

# 10<sup>th</sup> March 2015

## MINUTES OF MEETING

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| Title:     | <b>Basingstoke District Association of Parish<br/>and Town Councils</b>  |   |
| Held On:   | Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March 2015  |   |
| Present:   | Julian Jones<br>Martin Slatford<br>Chris Curtis<br>Les Fryer<br>Barry Dodd<br>Christina Veasey<br>John Robertson<br>Keith Nuttall<br>Peter Bloyce<br>Brian Langer<br>Alan Ball<br>Sandy Johnston<br>Steve Spillane | Dummer (Chair)<br>Baughurst<br>Baughurst<br>Chineham<br>Dummer<br>Ellisfield<br>Mortimer West End<br>Old Basing<br>Old Basing<br>Overton<br>Sherfield on Loddon<br>Sherfield on Loddon<br>Silchester  |
| Guests:    | Alison Edwards<br>Laura Taylor<br><br>Mary Edwards<br><br>Dr Andrew Bishop<br><br>Arnie Lustman  | Secretary<br>Director of Governance and<br>Commissioning and Interim Chief<br>Executive, BDBC<br>Chief Executive, Hampshire Hospitals NHS<br>Foundation Trust<br>Chief Medical Officer, Hampshire<br>Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust<br>Programme Director, Clinical Reprovision,<br>Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation<br>Trust |
| Apologies: | Alan Cox<br>Susan Edwards<br>Lorna Cuthill<br>Ian Pryce<br>John Raymond<br>Derek Kane<br>Sheila Campbell<br>Sarah Curtis   | Ashmansworth<br>Highclere Parish Council<br>Mapledurwell & Up Nately<br>Oakley & Deane<br>Winslade<br>St. Mary Bourne<br>Stratfield Turgis<br>Wootton St Lawrence   |

## **1 Minutes of the last meeting – 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2014**

1.1 The minutes of the last meeting were approved as an accurate record.

## **2 Apologies for absence**

2.1 Noted as above.

## **3 Matters arising from previous minutes**

3.1 None.

## **4. BDBC Update – Laura Taylor, Director of Governance and Commissioning and Interim Chief Executive, BDBC**

4.1 Laura Taylor provided the meeting with an overview of the Borough. There are approximately 170,000 residents in the borough, making it the 12<sup>th</sup> biggest district in the country. It has the 9<sup>th</sup> highest spend by the Council per head, and the 6<sup>th</sup> lowest council tax in the country. In a recent survey by the Local Government Association it was found to be the most financially resilient Council in the country, and a recent survey by The Times ranked Basingstoke the 11<sup>th</sup> best place to live in the country.

4.2 Every two years the Council conducts a survey of residents in the borough. The most recent survey of 1,100 residents found that 95% of residents are satisfied with the area as a place to live, satisfied with what the Council does and happy that the Council provides value for money. Rural residents were found to be even more satisfied, and there is a greater feeling of belonging in the rural areas and a greater belief that people can influence decisions. Residents in rural areas were also the most positive about Parish Councils. When asked what residents think makes somewhere a good place to live, the most popular answers globally are health services, followed by clean streets, and then low crime. In rural areas the most popular answer is affordable housing, then health services, then roads and pavements, crime and public transport. The areas identified by residents as most needing improvement were roads and pavements, affordable housing, and health.

4.2. A new Chief Executive, Melbourne (Mel) Barrett will join BDBC in April. Mel is currently Executive Director of Housing and Regeneration at the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham with responsibility for a £1 billion residential portfolio.

4.3 The elections on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2015 will cover three Parliamentary constituencies in BDBC, 20 Borough seats and 30 Parish Council seats.

4.4 The Borough Council's Budget for the forthcoming year has been agreed and BDBC will once again pass on in full the Council Tax Support grant to the parishes. The litter grants have been reviewed and some have been uplifted due to changes in

quantities/frequency of rubbish collected.

