



Emsworth Community Board

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

Present: Community Board Members

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|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Tim Brooks | Emsworth Business Association |
| Richard Galloway | Resident |
| Brian Edwards-Picknett | Resident |
| Peter Tier | Resident |
| Donald Wells | Resident |

Present: Others

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|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Helen Wood | Community Boards' Support Officer |
| PC Jon Butler | Police |
| Cllr Brendan Gibb-Gray | HBC |
| PS Ian Grey | Police |
| PS Andy Lynch | Police |
| 27 members of the public | |

Action

1. Welcome and Apologies

Peter Tier (Acting Chairman) welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies had been received from:

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|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Hilary Millen | Resident |
| Steve Pearce | Chairman/Resident |
| Rosemary Osborne | Resident |
| Jean Tier | Emsworth Community Association |
| Cllr Virginia Wilson-Smith | HBC |
| Jim Colbourne | Resident |

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting/Matters Arising

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Matters Arising

Item 2. Mill Pond maintenance. Attempts were being made to resurrect a 'tidy-up' group for the Mill Pond. A meeting had been held and relevant procedures, provided by Havant Borough Council, were being considered by the Vice Commodore of the sailing club prior to work being organised.

Item 5. Peter Tier reminded everyone of the presentation at the previous meeting regarding Supplementary Planning Documents. Consultation would be held during the summer but comments would be welcomed by Robyn Lyons (HBC) on the draft document and information on well designed development would be welcomed by Adele Maher (HBC).

The Environmental Sub-Group was liaising with HBC over issues with graffiti and litter.

A very well presented and detailed exhibition, relating to flooding in Emsworth, had been held on 6 March 2009 at the Emsworth Centre.

3. Hampshire Roads Policing Unit

Sgt Andy Lynch provided information on the work of the Road Policing Unit (RPU).

Speeding – leeway of 10% + 2 miles allowed for inaccurate vehicle speedometers (i.e. up to 35 mph in a 30 mph limit). Speeding was an anti social behaviour issue and was intimidating. Action taken to tackle speeding was explained – use of lasers, radar classifier (one had been bought to the meeting), data capture and deployment of police officers. Driver awareness courses at a cost of £74 were offered to those caught speeding as an alternative to receiving a ticket. These provided education in speed limits, traffic and road safety.

Information on staffing levels was provided and Sgt Lynch confirmed that the RPU was also responsible for the ANPR (Automatic Number Plate Recognition) team which obtained information on uninsured vehicles/vehicles used in crime etc.

There was a general discussion regarding:

- speeding in New Brighton Road and Horndean Road
- use of temporary flashing speed warnings
- prior warning to motorists when speed checks were being undertaken
- effective use of police officers during speed checks on A259 in 2008
- the setting of speed limits - normally by the local authority but due to the legal process required it was expensive to change speed limits
- the number of people caught speeding in Emsworth – Sgt Lynch to provide information
- use of mobiles whilst driving.

AL

Sgt Lynch was thanked for attending the meeting. He confirmed the Road Policing unit could be contacted at rpu.community@hampshire.pnn.police.uk

Sgt Ian Grey provided a brief update on community safety issues:

- Work had been undertaken with West Sussex Safer Neighbourhood Team regarding issues with youths on Friday and Saturday nights
- Damage had occurred at Bridge Road during one night
- Vehicles such as Peugeot 106s and Citroen Saxos were being broken into and locked afterwards
- Operation Nemesis, tackling burglaries, continued
- Neighbourhood Watch was very helpful to the police.

Sgt Grey was thanked for attending the meeting.

4. Community Facilities in Emsworth

David Harris (HBC) attended the meeting to discuss and note comments of residents regarding community provision in Emsworth. Information obtained would be used to consider future viability of buildings owned by HBC and gaps in provision. Cllr Brendan Gibb Gray also emphasised that facilities in West Sussex were used by Emsworth residents and residents in Southborne used facilities in

Emsworth. Any further comments could be sent to David Harris at david.harris@havant.gov.uk

David Harris was thanked for attending the meeting.

