

Community Action Team Meeting (CAT)

01 June 2017 – Titchfield Community Centre

Who was there?

Present: Cllr Woodward, Cllr Harper, Cllr Hockley, Cllr Davies.

Residents: approx. 30

What was talked about?

Cllr Harper, the Chairman of the meeting, gave a brief introduction to the meeting and introduced the speakers. Hayley from One Community talked about Volunteering opportunities and support available in the Borough. The Executive Leader of Fareham Borough Council, Cllr Woodward, gave a presentation about developments in the borough over the past year and a look at what is happening now and then took questions from the floor. You can view the presentation [here](#).

Questions from the floor

Q Re Welborne development partner how does that work?

A The cost is borne by the development partner. They would underwrite the CPO if we had to go down that route as a last resort. They will get their money back through appointing a dozen or so housebuilders to develop Welborne. Buckland will need to be involved, as will the Borough Council as a landowner and as the planning authority. We have bought some key sites at Welborne so we have a stake as a landowner and the Local Planning Authority (LPA). And also whoever owns the Dean Farm Estate, which may well be a Benge family member or someone else that turns out to be a potential development partner. We have advertised for a development partner and have had 51 expressions of interest. Ownership of the site is key.

Q What about car parking for Premier Inn? Particularly as you are planning to knock down the Osborn Road Multi Storey car park.

A We are knocking down and *replacing* Osborn Road MSCP. The most convenient one is the shopping centre car park which is not used in the evening and as most parking for the hotel will be overnight there should be more than enough parking.

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Q Re IFA2 - When will the full planning application be made?

A I don't know. We anticipate it will be shortly but it will be down to National Grid. The outline application was permitted and the cables connecting it to the substation near Chilling and the building there are permitted in detail. The detailed plan will cover the Converter station buildings at Daedalus and the details of cable burial.

Q What about the 'Calling in' of the planning application?

A It wasn't called in; the Secretary of State didn't exercise his powers. Planning consent was granted on 23 January.

Q What about the interference noise and the effect on pacemakers, there are still lots of questions?

A Yes indeed there are many questions which I have already put to National Grid. They say there won't be any emissions above the current background noise/light/EMF levels at the perimeter fence. And similarly the cables must be demonstrated that they won't have adverse effects on aircraft systems. Particularly Britten Norman. I have asked for a practical demonstration and they have now agreed to do this.

Q What about EMF levels?

A We are all over it. They have to prove it won't have an adverse effect on the airport and those who live next to it.

Q Re the Titchfield Neighbourhood Forum plan, I didn't get a good look at the map. Is this available on the website?

A Yes you will find it on the FBC website. I don't know if there is anyone here from the Forum? There are 13 members I believe.

A from Cllr Hockley The neighbourhood forum also has its own website where you can see the plan.

Q With all these works going on most of the traffic is coming through Titchfield village at the moment as they don't like the new roundabout. Coach Hill is a dangerous spot.

A Ok yes, I can understand at the moment whilst people divert through the village. When the roadworks are finished we will have a lot more road space.

Q Let's hope they use it.

A Yes let's hope they do, or it will be £10 million wasted!

Q What about Titchfield play area? We never get anything. I can't see it included

A I'm sure it is in the plan for the future.

Q Re Welborne, I understand you are thinking of opening Knowle Railway station. Whereabouts are you with negotiations?

A There is a feasibility study being done by Network Rail which will show what land needs to be reserved to get the halt. If it's going to happen it will be some way down the line. But we

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are making sure nothing will happen that can interfere with that possibility. It will be very expensive but I am encouraged after meeting with Network Rail as they have been more positive about it. What we are doing is making sure we don't do anything to blight where the halt and car park would go.

Q Will the health centre at Welborne provide normal facilities provided by GP surgeries? I've heard that the CCG have said that the people who live at Welborne will have to use the existing facilities. The waiting time around here is already 3 weeks so it's unrealistic.

A You have put your finger on the button. It's a significant issue. The Welborne plan, which has been approved, includes a health centre. The CCG's predecessors didn't object. To be honest the CCG didn't engage at all. But now they have said they would rather do up existing facilities, to me that's not a sustainable, self-contained development. I'm meeting with the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer to talk about this nonsense which will also involve Secretary of State for Health. We will see what happens, but I can fully understand that early settlers will have to register with Wickham and Fareham surgeries but we need to make sure we get facilities onsite for healthcare in the longer term. Frankly it would be illegal to remove the health centre from the Welborne Plan without another public enquiry.

Q Will it be a GP surgery or a Health Centre where you can go for extra things? QA is a long way to go for things like X-rays.

A The agreement with the primary care trust was 1 GP per 1800 population. So it was estimated a 9 GP surgery was required at Welborne. It will be up to the people who are running it what services it provides. It's common for them to provide other services.

Q Who will build it?

A The developers are responsible for building it and the Health Authorities are responsible for staffing it.

Q I heard a rumour that the police station is closing?

A Yes that is true. The Neighbourhood Team is meant to be going into the Civic Offices. The Custody suite is going to the new facility being built in Portsmouth. But this is taking rather a long time though. At this rate they will be closing police station with nowhere to go.

Q Can we have an update on Newlands planning application please?

A Yes. For those who don't know, this is the Strategic Gap between Fareham and Stubbington. Hallam Land Management made an application for 1500 homes on that gap. But this was never determined and then they withdrew it. They put a new application in for 1000 homes but they have asked us not to determine it so we are happy with this at the moment. They have to have it determined sometime but that is why we are pursuing the Welborne strategy so we can defend these gaps.

Q With this background going on, I'm surprised to hear you say that in the next local plan there will be demand for another 2000 houses.

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A The borough is 18,000 acres. Welborne is 1000. The other 17,000 already had several thousand houses planned over the period to 2026. What we are now doing is rolling that plan forward another decade. We do need to find more sites. What Welborne is intended to do is help us defend greenfield sites across Fareham, such as Newlands, Cranleigh Road, the Meon gap, etc. Welborne is delayed, developers are 3 years late putting the planning application in and so it puts other sites at risk but we still have to find more homes over the extra decade. It is assessed by objectively assessed housing need. Every borough has a figure and if you don't demonstrate that you can accommodate this figure in your local plan then you are at risk of losing every appeal, this is what is happening with Eastleigh as they don't have a plan to address that housing need. The need is real. As people live longer, there is a 50% increase in housing need as there are now 3 generations to house and there are also split families. It's not about immigration as the Fareham demographic is over 95 % white British. Sorry it's a long answer but I hope I've explained the background.

Q What will happen when the car park is taken down in Fareham?

A We are working it out at the moment. It takes approximately 600 cars. We have a couple of thousand spaces in the town centre. On average half of them are in use at any given time. Market Quay is popular, Fareham Shopping Centre car park tends to be little used much of the time except for in November and December so the timing of taking it down will be important. Lysses is barely a quarter used and other possibilities may include park and ride.

Q How long will it take to knock down and rebuild?

A I don't know at this stage as it will depend on where the new car park is going which will depend on how the vision for Ferneham Hall is going to work. These things aren't decided yet but it is an important point as we certainly need sufficient parking in the town centre.

Q There are too many people coming in this country. You keep blaming us old people. No one wants to say this. This is why all our hospitals are full. No one wants to say it. But I have.

A Well thank you for saying it but the facts of our Fareham population doesn't support this. It isn't immigration driving our need; we don't blame people for living longer. It's just a positive observation.

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