

**Minutes of Heatherside Ward Residents Meeting
21st March 2022 - Heatherside Community Centre**

Present

Committee members - Kirsty North, Ben Leyton, Caroline Hibberd, Kim Leyton, Katherine Sargent

Heatherside Borough Councillors - Graham Tapper, John Skipper

Heatherside County Councillor - Edward Hawkins

Representatives from Esso SLP Project Team

Approximately 25 local residents

Apologies received from Mike Robins (Chair - Heatherside Community Centre)

Agenda Items

1) Welcome and Introductions

Kirsty welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the Committee.

2) Esso Southampton to London Pipeline (SLP) Project

Kirsty introduced representatives from the team implementing the Esso SLP project replacement. They presented a report on the likely impact of the pipeline replacement in the Heatherside Area. The presentation may be seen on our website at

https://heathersidewra.weebly.com/uploads/5/6/5/0/56506153/heatherside_slide_deck_210322_final.pptx

The existing pipeline, which delivers aviation fuel to Heathrow, has reached end of life and needs to be replaced. Over the past few years there have been several consultations and lots of studies into the most suitable route for the replacement pipe. This has now been agreed and planning permission has been granted for the work to go ahead. In some areas such as Farnborough the replacement work has already begun but the work in Surrey Heath and particularly around Heatherside will begin later this year and go on until next year.

The team showed maps of the route as it runs through Surrey Heath and explained the key issues affecting the local area. The route enters Surrey Heath from Rushmoor after crossing the River Blackwater and the A331. The route runs along Balmoral Drive and St Catherines Road before crossing St Catherines Road SANG, Frith Hill and Pine Ridge Golf Course. The route then runs north along The Maultway, turning east along Red Road before crossing through Turf Hill and Windlemere SANG. The route continues east through Chobham Common.

Three areas were highlighted as being of significance to Heatherside. These were the areas around St Catherines SANG, Frith Hill and Colony Bog to Bagshot Heath section which runs

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along the Maultway. There will initially be works to create construction compounds and to clear vegetation before the actual digging commences to install the pipe. The team hope that the impact of the work on local people will not be too great and that the time taken to install the actual pipes will be minimal. They also explained that the project will involve replacing any trees removed with new trees and making good any damage. In addition they will be undertaking further voluntary improvement works likely to benefit local wildlife in areas local, but not necessarily immediately adjacent, to the pipeline.

A number of questions were asked about the potential impacts. These included how the work would affect the operations of Pine Ridge Golf Club. Graham Tapper, who is a trustee for the Frimley Fuel Allotments who own this land, explained that the work would mean Tee 10 would be out of use but that adjustments would be made elsewhere to accommodate this and ensure the course could continue to operate.

Residents were also interested in the work on the land alongside the Maultway. It was confirmed that the extent of the work is entirely within the verge and that the numbers of trees removed would be minimised wherever possible as the MoD are keen to retain the screening that the trees here provide. They also confirmed that the path along the fenceline would remain open as the MoD require access to this path every day. Some concerns were raised about how the replacement works would be carried out where the pipeline crosses the Maultway at the Old Bisley Road junction. Works here would be carried out using the 'pipe pushing' method whereby pipes are pushed under the carriageway whereas in most other areas the pipe will be laid by digging a trench. It was also explained that this work would probably not need a road closure.

There was a brief discussion about the likely impact of noise and vibration (for which a management plan has been drawn up) and also about the likely impact of construction traffic. Kirsty North asked the team whether the construction traffic management plan specified the route by which lorries accessing the site with materials would travel. She drew attention to the Mindenhurst planning conditions which prohibit construction traffic on Old Bisley Road and explained that the number of schools on this route combined with busy traffic meant this road might be considered unsuitable. The team weren't able to confirm if this is the case but they said they would find out and let us know. The information has now been sent through and can be viewed at [Decision-Notice-Surrey-Heath-reg-7-CTMP-Aug-21.pdf \(slpproject.co.uk\)](https://slpproject.co.uk/Decision-Notice-Surrey-Heath-reg-7-CTMP-Aug-21.pdf) with the relevant paragraphs being as follows:

