

Minutes of Heatherside Ward Residents Association Meeting (23rd January 2018 - Heatherside Community Centre)

Present

Committee members - Kirsty North, Caroline Hibberd, Katherine Sargent, Rev. Larry Bain

Heatherside County Councillor - Edward Hawkins

Heatherside Borough Councillors - Ian Cullen, Jonathan Lytle

Len Williams - Heatherside Pillar coordinator

Approximately 40 local residents

Apologies received from Paul Ilnicki, Borough Councillor

Agenda Items

1) Welcome and Introductions

Kirsty welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending. She introduced the committee members, Edward Hawkins, our County Councillor and Ian Cullen and Jonathan Lytle, two of our three Borough Councillors. Kirsty explained that the meeting would be run in a slightly different order to the published agenda due to a number of issues which had cropped up.

2 Councillor Updates

Jonathan Lytle (Borough Councillor)

Jonathan gave an update on behalf of the Borough Councillors (The full details of this are available in Appendix A at the end of the minutes). He gave some examples of the types of projects he is involved with in his role as Heatherside Councillor.

These include

- Chairman of Performance & Finance Scrutiny Committee
- Planning Applications Committee Member
- Town Centre Planning group attendee
- External Partnerships Committee regular attendee and substitute
- Surrey Heath Duke of Edinburgh's Award Surrey Heath Borough Council (SHBC) Committee Member
- Various SHBC working groups

He also gave updates on a number of Heatherside issues including the proposed flat development at Heather Ridge Arcade. Unfortunately he is unable to comment on this as he is a member of the planning committee. (This planning application is covered in more detail further down the minutes in item 5.)

Jonathan mentioned that he is working with SHBC Officers talking to Bovis Homes regarding surfacing of the car park off Cumberland Road, opposite Arundel Road near to the Doctors surgery which is currently in a very poor state of repair.

Jonathan also spoke briefly about the Surrey Heath CCG meetings he attends dealing with health issues, his involvement with Heatherside Community Association and the new Recycling and Waste Contract which SHBC have recently entered into.

Jonathan pledged his support for the Heatherside Pillar project and offered his assistance to Len Williams with the project. He mentioned that he has been in conversation with the SHBC Development manager who has indicated that there should be no objection to the proposed plans, subject to the submission of a successful planning application.

Graham Tapper asked Jonathan if he was aware of the state of the play area in Maguire Drive. A path is being built to allow residents of the Ridgewood development access to the play area but Graham feels that the park is presently in a dirty and dilapidated state. The play equipment here is old and the location of the site means there is a lot of fouling by birds who sit in the trees above. Graham has contacted SHBC about this but asked if the borough councillors could find out more about the situation and whether there is any planned investment for this play area. Edward Hawkins suggested that it might be worth a conversation with Josephine Hawkins as she is the councillor with responsibility for play areas. Edward also mentioned that works to install the new gate and path to connect the development to Maguire drive are now underway. The path will be 2m wide rather than 3m and takes a slightly different route to that originally planned due to the need to protect tree roots.

Jonathan gave a couple of updates on behalf of Paul Ilnicki who was unfortunately unable to attend the meeting. This included the information that Paul had recently attended a meeting with the Police where local crime had been discussed. The main outcome of this was that crime levels in Heatherside and the surrounding area remain low. Paul hoped this information would reassure local residents.

Edward Hawkins (County Councillor)

Planning Issues

Edward explained that he was also unable to talk about the current Heather Ridge Arcade

planning application as he chairs the SHBC Planning Committee and has to ensure impartiality. He has already 'called in' the application which means it would not be decided by SHBC officers but would be discussed and decided by the Planning Committee.

He gave an update on the latest progress of the Deepcut Mindenhurst development. A detailed application for the first phase of approximately 230 houses has been received and this will be decided at the 8th February Planning Committee meeting. Edward reminded residents that members of the public are welcome to come along to attend these meetings, though only to observe proceedings, no comments are permitted.

A member of the audience asked Edward if the extra houses being built in Deepcut would be an additional burden on the already stretched finances of Surrey County Council (SCC). Edward explained that although there would be some costs associated with the development, ultimately there would be extra Council Tax income from the new houses. In addition there would be further benefits such as the new village green and park, an improved SANG (Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace) and other facilities being built such as the planned primary school. In addition SHBC are obligated by central government to find space and approve approximately 387 new houses in the borough each year. Therefore development on sites such as this means less pressure on greenfield sites.

Unfortunately there will be no money forthcoming from the developers to pay towards road repairs as this did not form part of the outline planning permission agreed with Skanska. In addition the Section 106 agreement for the development was not converted to a Section 278 Highway agreement which would have enabled developer contributions to be passed to the highways authority.

A planning application has also been received for the former Cheswycks School site in Frimley Green. This consists of 10 detached 4 bedroom houses. Edward explained that the intensity of development on the site was restricted due to rules about how much of the site had previously been developed.

Edward briefly outlined plans by SHBC to redevelop the area of Camberley Town Centre running along the London Road. This development is likely to include a number of flats which would provide smaller, more affordable accommodation and which would contribute towards the housing targets set by central government.

Bovis Land Ownership issues

Edward explained the the long standing issue over land ownership and management by Bovis homes remains as yet unresolved. The plan for SHBC to take over the land from Bovis is

presently stalled as the legal team at SHBC are concerned about the potential residual liability arising from tree root damage to properties.

Roads

Edward expressed his frustration again with the current state of the roads locally. As previously discussed at HWRA meetings, SCC are at a great disadvantage when it comes to central grants for road improvements. This is because the grants are calculated per mile of road and no account is taken of the intensity of use. Although Surrey has fewer miles of roads in comparison to other counties, there is far greater pressure of use. As a consequence the roads begin to deteriorate but there is little money for repairs.