4.5 Key changes are being made to the Local Plan which will be going through the Policy Committee later this month. Key changes include increasing housing numbers from 748 to 850, increasing job numbers target to 450-700, and including 750 dwellings at Hounsme Fields in Dummer.

4.6 A Local Infrastructure Fund has been made available for significant infrastructure projects. Lots of parishes have already made bids and been awarded grants. The next round of applications is due in summer 2015.

4.7 Hampshire County Council is on schedule to provide 95% of residents with superfast broadband by 2017. The point was made that the 5% of the population that are not included within the 95% rollout will fall in rural areas. Christina Veasey said that Ellisfield were trying to bring together private funding for broadband and that it seemed as if BT were taking advantage of rural areas who are willing to do this when they do not have sufficient internet connection. **Action: Rollout of Broadband to be an agenda item at the June meeting.**

4.8 SETSquared has located at Basing View. The Partnership is the enterprise collaboration between the universities of Bath, Bristol, Exeter, Southampton and Surrey, and supports high-tech start-up companies, providing student enterprise and enabling academics to maximise the impact of their research. In addition, John Lewis is due to open at Basing View in November, and the Police Investigation Centre should be located at Viabes later this year. The Council are also looking at how the Leisure Park can be boosted as a regional leisure attraction. At Manydown, 3,500 houses are planned over the next plan period. Public engagement on this is due in the Autumn, with work beginning on site around 2018.

4.9 Brian Langer (Overton) asked what can be done to ensure more people register as electors. Laura Taylor explained that all residents should have received letters about this, and the Council is now trying to target those who haven't responded. They are also renewing signatures for postal votes on the standard rolling schedule.

4.10 Brian Langer (Overton) raised roadside litter as an issue. **Action: Laura Taylor agreed to look into what BDBC were doing about this.**

## **5 The Critical Treatment Hospital**

5.1 Mary Edwards, Chief Executive of Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, provided the meeting with some background on the Foundation Trust. The Trust runs three hospitals – Andover War Memorial Hospital, Basingstoke and North Hampshire Hospital, and the Royal Hampshire County Hospital in Winchester. It employs around 5,500 staff. The hospitals serve around 570,000 people over a predominantly rural area with several urban centres. Last year the hospitals cared for nearly 800,000 patients, with over 110,000 visiting the Emergency Departments, over 113,000 admitted for planned or emergency care, and almost 562,000 attending appointments in outpatients' departments. 5,762 babies were delivered.

5.2 Dr Andrew Bishop, Chief Medical Officer, explained why a new approach to provision of health care was needed. A consultation found that most people wanted health care to be local where possible, and central where necessary. The majority of cases dealt with by the hospitals is non-emergency, and can be accommodated within

normal working hours. A small minority of cases (15-20%) are emergency cases and time sensitive. These cases are labour and facility intensive, are very expensive and require expertise. It is unsustainable to keep dealing with these cases at the existing three hospitals within the Trust area. These hospitals are struggling with bed-blocking issues, with approximately 100 out of 900 beds being taken up by patients that do not really need hospital care but who cannot look after themselves at home and for whom there is no care package in place outside of hospital. It is therefore proposed to develop a specialist facility - a Critical Treatment Hospital – which will provide consultant delivered care 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, for the patients most in need. Such cases will include emergency, critical care, maternity and obstetrics (although low-risk pregnancies can still be dealt with at existing sites with a midwife), cancer care and radiotherapy. Patients will only go to the hospital by blue light – helicopter or ambulance. The hospital will therefore require a location with fast and easy access by road and air. The general hospitals will still handle the majority of cases (circa 85%) such as planned procedures, rehabilitation and outpatients. Local sites will be used where possible for consulting and diagnostics such as Andover, Alton and Eastleigh.