The use of Old Bisley Road as a route for construction traffic to compound 5U has been deleted from the CTMP. To align with the approved construction route for vehicles associated with the redevelopment of Princess Royal Barracks using the Chobham Road from the west, the route to

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be used as follows: From the mini roundabout at the junctions of Chobham Road (B311) , Upper Chobham Road (B311) and Old Bisley Road, vehicles to turn left at the roundabout and proceed north/north east along the Upper Chobham Road, going straight on at the roundabout at the junction of Upper Chobham Road and Prior Road then turning right at the roundabout at the junctions of Red Road, Upper Chobham Road and The Maultway, Vehicles should then proceed south along The Maultway into Deepcut Bridge Road (B3015) going straight on at the roundabout at the junction of Deepcut Bridge Road and Swordsman's Road then turning right into the compound access

You can sign up for monthly newsletters from the SLP project at <http://www.slpproject.co.uk/signup> and any additional questions can be emailed to info@slpproject.co.uk

3) Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

HWRA has been contacted by residents who are keen to try and celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June. A small group of volunteers have come together to discuss plans and it was intended that they would present their ideas at the meeting. Unfortunately the spokesperson for the group was unable to attend the meeting so Katherine Sargent read out the suggested ideas to the assembled group.

The present suggestion is to hold some kind of informal picnic on the Heatherside playing field on either the Friday or the Saturday of the Jubilee weekend depending on the availability. This would mean a simpler event where people joined together to celebrate without any official facilities etc. Advertising would be via Facebook, in the local shops and possibly by leaflet dropping to residents. They also suggested the idea of asking local schools to hold poster competitions and to maybe ask some of the people who performed in their gardens during lockdown to come and sing to those attending. They also thought perhaps fancy dress through the ages might be fun.

There was a brief discussion of the ideas proposed and it was highlighted that there is a Surrey Heath Jubilee event being held at Frimley Lodge Park on the 2nd June which local residents might also wish to go to. There was a general feeling that perhaps with more time it might have been possible to organise a bigger, more formal event at Heatherside but given the short timescale perhaps it was best to keep it as a simple event and support bigger events elsewhere as well.

If anyone would like to get involved with this then please let us know at heathersidewra@gmail.com and we can pass your details on.

4) Planned HWRA and Heatherside events

Kirsty talked about the events HWRA are planning on running this year. Now that things are becoming more normal the first event will be a quiz night in the Heatherside Community Centre on the 20th May. This will follow the same format as previous events with teams of up to six people with any funds raised going to HWRA funds. More information will be distributed nearer the time.

The date has also been set for the Christmas light switch on event which will be on the 27th November this year.

Ben spoke about a new event which HWRA are hoping to run later in the year on the 10th September which will be called Heatherfest. This is in response to calls for some kind of community festival or fair. The planning is in the very early stages at the moment and success of the event will depend upon people getting involved and volunteering to help.

Ben explained that he envisaged the event being like a fete to be held on the Heatherside recreation ground with stalls such as crafts, local businesses, and food. Maybe activities, competitions and music. Kirsty also mentioned that we would like to use this event to hold another scarecrow competition similar to the one held during the first lockdown. This time of year is also a more appropriate time of year for scarecrows than the previous competition which was held at Easter.

Residents attending the meeting suggested that it would be a good idea to get feedback from local residents to see whether they would support an event of this type and also what types of activities they would like to see included within the event. Facebook and the mailing list were suggested as good ways to spread the word about the proposed event. One audience member suggested that there could be a sign up form for volunteers on our website. Katherine said she would investigate how easy this was to do.

An event like this would also have a significant outlay to hire toilets, stalls and so on so it would be best to find ways to keep costs down, especially the initial outlay. In the past when events like this have been suggested the costs of hiring the field have been quite high. Caroline explained that members of the original Halloween Howler event committee had told her that they had been allowed the use of the field four times a year for the community for free. We asked the Borough Councillors Graham Tapper and John Skipper if they could find out for us whether this agreement still stands and if not whether Surrey Heath Borough Council (SHBC) would be prepared to let the community use the field for free for this event.