Many of the residents present raised their concerns about the current state of The Maultway. There are a large number of potholes and missing patches of tarmac. These are very deep in places and cause road users to swerve across the road to avoid them. Peter Ludlow mentioned that he feels it is only a matter of time before there is a serious head-on accident here and that the road is even more hazardous for bike and motorbike users than for other vehicles. Residents also feel that the use of the Maultway by all the Mindenhurst construction vehicles will cause additional damage to the road and yet there seems to be no consideration given to this by SCC in terms of road repair plans.

There appears to have been an attempt to repair some but not all of the potholes recently but often the holes have only been partly filled rather than completely fixed. These repairs are already starting to fail. Residents are angry at the poor quality workmanship and apparent absence of quality control. The Edgemoor Road/Old Bisley Road Roundabout was cited as an example of this by Kelly Jarman where she has observed pothole repairs being carried out at least 11 times in the past few years! Edward agreed that the state of the road is completely unacceptable and that he is angry at the continued refusal of SCC to make repairs. He has pledged to continue to hound SCC about properly fixing The Maultway and suggests that residents continue to make reports to SCC about any potholes or other road issues they encounter.

Other SCC Issues

Edward explained that SCC finances have been even further stretched as they have had to pay £104 million towards the River Thames Flood Alleviation Scheme. This will attempt to reduce the catastrophic flooding seen in some areas of Surrey in previous years. SCC are also involved in business continuity work including a pilot scheme to measure the effect a widespread 3 day power outage would have, especially if it were to affect large areas of the UK.

Edward said that this year SCC would not be asking for a 15% rise in Council Tax but that

residents should be aware of the proposed increase for the Police precept. He also suggested that HWRA invite David Munro, the Surrey Police and Crime Commissioner to talk about the work of the police and where the funding goes at one of our upcoming meetings.

Edward also mentioned a couple of SHBC points. Firstly about the new waste contract with Amey. All residents should have received a leaflet about this but there should be no immediate changes to waste collection. New lorries are being rolled out to collect food waste which should make the service more efficient but which may mean that food waste and other waste is collected at different times of the day. There was discussion of the changes to the garden waste scheme which will be moving from the previous contractor to Amey. Residents are waiting for a letter to be sent out by SHBC to explain the proposed scheme however this keeps being delayed.

Finally Edward mentioned the Surrey Heath Business Awards for which nominations are now open. He encouraged anyone involved with a local business to consider nominating.

3) Wellingtonia Avenue Update

Jonathan Lytle gave us an update on the latest progress on Wellingtonia Avenue (Full details may be seen in Appendices B and C at the end of the minutes).

Following clearance work in October, sunlight is now able to reach the avenue floor, allowing plenty of opportunity for new growth and a view which reaches just over a third of a mile. SHBC are working with Rigby Taylor, a local horticultural / agricultural supplier, to sample which wildflowers will take root in the acidic soil of the avenue floor. Once a flower mix that will take root has been identified they will be sown by end of April / May. In midsummer there should be a meadow like display of wildflower along the avenue!

Recent high winds have meant there was a large amount of branches and debris lying on the ground and work was planned for the day after the HWRA meeting to clear it.

The ongoing work here is continuing and is planned as follows

1. Cut along pathways that run parallel with Wellingtonia Avenue i.e. Longlands Way. Cut in and around pathways and/or desire lines that branch off the main path. Cut inside of the avenue pathway, either side and along the entire length of the pathway.
2. Cut areas beside the pavement and bus shelter/Cumberland Road end, cut as per the entrance with approx. 1m cut beyond the bollards. Strim around bollards and obstacles.

3. Flail Cut – twice per year taking the form of whole area along avenue under the trees to be flailed twice per annum with first visit in July followed by another visit in September/October. One complete flail cut out of the whole area, late Autumn, and not prior to this date to ensure minimal disruption to the habitat.
4. Weed spraying to take place along the fenceline following completion of shrub/holly clearance both sides from top to bottom of area.
5. Litter picking – Once a month.

However, any general maintenance may be subject to change depending on any future recommendation and/or management plans developed by Greenspace.

In addition 6 new trees have been purchased to replace those missing from the avenue. These will be planted in March.

4) Play Areas Update

Jonathan gave an update from SHBC on the planned works to the Cheylesmore Park play area. These were intended to commence on the 22nd January. The company manufacturing the play equipment (HAGS) have relocated their factory and this has resulted in a delay in the production of the equipment. Officers from SHBC have a meeting planned with HAGS to discuss the revised date for the work.

Since our meeting HWRA have received an update from SHBC confirming that work on the park will now begin on the 5th March. HAGS have committed to ensuring the work will be complete by the beginning of the Easter school holiday.

Jonathan also gave an update on the zip wire in Heatherside Park which is currently out of action due to the rotten support posts. A ROSPA inspection had also highlighted a problem with the stop end. SHBC has arranged for both these issues to be fixed on the 29th January.

5) Heather Ridge Arcade Planning Application

Caroline Hibberd explained that HWRA have been alerted to a Heatherside planning application which has been submitted to SHBC. The application is ref 17/1041 at 17 & 18 Heather Ridge Arcade, Camberley, GU15 1AX. The application is for the erection of 'part two storey, part second floor extension including terraces and first floor extension to create four 2 bed and two 1 bed flats, with alterations to existing dwellings, cycle spaces and bin store.'

