

September 19, 2013

MINUTES OF MEETING

Title:	Basingstoke District Association of Parish and Town Councils	
Held On:	Thursday 19 th September 2013	
Present:	Julian Jones Martin Slatford Martin Biermann Les Fryer David Richards Brian Langer Steve Spillane Sarah Curtis	Dummer (Chair) Baughurst Chineham Chineham Ellisfield Overton Silchester Wootton St Lawrence
Guests:	Glenn Peacey Mike King Alison Edwards	HCC HCC Secretary
Apologies:	Alan Cox Penny Waterfield John Jervoise Sally Izett Lorna Cuthill Fraser Brown Ian Pryce Keith Irons Sandy Johnston Bruce Batting Vanessa Richards Nicki Barry Mike Kean John Raymond	Ashmansworth Baughurst Herriard Highclere Mapledurwell & Up Nately Mortimer West End Oakley & Deane Preston Candover & Nutley Sherfield On Loddon Sherfield On Loddon Silchester Tadley Whitchurch Winslade

1 Minutes of the last meeting – 20th June 2013

1.1 The minutes were approved as an accurate record.

2 Apologies for absence

2.1 Noted as above.

3 Matters arising from minutes of 20th June 2013

3.1 BDAPTC is still waiting for an answer from HALC on what the benefit to District Associations would be of joining up and formerly applying to be a member of HALC. Questions around the increasing cost of HALC membership cannot be addressed until the benefits are clearly set out.

3.2 The parking team at BDBC have responded to BDAPTCs question regarding capacity for enforcing parking regulations outside of the working day. The response is as follows:

Parking enforcement is undertaken across the borough where parking controls (i.e. yellow lines) apply. Enforcement is carried out during the normal working day and outside of recognised office hours. The parking attendants' shifts operate between 0800hrs and 2100hrs, Monday to Saturday. Enforcement is also undertaken on Sundays; however, this tends to be take place between 1000hrs and 1700hrs.

Clearly, the team has a limited amount of resource and cannot be in every location at the same time, neither can an attendant be present immediately a contravention takes place. With this in mind, the attendants' rotas are organised to ensure that different routes are patrolled at different times and on different days. This approach ensures that the majority of areas covered by parking controls benefit from an enforcement presence.

If a particular location is suffering a regular abuse of parking controls, the parish is advised to contact the council's parking team (on 01256 845275 or parking@basingstoke.gov.uk) who may be able to arrange for a short period of targeted enforcement.

4 Hampshire Superfast Broadband Rollout – Glenn Peacey, Programme Manager, HCC

4.1 Glenn Peacey gave a presentation on the rollout of superfast broadband across Hampshire (attached). He explained that superfast broadband should be rolled out to 80% of premises by the end of 2015 through the commercial sector, but this left 20% of the population without access. This equates to roughly 115,000 premises in Hampshire. HCC are running a £13.8 million project to subsidise the rollout of superfast broadband to these areas via BT Openreach. Wave 1 of the project should see superfast broadband rolled out to 57,500 premises by the end of 2015 and wave 2 should see 95% of premises with access to superfast broadband by the end of 2017. Eventually 98% of properties should have access. Basingstoke and its environs is included in wave 1. Work will begin on wave 1 in January 2014.

4.2 Commercial rollout of broadband is being carried out by BT Openreach and Virgin. However the rollout being carried out with public subsidy is being carried out by BT

Openreach only. Virgin doesn't operate in the rural footprint and, once installed, users can only access services provided by Virgin, unlike BT Openreach provision which enables access to the whole range of service providers.

4.3 Glenn Peacey was asked about the impact of developments set out in the Borough's Local Plan. Glenn advised that HCC encourages BT Openreach to deliver superfast broadband to new estates commercially as there is profit to be made on such developments. However, they can't mandate them to do so.

4.4 HCC is hoping to publish a map of wave 1 of the project shortly, and updated maps will be published as the programme progresses. At the end of October 2013 HCC hope to publish a map showing projected coverage by the end of 2015. In the New Year HCC hope to have a website where people can type in their postcode and see what is happening with superfast broadband in their area.

4.5 Julian Jones highlighted the importance of superfast broadband for farm diversification projects. Glenn Peacey advised that HCC have a separate programme looking at small business parks.

4.6 Brian Langer asked if HCC were willing to talk to individual parish councils affected by the rollout. Glenn Peacey said yes, community engagement was a critical part of the programme. Demand stimulation and take-up of superfast broadband is critical to the programme's success. Provision does not lead to automatic upgrade – individuals will need to buy a new service to get an upgrade. HCC will try to get broadband champions to go to village fetes, etc, promoting the service.

