



Emsworth Community Board

Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday 12 February 2009 at 7.30pm at Emsworth Community Association Centre

Present: Community Board Members

Steve Pearce	Chairman/Resident
Tim Brooks	Emsworth Business Association
Richard Galloway	Resident
Hilary Millen	Resident
Rosemary Osborne	Resident
Jean Tier	Resident
Peter Tier	Resident
Donald Wells	Resident
Cllr Virginia Wilson-Smith	HBC

Present: Others

Helen Wood	Community Boards' Support Officer
PC Butler	Police
Cllr Brendan Gibb-Gray	HBC
Nick Horten	HBC
12 members of the public	

Action

1. Welcome and Apologies

Steve Pearce welcomed everyone to the meeting and congratulated Ken Gilchrist, newly elected Chairman of the Emsworth Residents Association. Apologies had been received from Brian Edwards-Picknett, Jackie Muller and Richard Taylor, and Nick Horten.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting/Matters Arising

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Matters Arising

Item 2. Speeding. Sgt Andy Lynch would attend the March meeting of the Community Board

Item 2. Sign at Brook Meadow. Discussions were being held to resolve the issues of the DPPO sign on a conservation notice.

SP

Item 10 Tim Brooks had been given contact details of people who might be willing to be involved in maintaining the Mill Pond.

3. Police Report

PC Butler provided an update on community safety matters.

There had been 92 incidents in 2008 compared to 93 in 2009 which included 5 assaults, 6 burglaries, 5 criminal damage incidents, 6 vehicle crimes and 9

thefts during the previous month. Vehicle crime had decreased since December/early January and there had been no burglaries since 22 January.

Peter Tier questioned the value of CCTV. PC Butler expressed the view that CCTV was 'brilliant' and from a crime point of view acted as eyes and ears and provided a deterrent. Emsworth was fortunate to have so many cameras. It was confirmed that cameras recorded and were monitored 24 hours per day. Other equipment was currently being trialled.

A resident questioned the cause of a serious accident on the A259. It was confirmed that only one vehicle was involved and more information was being sought.

Thanks were passed to PC Butler for attending the meeting.

4. Environmental Ranger

Nick Horten confirmed that the number of abandoned vehicles and the incidences of fly tipping were very low. Those present were reminded that Travellers were likely to return to the area in the near future.

5. Supplementary Planning Documents

Robyn Lyons, Senior Policy Planner at Havant Borough Council provided information on two Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD)

- Residential Parking and Cycle Standards and
- Borough Design Guide.

Supplementary Planning Documents formed part of the Local Development Framework (LDF), the new type of planning system that replaced the old style Local Plan. SPDs would be used when planning applications were determined as part of the policy framework.

Documents and policies would be based on 'sound' evidence, public consultation was an integral part of formulating the documents and once adopted the SPDs would be used in the Development Control process.

Residential Car Parking Standards

Information was provided on:

- the main objectives of the SPD
- the current position (a draft document would be produced)
- the required number of parking spaces (based on the number of bedrooms in a property but with a reduced standard in areas such as Havant Town Centre)

The SPD would also cover issues such as:

- Size and arrangement of car parking spaces
- Visitor and disabled parking on residential development
- Crime reduction techniques in parking provision
- Use of loose gravel etc.

Public consultation would take place during the summer, probably June/July and comments on the draft SPD would be welcomed from the Community Board during the consultation process.

Following discussion included:

- Action if under-provision of car parking (It was likely planning permission would be refused)
- Over-provision would not be the best use of land as it was national policy to maximize the use of land
- Possible assumption that those living in an accessible area had less need for parking space
- The need to balance national planning policy and local desires (If national guidelines were not followed it was likely any appeal would be lost)
- Insufficient parking provision in various developments including BUPA hospital
- It was confirmed that the SPD only related to residential development
- All views would be considered during the consultation period and comments were welcome from the Community Board either before or during the consultation period

Borough Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document

Information provided on the Borough Design Guide included:

- Reasons for producing an SPD
- What the Guide would include e.g. case studies to illustrate good design

It was confirmed that a well designed property should have character and identity, defined street, attractive outdoor spaces and variety. Community Board members were encouraged to inform Adele Maher at Havant Borough Council of any recent building considered to be well designed.