The development proposes the refurbishment of the existing three residential units and the construction of six new units. The proposal is to reduce and push forward across the flat roof the existing three flats above Sainsbury's and then build 3 more flats behind these, plus a further three on top of the repositioned existing ones. So from three flats currently to nine flats

in total. No off-street car parking is to be provided but there will be 9 cycle spaces created.

A number of residents have expressed concern that the scheme is poorly designed, will result in overdevelopment and that there is already great strain on the parking capacity in this area which would only be compounded by an additional 6 flats. The difficulty in parking with the existing housing density is frequently mentioned on the Heatherside Residents Forum Facebook group and has been raised at many of the HWRA meetings over the past 2 and a half years.

Caroline explained that the planning application included a transport statement. As part of this statement parking stress surveys were carried out in the immediate area. These were conducted at 3 am on two weekday mornings. The survey covered the roads in the immediate vicinity as well as the 5 closest car parks to the site; being: Heatherside Surgery; North of Martindale Avenue; Copelands Close; Pendragon Way; and Heather Ridge Arcade. This survey shows that the roads closest to the proposed development are the ones that have the highest level of parking stress, and also that the car parks are fully used overnight, with the exception of the one outside Heatherside Surgery and the Arcade car park. What the survey did not do was monitor those two car parks at their peak usage times. So, in order to give an accurate picture of the parking stress, these two car parks should be surveyed during the day, with the Arcade car park also surveyed at the weekend, to demonstrate their true parking stress.

The transport statement then gives a plan of where the additional cars will be parked, and having identified the Arcade car park as only being used for Arcade purposes, demonstrates that the additional 7 vehicles will park in the layby outside the school, the layby by the bus stop and on Cumberland Road just past the entrance to Copelands Close. Caroline believes this is clearly quite ridiculous, as anyone who lives in the flats, to be accessed from the corner of the Arcade car park, will naturally park in the Arcade car park.

Caroline added that this means the additional 7 vehicles that they calculate plus the existing 3 vehicles that they have already identified as using the Arcade car park long term would potentially all park in that car park. This results in a total of 10 (out of 38) spaces taken out of use for users of the Arcade, i.e. over 25%. This could have a considerable impact on a Saturday morning for example when there is a football match on and the Community Centre is in use.

In addition it was highlighted that the plans show bin stores and cycle racks installed on the footpath/covered area along the side of Sainsbury's. This is the main route used by pedestrians to access the shops in Heather Ridge Arcade if coming from the direction of the Community Centre. If this path was no longer available pedestrians would have to cross the busy car park. Given the location of an infant school opposite the site and the volume of people using the area around the community centre and scout hut this seems very dangerous.

Concern was also raised at the meeting about the additional strain on local resources such as the Doctors surgery. The planned 1200 dwelling Mindenhurst development in Deepcut does not have a Doctors surgery so it is reasonable to assume many of the residents there are likely to

want to register at the Heatherside practice.

The planning application will be discussed at a forthcoming planning committee meeting probably in March and will be decided by the Planning Committee rather than SHBC officers. HWRA committee members are happy to attend and speak on behalf of the residents, but in order to do so, we need to have at least 10 residents make a representation on the planning application and also know that the residents we represent would like us to do that. Meeting attendees were asked if anyone supported the proposal but there was not a single person in support of it. We would of course also be interested in hearing from any residents who are in support of the scheme.

Representations must be made BY THE DEADLINE OF 31 JANUARY 2018, and if you wish HWRA to speak on your behalf please ensure that it states on your representation wording along the lines of: 'I AM MAKING THIS REPRESENTATION AS A MEMBER OF HEATHERSIDE WARD RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION'.

Full details of the application can be found here:

<http://isharemaps.surreyheath.gov.uk/ishare54/custom/planning/?requesttype=parseTemplate&template=DevelopmentControlApplication.tmplt&Filter=%5ESYSTEMKEY%5E=%2736992%27&backurl=custom/planning>

If you wish to object (or support the application) it can be done using the following link:

<http://www.surreyheath.gov.uk/webform/submit-planning-representation>

and then completing the online form, or by printing out a hard copy of the form and submitting it by hand.

Further information on this planning application and the traffic surveys etc. can be found at Appendix D at the end of the minutes.

6) Roads and Traffic Issues

This point was briefly discussed as most issues had already been covered as part of the County Councillor update. Edward discussed whether there was support for changes to speed limits along The Maultway and Red Road. The latter has been the site of many serious road accidents. Some meeting attendees supported the idea of lowering the speed limit on one or other of the roads. However, there was strong feeling that most of the Red Road accidents were to do with poor junction layout at McDonald Road rather than due to speeding.

The continuing situation with traffic and parking around schools, particularly

Ravenscote/Tomlinscote and St Augustine was also briefly covered. There is no real update on this despite councillors and school representatives meeting with Michael Gove to discuss it. It was suggested that reopening the car parking area opposite the Ravenscote entrance on Fuel Allotments land might help reduce the amount of parking along the Old Bisley Road.

7) Heatherside Pillar

Further to his presentations at the last two HWRA meetings, Len Williams gave an update on the progress made on the Community Pillar project and the proposed next steps. (Full details of the progress to date and the implementation plan may be found in Appendices E and F at the end of the meeting minutes.)

SHBC has raised no objection to the proposed location of the pillar which will be adjacent to the WI tree. However, formal approval awaits the submission of the Planning Application.

The funding for the 'hardware' and installation, based on an aluminium cast finial, is sponsored by SKANSKA. Additional co-sponsors will be sought to increase the hardware budget. Already the Mehdi Indian restaurant has expressed an interest as being a co-sponsor.

Mr Williams has carried out a crowdfunding exercise to provide a contingency fund, and proof of community support. This has been a success. The target was 100 supporters at £5 per pledge to create a fund of £500. To date, pledges and donations of over £600 have been received. The pledge registers will remain open until the design process starts. The pledge redemption process will commence following a meeting with SHBC.