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Ben and Kim talked about the other regular Heatherside events that they are involved with. These include the Easter Egg appeal which is currently running. In the past, collections of Easter Eggs had been made by Eagle Radio who then distributed them to children who might otherwise receive none. Following the closure of Eagle Radio, the Heatherside collection was set up to ensure this charity initiative could continue. Last year the appeal resulted in over 850 eggs being donated. If you would like to donate an egg or eggs then these can be left in the box outside Evelyn's Funerals in the Heather Ridge Arcade between 9am and 4pm.

Kim and Ben briefly talked about the North Pole Post which is open in the weeks running up to Christmas. Children can send a letter to Santa and then receive a letter back with lots of personal details. This has been very popular in the past 2 years but is reliant upon a small but willing group of volunteers to get involved as the timescale between receiving the letters and sending the replies is very short.

At Halloween a 'pumpkin path' is set up along Wellingtonia Avenue where families can walk along and see an array of creatively carved pumpkins. This has been another popular event and is planned to run again.

All these events need people to support them and get involved. If you feel you have time to volunteer to join in with these events then do please let us know at heathersidewra@gmail.com.

5) Heather Ridge Arcade

The poor and dangerous state of the paving in Heather Ridge Arcade and the broken planters and overgrown trees continue to be a key issue for Heatherside. Councillor John Skipper has been trying for a number of years to get SCC to take responsibility and action for this area but they continue to ignore his emails and refuse to communicate with him. Councillor Edward Hawkins who is the County Councillor is also trying to get this area renovated. He explained that he has been in regular contact with Highway Officers over the condition of the arcade. He recently received a report from Surrey County Council (SCC) Engineers with a safety inspection log covering the last 12 months or so. This shows that they consider that there are no serious major defects. He has responded forcefully to this to explain that this is simply not the case. Both Councillors expressed their frustration with the current situation and that the arcade is being used as a political scoring point by members of the various political parties. The meeting became quite heated and the HWRA Chair Kirsty North suggested that it would be good to see Councillors putting aside their differences and working together on this issue as ultimately they are trying to achieve the same result.

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There was a brief discussion about the number of people who have been injured over the last year or so. Amanda Pink who runs Evelyn's Funerals within the arcade has given first aid to casualties on a number of occasions and is keeping a log of those who have been injured. It was suggested that photos of the injuries might also be useful evidence to use against SCC. As far as we know no one has sued SCC over accidents in Heather Ridge Arcade.

Councillor Skipper explained that he had tried a number of methods to raise funding for repair works to this area including an application to the Your Fund £100m SCC fund for community works but this had been turned down because the area is Highways land and therefore not eligible.

Edward explained that he believes the Local Area Committee (LAC) or its successor is the best place for the arcade to be discussed. This is the group which meets several times a year and includes SCC and SHBC Councillors along with Highways officers from SCC. This is the group which recently agreed funding for the crossing at Ravenscote School.

It was agreed that a joint petition would be put together to press for funding to be made available to make the arcade safe and other repairs. The exact wording for this would be worked out at a joint meeting with Councillors Hawkins and Skipper and Caroline Hibberd on behalf of HWRA. More information on this will follow once the wording has been agreed and the petition published.

The issue of the broken planters around the five trees in the arcade was also discussed. It is now 3 years since work was carried out by Caroline Hibberd and a team of community volunteers to repair and tidy up the planters around the trees. At this time it was explained that this was only a temporary solution and that permanent works would be needed in the near future to deal with the underlying problems. The planters were installed to cover metal grates around the trees which had been lifted by overgrown tree roots. To remove the planters would once again expose the metal grates which would be a dangerous trip hazard.

Councillor Skipper has proposed that we could work as a community to try and make the arcade a better place. He suggests installing benches around the trees, possibly jet washing the paving slabs and seeing if the broken and uneven slabs could be lifted and relaid. Edward also has £7,500 Revenue Fund. He would like to see if some of this money can be used in conjunction with Heatherside Community Infrastructure Money (CIL) and possibly a contribution from HWRA to replace the sleepers around the existing trees with seats. Phil Green, a tree surgeon and one of the Surrey Heath Tree Wardens, said that to remove the existing trees and make good the area would probably only cost around £1500. He suggested that the Surrey Heath Tree Wardens might be able to help with sourcing and replanting the trees with more appropriate specimens for the location. It seems that the current trees are not viable long term and this

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might be the most sensible course of action however the support of SCC Highways would be needed and also a commitment to repair the damaged areas.