5.3 Arnie Lustman, Programme Director for Clinical Reprovision, explained to the meeting what the proposed location of the hospital was and why. A Critical Treatment Hospital needs to be geographically central to the area it serves, with excellent access, the ability to provide services and utilities to the site (e.g. water, electricity), and have the optimal ambulance cover for the population it serves. Three sites were considered: Bullington Cross; Sutton Scotney; and Junction 7 of the M3. The latter was the favoured location. A public consultation took place over two days in February 2015 which was attended by 450 people. 120 people submitted a formal response to the consultation, two-thirds of which were positive. A planning application for the site is due to be submitted in April 2015, and a loan application will be made in the summer. There will be a further consultation in the autumn of 2015 led by the CCGs (Clinical Commissioning Groups) with the aim of getting final approval at the end of the year. Construction can then commence in the beginning of 2016, for an opening in Autumn 2018.

5.4 The hospital will be approximately 3,5000 sq m, with approximately 330 beds. Of the 110,000 patients that attended Emergency Departments in the Trust area last year, approximately 15,000 were critical, and it is those cases that will go to the new hospital. This equates to around 35-40 cases a day. It is envisaged that there will be around 400-430 staff on site at any one time. The Programme Team have been in close consultation with the Highways Agency and Hampshire County Council regarding road access and Junction 7 would be upgraded as part of the project. The Civil Aviation Authority and RAF Odiham have also been consulted and have no concerns regarding air space. The flight path to the hospital should be easy to keep clear. Access to the hospital will be from a new roundabout on the A30. Trenchard Lane (leading to Oakley) will be widened between its junction with the A30 and the access to the ambulance station.

5.5 Questions were raised over the cumulative traffic impact of 1000 homes on the Basingstoke Golf Course, 750 homes and a 3 class entry primary school on Hounsome Fields, 310 homes on the Kennel Farm site and 100 houses on Beggarwood Area N plus the hospital traffic on the local road network.

## **6. Reports**

HALC

6.1 The last meeting of HALC was in December 2014 and the next meeting is Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2015. HALC held a conference last week which discussed changes to pension requirements for parish councils. All councils have to register to see if they are required to contribute to pensions for salaried personnel. **Action: Julian Jones to circulate information from HALC about this new requirement.**

6.2 The conference also discussed the Transparency Code and Neighbourhood Plans. Some recent cases have shown that Neighbourhood Plans can have weight in planning decisions. Furthermore, if a parish has a Neighbourhood Plan in place it can receive 25% of CIL levied on a development, as opposed to 15% (capped at £100 per existing household) if there is no Plan in place.

#### Community Safety Partnership

6.3 The CSF has not had a meeting since the last BDAPTC meeting. Sandy Johnston had attended a COMPASS meeting about maintaining policing in times of austerity. **Action: Julian Jones to circulate a link to an audio recording of this meeting.**

#### Disability Forum

6.4 The Disability Forum has recently been re-launched. It will act as an umbrella forum for other disability organisations and services and provide signposting to these services.

#### Voluntary Services Forum

6.5 Nothing to report.

#### Community Speedwatch

6.6 A meeting was held in November 2014 to bring all Community Speedwatch schemes in the area together to share information. It was found that most schemes were being run by PCSOs who were applying different rules in different places, thus leading to disparity in how schemes are run. Martin Slatford also reported that the police are not enforcing 20 mph speed limits and so data collected by Community Speedwatch schemes from such areas is not being acted upon. On a positive note, the volunteer application form, which used to be 30-40 pages long and take 4 months for the Police to approve, is now 2 pages long and, for Martin Slatford, approval took only 45 minutes.

### **7. Any other business**

7.1 The BDBC Standards Committee has been revising the Code of Conduct for parish councils. This is likely to be approved by the full BDBC Council in August 2015 and so could be discussed at the September BDAPTC meeting. The new Code should not involve many changes for parish councils.

7.2 Keith Nuttall announced that he will not be standing for re-election in May 2015 which will result in a vacancy in the Standards Committee and on the BDAPTC. Martin Slatford spoke on behalf of everyone at BDAPTC to express thanks to Keith for all his hard work for the Association.

**Meeting closed at 9.45pm.**