Mr Williams proposes that an HWRA subcommittee is created to oversee the project. He suggests 2 volunteers would join him on this to oversee the finial design. Ideally the volunteers should have experience of the planning application process and/or artistic or graphic design skills.

Mr Williams suggested that a call be made for members of the community to submit their ideas as to the theme for the finial design. The implementation plan (Appendix F) explains the proposed process and provides three examples of types of themes. The chosen theme would be the most popular with the community following a voting process. Only community members who have partaken in the pledge process would be allowed to take part in the design process.

Updates as to the progress will be made via the Heatherside Residents Forum Facebook group, and the HWRA mailing list, website and Facebook page.

The audience asked a number of questions and points were made about ensuring a simple design was used. Mr Williams was given a round of applause and a number of donations were placed in a collection bowl.

8) Heatherside Noticeboard

John Skipper has emailed HWRA suggesting that perhaps a community noticeboard could be erected in the Heather Ridge Arcade where the Borough Council, County Council and HWRA could post information of interest to the local community. It was suggested that this might be another candidate for a crowdfunding project. Katherine agreed to email Edward about this as this area is County Council owned and he had unfortunately had to leave the meeting at this point.

9) Chairs Update

Kirsty apologised for the slightly cramped venue. She explained that unfortunately Pine Ridge are no longer able to host us there for free due to demand on their rooms. To book the room we normally use would be £350 for the evening. She thanked Pine Ridge for their support over the past 2 and a half years. Meetings from now on will probably be at the Heatherside Community Centre though ideally in the hall rather than the smaller rooms. Consequently the meetings may no longer always be on a Monday or a Tuesday depending on availability of the hall. Hire of the rooms is around £45 for the evening so attendees were invited to donate towards the cost of this if they cared to. If anyone is able to suggest a cheaper local venue then please contact us at heathersidewra@gmail.com.

Once again HWRA and Heatherside Church had hosted a successful Christmas tree light switch on event. This was well attended and the various supporters and sponsors were thanked. Kirsty gave a brief update on the incident concerning the destruction of the Christmas tree. Unfortunately the tree had been snapped and the decorations and lights destroyed on the evening of Boxing Day. She explained that an apology and £500 had been received from those involved which would cover the costs of the 2018 tree. In addition a police report was made and interviews were conducted by the police with the suspects. Kirsty thanked everyone involved in clearing up the mess which had resulted from the vandalism of the tree. Larry also passed on thanks from the Heatherside Community Association for the Tree and festive events put on by HWRA.

10) Planned HWRA events

The next HWRA event will be a quiz night on the 20th April at the Community Centre. The quiz we held last year was well attended, great fun and raised valuable funds for the association.

Further information will be provided soon on how to book tickets for the quiz. Kirsty asked whether there would be any interest in Fish and Chips to be supplied by Oysters in Lightwater halfway through the evening. There was a mixed response to this idea so it will be decided nearer the time whether to go ahead with offering this.

HWRA are always interested to hear ideas from residents for community events we can host, possible fundraising opportunities or any endeavours we could support. Please contact us at heathersidewra@gmail.com if you have any proposals you would like us to consider.

11) Community Safety Update

No update has been received from our Community Support Officers. However Cllr Ilnicki has recently attended a meeting with police who confirmed that generally Heatherside remains a low crime area. As per the earlier item it was agreed that the local Police and Crime Commissioner would be invited to attend one of our meetings to talk about local policing.

12 Next Meeting Date

The date of the next meeting has been set for Tuesday 17th April at 7.30pm once again at Heatherside Community Centre.

13) AOB

The issue of the damaged state of the tree planters around the trees at Heather Ridge Arcade has been raised with HWRA by a local resident. At present they are not maintained by anyone and previous ideas to have them maintained by local businesses had not been successful. A couple of suggestions were proposed, firstly that once again local businesses were approached to sponsor their upkeep. Secondly it was suggested that we could apply for community funding to replace the planters with seats around the trees instead. Katherine agreed to email Edward Hawkins to find out more about the maintenance situation as this area is owned by Surrey County Council.

The Savoy Singers asked us to share information on their upcoming show The Mikado which they are presenting at Camberley Theatre in March. Details for show times, ticket sales etc. are available on their web page at <http://www.savoyingers.org.uk/#shows>

Katherine mentioned that she had had a discussion with Paul Ilnicki about the Fuel Allotments

Charity of which he is one of the trustees. She has suggested that he might come along to one of the meetings and give a talk/presentation on the Fuel Allotments Charity, their land and how they allocate the money the charity receives. This idea was warmly received by the audience and will be planned in for one of the next meetings.

APPENDIX A - Borough Councillor Update from Jonathan Lytle

Councillor Jonathan Lytle -- Update 23rd January 2018

Heatherside Ward Residents Association

Overview as your SHBC Councillor

- Chairman of Performance & Finance Scrutiny Committee

- Planning Applications Committee Member

- Town Centre Planning group attendee
- External Partnerships Committee regular attendee and substitute

- Surrey Heath Duke of Edinburgh's Award SHBC Committee Member
- Various SHBC working groups

Planning – Unable to comment as Committee Member on the recent planning application for above Heather Ridge arcade Sainsbury's

Parking – Working with Officers to talk to Bovis Homes regarding

surfacing of car park off Cumberland Road, opposite Arundel Road
Surrey Heath CCG meetings regular attendee and interested party

Heatherside Community Association

Proactive approach to range of Council's Community Activities

Recycling and Waste -- Joint Waste Contract communications and interest

Ravenscote – parking meeting/s and liaison

Interest and involvement in Camberley Alzheimer's Café (non SHBC)

Cheylesmore Playground

Our officer team at SHBC has confirmed that HAGS--SMP, the playground provider who are refurbishing Cheylesmore Park have experienced a few issues with the receipt of some of the equipment for the play area. They were due to start on site

on Monday 22nd but HAGS have had to delay the start until all equipment has been received.