6) Councillor Updates

Borough Councillor - John Skipper

Aside from his attempts to get SCC to take responsibility for the unsafe paving in Heather Ridge Arcade, John has been involved in a number of other issues. He explained that he has been in talks with SHBC to get a number of new benches installed on Heatherside Recreation Ground. Three are planned around the field on the inside of the earth bunds which have been installed to prevent illegal incursions on the field. Two further benches are to be placed at either end of Wellingtonia Avenue.

John said that SHBC have committed to replacing 2 Wellingtonia trees which have been lost from the Avenue over the past few years. Audience members challenged this and said there are actually 5 missing trees. John said he would look into this. John has also expressed a desire to get involved in planting more trees around Heatherside. There are some schemes opening soon where trees will be supplied for community groups to get involved in planting and HWRA will look to make an application once the schemes open. One area that was suggested for potential small tree planting was along the bunds around the Recreation Ground.

A number of bins and dog waste bins have recently been replaced/removed/moved to more appropriate locations. Dog walkers are reminded that dog waste bags can be placed in any litter bin as well as the dedicated bins.

Notice boards will soon be installed around the Heather Ridge Arcade to enable information to be shared by SHBC, the Councillors and HWRA etc with those who are not online.

Borough Councillor - Graham Tapper

Graham said that some residents may have noticed white markings on areas of greenspace around Amber Hill and Glassonby walk. This is part of an initiative to rewild non recreational green areas. These areas have been marked out as they will be allowed to grow wild and there will be reduced cutting by SHBC contractors.

Graham also confirmed that funding has been made available to renovate the small play area at Amber Hill. This work should happen soon.

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Graham mentioned that there are a number of properties within Heatherside where a blanket ban on trimming or removing trees covered by Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) has resulted in the houses being very badly affected by lack of light, dark overgrown gardens and so on. Graham is on the Climate Change Working Committee at SHBC and they have looked at the potential CO2 benefits of having these trees remaining as they are versus the impact they have on the residents. For example a tree may absorb 25kg of CO2 in a year but a resident being unable to use their garden to dry washing may produce 125kg of CO2 a year using their tumble dryer. Therefore Graham suggested that it might be worth revisiting the properties where this is an issue and reconsidering whether the trees might be trimmed or replaced with more appropriate specimens.

Phil Green, one of the Surrey Heath Tree Wardens, spoke up at this point to challenge this and to ask that he and other tree wardens be included in any discussions or plans to work on protected trees. Graham said he would contact him after the meeting and has since done this.

County Councillor - Edward Hawkins

Edward gave an update on a range of borough and county issues. He has provided a full report which can be seen at **APPENDIX A** at the end of the minutes.

Members Allocation.

Each year Councillors receive a sum of money to support good causes in their Division. This year the sum was £5,000 and it was used to support Home-Start Surrey Heath (Essential Support for Families with Young Children in Surrey Heath), Surrey County Council Celebration Fund for Looked After Children, Sight for Surrey Eye Clinic Liaison Service, Carwarden House Community School Eco Garden and Mustard Seed Autism Trust.

Highways

The main highways contract is now with Ringway. Edward explained that Councillors have pushed hard to get a change to the process where the workforce will only work on the potholes instructed and leave adjoining ones. As part of the contract Ringway will be investigating methods and materials to make repairs last longer.

After some 5 years of pushing for this, there is good news on the **Ravenscote Crossing**. The Local Area Committee has agreed to support and fund a Signal Controlled Pedestrian Crossing. Edward hopes this work will proceed as soon as possible but with the available staff resources it is likely that the crossing will be installed during the summer holidays.

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It has been possible to push ahead with this thanks to the work carried out by the Cabinet and Officers at Surrey County Council in restructuring and reprioritising the cost base of the County, and also additional pressure from Councillors.

At the same meeting the Committee also agreed as part of the wider safety measures to carry out a feasibility study into the provision of improved pedestrian crossing facilities on Old Bisley Road close to the junction with Upper Chobham Road and Chobham Road. It was also agreed that there be a study into the introduction of a 20mph zone in the area around the schools with appropriate supporting features such as traffic calming and parking management measures. These proposals have been added to the Road Safety Outside Schools list for further consideration.