Following discussion included:

- Emsworth Village Design Statement. It was confirmed that the SPD would supplement the Village Design Statement and would not weaken it in any way
- Issues of severance in the village (between north and south) and difficulties traveling from north into Emsworth. Current 'safe route' through underpass might not be available in the future. It was confirmed that 'severance' in Emsworth was recognized as a key issue in the Core Strategy. It was also important that such views were put forward during consultation. It was suggested that wording be included to the effect that 'nothing would be done to aggravate separation of the two parts of Emsworth'
- Allocation of areas for industrial use where status could not be changed
- Slow development of the Local Development Framework (LDF). It was confirmed that the Government had changed its advice on how a LDF should be produced, particularly in relation to the Core Strategy. There would be consultation on the draft Core Strategy during the summer and a great deal more consultation over the next few years which would give residents an opportunity to comment
- SPDs could not be used retrospectively
- Highways and drainage issues particularly relating to the Interbridges site. Robyn Lyons confirmed that the site was being considered afresh, possibly for a skills centre. Highways, drainage, land contamination and flooding would be considered when planning

applications received

- Timescale for implementation of LDF. It was confirmed that this would be adopted at different stages building up a portfolio and there would be a transitional period. The timetable was agreed by the Government office and information was available on the council's website

Thanks were passed to Robyn Lyons for attending the meeting and for the information provided.

6. News Round-up

Updates from ECB Sub-Groups.

South Street Steve Pearce provided an update on the proposed development at South Street. A Project Team had been set up in November 2008 and a huge amount of work had been undertaken to determine possible uses and users, and ways of ensuring financial sustainability. A report would be formally presented to Emsworth Town Partnership. This would then be reviewed by Havant Borough Council. Redevelopment of the perimeter of the car park was also being considered. Money could be available from Hampshire County Council and SEEDA (£80,000).

Recreation and Community Sub-Group

Jean Tier and Richard Taylor had been looking at the lack of facilities for teenagers in Emsworth. They had given a brief presentation to Havant HATs where great interest and support had been shown. HBC was also interested in the work being undertaken and Guinness Hermitage would provide support through funding.

An Open Morning would be held at International House in The Square on 28 February from 10 a.m. – 12 noon which would focus on the views of young people. An article would appear in The Ems and Hampshire's Children and Young People's Plan was also being considered. It was important that young people gave their views on the facilities required and that efforts were made to achieve suitable facilities.

Environmental Sub-Group

The group was liaising with HBC regarding litter and graffiti issues.

Planning Sub-Group

It was confirmed that there had been no planning issues for the previous three weeks.

Health

Peter Tier reported that planning approval had been granted for the new Oak Park Community Hospital with completion in 2011. When the new hospital opened activities at Emsworth Hospital would cease. It was hoped that local doctors would build a new medical centre on the site which would comply with the Emsworth Village Design Statement and new Regulations.

St George's Day

Cllr Brendan Gibb-Gray reported on St George's Day celebrations which would take place in April to celebrate history, show the work of the armed

forces and to raise funds for 'Help for Heroes' and Emsworth Memorial Gardens. Schools would be involved and soldiers from Thorney Island would march through Emsworth and meet the Mayor. The event would be largely supported by the Business Association. Events would involve old cars, music, barn dance, window dressing competition, market, Proms in the Church and a series of evening talks including:

- Battle of Trafalgar and HMS Victory
- Land Army Girls
- Imperial War Graves Photographic Project
- 1841 Census

It was hoped that this would be the first stage of future such events and that the Community Board would be involved. Any ideas for future events would be welcomed.

Thanks were passed to Cllr Gibb-Gray.

Cycle Lane Steve Pearce provided an update on improvements to the cycle lane from Bridge Street to Warblington Road. There were issues with vehicles parked on cycle lanes. HCC was proposing to make the north side of A259 a mandatory cycle lane so that vehicles could not be parked on it. This would go to consultation and, if agreed, would be a significant improvement. There was a very short discussion regarding the red coating on the cycle lane which was not seen as ideal for cyclists.

It was reported that the Business Association had provided 3 planting tubs for outside the old pharmacy.

7. Havant Community Partnership Update

Full minutes of the Havant Community Partnership Board meetings could be seen at www.hcp-partnership.org.uk

8. ECB Membership for 2009/10

The AGM would be held on 30 April 2009 and new Community Board members were sought. Details would appear in The Ems.

9. Public Forum

Resident Richard Jannaway reported that the Environment Agency would be holding an exhibition regarding flood risk, from Portchester to Emsworth, at the Emsworth Centre on 6 March 2009. Flyers were circulated. It was generally felt residents should attend the exhibition as consultation was important. A resident reported that 194 properties in Emsworth were at risk but it was unlikely that any government funding would be received.

Speeding vehicles were reported in Southleigh Road and New Brighton Road. It was confirmed by Cllr Brendan Gibb-Gray that temporary 30 mph signs were owned by the Council not the Police but that data collected was forwarded to the Police and was used to assess mobile camera police checks. There were very few machines available and Emsworth had been lucky with the amount they had been in the area. HBC was hoping to obtain funding to provide additional temporary signs. There was a short discussion regarding the effectiveness of the machines for short periods compared to permanent signs. It had also been found that many of the people 'caught', following requests for cameras, were local residents.

10. Any Other Business (for Community Board Members)

Nil

11. Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 12 March 2009 at 7.30 pm at Emsworth Community Association Centre.