The reason for the delay is that HAGS--SMP have had a factory move from Sweden to Poland and they have experienced logistical issues with all the equipment being moved across. They are expecting delivery of the remaining equipment for Cheylesmore mid--late February but officers are chasing for a start date and residents will be advised as soon as we have further information. Our £40,000 investment will be a great addition to the ward and Borough as part of our borough wide playground improvement scheme worth over £650,000.

Heatherside Zip Slide

The Zip slide was taken out of action due to one of the support legs being rotten at the base. This has now been replaced. However following the RoSPA inspections in December, it was also noticed that the stop end needed to be realigned, so SHBC officers have arranged for engineers to refit all the parts next Monday, 29th January 2018.

Heatherside Pillar

After Mr Williams' kind work and great communications to both County Council and the Borough Council, Mr Partington, our Development Manager at SHBC has confirmed with me that he has no objection in principle, to a pillar in the proposed location. I understand he is awaiting details on its size and appearance, which we believe his team are currently working up, so that due consideration can be given. I would say this is good progress and offer you my support in communications with Mr Partington should you require it.

APPENDIX B - Update on Wellingtonia Avenue works from Jonathan Lytle

Wellingtonia Avenue

General Annual maintenance tasks with Glendale

Cut along pathways that run parallel with Wellingtonia Avenue ie Longlands Way
Cut in and around pathways and/or desire lines that branch off the main path Cut
inside of the avenue pathway, either side and along the entire length of the pathway

Cut areas beside the pavement and bus shelter/Cumberland road end, cut as per
the entrance with approx. 1m cut beyond the bollards Strim around bollards and
obstacles

Flail Cut – twice p/a

Whole area along avenue under the trees to be flailed twice p/a with first visit in
July followed by another visit in September/October

One Complete flail cut out of the whole area, late Autumn, and not prior to this
date to ensure minimal disruption to the habitat

Weed spraying

Weed spraying to take place along the fenceline following completion of
shrub/holly clearance both sides from top to bottom of area.

Litter picking – Once a month

Important: Please note that any general maintenance may be subject to change depending
on any future recommendation and/or management plans developed by Greenspace.

APPENDIX C - Wellingtonia Avenue update from SHBC

After the clearance of Wellingtonia Avenue in October, sunlight is now able to reach the avenue floor, allowing plenty of opportunity for new growth and a beautiful view down the clear stretch which reaches just over a third of a mile. We are working with Rigby Taylor, a local horticultural / agricultural supplier, to sample which wildflowers will take root in the acidic soil of the avenue floor. Upon finding a flower mix that will take root, they will be sown by end of April / May, so come midsummer we should see a meadow like display of wildflower along the clear stretch of the avenue! This stretch is flail mowed by our contractors twice a year, to keep on top of the ever growing nettles, brambles, and odd 'garden escapes' such as sycamore and bamboo.

Due to the recent strong winds, a few limbs have fallen from the canopy, and the SHBC Greenspace team are in the process of clearing the branches, debris, and monitoring/removing any green waste dumps and litter drops.

Some resident Red Kites, Buzzards, redwings, have been seen gliding down the avenue, and even a kestrel has been spotted hovering by the canopy for mice.

Also, 6 new, young replacement Wellingtonia trees have been purchased and will be planted along the avenue near the end of March.



Wellingtonia from Cumberland rd. (looking towards Inglewood ave.)



Wellingtonia in the fog



Wellingtonia cleared

Received by Cllr Jonathan Lytle from SHBC Greenspace Team 23rd January 2018

APPENDIX D - Information from Caroline Hibberd on the proposed Heather Ridge Arcade Flats Development

Planning Application 17/1041 – 17 & 18 Heather Ridge Arcade, Camberley, GU15 1AX

Planning application is for the erection of “part two storey, part second floor extension including terraces and first floor extension to create four 2 bed and two 1 bed flats, with alterations to existing dwellings, cycle spaces and bin store.”

Essentially the proposal is to reduce and push forward across the flat roof the existing three flats above Sainsbury’s and then build 3 more flats behind these plus a further three on top of the repositioned existing ones, so from three flats currently to nine flats in total.

Consultation period currently expires on 31 January 2018. I’m not sure if this will now be extended following Edward Hawkins’s decision to call it in to planning committee.

Applicant: Sheet Anchor Evolve Ltd

Agent: Pegasus Group, 10 Albemarle Street, London, W15 4HH

Notes from application form:

10 Vehicle parking:

creation of 9 cycle spaces

14 Existing use:

Class C3 (dwelling house)

Class A1 (shops and retail)

17 Residential units:

Proposed 2 x 1 bed and 4 x 2 bed

Existing 3 x 1 bed (to be refurbished as 3 x 2 bed)

Already notified: Sainsbury’s; Flats 7, 8 and 9

Notes from Transport Statement

“The development proposes the refurbishment of the existing three residential units above the arcade and the construction of six new units through an additional single storey roof top extension.”

“No off-street car parking is to be provided.”

“On-street parking capacity:

The majority of the roads within a 200m walking distance of the site, are no parking restrictions...

There are also a number of local parking courts close to the site ...