The highways funding agreed by SCC Cabinet for the next financial year for Surrey Heath is c£237,000 for Major Integrated Transport Schemes (MITS); £50,000 per County Member Capital Allocation and £7,500 Revenue per County Member Local Highways Fund

Of the larger budget sum, £110,000 has been allocated for Ravenscote and £120,000 for a new crossing in Chobham. Whilst the two projects may look as if they will take nearly all of the MITS funding, the SCC Cabinet is reviewing funding for the road safety outside schools programme and it is hoped that the fund (c£1m per year) will be used for the crossings thereby releasing money to put towards repairing roads.

Roads

There are in excess of 200 roads in the Division of Heatherside, Parkside & Wellington Park along with adjoining pavements. Edward has agreed with Officers that Edgemoor Road should be costed for repairs. A number of residents at the meeting agreed that this road is in a particularly poor state. These works are likely to be very expensive and he may have to give up the full £50k contribution to justify bringing it forward. Officers are working on identifying a further £150k (or even more). The £50k is money that Edward had hoped to use on roads and pavements elsewhere in the Division including the Heather Ridge Precinct. Meeting attendees asked Edward to once again raise the poor state of the road in Gosnell Close on Cheylesmore Park with SCC. This is an area which has been in desperate need of repair for a number of years now.

Buses

In November last year SCC announced a new scheme backed by £49m of county council funding to accelerate the introduction of ultra-low and zero emission buses in Surrey.

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The scheme will see the introduction of up to 80 ultra-low or zero-emission buses and 50 community transport minibuses by 2025 with the aim that all buses across the county will be ultra-low or zero-emission by 2030. Residents will also benefit from improvements to bus journey times and increased real time passenger information in busy areas.

Financial support will be provided by SCC with supporting investment from bus operators and community transport providers. Surrey County Council's investment will see £32.3m allocated to buses, £6.3m for Community Transport vehicles, £9m for bus priority measures on the highway and £1.4m dedicated to improving the real time passenger information system.

There are a number of initiatives underway by SCC including in Mole Valley a digital demand responsive rural bus service that users can book via an app, online or by telephone.

The service allows a user or a group to request a mini-bus for a specific journey of their choice within the area. Journeys are bookable up to seven days in advance and up to 30 minutes in advance of travel. Passengers will receive email confirmation of their journey 30 minutes before they travel and then another reminder 10 minutes before the bus arrives. All Councillors are monitoring the idea and without doubt will be pushing for it in our own areas.

7) Surrey Heath Local Plan

Surrey Heath Borough Council is currently consulting on the new Local Plan which will inform planning decisions up until 2038. The Local Plan assigns policies to areas in the borough that guide decision making on where residential development can be undertaken, areas which will be designated as SANGs (Sustainable Alternative Natural Greenspaces) in mitigation for development work and other categories such as employment land, leisure uses and so on.

Caroline noted that on the proposed Local Plan an area of Frith Hill has been allocated as a possible SANG to enable the development of 1500 houses. This therefore raises the question of where these possible 1500 properties might be placed. Central Government places a requirement on Local Authorities to determine sites for a target number of houses so not building any more houses is not an option.

There are a number of rounds of public consultation and the Council are encouraging residents to get involved and have their say on what they feel is important. There are also a number of online events planned to explain the proposals.

HWRA strongly encourages you to read the documents and give your views on the proposals. More information can be found about these events and the proposed Local Plan at https://apps.surreyheath.gov.uk/apps/local_plan/ and

<https://surreyheath.gov.uk/residents/planning/planning-policy/development-plan/draft-surrey-heath-local-plan-2019-2038>

8) Cheylesmore Park Benches

The two benches in the play area at Cheylesmore Park are both very old and starting to become worn out. In conversations with Councillors it was suggested that HWRA could bid for money from their funds to have these benches replaced. However at the meeting Councillor Skipper suggested that replacements to these benches should have been funded by SHBC as part of the play area renovation and that he would contact them to request this. Instead he suggested that HWRA should ask for money from the Councillors funds to be spent on benches elsewhere within Heatherside such as on the recreation ground.

