WEST OF WATERLOOVILLE FORUM

20 July 2006

Attendance:

Councillors:

Winchester City Council

Hollingbery (Chairman) (P)

Chamberlain Collin (P) Cooper (P) Rees (P) Stallard (P)

Deputy Members:

Councillor Clohosey (Standing Deputy for Councillor Chamberlain)

Havant Borough Council

Blackett (P) Smallcorn (P) Moss (P) Tarrant (P)

Hampshire County Council

Allgood McIntosh (P)

Officers in Attendance

Mr S Tilbury: Director of Communities, Winchester City Council

Mr N Green: Major Development Area Project Leader, Winchester City Council

Mr H Bone: Assistant City Secretary (Legal), Winchester City Council Mr S Lincoln: Community Development Manager, Winchester City Council Mr M Maitland: Community Development Officer, Winchester City Council

Mrs J Batchelor: Head of Development Services, Havant Borough Council Mrs C Hughes: Community Regeneration Manager, Havant Borough Council

Mrs K Taylor: Principal Planner, Hampshire County Council

1. CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed approximately 35 members of the public, local residents and representatives of amenity groups to the meeting, which was held at the D-Day Memorial Hall, Southwick.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Chamberlain and County Councillor Allgood.

3. **APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN**

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Moss be appointed Vice-Chairman for the 2006/07 Municipal Year.

4. MINUTES

(Report WWF31 refers)

In discussing the minutes of the previous meeting, the Forum agreed that a report should be presented to its next meeting proposing a process by which a name for the new development could be selected.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the previous meeting, held 10 April 2006, be approved and adopted.

5. UPDATE ON THE LATEST PROGRESS WITH THE MASTERPLAN, THE CURRENT WIMPEY APPLICATION (INCLUDING THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE JOINT PLANNING COMMITTEE) AND THE SECTION 106 AGREEMENT. (Oral Report)

Mr Tilbury explained that a Steering Group representing both Local Authorities and the developers continued to work to achieve the best possible planning application. The detailed work was undertaken by Project Groups (established by the Steering Group) to consider specific aspects of the applications and it was noted that the cooperation between the different interests continued to be good.

It was likely that the amended Wimpey application (which had originally been submitted in March 2005) would be determined in late October 2006 and that the period of public consultations was now drawing to a close. At this stage, the responses had not yet identified any fundamentally new issues, but that the results of the consultations would be reported to both Planning Committees as part of the determination of the application.

The Grainger application had not yet been submitted, but the latest version of their draft masterplan was made available at the meeting for the Forum to inspect. The detailed work on the design and open space issues was near to completion, but there remained some issues still to resolve regarding transport. Notwithstanding this, it was anticipated that the application would be submitted to both Planning Committees in early August 2006.

With regard to the Section 106 Agreements, Mr Green explained that they would comprise of two separate agreements, one for each developer, but would be carefully drafted to ensure that all the required infrastructure items were provided. This would by necessity involve an element of flexibility from the developers arising from the different phases of development. The basis of the Section 106 Agreement followed the results of an earlier confidential session of the Forum, which prioritised the various items of infrastructure and the draft Heads of Terms. These would be considered by both Councils' Planning Committees when determining the applications.

During discussion, the Forum noted that the existing household recycling centre at Waterlooville was heavily overused. As a consequence, Members agreed that the

proposed new household waste recycling centre, to be provided as part of the Wimpeys application, should be brought forward in the phasing of the development.

The Forum also discussed the location of the southern access road and reiterated its strong preference that the road should be accessed at the Ladybridge Roundabout. Whilst it was explained that this was also the preferred location for the developer, Grainger were likely to submit an alternative site in their application as they needed to include an access position which they were confident they could deliver at this stage. Negotiations between the Local Authorities, Grainger and the owners of part of the site adjoining the Ladybridge Roundabout (The Diocese of Portsmouth) were ongoing and, if successful, the application could be amended. Mrs Batchelor advised that a planning application had recently been received by Havant Borough Council from the Diocese to create the access at the roundabout. She explained that this application had raised technical issues, which may not be capable of being resolved in isolation from the Grainger proposals.

Members were concerned at the loss of trees, woodlands and meadows as a result of the MDA. Mr Green explained that the applications would include a full tree survey of the site and that it was the Local Authorities' intention to retain as many as possible. However, the issue of the future management of the trees and open spaces remained unresolved.