These car parking courts do not offer any restrictions to the user and their locations are summarised below:

Car park 1 - Heatherside Surgery

Car park 2 - directly to north of Martindale Avenue (this is the parking area accessed from the roundabout by the pub)

Car park 3 - Off Copelands Close

Car park 4 - Off Pendragon Way

Car park 5 - Heather Ridge car park”

Report goes in to some detail about parking stress surveys that were carried out. These were 2 weekday overnight surveys that looked at various local roads and the 5 car parks listed above.

Roads surveyed and their parking stress:

Cumberland Road	30%
Inglewood Avenue	49%
Copelands Close	57%
Martindale Avenue	24%
Pendragon Way	20%
Brandon Close	42%
Lowester Walk	31%
Cheviot Close	77%
Roxburgh Close	100%
Bellingham Close	79%

Note: roads highlighted in bold are the three closest parking areas, other than car parks, to the arcade.

Car parks surveyed and their overnight parking stress:

Heatherside Surgery	38%
North of Martindale	95%
Copelands Close	100%
Pendragon Way	100%
Heather Ridge Arcade	8%

Note that for the stress survey Heather Ridge Arcade was only surveyed overnight and the potential impact during the day has not been considered. If you read the report in full it goes to great length to highlight all of the available public transport/cycling options, which, if taken, would mean that cars associated with these flats would presumably be parked in the area during the day as well as at night.

Car ownership:

Heatherside ward per dwelling 1.78 cars/vans
 Heatherside ward flats/maisonettes 1.12 cars/vans

They have therefore used the lower figure of 1.12 for subsequent calculations.

“Summary

The site is well located to local facilities and services within the Heatherside residential estate, with the Heather Ridge Arcade providing a range of local services on the ground floor. The centres of Camberley and Farnborough are accessible via a frequent local bus route, with Camberley and Frimley accessible within a reasonable cycle distance. Further connections, on public transport, are available at these destinations to the wider country.”

My interpretation: So, pretty much all you need on a day to day basis is located right on your doorstep, but should you want to go further afield then you can do so by bus or cycle and onward by train and you need never set foot inside a car ever again if you live on Heatherside. Not exactly the situation borne out by their own parking stress surveys.

Traffic Impact:

Travel to work mode of transport in Surrey Heath:

Car/van	83%
Train	6%
Passenger in car	4%

On foot	3%
Bus or similar	2%
Bicycle	1%
Motorbike	1%

My interpretation: contradicts all they say regarding public transport and cycling.

“Heather Ridge Arcade Car Park

The Heather Ridge Arcade car park is generally for the use of shoppers and visitors to the arcade and community centre, with the free parking and no time restrictions lending itself to short-stay and high turn over trips across the day. Whilst residents of the new development would be able to park in the car park overnight, it is not considered in the assessment as this may reduce the capacity of the car park to visitors of the local centre.”

Interpretation: They fully acknowledge that any resident living in those flats will park in the arcade car park, because it is the closest to their dwelling, but to officially recognise this would mean that they would need to assess the impact during the day which would no doubt lead to the conclusion that parking for the development would be a serious issue and therefore may lead to consent not being given.

Notes from Planning Statement

“3.8 A new bin store and a cycle rack (for nine cycle spaces) are proposed at ground floor level for the future occupants of the residential flats. No allocated parking is provided.”

Attachments (excerpts from the various documents):

1. Car parking plan

This attachment highlights the spaces (in green) where the additional vehicles are anticipated to park. Points on this are: a) they considered the impact of the additional flats without considering the impact of the existing three flats (presumably empty at present), therefore 7 additional vehicles is unlikely to be sufficient; and b) who in their right mind living in the flats is going to park anywhere other than the arcade car park?

2. Existing elevations from car park and front of flats

Basically shows what we currently look at from the car park and the conformity of design across

the front (viewed from the pedestrian space at ground level).

3. Existing elevations from Cumberland Road and from the rear

4. Proposed ground floor and first floor plans

Note on the ground floor that the proposed waste bin cupboards and the cycle racks are to be built on the footpath that runs down the side of Sainsbury's in the car park. A path that is well used by people using the car park and also those walking round to access the community centre and also the crossing point to get to the infant school. Would this then force (or at least encourage) people to take a short cut across the car park, rather than safely walk around the outside as they currently do?

For the refurbished flats, if I'm interpreting this correctly, they are effectively pushing the building line forward so they would no longer be in-line with the other flats.

5. Proposed second floor plans

Shows the new block of three flats to go on top of the existing three flats (as refurbished). Again, if I'm interpreting correctly, whilst set further back than the flats below, would still be forward of the existing building line.

6. Proposed elevations from car park and front

Shows how it would look from the car park and from the pedestrian area inside the arcade looking up. Note that the building design is not in any way in keeping with the existing design and whilst it states that brick will be used to match, the other features (such as they are) are completely different.

7. Proposed elevations from Cumberland Road and the rear

As above, shows completely different design. Note also that the houses opposite on Cumberland Road will now have windows facing them and also houses at the rear will have the top flats looking out at them possible over the level of any screening trees that already exist.

8. Proposed floor plans

Shows the floor plans of the proposed new flats and the refurbished existing flats. Currently there are 3 x 2 bedroom flats (I believe) and the plan is to refurbish and build so that there will

be a total of 7 x 2 bedroom flats and 2 x 1 bedroom flats giving a total of 16 bedrooms – a net increase of 10 bedrooms which the traffic study believes will only lead to an increase of 7 cars.

