

# Emsworth Community Board

Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday 12 June 2008  
at 7.30pm at Emsworth Community Association Centre

## Present:

### Community Board Members

Steve Pearce	Chairman/Resident
Rosemary Osborne	Vice Chairman/Resident
Tim Brooks	Emsworth Business Association
Brian Edwards-Picknett	Resident
Malcolm Emery	Resident
Hilary Millen	Resident
Richard Taylor	Resident
Donald Wells	Resident
CLlr Virginia Wilson-Smith	Nominated Havant Borough Council (HBC) Councillor

### Others

Enid Ashley	Havant Community Partnership Manager, HBC (deputising for Community Boards' Support Officer)
PC Lisa Jones	Hampshire Constabulary
Police Community Support Officers	Hampshire County Council
20 members of the public	

## Action

### 1. Welcome and Apologies

Steve Pearce welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies had been received from Jean and Peter Tier, Richard Galloway, Jackie Muller.

### 2. Minutes of Previous Meeting/Matters Arising

The minutes of the previous meeting were signed as a true record.

#### Matters Arising

- a. Item 5: Youth Council. No progress to date.
- b. Police Report/Environmental Ranger. PC Lisa Jones reported an increase in damage to vehicles, eg scratches, windows broken; and in burglaries of small items eg cameras. A member of the public reported that people had been shooting birds with air guns in Nore Barn Woods.

The PCSOs reported on two types of doorstep "scam" and warned everyone to beware pairs of people knocking on doors to eg retrieve lost balls, ask for a drink, so that while the householder was occupied with one person, the other burgled the house.

HW

### 3. Interbridges Site

Steve Pearce explained the background to this item. At the Interbridges West Site, acceptance of the planning proposals for an 80-bed care home, 44 industrial units and a hotel and service station accessible from the A27, had been recommended despite local objections, but the application had subsequently been withdrawn owing to ownership of land issues. The planning proposals for the Interbridges East Site (to Seagull Lane on the

boundary with West Sussex) for 12 industrial units, 3 office units and a commuter car park, had been approved.

Steve explained the reason for the item was the imminent possibility of a new planning application for the Interbridges West Site, and the resulting need to raise public awareness/understand local opinion by encouraging comments. It was important to realise that when a planning application was lodged, there was a period of three weeks only for comment, hence the need to seek views ahead of time.

The key reasons for the Emsworth Community Board's (ECB's) objection to the initial application had been the severance north/south; the potential congestion at the proposed four-way road junction; drainage issues; and the status of/effect on, Footpath 71 from Washington Road to Jubilee Park. This footpath was important because it was the only safe north/south route for cyclists; and was part of a "Safer Route to School" for many children.

The action proposed by ECB was to work closely with the schools involved; to conduct a survey of the schoolchildren using Footpath 71, in conjunction with the schools; take publicity photos; demand a new traffic survey and recalculation of the effect of new housebuilding; and publish a briefing note when/if new planning application lodged.

Extensive discussion followed. Michael Wood commented that the height restriction under the bridge was 11' 6", which meant rubbish collection vehicles could not pass underneath. How then could industrial units and a care home operate, also heavy plant during construction of the site.

Tim Brooks explained that the original proposal was for *emergency* access from the service station. Several comments were made that the most dangerous time for the site would be during construction when heavy plant would be crossing the road.

Tony Lowes of the Emsworth Residents' Association explained that in 2006 he had contacted Hampshire County Council's Footpath Officer: Footpath 71 was classified as a "definitive footpath" and was therefore protected by law and only intended for passage on foot. It was important to focus on the "definitive footpath" status.

It had been proposed to open this footpath to cyclists, but Malcolm Emery suggested that if development as a cycleway was encouraged, the strength of the argument for keeping the status quo of the footpath would be reduced.

Discussion then took place on the Interbridges East Site, re increased traffic in Horndean Road and need for a school crossing patrol.

After discussion, the following actions were agreed:

- Work with schools, particularly informing them of the proposed survey to be conducted with the schoolchildren **SP**
- Investigate whether traffic lights had been approved for the development at the Interbridges East Site. **ME**

Steve Pearce thanked everyone for their contributions, especially with regard to the height restriction under the bridge and the status of Footpath 71.

#### 4. Public Open Forum

In view of extensive discussions for previous item, no issues were raised.

#### 5. Feedback from Havant Community Partnership (HCP) Board

Steve Pearce reported that the Draft Havant Borough Sustainable Community Strategy had been approved by the HCP Board at a meeting on 15 May.

The remainder of the meeting had been devoted to a Development Workshop for HCP Board Members, focusing on improving performance, with workgroups on governance, performance management, roles and responsibilities, and risk assessment.

#### 6. Any Other Business (for Community Board Members)

- a. New Community Hospital. Cllr Virginia Wilson-Smith had attended the public development forum on the Oak Park Hospital site. Concern had been expressed re the access via River Way, which was considered a dangerous piece of road and was also a flood risk. The proposed parking was considered inadequate and there would be a charge to all users, with any surplus going towards public transport to and from the hospital.

Cllr Wilson-Smith commented that travelling to Oak Park from Emsworth was going to be very expensive; and with the recent confirmation of the downgrading of St Richard's Hospital, Chichester, to a local general hospital, it was going to be difficult for Emsworth residents to actually get to the Oak Park site. Furthermore, no plans for the hospital had yet been seen.

Steve Pearce commented that it was disappointing no Emsworth residents had attended the forum. There was to be a presentation by the Primary Care Trust at the Havant and Bedhampton Community Board Meeting on 18 June at 2.30pm: he would be attending and asked for one more volunteer from the Community Board to attend.

All

- b. Verge Cutting. This had been raised by Frances Jannaway and would be investigated outside of the meeting.

SP

- c. Open Mornings. Brian Edwards-Picknett explained that the Community Board was to be "taken out into the town", starting on Saturday 21 June from 10am to 12noon, which would be the first of 3 Saturday morning Open Mornings at International House, The Square. There would be an exhibition on the work of the Community Board, eg the street audit. Brian asked for as many members of the Community Board as possible to attend on 21 June, and for volunteers to assist with teas and coffees. Help was also requested with putting up the displays on Friday evening, 20 June.

Steve Pearce asked Community Board Members for suggestions for material/subjects for the next two Open Mornings, on 16 August and 25 October.

All

#### 7. Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 10 July at 7.30 pm at Emsworth Community Association Centre.