9) Mindenhurst Construction Traffic

Katherine gave an update on the ongoing situation with construction traffic from Mindenhurst using Old Bisley Road to access the building sites in Deepcut. Despite there being a planning condition that prohibits construction vehicles from using this road over the past year there have been many breaches of this condition with large numbers of heavy lorries traveling up and down the road often at high speeds and during school drop off and pick up times when the road is very busy. There are 4 schools along the extent of this road and in many places there is only one footpath and lots of pedestrians and cyclists using the road. Katherine and other residents are concerned that there may be an accident if lorries keep using the road. There is also the issue of wear and tear which will be massively increased if heavy lorries continue to use the road. Katherine mentioned one incident a few weeks back when a lorry which had raced down the hill was held up by stationary traffic and the driver got out of his cab and began shouting at other road users to move out of his way. When she confronted the driver he said he didn't know anything about not being allowed to use that route even though Katherine knew the company he was working for had been warned before about not using the road.

Despite Katherine regularly contacting Skanska, who are responsible for the Mindenhurst development, the problems seem to keep recurring whenever a new contractor is employed on the site. Because of this Katherine decided to contact Borough Councillors for Heatherside and Deepcut and also the County Councillors for these areas. She also logged an enforcement case with the team at SHBC. They have been extremely helpful in trying to resolve the issue and recently met with Skanska to agree a plan of action to hopefully stop this happening every few weeks. A number of measures have been put in place and Skanska have been delivering letters to residents to make them aware of what is happening and how to contact them. This letter can be seen at Appendix B at the end of the minutes but the measures are as follows.

- 1) *Temporary metal 'no construction access' signage has been installed at either end of the Old Bisley Road, unfortunately the signage has been moved/removed on a couple of occasions requiring further signage to be ordered. In an attempt to resolve that issue Skanska are liaising with Surrey Highways to install more 'semi-permanent' Mindenhurst branded 'no construction access' signage. A Skanska operative is checking on the temporary signs and will therefore be driving down the Old Bisley Road in his Skanska marked van, which would be appropriate.*
- 2) *Other key locations for additional signage have also been identified and are also under discussion with Surrey Highways.*
- 3) *Skanska have also commenced ad hoc monitoring of the Old Bisley Road at key times to ensure correct use of the area by construction traffic and identifying drivers/suppliers/contractors incorrectly using the road and ensuring they are made aware of the correct route.*
- 4) *A letter is to be sent to residents of the Old Bisley Road to reassure residents of the steps being taken to prevent improper use of the road by any vehicles connected to the site.*
- 5) *The website/'contact us' information to be added to the regular residents newsletter if missing.*
- 6) *Skanska will continue to ensure that contractors/suppliers are given the correct road access routes prior to attending the site, this has been occurring since construction commenced.*

Niki Dufour is the Community Relations Manager for Skanska at Mindenhurst and the best way to contact her to raise any issues is via the website at <https://mindenhurst.co.uk/get-in-touch/> or by email to hello@mindenhurst.co.uk. If Niki is unavailable other members of the team will have access to the messages.

10) Buses

Caroline raised her concerns about the cost and frequency of buses servicing Heatherside. She feels that in the current climate we should be encouraging the use of public transport rather than cars but that the present costs of using the bus to access Camberley town centre for example are prohibitive. She also noted that the prices are not consistent across the services and that the number 11 route is cheaper but takes a more lengthy route. The infrequency of services also means use of buses is difficult and unattractive.

Bus services are not subsidised in Heatherside but are in other areas and Caroline wonders whether we are paying higher prices to subsidise other areas? She also mentioned that buses are run on a franchise basis from Surrey County Council and that Stagecoach have recently

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taken over this franchise. Graham Tapper mentioned that he has previously had issues with Stagecoach and that he agrees that bus services to Heatherside are not good

11) Borrowdale Gardens Land

Graham Tapper explained that a piece of privately owned land has recently been sold in Borrowdale Gardens which forms a strip of greenspace alongside a path running from Borrowdale Gardens to The Maultway. When this was advertised on Rightmove the particulars were illustrated with pictures of a 4 bedroom property which might potentially be built on this site if the path were moved to one side. Residents had expressed concerns about the potential movement of this path closer to existing houses and about the loss of trees and wildlife habitat here.