Grounds for possible objection

My main objection is the disingenuous way the parking stress tests have been carried out:

Report does not take into consideration that the most likely place that new residents will park will be the arcade car park;

The increase in car figures used in the report is based on the 'per flat/maisonette car/van number on Heatherside' from the last census. As far as I am aware there aren't a significant number of flats/maisonettes in the area and of the limited number there are a significant proportion will be made up of the Pollard Grove block next to the Doctors' Surgery, and this is a retirement/assisted living block and therefore is unlikely to have a large number of vehicles belonging to the residents, bringing the average car/van ownership for this type of property in the area down. A far more realistic figure would be to use the average of 1.78 for all property. This would give a net increase of 10. If it is then assumed that all of these will park in the arcade (together with any vehicles from the existing flats), this will reduce the available space, for all other residents, in that car park, by over 25%;

Overnight parking stress survey on the arcade car park was probably carried out after all three existing flats have become empty (in preparation for the refurbishment etc.) and therefore does not give an accurate picture of the parking in the arcade car park as a result of the occupancy of the existing flats, which has not been taken into consideration when looking at the overall increase in vehicles the development will bring; and

Conclusions reached on the parking stress surveys seem to assume that all additional vehicles will not be in the area during the day. It also did not take into consideration of any impact at the weekend. In order to form any conclusion on the impact of additional parking requirements a much more detailed survey on the arcade car park needs to be carried out that covers all periods during the day and all days of the week, including the weekend.

Other possible objections:

The design does not appear to be in keeping with the existing design of the building and does not keep to existing building lines.

Additional windows included in the design will afford the ability to look out over existing residential properties that currently are not looked out over from the flats.

The additional storey proposed will take the building higher than any nearby properties.

The inclusion of the bin store and cycle store on a public footpath will block access to the public from safely walking around the car park and encourage 'short cuts' to be taken across the car

park. As this is one of the main walking routes to the local infant school and preschool this should not be allowed.

Construction work

There is no mention in any of the documentation as to how the work is to be managed. In particular, there is no mention of how access for materials to the site will be made. As far as I can tell the only available access to the building is from the entrance in the corner of the car park, so any construction work is going to have a significant knock on effect on accessibility of the car park.

APPENDIX E - Update from Len Williams on the Heatherside Pillar Project

Heatherside Community Pillar

History Prior to January 2018 HWRA Meeting

The project commenced in the Summer of 2017 when a proposal to install road direction and safety signs around Heatherside was vetoed by Surrey County Council. SCC has a policy that names of suburbs cannot be displayed on traffic signs. As Heatherside is a suburb of Camberley this ruled out the implementation of the road signs project.

Following this setback I gave consideration to the erection of a community pillar similar to those erected at Frimley Green, Mytchett, Normandy and Deepcut.



Frimley Green



Mytchett



Normandy

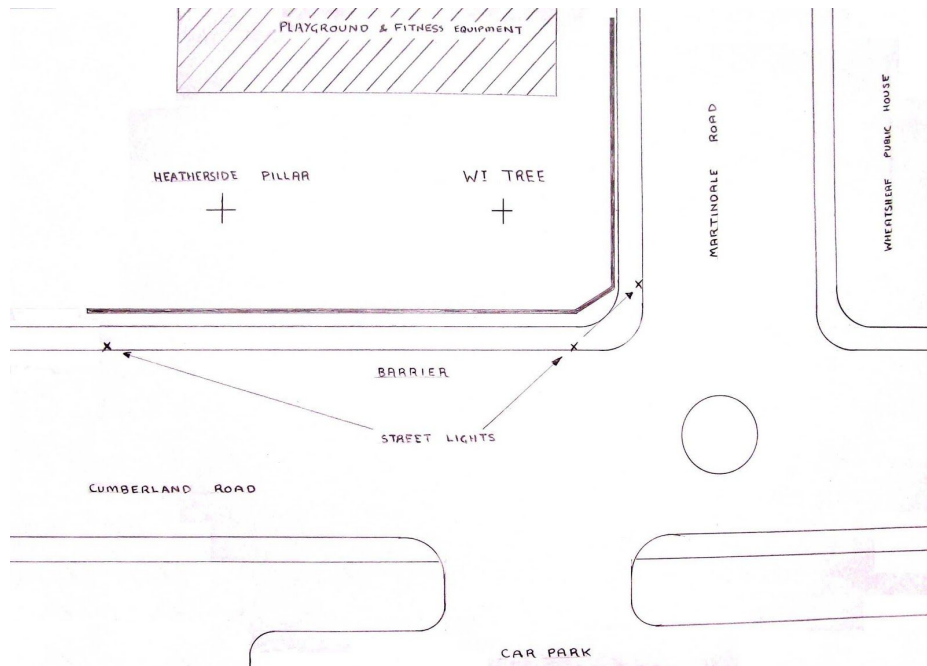


Deepcut

The authority to erect a community pillar requires the application and approval of a Planning Application to Surrey Heath Borough Council. Before submitting a PA three objectives had to be achieved :-

1. Ensure that neither SCC, or SHBC would not veto the project.
2. Prove that the project is financially viable.
3. Demonstrate that the project has community support.

1. Both SCC and SHBC were contacted to see if a veto would be applied. SCC has stated that as the column is not a road sign they will not object to it. SHBC took a lot longer to finally issue a statement to the effect that they could see no reason to apply a veto. During the course of the SHBC review I had to provide a plan showing the proposed location.



Proposed location of the Heatherside Community Pillar.

This was reviewed and it was confirmed that the site is on SHBC administered land. Clearly the PA will require a review of several other items e.g. future development plans, whether below ground services will be affected etc., however as these must have been assessed prior to the planting of the WI tree that should not present a problem.

2. The financial viability covers two areas, a) the cost of the pillar and its installation and b) additional costs which will include the cost of the PA, (£285).

a) There are several different types of community pillar determined by the construction of the finial.