5. Emsworth Centre, South Street (ECSS)

Howard Jacobs and members of the ECSS project team outlined proposals for the new Emsworth Centre.

The Market Town Initiative (MTI), a consultation organised by Hampshire County Council (HCC) and South East England Development Agency (SEEDA), had provided a comprehensive 'health check' for local facilities and services. The public conveniences in South Street and the Emsworth Centre had been identified as requiring attention. Havant Borough Council (HBC) had developed an innovative scheme to meet both needs in one project. Following public meetings organised by the Emsworth Town Partnership a project team was formed to develop a business plan for revitalising the Emsworth Centre. Following investigation by the project team (including visits to similar venues and surveys of potential users) it was found that the only option to meet the following objectives was a total rebuild of the existing centre:

- Meet community concerns
- Be financially viable
- Allow access to all users
- Meet modern environmental standards
- Enhance the architectural importance of South Street conservation area
- Meet health and safety standards

The current building was leased to Havant Council of Community Service by HBC.

Information was provided on the new centre which was seen as an opportunity to provide a modern, landmark building in the centre of the village, of benefit to the current and future community. It would provide a flexible layout with meeting rooms, visitor information centre, office and retail facilities and allow more than one group to use the venue at a time. It was believed that it would be beneficial if the new centre was run as a charity with trustees.

The business plan had been presented to an HBC officer in early March and passed to HCC. It would also be viewed by SEEDA who could possibly provide some financial support. A copy of the report would be placed in the library.

Following discussion included:

- Inclusion of the toilets in the redevelopment. Cllr Gibb Gray confirmed that proposed redevelopment involved demolition of toilets and sympathetic development at the perimeter of the car park. The new centre would be an asset to the whole of Emsworth and would need to be dealt with sensitively as it was in the middle of a conservation area
- Residents not made aware of proposals. It was confirmed that a presentation had previously been made to the Community Board and ERA and there had been an exhibition at International House. The meetings had been advertised
- Concern that car parking spaces would be lost. Cllr Gibb-Gray confirmed that there would be no loss of car parking spaces
- Concern that car park would not be available during construction

- Funding of the development
- Concern that the character of South Street would be spoilt
- Timetable of work. Rebuilding of the centre depended on available funding which would be difficult in the current economic situation.

The ECSS project team was thanked for the information provided.

6. News Round-up

Recreation and Community Sub-Group It was reported that the youth project was making good progress. An open day at International House had concentrated on youth matters and ideas received from young people. Guinness Hermitage would start football in Emsworth in April and a contact had been obtained for rugby.

7. AGM

Those present were reminded that the AGM would be held on 30 April and new Community Board members were sought.

8. Public Forum

Resident Peter Norvall raised an issue with the railway bridge which required painting. This was seen as a gateway to Emsworth and first impressions were important. Contact had been made with HBC, Highways and Network Rail (who could only repaint the bridge for maintenance purposes) and a contact address provided. Network Rail would be requested to consult with the Community Board regarding the colour used for repainting the bridge. A copy of the draft letter would be forwarded to Peter Norvall.

Resident Harold Groom confirmed that a copy of his memoirs had been sold and a cheque donated to the Memorial Gardens.

A request had previously been made for an additional picnic table in Nore Barn Woods and for bins to be moved further away from seats. Cllr Brendan Gibb-Gray confirmed that this should be referred to the Nore Barn Woods Conservation Group who would undertake this work with HBC.

Cllr Gibb-Gray reminded those present of the St George's Day celebrations, in aid of Help for Heroes, which would involve the troops from Thorney Island.

Donald Wells appealed for people to become involved with the Community Board and help to retain the character of Emsworth.

9. Any Other Business (for Community Board Members)

Nil.

10. Date of Next Meeting (AGM)

Thursday 30 April 2009 at 7.30 pm at Emsworth Community Association Centre.