The land was sold at auction for £71,000 plus costs but no planning application has ever been approved for this land. A member of the SHBC planning team confirmed that while an application had been submitted it had never been made valid and therefore had not gone through the planning process.

12) Next Meeting Date

This will be our AGM and will be in September/October. Date to be confirmed.

11) AOB

Heatherside Pop Up Coffee Shop

Katherine Sargent mentioned the Heatherside Pop Up Coffee shop which is a charity event that runs on the third Saturday of the month from 10-12 in Heatherside Community Centre. Each month residents are invited to come along and enjoy coffee/tea and cakes for a small donation. All proceeds from the event go to a different charity/cause each month. Donations of cakes are always welcome. In March the event raised over £1000 for Ukraine. In April the collection will be going to Heatherside Pre-School. All are welcome.

Allotments in Deepcut

Annie Reynolds asked if anyone knew whether the allotments which are planned to be created as part of the Mindenhurst work would still be going ahead. She said her husband had been given information which suggested that these had been scrapped and that the land would be used for other purposes. A member of the SHBC Planning Team was in attendance at the meeting and she confirmed that the allotments are still in the plan.

Martindale Avenue parking issues

A number of residents raised concerns about the parking along Martindale Avenue, particularly opposite road junctions and the bus stops. Parking in this way reduces visibility and makes it

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difficult to see clearly when turning in or out of junctions or the Community Centre. Residents asked if double yellow lines could be implemented here. It was agreed this topic would be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

APPENDIX A - Report from Edward Hawkins, Surrey County Councillor

Heatherside Ward Residents Association – 21st March 2022

Members Allocation. Each year I receive a sum of money to support good causes in my Division. This year the sum was £5,000 and I contributed to;

- Home-Start Surrey Heath; (Essential Support for Families with Young Children in Surrey Heath)
- Surrey County Council Celebration Fund for Looked After Children
- Sight for Surrey Eye Clinic Liaison Service
- Carwarden House Community School Eco Garden
- Mustard Seed Autism Trust

Highways

The main highways contract is now with Ringway. In respect of potholes, Councillors have pushed hard to get a change to the process where the workforce will only work on the potholes instructed and leave adjoining ones. Time will tell if we have been successful. As part of the contract Ringway will be investigating methods and materials to make repairs last longer.

After some 5 years of pushing for this, there is good news on the **Ravenscote Crossing**. For those not in the know, the Local Area Committee has agreed to support and fund a Signal Controlled Pedestrian Crossing. I am pressing for the work to proceed as soon as possible but with the available staff resources my best guess is that the crossing will be installed during the summer holidays.

It has been possible to push ahead with this much needed project thanks to the work carried out by the Cabinet and Officers at Surrey County Council in restructuring and reprioritising the cost base of the County, plus also in no small part to pressure from Councillors.

At the same meeting – which was held in public – the Committee also agreed as part of the wider safety measures to carry out a feasibility study into the provision of improved pedestrian crossing facilities on Old Bisley Road close to the junction with Upper Chobham Road and Chobham Road.

It was also agreed that there be a study into the introduction of a 20mph zone in the area around the schools with appropriate supporting features such as traffic calming and parking management measures. The latter may be a challenge. These proposals have been added to the Road Safety Outside Schools list for further consideration.

Councillors representing Chobham also got agreement to proceed with the design of a new crossing in the village.

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The highways funding agreed by SCC Cabinet for the next financial year for Surrey Heath is c£237,000 for Major Integrated Transport Schemes (MITS); £50,000 per County Member Capital Allocation and £7,500 Revenue per County Member Local Highways Fund (this is the fund I used last year to progress the design works on the Ravenscote crossing).

Of the larger budget sum, £110,000 has been allocated for Ravenscote and £120,000 for a new crossing in Chobham. Whilst the two projects may look as if they will take nearly all of the MITS funding, the SCC Cabinet is reviewing funding for the road safety outside schools programme and it is hoped that the fund (c£1m per year) will be used for the crossings thereby releasing money to put towards repairing roads.