Cast Aluminium Finial



Hot Forged Steel Finial

The cast aluminium finial, support column and installation costs approx. £3,000.
Burrows Lea Forge indicated that the Deepcut pillar, with installation, would cost approx. £5,000.

A sponsor, SKANSKA, has agreed to fund the purchase and installation of the cast aluminium finial utilising a 3m street lighting column. One of the future tasks will be to contact local commercial enterprises to see if they are prepared to act as co-sponsors which would give greater flexibility in the design. Currently one enterprise has already expressed an interest.

b) To cover the additional costs I decided to establish the contingency fund using a form of 'crowd funding'. If I could get at least 100 residents of Heatherside pledging £5 each that that would provide a £500 fund and demonstrate that the project had community support. I am pleased to announce that the target has been exceeded and is still rising. There are four important points to note about the contingency fund :-

- i) The fund will be administered by the HWRA. In an earlier post I stated that this was subject to external audit. That is not the case, however the contingency fund will appear as an item in the accounts which form part of the minutes of the AGM. All expenditure will therefore be open to review.
- ii) Only people who have pledged their support will be allowed to partake in the design process.
- iii) Any balance in the fund left at the end of the project will be absorbed into the HRWA general fund for Heatherside projects. It is not anticipated that there will be a residual balance as the final action in the project will be a dedication ceremony which will probably absorb the residue.
- iv) The pledge registers, i.e. the Forum, the Church and open register (held by me), will remain open until the beginning of the design process.

3. The success of the crowd funding is a demonstration of the community support for the project.

A.L. Williams
23rd January 2018.

APPENDIX F - Heatherside Pillar Implementation Plan

Heatherside Community Pillar Implementation Plan

The project requires the formation of an HWRA subcommittee to manage it through the implementation phase. I propose a 3 person subcommittee comprising myself and two others.

1. The 2nd member should have experience in submitting a Planning Application, ideally one that has run into a problem and has required negotiation. Having a flair for negotiation would clearly be an asset.
2. The 3rd member should have an artistic flair as they will have the responsibility for the design of the finial.

A call for volunteers will be made via the Heatherside Forum. The prospective volunteers will be requested to submit their applications using the messenger facility, i.e. they will not be 'openly' visible.

Once the subcommittee has been formed a meeting with the SHBC will be held.

Following the SHBC meeting the redeeming of the pledges will commence. This will be co-ordinated with the HWRA Treasurer. It is my intention to acknowledge the receipt of every pledge.

The subcommittee will then undertake a canvassing of local businesses to see if there are any prospective co-sponsors which would increase the budget for the hardware. Already the Mehdi Indian Restaurant has expressed an interest. Residents of houses within view of the pillar will also be approached to explain the nature of the project.

The design phase will commence with the call for themes around which the design can focus. This call will be made via the Forum and the HWRA. Following this text are three examples of possible themes.

Note : Theme suggestions will only be accepted from people who have been part of the pledge process.

Following the submission of the themes they will be 'grouped' to establish the popularity of specific themes which will then form the basis of the design. The artistic member of the committee will produce three draft designs based on the most popular themes. Should one, or two, themes predominate then the three designs will be based on them.

The three draft designs will then be published via the Forum as a 'Beauty Contest' to select the most appropriate theme to represent Heatherside.

Note : Votes will only be accepted from people who have been part of the pledge process. There will be 1 vote per £5, i.e. those people who have pledged £10 will have 2 votes on the assumption that the pledge was from two people.

Following the selection of the most popular design the subcommittee will review the design with the proposed manufacturer to ensure that it is practically possible to create it. Discussions with proposed suppliers, which will probably be determined by the budget, will have taken place.

The progress will be reported via the HWRA meetings.

Len Williams 23rd January 2018.

Finial Design Themes

Rather than getting into a 'Countryfile Calendar' process of trying to assess pictures based on sketches, which may itself put people off, I want to give everyone a chance to submit their ideas as to how Heatherside should be depicted on the pillar finial. By nominating themes this should allow everybody a chance to put their ideas onto the table for consideration. Please note the following examples :-

The Avenue in Summer.

The picture on the right shows the Heatherside and Parkside Ward motif on the mosaic outside the SHBC council offices in Camberley. Clearly the design does not lend itself to be an acceptable design however viewing the constituent parts, Wellingtonia Pine, the sun and flowers one can interpret this as being the Wellingtonia Avenue in the summer. A design viewing the Avenue from the side, or the end, in the summer with flowers, children playing etc. could form a theme that an artist would be able to turn into a design.



In the reviewing process other proposed themes such as pine trees, children playing, etc. could be amalgamated under this banner.

Wildlife

A subject close to several resident's hearts is the wildlife around Heatherside, in particular the deer that can be seen on the Chobham Ridges. The photo on the right being taken on my mobile phone. The theme could be developed in a 'Monarch of the Glen' style pose incorporating the squirrels, birds, foxes and hedgehogs in the foreground. Including a Wellingtonia pine at the side, or background could help 'marry' two themes.



Artistic heritage, (Charles Furse)

One aspect that Heatherside has that none of the other communities can claim is a cultural history. Charles Wellington Furse RA was probably the first resident of Heatherside as he lived at Yockley House and is buried in Frimley Church graveyard. His picture, 'Diana of the uplands', (subtitled Diana goddess of the hunt in a contemporary setting) is a portrait of his wife, Catherine, with their dogs showing the Chobham Ridges in the background. This is a major work of art, (it is 10 ft high), and is on permanent display at the Tate gallery. This could be made as a reversible design, i.e. Diana circa 19th ct on one side and 21st ct on the reverse.



These are only three examples of possible themes which the artist could develop into the design which would represent our community.