

Emsworth Community Board

Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday 13 March 2008
at 7.30pm at Emsworth Community Association Centre

Present:

Community Board Members

Steve Pearce	Chairman/Resident
Cllr Virginia Wilson-Smith	Nominated Councillor
Tim Brooks	Emsworth Business Association
Donald Wells	Resident
Rosemary Osborne	Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator
Frances Jannaway	Brook Meadow Conservation Grp/EDS Tree Warden
Helen Barnard	Emsworth Community Association
Martin Bonner	Resident
Brian Edwards-Picknett	Resident
Jayne Emery	Neighbourhood Watch
Ken Gilchrist	ERA
Maurice Clarke	Neighbourhood Watch

Others:

Helen Wood Community Boards' Support Officer

Sgt Amanda Crouch Robyn Lyons (HBC)
PCSO Steve Ward Bruce Neilson (HBC)
Andrew Biltcliffe (HBC) 105 members of the public

Action

1. Welcome and Apologies

Steve Pearce welcomed everyone to the meeting and provided a brief overview of the Community Board.

Apologies had been received from: Malcolm Emery, Richard Galloway, Mike Iddon and Lisa Jones.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting/Matters Arising

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed subject to the following amendment:

Item 2 Paragraph 2 should read... 'Those which had died would be replaced and small leaf limes and three oak trees had also been planted and the existing row had been extended.'

Matters Arising – Leaflets regarding the use of bonfires were available.

3. Police Report/Environmental Ranger

Police PCSO Steve Ward provided information on the number of crimes in the area. There had been no rise in crime figures.

It was confirmed that Lisa Jones had been successfully raising funds for the footpath at Washington Road. £16,000 was required and £12,000 had been raised to date. Lisa Jones was hopeful that the additional £4,000 required

would also be raised.

A resident raised concern that following a burglary several weeks previously, no visit from police officers had been made to take statements etc. PCSO to liaise with resident.

Thanks were passed to Steve Ward for attending the meeting.

There was no Environmental Ranger present at the meeting.

4. Local Development Framework

Steve Pearce informed those present of the need for everyone to provide feedback during the consultation period on the Core Strategies, Councils Preferred Options and the Allocations Plan which looked at the details of sites.

It was confirmed that a public meeting would be held, in conjunction with the Residents Association, on 10 April 2008 and the whole evening would be devoted to the Local Development Framework. It was seen as very important that everyone understood where the relevant information could be obtained.

Andrew Biltcliffe was introduced and provided information on the LDF. Consultation commenced on 14 March for 6 weeks and the presentation covered the context, key proposals, ways in which the public could be involved and the consultation arrangements. In Havant economic, environmental and social regeneration was at the heart of the LDF.

It was explained that the LDF was the Government system for delivering sustainable growth, with the focus on housing. This would set the policies for the future in the Borough in the context of Government rules and regulations and the need for 6301 new dwellings in Havant. Every authority was required to have an LDF. Information was available on the website, at the Civic Offices, in libraries and in 'Serving You'.

The Core Strategy would consist of 17 detailed policies which would replace the existing Local Plan. At the same time there would be consultation on the Allocations Plan.

Discussions following the presentation included:

- ❖ Use of brown field sites
- ❖ Potash Terrace (could this have been used for housing?)
- ❖ The gap between Emsworth and Westbourne
- ❖ Emsworth people using Westbourne
- ❖ Reserved sites
- ❖ Use of Hampshire Farm
- ❖ Provision of schools and medical facilities/Infrastructure
- ❖ Traffic and transport – increase of traffic using Chichester road
- ❖ Affordable housing
- ❖ Increase in crime
- ❖ Loss of quality of life

The importance of submitting views was emphasised, either by questionnaire or online at <http://www.havant.gov.uk/havant-9117>

5. ECB Event Money Proposals

The Community Board considered issues affecting the local community and worked with various agencies including Havant Borough Council and Hampshire County Council. It was recognised that there was a need to take the Community Board into the community and it was agreed to hire International House for 2 hours each month (on a Saturday) to provide displays and information on the Community Board. It was also important to hear the views of the local community.

It was agreed to purchase display boards and a laminator and pouches for use by the Community Board. A resident suggested looking at Havant Freecycle before purchasing the items.

It was confirmed that the Community Board was anxious to have more input from local residents and any suggestions as to how that could be achieved would be welcomed. Information was provided on the Emsworth Community Board web site (although it was recognised that improvements could be made) and notices were displayed on the ERA notice board.

Suggestions included:

- ❖ Leaflets through doors
- ❖ A stall in St Peters Square
- ❖ Notices displayed more widely

6. ECB Membership

It was confirmed that the AGM would be held on 24 April and that new members were required to join the Community Board. Donald Wells spoke of joining the Community Board as he was concerned about local issues and he urged those present to also consider becoming members of the Community Board.

7. Public Forum

A resident raised concern over the condition of local cycle paths. Steve Pearce confirmed that a street audit had been undertaken by the Community Board which had identified all key issues relating to cycle paths and footways. There were 49 points to be addressed which included resurfacing. A report would be taken to Havant Borough Council and Hampshire County Council very shortly. A new section of cycle lane would commence in the near future. A copy of the Street Audit had been circulated to Community Board members and would be available on the website in approximately one week.

A resident reported that a tree had fallen into the Mill Pond and questioned whether the tree would be replaced. Frances Jannaway confirmed that this matter was being addressed and Havant Borough Council would be requested to replace the tree.

An issue was raised regarding the fact that the Council did not collect grass

cuttings. Cllr Gillett confirmed that the cost of collecting grass cuttings was prohibitive and it was impossible to predict the rate of growth of grass areas. One resident suggested the possibility of removing green areas.

An issue with blocked drains was also raised. Cllr Gillett to liaise with Cllr Virginia Wilson-Smith.

A donation of £35 had been received from the Wesley Guild. As the Community Board could not hold any money the sender would be contacted with the suggestion that this be passed to the Friends of the Memorial Garden. It was confirmed that £15,000 had been raised for the Memorial Gardens and a special event would be held on 19 April 2009 in support of the Memorial Gardens. This would be a 1940's event with costumes, military vehicles, exhibitions etc. and would be held in the Square.

8. Any Other Business (for Community Board Members)

Jayne Emery spoke of the disgusting state of the underpass and the amount of dogs mess in the middle of Emsworth. Helen Wood to contact Nick Horten.

HW

9. Date of Next Meeting (AGM)

Thursday 24 April 2008 at 7.30 p.m. at Emsworth Community Association Centre. There would be no meeting on 10 April 2008.