had yet been arranged.

ACTION – Cllr Wilson to contact Southern Water and chase the tour of Budds Farm and a pumping station.

g) TRANSPORT

i) Buses

Ms Skennerton suggested that the bus services need to make connection with the Hayling Island Ferry, as well as the Portsmouth bus services. Cllr Pike replied that he had had positive talks with Stagecoach (who are based in Chichester) regarding the future. Cllr Pike also added that none of the buses in the borough are subsidised except for those by developers.

Ms Skennerton asked about the emerging concern of individual's (especially the elderly) losing their free bus passes as a result of cuts. Cllr Pike explained that HCC already operate a statutory minimum scheme, therefore they cannot legally reduce this service any further.

ii) Cycling

Mr Sebley began by reminding the group that cycling has a number of health and environmental benefits, and should be considered as a way of reducing road congestion. The successful examples of Oxford and Cambridge were then raised, though it was pointed out that this was because they had the infrastructure in place for cyclists. Mr Sebley then suggested that the east side of the Hayling Island Bridge should also be altered to accommodate cyclists. Cllr Wilson commented that the behaviour of cyclists needed to be better understood. Mr Sebley then suggested that the Hayling Billy Trail could be made into a "decent" commuter route, before then commenting that the Langstone section of the Hayling Billy Trail was in good condition for cyclists.

Cllr Pike highlighted that a number of good schemes had occurred in the borough and that another cycle link could be funded through money from the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). Mr Sebley responded that these were small schemes and that nothing had been done for the east of the island. Cllr Pike then informed the group that the [Havant Borough Cycle Network Map 2017](#) would be updated in the future.

iii) Roads

Mr Parham informed the group that he had carried out further analysis on the island's road capacity and that he was happy to share this information. From this, Mr Parham concluded that the traffic on Hayling Island would increase by 26% by the year 2031 as a result of the development planned and proposed for the island. Mr Parham then asked what number had been included in the modelling exercise which is currently taking place.

Cllr Pike highlighted to the group that the upcoming Draft Local Plan 2036 would have signposts/banners for any items concerning Hayling Island about what reports were missing and that the uncertainty regarding the highway network would be clearly highlighted.

Cllr Pike continued that he shared the frustrations of the group regarding the ongoing transport assessments. Cllr Pike then highlighted that HCC had produced a report regarding Hamble Lane in which HCC stated that the road was at capacity and needed work. He then commented that in light of this report, it is possible to determine whether a road is at capacity. Cllr Thomas agreed with Cllr Pike's comments and observations; David Hayward reminded the group that new development ultimately must not make a situation worse and cannot be expected to address a pre-existing situation. Attendees requested to see a copy of the report which Cllr Pike referred to.

ACTION – a copy of the report to be distributed with the meeting notes.

It was stated by various members of the group that there were no further comments on the road at present until the findings of the transport assessments were available.

iv) Rail

No questions or comments were raised explicitly; however most attendees nodded and made comments of "good".

4. Date of next meeting and any other business

As stated under agenda item 2; Cllr Wilson said that any other business could be discussed at the next meeting. The date, time and location of the next meeting will also be circulated in due course.

ACTION – Cllr Wilson to inform attendees of the date, time and place of the next meeting as soon as possible.

5. Close.

Cllr Wilson thanked all of those present for attending and declared the meeting closed.