With regard to the MDA's integration with the existing town centre, it was explained that the Grainger application would show the best possible means of integration achievable under the current circumstances, but it would also demonstrate what might be possible if existing land uses changed (namely, the possible relocation of the Asda supermarket).

In response to comments from members of the public, Mr Green explained that at this stage, discussions on the transport issues would remain between officers and the developers and that there would be a north/south bridleway.

RESOLVED:

That the Report be noted.

6. THE CONSULTATIONS PROCESS/EXHIBITIONS FOR THE GRAINGER APPLICATION

(Oral Report)

Mr Green stated that following the anticipated submission of the Grainger application in early August, the Councils would begin an extensive consultation period with the local community. This would include the distribution of an information sheet to everyone on the consultation database, normal planning application publicity in accordance with both Councils' adopted procedures and information on both Councils' websites. A series of exhibitions were also planned, the provisional dates of which were:

Deverill Hall, Purbrook: Thursday 14 September 2.00pm-7.00pm

Friday 15 September 2.00pm-5.00pm Saturday 16 September 10.00am-2.00pm

Denmead Community Centre Monday 18 September 2.00pm-5.00pm Tuesday 19 September 2.00pm-5.00pm Wednesday 20 September 2.00pm-7.00pm

Waterlooville Library Thursday 21 September 2.00pm-7.00pm

Friday 22 September 2.00pm-5.00pm Saturday 23 September 10.00am-2.00pm

(From Monday 25 September to 12.00pm Friday 29 September, the exhibition would remain in the library, but would not be staffed)

The Chairman thanked Mrs Cooper of the Purbrook and Widley Residents Association for her offer to include these dates (once confirmed) in the August edition of the residents' newsletter.

RESOLVED

That the Report be noted.

7. <u>A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FOR THE WEST OF WATERLOOVILLE MDA</u>

(Report WWF30 refers)

Mr Lincoln presented the Report to the Forum and, following discussion, he explained that the Forum had a role in both reviewing and monitoring the Strategy to ensure that it remained relevant to the new community.

The Forum questioned the evaluation process as set out in the Report and agreed that it should receive, at every future meeting, an oral update on the progress of the Strategy. To aide the evaluation of the Strategy, it was suggested that a series of performance indicators be introduced.

In response to a question, Mrs Hughes explained that Havant Borough Council was in the process of developing a new Community Development Strategy for the Borough, which would be cross referred to the MDA's Strategy. It was agreed that Havant's Community Development Strategy would be reported to a future meeting of the Forum for information.

It was also suggested that the paragraph on page 8 regarding learning standards should be strengthened, given the size of the proposed MDA. Furthermore, an evaluation of the existing "hard" and "soft" community facilities was required, as well as an amendment to the Strategy to ensure good communications with relevant outside agencies.

The Forum considered each of the proposed items of the Strategy at Appendix 1 of the Report in turn. Arising from that debate, it was explained that a new community centre would be created in the MDA and, through careful management, would be run for a limited period alongside the existing Waterlooville Community Centre. As it was extremely desirable that the new centre would also be managed by the Waterlooville Area Community Association, the two centres should not be in competition with each other. However, a member of the public who spoke, raised a concern that this may place an unacceptable burden on the volunteers who managed the centre and the impact of this was recognised.

In respect of involving new members of the community as they arrived, Mr Lincoln agreed to make the Strategy clearer and, whilst the appointment of a community

worker would assist, the new community would be able to amend aspects of the Strategy as they saw fit.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That, subject to the above amendments, the Community Development Strategy for the West of Waterlooville MDA, as set out in the Report, be adopted.
- 2. That any significant progress made with items identified in the action plan, and future work arising from those actions, be reported back to future meetings of the Forum and that an overview report be presented on an annual basis.

8. <u>UPDATE FROM THE ENVIRONMENT AGENCY ON RIVER RESTORATION</u> WORK IN THE AREA

(Oral Report)

Mr Wright (Environment Agency) reported that funding from the developers had made the re-naturalisation of a 750metres stretch of the River Wallington, from the Brambles Industrial Estate to Newlands Lane, a possibility. It would involve removing the river's existing concrete lining, introducing meanders, wetland areas (to reduce risk of downstream flooding) and areas of informal recreational space. This work would increase the biodiversity of the area, involve the local community and was likely to be undertaken during the construction of the MDA.

RESOLVED:

That the Report be noted.

9. **VOTE OF THANKS**

The Forum passed a vote of thanks to its previous Chairman, Councillor Collin, for his excellent Chairmanship.

The meeting commenced at 2.00pm and concluded at 3.40pm.

Chairman