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I have in excess of 200 roads in my Division of Heatherside, Parkside & Wellington Park along with adjoining pavements. I have agreed with Officers that Edgemoor Road should be costed for repairs. I am told that the works are very expensive and I have to give up the full £50k contribution to justify bringing it forward. Officers are working on identifying a further £150k (or even more). The £50k is money that I had hoped to use on roads and pavements elsewhere in my Division including the Heather Ridge Precinct.

Heather Ridge Precinct

I am in regular contact with Highway Officers over the condition of the Precinct. I recently received a report from SCC Engineers with a safety inspection log covering the last 12 months or so. This shows that they consider that there are no serious major defects. I have responded forcefully. I remain in contact with Officers over this area. Now with (hopefully) Covid under control the Local Area Committee (LAC) or its successor is the best place for the Precinct to be discussed.

I also have £7,500 Revenue Fund. I would like to see if some of this money can be used in conjunction with Heatherside Community Infrastructure Money (CIL) and possibly a contribution from HWRA to replace the sleepers with maybe seats. My problem is that I will have no money to spend for the following year on the rest of my Division helping residents on landscaping and many other issues.

Buses

In November last year SCC announced a new scheme backed by £49m of county council funding to accelerate the introduction of ultra-low and zero emission buses in Surrey.

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The scheme will see the introduction of up to 80 ultra-low or zero-emission buses and 50 community transport minibuses by 2025 with the aim that all buses across the county will be ultra-low or zero-emission by 2030. Residents will also benefit from improvements to bus journey times and increased real time passenger information in busy areas.

Financial support will be provided by SCC with supporting investment from bus operators and community transport providers. Surrey County Council's investment will see £32.3m allocated to buses, £6.3m for Community Transport vehicles, £9m for bus priority measures on the highway and £1.4m dedicated to improving the real time passenger information system.

There are a number of initiatives under way by SCC including in Mole Valley a digital demand responsive rural bus service that users can book via an app, online or by telephone. The service allows a user or a group to request a mini-bus for a specific journey of their choice within the area. Journeys are bookable up to seven days in advance and up to 30 minutes in advance of travel. Passengers will receive email confirmation of their journey 30 minutes before they travel and then another reminder 10 minutes before the bus arrives. All Councillors are monitoring the idea and without doubt will be pushing for it in our own areas.

Edward Hawkins; County Councillor – Heatherside, Parkside & Wellington Park

APPENDIX B - Letter from Skanska to local residents regarding Mindenhurst Construction Traffic

SKANSKA

Skanska UK plc

Mail: Skanska Site Office – St Barbara's Church,
Deepcut Bridge Road, Deepcut, Surrey,
GU16 6QT

Web: www.skanska.co.uk

Reg in: England

Reg No: 784752

Registered Office: Maple Cross House, Denham Way, Maple Cross,
Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire WD3 9SN

Date: 14th March 2022

Dear Resident,

Construction Traffic – Old Bisley Road

I am writing to you as we are aware that there have been recurring issues with construction vehicles using Old Bisley Road. Construction vehicles for the Mindenhurst development are not permitted to use this route and this is clearly explained to each contractor before they start on site and written into their Traffic Management Plans. Unfortunately, we are aware that some vehicles have still been using this road and this is understandably causing concern to residents. We have spoken with all our contractors and housing developers to make sure everyone is aware of the approved traffic route and that it is being enforced.

In order to find out which contractors are responsible, we are carrying out regular spot checks to collect vehicle details. We can then address this directly with the contractor and ask them to speak with the relevant driver and haulage company.

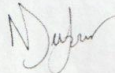
In addition, we have installed temporary signage at each end of the road stating that construction traffic is not permitted, and we are working with the council to produce semi-permanent signs.

If you would like to report any issues or discuss your concerns, please contact us at hello@mindenhurst.co.uk. You can also call me on 07855012104 or our Senior Project Manager, Ed Martin, on 07823354295.

If you haven't already, you might want to consider subscribing to our monthly e-newsletter that provides updates on the construction programme, including road closures. Please visit our website mindenhurst.co.uk/get-in-touch to subscribe.

If you have any questions, please get in touch with us at the above email address.

Yours faithfully,



Niki Dufour
Community Relations Manager