4.7 Martin Slatford asked about the cost to the community of putting in a cabinet if demand was high enough and they wished to do it faster than the HCC rollout allowed. Glenn Peacey said that there was a programme of community self-fund cabinet installation. Rotherwick had gone down this route (details attached). The costs vary hugely depending on the characteristics of the individual area. Rotherwick's programme cost approximately £28,000. In order to do this a Limited Liability Partnership needs to be set up – if Parish Councils fund the project it falls foul of State Aid rules which are complex. If communities wish to look into this, they should first identify the postcodes of the areas interested, then contact HCC who will contact BT Openreach to provide a quote for the work.

4.8 As an aside, following on from discussion at June's meeting of Public Access Defibrillator Sites (PADS), HCC have suggested to the NHS Trust that old red phone boxes could be used to house PADS, or they could be installed alongside broadband cabinets.

5 REPORTS

HALC

5.1 A HALC meeting took place on the same night as the BDAPTC meeting and HALC reorganisation was on the agenda. It was hoped that more information would be forthcoming at the HALC meeting on Saturday 21st September. It was also expected that a new process to create urban parishes would be endorsed on 21st September. It was not clear whether BDBC would be supportive of this idea, as all political parties have been sceptical in the past. It was agreed that new communities provide a good opportunity for new urban parishes. If they are incorporated into existing parishes they can alter the character of that parish, creating conflict. This has happened with the Taylor's Farm

development being incorporated into Sherfield on Loddon. They have now asked for a review to split them into a separate parish.

5.2 Quality Parishes no longer exist and a new scheme is being put together by NALC. However they did not consult the County Associations effectively and so HALC are not supporting the scheme.

5.3 The HALC AGM is coming up and a certain number of councils needed to attend to ensure a quorum. Attendance has been quite low in the past.

5.4 It was agreed that HALC need to focus on what value they are providing to member councils and promote this to councils.

Transport Forums

5.5 BDBC is holding a transport forum on 7th October, and Test Valley is holding one on 23rd October. The results of the bus questionnaire show that Stagecoach is doing quite well but people would like a more regular bus service with services after 9.30pm. Some rural parishes are served by other bus companies. Contracts for subsidised bus services are coming up for renewal and BDBC are likely to have more influence over these now that their share of the subsidy has increased. Councils with an interest in such services may wish to attend the relevant transport forum.

Speedwatch

5.6 Speedwatch is slowly progressing. Silchester and St Mary Bourne are good examples of councils using the scheme well and publicising the scheme and its benefits via the parish magazine. This is helping them to recruit more volunteers. The schemes are also helping police to decide where to deploy their speeding equipment and parishes carrying out speedwatch are seeing increased police activity relating to speeding. Chineham and Old Basing schemes are progressing and making a difference, but are losing volunteers. Julian Jones suggested an article in the Basingstoke Gazette to promote such schemes.

6 Parish Conference – 27th January 2014

6.1 Given that the Parish Conference was quite different to the meetings of the BDAPTC, there was concern that a gap of five months between BDAPTC meetings (September 2013 – February 2014) was too long. It was therefore agreed to have a meeting in December. **Action: Julian Jones to see if the room can be booked for a meeting on Thursday 5th December 2013. Julian Jones to also set the dates and book the room for other 2014 meeting dates and circulate dates to members.**

6.2 It was agreed that Paul Bonner from BDBC should be invited to the December meeting to discuss issues around precept setting (including Council Tax Support, availability of grants, excessiveness principles, etc).

6.3 Another topic agreed for the December meeting was employment law in relation to clerks, including pension arrangements. This could also go on the agenda for the Clerks' Forum. HALC and/or BDBC could provide a speaker for this.

Action: Julian Jones to put precept and employment law in relation to clerks on the agenda for the December meeting.

7 AOB

7.1 Martin Slatford reported that his council are receiving an increasing number of agricultural determinations for comment such as change of use, enclosure of agricultural

land, erection of large sheds on farmland. No-one in the council has much experience or understanding of such applications. **Action: It was agreed that BDAPTC should approach planners in BDBC for training and guidance on such applications.**

7.2 A consultation on the licensing process is currently taking place, due to end in November. It was agreed that BDAPTC would make a representation to BDBC stating that it believes parishes should be formal consultees on licensing issues. **Action: Julian Jones to write to BDBC.**

8. Date of next meeting - 5th December 2013

Meeting closed at 9.30pm.

